



September
2013

President's Report to Senate



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY





Employee Service Recognition Reception

On Wednesday, May 15, in the Faculty Lounge, I had the pleasure of presenting **Madge Chan** with this year's Award to Staff for Outstanding Performance and/or Contributions at the Employee Service Recognition Reception.

Madge, Admissions Administrative Assistant, was recognized for her many contributions to the Lakehead community during her career, including the time she devotes to guiding and supporting our students and athletes, and embodying the spirit of the learner-centred student experience.



Georgian College and Lakehead University Engage in Innovative Business Success

On May 17, business leaders from across Simcoe County gathered at Lakehead Orillia's University Avenue campus for a *Business 2 Innovation* event that brought together researchers from Georgian College and Lakehead University with local business leaders. This was the third annual event presented by the two institutions to encourage collaboration and partnerships to support business success in the region.

The event, presented in cooperation with the County of Simcoe, the City of Orillia, and the Ontario Centres of Excellence, provided information on business and funding opportunities and highlighted innovative partnership projects currently underway.



Showcasing Lakehead Orillia's "Research Garden" are Dr. Herman van den Berg; Derek Rynard, EcoPoly Solutions Inc.; Dr. Chris Murray, Lakehead Orillia; myself; and Baldev Pooni, Georgian College. Vice-President, Academic.



Lakehead Researchers Receive Significant NSERC Funding Awards

In May, Lakehead University scientists were awarded more than \$1.899 million from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada for ground-breaking research projects relating to forestry, the consequences of environmental change, mining, and more.

Click here for media release & complete list of recipients...

Lakehead University's Alumni Awards Dinner

Lakehead Thunder Bay alumni were honoured and toasted, May 29, during our annual Alumni Awards Dinner.

Young Alumni Award Recipients

- **Mehdi Dashtban**
PhD, 2012
Researcher and Postdoctoral Fellow
- **Deanna Burgart**
BEng, 2010
Aboriginal Mentor, Speaker and Engineer

Volunteer Recognition Award Recipient

- **Diane Thompson**
BA, 1971
Volunteer and Advocate

Alumni Honour Award Recipients

- **Arnold Park**
BA, 1971; Graduate Diploma in Business, 1972
Former CEO, *McCain Foods*
- **Dolores Wawia**
BEd, 1983; MEd, 1985
Professor of Aboriginal Education





TESL Certificate Program Graduates its First Cohort

Students enrolled in Lakehead University's Teaching English as a Second Language certificate program (established in Fall 2012) completed their coursework in May 2013 and were ready to use what they've learned across Canada and around the world. The TESL program requires 100 hours of in-class work and 20 hours of practicum.

[Click here for media release...](#)

ESL Program Growing and Growing

I am pleased to report that during our Fall 2012 semester (Sept - Dec 2012), Lakehead University International's English Second Language (ESL) program had 40 students enrolled. In December, 10 of the ELP students had graduated and moved on with their respective full-time academic programs.

During our Winter 2013 semester (Jan - April 2013), the number of ESL students expanded to 88. Out of the 74 who completed the program in April, some decided to get a head start on their full-time academic programs by taking spring/summer courses.

Our TESL program is also continuing to develop our current curricula by creating new courses and expanding our customized programming with the intent to increase the number of ESL students, further.

Installation of Chancellor Derek Hudson Burney

Lakehead University proudly, and officially, installed its eighth Chancellor during the first of our three Thunder Bay Convocation ceremonies, this past June. As expected, Dr. Derek Burney — a distinguished former career diplomat, entrepreneur and political strategist — performed his new role admirably.

[Click here to learn more about Dr. Burney...](#)





2013's Convocations and Honorary Degree Recipients

Lakehead graduated approximately 2,500 students during the 2013 Convocation ceremonies at our Thunder Bay and Orillia campuses. Local and national honourees inspired graduates at both campuses, including:

- **Dr. Dermot McLoughlin**, *award-winning staff radiologist with the Sioux Lookout Meno-Ya-Win Health Centre*
- **The Right Honourable Paul Martin**, *former Prime Minister of Canada*
- **John Mason**, *Project Manager-Mining Services with the Thunder Bay Community Economic Development Commission*
- **Derek Hudson Burney**, *Lakehead's newly-installed Chancellor*
- **Dr. Eva Olsen**, *Holocaust survivor and public speaker*

[Click here for Thunder Bay Convocation media release...](#)

[Click here for Orillia Convocation media release...](#)



John Mason (standing, second from left) receiving his Honorary Doctorate of Science.



