

February 6, 2026

Chair, Department of Gender and Women's Studies
Lakehead University
Thunder Bay / Orillia, Ontario



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
UNIVERSITY
BRIAN MULRONEY
INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT

Dear Professor Chambers,

I am writing to express my interest in an appointment as Adjunct Faculty at Lakehead University, with affiliation with the Gender and Women's Studies Department. My interest is grounded in my longstanding relationship with Lakehead and in my desire to contribute to the department's research and student mentorship through supervision and the creation of research assistant opportunities.

I have ongoing research collaborations with members of the department, including Professor Lori Chambers, with whom I have co-authored several papers and with plans to complete additional collaborative work. These projects are grounded in feminist and gender-based analyses and reflect a shared commitment to interdisciplinary scholarship and student-centered research practices. An adjunct appointment would provide a formal structure to support and extend this existing collaboration.

My connection to Lakehead University and to Thunder Bay began during my doctoral studies, when I was the International Council for Canadian Studies Graduate Scholar at Lakehead University while completing fieldwork involving interviews with police in 2015 to 2016. That period was formative for my scholarly trajectory and established professional relationships that continue to shape my research and teaching.

As Adjunct Faculty, I would welcome the opportunity to support Gender and Women's Studies students through research supervision, co-supervision where appropriate, and the hiring of undergraduate or graduate research assistants on my ongoing projects. Mentoring students through paid RA positions is central to my academic practice, and I have extensive experience supporting students remotely through structured mentorship, skills development, and opportunities for knowledge mobilization.

Looking ahead, and subject to departmental needs and timing, I would also be interested in teaching Zoom-based courses during a future sabbatical, should this align with the department's curricular planning. Courses such as Feminist Theory would be a strong fit with my expertise. I raise this simply as a future possibility and would be happy to revisit it if useful.

Please find my curriculum vitae enclosed. Potential references include Professor Lori Chambers (Lakehead University), Professor Linda Trimble (University of Alberta), and Professor Nadia Verrelli, who can each speak to my collaborative research, supervision, and teaching. I would be pleased to provide additional materials upon request.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Warm regards,

Bailey Gerrits

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