

President's Report to the Board



November 27, 2014

From the President

It has become something of a practice at Algoma to refer to ourselves as "Ontario's newest university." While I would be the last person to question the significance and value of receiving our own charter, it seems to me that the narrative of "newness" can in some respects shortchange us. Algoma has been delivering university-level programming in this community for almost half a century. Indeed, 2015 will mark the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the *Algoma College Act*. So while we are in some respects a "new" university, we have very deep roots in this community and that's a point we should emphasize more strongly and more frequently. The 50th anniversary of the *Algoma College Act* provides us with the perfect opportunity to do so.

Our celebration of this anniversary will be focused on three pillars:

- A 50th Anniversary Launch, January 23-24, featuring a skating party on the front lawn followed by fireworks, a "lantern-ski" around the campus, and other fun winter activities. One aim of these events will be to bring, not just alumni, but members of the broader community to our campus and to recognize our five decades of work in this community.
- Convocation Gala Dinner/Convocation June 12-13.. We are investigating ways of recognizing at Convocation those Algoma alumni who studied with us, but received their diploma from Laurentian. More importantly, the Convocation Weekend will be used to announce the naming of buildings and other features around campus. One of the first things that strikes an outsider visiting our campus is that our buildings lack proper names. The new buildings added to Shingwauk Hall were simply called the East Wing and the Northwest Wing. Our residences are called R3 and R4. The Townhouses are called TH1, TH2 etc. There is a golden opportunity here to celebrate our history by naming some of these facilities after the people who built this university. We'll be issuing a call for suggestions in the coming weeks with a view to presenting the Board with a package of proposals at the April meeting. (Please note that I will make one special naming proposal to the Board in the closed session of our meeting next week.)
- Homecoming, October 15-18. In addition to our regular Homecoming activities, one or more special lectures on the history of the institution will be commissioned.

I look forward to your enthusiastic participation in these celebratory events!

Dr. Richard Myers
President

Vice President Finance and Administration

Summary of Issues, Initiatives and Operations since September 2014

Sean Dwyer

1. Financial Statements

Year-end financial statements have been prepared for the University, the AU Foundation, the Defined Benefit Pension Plan and all the University's associated entities. All statements have been audited by the University's auditors, BDO Canada LLP. The Algoma University financial statements were reviewed in detail with the Finance Committee on October 9th, 2014. The AU Foundation and the Defined Benefit Pension Plan financial statements were reviewed in detail with the Finance Committee on November 12th, 2014. The statements pertaining to the University, the Foundation and the Pension are currently being recommended to the Board of Governors for approval.

2. Dissolution of the Foundation / Transfer of Assets

The strategy to dissolve the Foundation as a stand-alone entity and transfer the assets to the University was socialized with the University governance last fiscal year. This resulted in a motion being passed at the April 2014 AU Board of Governors meeting approving the strategy to dissolve the Algoma University Foundation and granting Administration permission to execute all follow-up transactions accordingly.

The transfer is being worked currently and will occur prior to the end of this fiscal year. The April 30th, 2015 charity return will be filed as usual showing the distribution to AU (and all other activity). At this time, the Foundation entity will have no other assets and a request will be made to the CRA to have the charity revoked. The revocation process will begin post Apr 30th, 2015, and, once complete, a final nil return will be filed and the necessary documents will be filed with the Public Guardian and Trustee (PGT) which will surrender the corporate existence of the Foundation.

3. Audit Services RFP

The university's auditing services agreement with BDO Canada has expired. The agreement, formed in 2009, was for a three year term with the possibility of a two year extension. The 2013/14 audited financial statements are the final ones produced under this contract, which has lasted the total five years.

An RFP for auditing services was prepared and reviewed with the Finance Committee prior to posting. It was advertised in the Sault Star and posted on the AU website for three weeks with a closing date of November 7th, 2014. An RFP review team, comprised of internal employees and an external member of the board, is scheduled to complete the review and evaluation of responses by November 17th, 2014. To the end of responding to the bidders in a timely fashion, the Finance Committee will be considering the recommendation of the review team via e-vote and a recommendation to the Board for approval is expected to be included in the November 27th, 2014 Board package.