Paul Martin Accepts Honorary Doctorate

The Right Honourable Paul Martin joined me on the balcony overlooking Lake Tamblyn before receiving his his honorary doctorate (Laws) at our Saturday morning Convocation ceremony in Thunder Bay.

Our meeting included a vibrant discussion of our planned Gichi Kendaasiwin Centre.



Lakehead Highlighted in COU's *Going Greener* Report

When the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) released its fourth annual *Going Greener* report (June 11, 2013), Lakehead University was highlighted among Ontario universities' campuses and students doing their part to shrink our environmental footprints.

[Click here for media release & link to Report...](#)

ActiveU Hosts Local Area Students for Second Summer

Lakehead Athletics' *ActiveU* summer camp for youth (grades 4 - 6) hosted its second summer of recreational, educational and fun-based programming this past June through August. From our gymnasium and playing fields, to the pool and the labs, *ActiveU* is about giving kids the chance to see how a university education can help them realize their own potential for success.

[Click here for media release...](#)

Engineering Team Places in Top 10 at Bridge-Building Competition

Lakehead's Civil Engineering students placed in the top 10 at the 2013 National Student Steel Bridge Competition at Seattle's University of Washington, this past June. Our team was one of 49 universities and colleges at the invitation-only competition. Lakehead's five-member team was invited after winning the Mid-West Regional Competition at Iowa State University, in March.

[Click here for media release...](#)





Canadian-Mexican Universities' Aboriginal Conference

As reported at the last Senate meeting, there was a national conference that brought ten Canadian universities and ten indigenous universities from Mexico together in Lethbridge, Alberta (June 21-22). The conference provided opportunities for Lakehead and other Canadian universities to build relationships and develop exchange programs with the Mexican indigenous universities.

The Canada-Mexico round table was a follow up to the first annual conference of university presidents and directors, held in March 2012 in Mexico City. This year's conference began on **June 21, Canada's National Aboriginal Day**, and continued the dialogue on Aboriginal higher education. Lakehead is currently in discussion with three indigenous universities from Mexico as we work to build future partnerships.

Joining me at the conference was our new Vice-Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives), Cynthis Wesley-Esquimaux, as well as Elder Gerry Martin.

Lakehead University International Sponsors New Student Internship Program

Industry and faculty internship supervisors were thanked at a BBQ, August 1, outside our Chancellor Paterson Library, for providing Lakehead University's *Science Without Borders* students with a rich learning experience.

The *Science Without Borders* program — whose goal is to consolidate and expand international exchange programs in the scientific, technological and innovative fields in Brazil — provides scholarships funded by the Brazilian federal government, who is placing their students in international institutions of excellence. Lakehead University is one of these institutions and is currently hosting 139 students.

[Click here for media advisory...](#)



RBC Lakehead Alumni Golf Tournament a Hole-in-One

The RBC Lakehead Alumni Golf Tournament is a success each year thanks to the support of title sponsor RBC and presenting sponsor Wasaya Airways.

This year the annual tournament, held August 6 at Whitewater Golf Club, raised more than \$52,000 for student scholarships and bursaries.

[Click here for media release...](#)

Lakehead University and Couchiching Institute Sign New Partnership Agreement

At the annual *Summer Conference of the Couchiching Institute on Public Affairs*, Lakehead University formalized a learning partnership with the prestigious host Institute, Canada's oldest and most recognized public affairs forum.

The new partnership, which began with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding by myself and **Couchiching Institute President, Dr. Rima Berns-McGown**, involves Lakehead and the Institute collaborating to design learning opportunities for our students, including participation at the annual Summer Conference.

[Click here for the media release...](#)





Lakehead and Georgian College Sign New Articulation Agreements

Over the summer, Georgian College and Lakehead University created new ways for students to earn both a college diploma and a university degree in less time thanks to three new articulation agreements signed into effect, in August, by myself and **Dr. MaryLynn West-Moynes, Georgian College President and CEO.**

The agreements allow qualified Georgian graduates to gain advanced standing in selected programs at Lakehead, and came at a time when student groups were calling on postsecondary institutions across Ontario to improve the transferability of college and university credits.

