

March 25, 2024 OIEC Advisors Committee Meeting Summary

In Attendance: Members: James Aldridge; Denise Baxter; Dr. Glenda Bonifacio; Dr. Kristin Burnett; Daniel Cox; Christopher Glover; Lisa Harris (Chair); Mercedes Jacko; Dr. Brigitte Leblon; Keira Loukes; Stacey Pawluk; Lisa Primavesi (Vice-Chair); Dr. David Richards; Robin Sutherland; Dr. Juan Sanchez Martinez; Dr. Mirella Stroink; Andrea Tarsitano; Yolanda Twance; Dr. Anita Valliancourt

Not in Attendance: Brandon Chevrier; Dr. Paul Cormier; Dr. Jula Hughes; Dr. Rhonda Koster; Dr. Wayne Melville; Heather Moynihan; Dr. Christopher Mushquash; Sheryl O'Reilly; Jerri-Lynn Orr; Rachelle Pelletier; Dr. Sharla Mskokii Peltier; Dr. Todd Randall; Dr. Lana Ray; Dr. Chander Shahi; Dr. Michelle-Marie Spadoni; Larissa Speak;

Administrative Resources in Attendance: Jason Lisi - University Secretary; Marcie Morrison - Secretary

Welcome and Introduction

Jason Lisi, the new University Secretary was welcomed and introduced.

Internal Updates

- Update from Chair / Vice-Chair:
Members were reminded that the OIEC approved the revised Advisors Committee Terms of Reference that will come into effect July 1, 2024.
- Joint SAC/OIEC Sub-Committee:
A written report of the February 14, 2024 Sub-Committee meeting was provided. An overview of the Indigenous Content Requirement review process was provided and the following links were shared with the group:
 - <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/indigenous/icr>
 - <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/sites/default/files/uploads/23/Syllabi/Fall2018/Course%20Outline%20-%20BIOL%203012%20FA%20-%20Aboriginal%20Ethnobotany%20-%20LEE%20-%20Fall%202017.pdf>

Annual Items of Business

- Committee Vice-Chair Appointment:
Dr. Briggitt Leblon volunteered for the Vice-Chair position for a 1 year term, July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025.
- Approval of 2024-25 Meeting Schedule:
The Committee approved its 2024-25 meeting schedule:
 1. Monday, September 17, 2025, 10:00am-12:00pm
 2. Monday, November 18, 2024, 10:00am-12:00pm
 3. Monday, January 20, 2025, 10:00am-12:00pm
 4. Monday, March 17, 2025, 10:00am-12:00pm

Round Table Discussion

- Policy Review Consultation:
 - Diversity Awareness
 - Student Code of Conduct - Non Academic
 - Student Code of Conduct - Appeal Policy

In alignment with the University's Policy Governance Framework, as part of the policy review process for University wide policies, the OIEC and the OIEC Advisors Committee will be consulted during the review process, with the intention of decolonizing University policies and procedures by having them reviewed through an Indigenous lens. Members were asked to think about the questions below when reviewing each policy.

1. Can you identify any barriers that exist in the current policy for Indigenous faculty and/or staff?
2. Does the current policy appropriately support Indigenous faculty and/or staff in ways that are aligned with traditional and cultural practices?
3. Does the current policy conflict with Lakehead's commitment to truth and reconciliation in any way?

A feedback document was circulated with the meeting package for each policy, and members were invited to provide feedback prior to and following the meeting. These policies will then go to the OIEC for consultation before making their way to Administration for review.

- Nijji Indigenous Mentorship Program Presentation:
Highlights from the presentation included:
 - overview of in-person/online transition and support programming
 - outreach programs
 - Indigenous Preview Day and Nijjii Project Fair
 - community partners
 - Nijjii Summer Employment Experience Program
 - Nijjii youth participation interactions data (2013-2023)
 - current initiatives

Sharing Circle

- Details to the following upcoming events were shared:
 - Indigenous Message On Water 2.0
 - Annual Indigenous Preview Day
- Information for some current and upcoming vacancies in in the Office of Indigenous Initiatives was provided
- Information about an initiative with Seven Fire High School was provided (Canadian Plant Species credit)

Updates, Reports and Items for Information Received

- Report from the Office of Indigenous Initiatives
- Report from the Chair on Truth and Reconciliation

The next Advisors Committee meeting is scheduled to take place on September 17, 2024, from 10:00am to 12:00pm (ET).