4. Program Costing Analysis

In recent years, an academic program costing analysis has been added to the annual calendars of both the Finance Committee and the Board of Governors at the request of the Board Executive Committee. The intention of this analysis is to provide an overview of how the University is performing financially by academic program. The analysis is intended to provide a high level view of the net financial contribution by program.

The 2013-14 academic program costing model was first reviewed with the Finance Committee in June 2014. A look back on 2011-12 was completed to allow for trend analysis to be applied to three years of data. This broader analysis was reviewed with the Finance Committee on October 9th, 2014 and is included in the board package for information.

5. Collective Bargaining Negotiations

The University has three collective agreements: the Full-Time Faculty CA, the Part-Time Faculty CA and the Support Staff CA. All three expire on June 30th, 2015. Preliminary article review is ongoing and bargaining team formulation and further due diligence will commence in early 2015.

6. Capital Project Costs/Financing

There are currently two capital projects ongoing - the Library Roof replacement and the GLC expansion. Construction and timing details can be found within the Physical Plant Director's update. The finances related to both projects have been reviewed with the Finance Committee and both projects are currently on budget.

Office of the Registrar

Summary of Issues, Initiatives and Operations since September 2014

David Marasco, University Registrar

1. Enrolment

Final FTE enrolment for the 2014 fall term (631.30 FTE) as reported to MTCU decreased 0.9% as compared to the 2013 fall term. Domestic FTE decreased 3.4%, while international FTE increased 7.7% during this reporting term.

2. Office of the Registrar/Reports

This fall, 35 students were awarded degrees 'in absentia'. We also organized a fall convocation ceremony in Brampton (Oct 26) for students of our diploma to degree extension inviting students who had satisfied the requirements of their degree during the last two years – 21 students participated in the event.

The Multi-year Accountability Report (MYAA) for 2013-14 has been submitted to the Ministry – we are now waiting for approval of the report. Also, AU participated in the annual Graduate Employment Survey (2012) providing the research firm with eligible records in order to conduct the survey. It is a requirement of MTCU that all post-secondary institutions participate.

The Office of the Registrar is preparing for the next admissions cycle as we are currently admitting student for fall 2015. During the next two weeks, both spring 2015 and fall/winter courses will be available to students to view, while registration for current students for subsequent terms begins February 9, 2015.

3. College Transfers

The ministry has recently approved of the final 2013-14 Credit Transfer Institutional Grant plan, and has also approved of the 2014-15 CTIG status plan.

Algoma University continues to work with the colleges to enhance/promote college pathways. Departments including Biology/ENVS, CESD, English, and Geography have been very active working with the colleges toward opportunities for pathway development. Other programs that are being researched include Computer Science and Fine Arts. Most recently, we have had high level meetings with Centennial and Sheridan colleges for pathways to our community development degree programs.

Work continues on course equivalency database as a province-wide initiative. The project is intended to help institutions to develop and maintain course equivalencies for credit transfers. For students, the database will provide a searchable tool for course equivalency for both colleges and universities.

4. ESL@algoma

During the last two academic terms, ESL@algoma has experienced significant growth. Spring 2014 enrolment increased 50% as compared to spring 2013; for fall 2014, we currently have 69 students in ESL, which represents a 35% increase compared to fall 2013. We are preparing for the arrival of a group of student from Kyota Sangyo University (Japan) this February 2015, and also received interest from Uniminuto who have confirmed group participation this spring – ESL@algoma is currently preparing the package to help UU recruit participants.

Also, we are working on a pilot project to offer some of the ESL courses online (Advanced Grammar) for our clients overseas – currently, reviewing the associated costs of hardware, software and other resources.

Anishinaabe Initiatives Division

Summary of Issues, Initiatives and Operations since September 2014

Judy Syrette, Director

1. Annual 20th Elders' Gathering

AID held the 20th anniversary of the Annual Elders' Gathering on October 25th, 2014. The theme the year was "We Are All Treaty People" and was well attended by members of the AU and general public community. It is estimated that well over 100 people were in attendance.

