

November 14, 2023 OIEC Advisors Committee Meeting Summary

In Attendance: James Aldridge; Denise Baxter; Dr. Glenda Bonifacio; Daniel Cox; Fionna Farquhar; Christopher Glover; Lisa Harris (Chair); Dr. Jula Hughes; Mercedes Jacko; Dr. Rhonda Koster; Keira Loukes; Heather Moynihan; Sheryl O'Reilly; Jerri-Lynn Orr; Lisa Primavesi (Vice-Chair); Dr. Todd Randall; Dr. David Richards; Dr. Chander Shahi; Robin Sutherland; Dr. Juan Sanchez Martinez; Dr. Sharla Mskokii Peltier; Lisa Primavesi; Larissa Speak; Andrea Tarsitano; Yolanda Twance

Not in Attendance: Brandon Chevrier; Dr. Kristin Burnett; Anna Chief; Dr. Paul Cormier; Dr. Brigitte Leblon; Dr. Wayne Melville; Dr. Christopher Mushquash; Dr. Lana Ray; Dr. Mirella Stroink; Dr. Michelle-Marie Spadoni

Administrative Resources in Attendance: Marcie Morrison (Secretary)

Update from the Committee Chair and Vice-Chair

Code of Conduct Reminder - It was noted that during the last meeting, some statements were perceived as inappropriate and insensitive. Members were reminded of the OIEC Mission Statement - *"In the pursuit of its mission and mandate, the OIEC will be guided by principles related to honour, respect, responsibility, humility, and understanding."*

Advisors Committee Terms of Reference Review - Round Table Discussion

It was reported that the Terms of Reference Review Ad Hoc Committee met on October 31, 2023 to review the feedback from the "Draft 1" and from the October 2, 2023 Advisors Committee meeting. Following a comprehensive review and thoughtful consideration of all the feedback received the Ad Hoc Committee proposed additional amendments, "Draft 2". The Ad Hoc Committee Chair provided an overview of the additional proposed amendments in "Draft 2" and the Advisors Committee accepted the additional amendments, with the exception of adding a student to the composition. It was determined that further discussion on this topic will occur at the February 2024 meeting.

Strategic Enrolment Management (SEM) - Round Table Discussion

Administration was invited to the meeting and shared a presentation that focused on SEM with a lens on Indigenous student data. Administration answered several questions and provided clarification regarding some of the data that was presented. It was noted that all Deans have access to the confidential data that was presented during the meeting.

The results of the 2022 National Student Engagement Survey, specific to Indigenous students, were also presented. Administration answered several questions and provided clarification regarding the survey tool and the results. The next steps and action plan were discussed.

Round Table Discussion - University Wide Policy Consultations

New to the Advisory Committee's annual workplan this year is policy consultation. The University Secretariat provides a list of all university wide policies that are scheduled for review to the appropriate approval authority every year (the Board, the Senate, and the President's Executive Team). This list was shared with the Advisors Committee Chair and Vice-Chair who picked a handful of policies that they thought were appropriate to come to this group for feedback this term. A Google Doc was circulated with the meeting package for the first two policies coming forward, and members were invited to leave feedback directly in that document. There was also an opportunity to leave feedback after the meeting, until November 24. These policies will then go to the OIEC for consultation before making their way to Administration for review.

- a. Reappraisal and Academic Appeals Policy and Feedback Document
- b. Gifts-in-Kind Policy and Feedback Document

Round Table Discussion - Ceremonial Dress Policy Consultation

The Vice-Provost (Students) and Registrar provided context, noting that Lakeheads current policy does not specifically address Indigenous students wearing their cultural regalia to convocation, although it has been a common practice. Following a discussion, there was a consensus that Lakeheads policy should be more welcoming by officially addressing this in its policy and by promoting the option to Lakeheads Indigenous students. Members interested in being involved in the development of such a policy were invited to connect directly with the Vice-Provost (Students) and Registrar.

Round Table Discussion - National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

There was a discussion around Lakeheads policy on recognizing the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and the lack of communication from Administration with regards to events, cancellation of classes and/or University closure. There was a suggestion for this group to prepare a briefing about this topic for the President and OIEC. A link to this website was shared in the chat during the meeting:

<https://www.ocswssw.org/2023/09/28/college-office-closed-for-national-day-for-truth-and-reconciliation-2/>

Round Table Discussion - Ontario Tuition Waiver Initiatives

Members were provided with an introduction to this topic and it was noted that there will be an opportunity for discussion at the next meeting. An email was circulated to all members following the meeting that included links to these online articles:

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/indigenous/university-of-toronto-tuition-free-trc-calls-to-action-1.6995595>

<https://www.utoronto.ca/news/u-t-cover-tuition-students-nine-first-nations-communities>

<https://uwaterloo.ca/news/uwaterloo-announces-tuition-waiver-students-two-first>

<https://nationtalk.ca/story/indigenous-student-tuition-waiver-explained>

Updates, Reports and Items for Information Received

- Joint SAC/OIEC Sub-Committee Update
- 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 February 13, 2024, from 10:00am to 12:00pm (ET).