

Report to the Board
December 10, 2015

It has been a very busy and active couple of months at the University with many significant activities and events occurring. I will try to make sense of all the activity by grouping items together into several categories.

1. Internal Developments

- The two Canada Research Chair positions have been advertised and we are starting to receive a number of very interesting applications.
- An external review of our international programs has been completed and we are currently considering the recommendations for implementation. One change that has been made already is the establishment of an international prospective student advisor position within student recruiting to be a single point of contact for all of our potential international students.
- A number of renovations have been completed, including converting the Health Informatics Institute space into offices to accommodate the Sociology program, the completion of the refurbishments to the Shingwauk Auditorium, and continuation of the development of the Tim Horton's on campus, which we anticipate will be open in January.
- Thanks to Brent Krmopotich, we have completed a revision of our scholarship program available to international students with the hope that these scholarships will be more effective in our recruiting efforts.
- A number of professional development opportunities and programs have been put into place. HR has been offering a "Lunch and Learn" sessions across a number of topic areas; they have also been holding a series of policy workshops to familiarize faculty and staff with the new code of conduct and harassment policies. We were able to support one of our department chair's attending the CHERD Department Head workshop. There has also been several Upstander training sessions on sexual violence aimed at students.
- The IT department has been making a number of service upgrades to our technology systems, including improvements to our mail and student tracking systems.

2. Community Relations

- A very successful John Rhodes Dinner was held, resulting in a record amount of \$42,000 being raised.
- Convocation for our Brampton students was held in October; a very good turnout occurred for the event with a lot of positive responses from the Brampton community.



- The Halloween trick and treat event was held on campus again this year with over 1500 participants from the community.
- The University entered a float in the Rotary Club Santa Claus parade that was well received.
- Our basketball program worked with the Sault Ste. Marie Social Housing organization to present a skills camp and then attend our home opener games as our guests, and the men's basketball team participated in a game and discussion at the Chipewa Correctional Facility which was a tremendous success both as a life lesson for our student-athletes and for the inmates at the correctional centre.
- The University in partnership with Sault College has established a photography contest that is open to the community.

3. Recognition for the University

- A recent article in the University Affairs on first generation students included reference to our First Gen program and an interview with one of our students.
- The George Leach Centre was voted the best fitness centre in the Soo as part of the Sault Star's annual "Best of the Soo" program.
- Our Christmas tree at the Sault Ste. Marie "Festival of Trees" was voted the people's choice award recipient.

4. Personal Engagement

- I attended the grand opening of St. Mary's Collegiate in Sault Ste. Marie
- I participated in several COU Executive Head's meetings, attended the fall meeting of Universities Canada, and was able to attend Bonnie Patterson's retirement dinner.
- I was able to spend some time at Northern College in Timmins, getting a first hand look at our programming there as well as having a very productive meeting with the Executive team of Northern College.
- I had a most valuable day in Sudbury, spending time with the leadership team at Laurentian University to discuss potential collaborations, review the recent successes they have had in developing their infrastructure, and had a very positive meeting with Roger Strasser, the Dean of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine.

Respectfully Submitted,
Craig J. Chamberlin