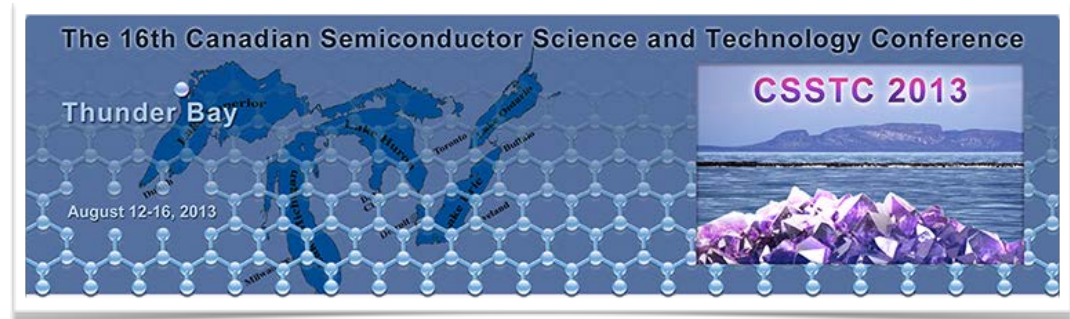
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Lakehead & TBRRI Host First Canadian Semiconductor Conference in Thunder Bay

Lakehead University and the Thunder Bay Regional Research Institute were proud co-hosts of the **16th Canadian Semiconductor Science and Technology Conference (CSSTC 2013)**, held at the Best Western Nor'Wester Hotel & Conference Centre from August 12-16. This was the first time the Conference had been held in Thunder Bay.

Attracting more than 100 professors, graduate students, researchers and industry representatives to Thunder Bay, CSSTC 2013 brought together the brightest Canadian minds from universities, research institutions and industries to discuss the latest in semiconductor research.

[Click here for media release...](#)





Whitesand First Nation Hosts *Reach Up!* Weekend

Our Lakehead Thunderwolves facilitated another successful weekend of *Reach Up!* programming on August 18-19 in Whitesand First Nation, with the generous assistance of Whitesand Band and Council. It was the third *Reach Up!* trip to a First Nation community in Northwest Ontario this summer, with four Thunderwolves taking part.

Cross country runner Chris Brown, nordic skier Moira Haggarty along with Carolyn Fragale and Ayse Kalkan of the women's basketball program led over 40 Whitesand youth through activities and games. The athletes were given a warm welcome and invited everyone over Whitesand Radio 98.8 FM to come out and have some fun.



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President's Golf Invitational still our University's Premier Fundraiser

Thanks to generous local sponsors and 148 golfers, Lakehead University's President's Golf Invitational, which took place at the Barrie Country Club on August 19, was a round of success, raising over \$94,000 for academic scholarships and initiatives.

Monies raised by the daylong event supports student scholarships through an endowment fund created following the inaugural tournament in 2009. Two scholarships of \$5,000 are awarded each year to Simcoe County students – one to a first year Lakehead student, and another to a graduating business student.



Myself with recipients of The President's Scholarship Golf Tournament awards, David French (BAdmin '13) of Barrie, and Katelynn Crawford (HBASc '16) of Severn Bridge.

[Click here for media release...](#)



Lakehead Opens Doors to New Faculty of Law

Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne helped cut the ribbon with myself, Dean Stuesser, Thunder Bay politicians and dignitaries, as well as the faculty, staff and charter class of our new Faculty of Law, September 4.

Our new faculty, which focusses on aboriginal law, natural resources law, and single or sole practitioner law, is the province's first new Faculty of Law in 44 years.

[Click here for media release...](#)

Orientation 2013 Focused on All Students' Transition to University

Fall Orientation offers the Lakehead community the opportunity to meet new students, learn more about our University, and participate in a number of fun and welcoming activities. Events and activities cater to varied student populations, including students entering from high school, college/university transfer, international, aboriginal, and mature students.



Elder Gerry Martin speaking at Aboriginal Orientation.

An aboriginal orientation session was held September 11 to introduce native access program students to the services available on a campus and in an urban centre to help them in their transition to University and Thunder Bay's urban environment.

While in Orillia for 'move-in' day, I was able to greet students settling into our residence, and parents who were saying good bye and helping out.

[Click here for media release...](#)