2. Visit to AU - Timmins Campus

Dr. Rose E. Cameron and the Director of AID visited the AU – Timmins campus on November 5-7 for the purposes of community outreach to Aboriginal organizations in the area, to provide some academic training to staff at the Timmins campus, to meet the Aboriginal Student Services staff at the Northern College campus, and to participate in the HBSW Orientation to new students. Presentations were made to the students at the Indian Friendship Centre – Aboriginal Alternative Secondary School Program and to the staff at the Kunuwanimano Child and Family Services. Three new students attended the HBSW Orientation presentation.

3. Ministry of Children and Youth Services Community Engagement

Spencer Rice, Research Analyst with the Aboriginal Strategy Unit of the Ministry of Children and Youth Services will be on campus on November 24th, 2014 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm to hold an engagement session with Anishinaabe support staff and students. This community engagement will inform the development of a new strategy to "consider systemic approaches to the overall governance and organization of the system of services for Aboriginal children and youth in areas including mental health and wellness, suicide prevention and life promotion, child welfare, early childhood supports, specialized services and youth justice" (Rice, email, October 14, 2014).

4. Meet n Greet

The Anishinaabe People's Council and the Anishinaabe Initiatives Division are hosting a "Meet n Greet" social on December 5th, 2014 from 3 – 5 pm in the Speak Easy. This event is intended to introduce the members of the Anishinaabe community to faculty at Algoma University.

Marketing and Communications

Summary of Issues, Initiatives and Operations Since September 2014

Kevin Hemsworth, Director Marketing and Communications

1. Internal University Communications

Marketing and Communications has met with IT to discuss a redesign and redevelopment of our internal communications systems. We have reviewed our existing systems (my.algomau.ca and AlgomaUKnow) and their usage, and have reached out to other universities to gain insight into their systems and challenges. We have identified that this must be a collaborative process that includes input from all stakeholders in order to determine the tools we need to improve the way we communicate to and with our key stakeholders. Next steps are to develop a report that summarizes insights gained and begin to plan for factfinding and discovery.

2. Study North

In August, the six Northern colleges announced funding from NOHFC for three million dollars over three years to support a marketing and recruitment initiative to attract students from southern Ontario to study at colleges in Northern Ontario. The Director of Marketing and Communications has reached out to colleagues at the four Northern universities to gauge interest in applying for funding for a similar initiative for universities. We held initial discussions early in November and will be reviewing the colleges' application prior to planning an approach to develop our own.

3. Job Re-Evaluation

Several of the positions in the department are in need of job re-evaluation, either due to continuous renewal timeframes or due to changes in the department since the positions were created. The Director is working with Human Resources to ensure that these positions are accurately described and evaluated. The initial position reviewed was the Communications Officer position, which is now the Marketing and Communications Coordinator, and better reflects the evolving nature of that role. Feedback from JJCC was that the input provided by marketing and communications at their evaluation meeting was the most thorough and insightful they had seen.

4. Strategic Planning

The Department will be holding a strategic planning session prior to the new year to discuss department objectives and goals. We have seen a dramatic increase in the demand for internal communications materials, and while these are important, the primary focus of the department must remain on marketing and communications for the purposes of recruitment, as per the existing strategic plan. The purpose of the planning session will be to better align our activities with those expected outcomes, while looking for ways to continue to effectively serve internal stakeholders.

Human Resources

Summary of Issues, Initiatives and Operations Since September 2014

Darla Pirillo, Director of Human Resources

1. Recruitment

Archives Technician (temporary) – to be filled with external applicant
Maintenance Repairperson – to be filled with external applicant
Shipping, Receiving and Maintenance Clerk – filled with internal applicant
Secretary/Receptionist (temporary) – filled with external applicant
ESL Instructor – filled with external applicant

2. Labour Relations

A Harassment Survey has been developed that will be distributed to all Faculty, Staff and Administration. The purpose of the survey is to assess the level of risk at the university as it relates to workplace harassment as addressed in the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

3. Health and Safety

Regulatory Visits & Inspections:

The Workplace Violence and Harassment Prevention Program has been revised in light of external feedback and is going through the approval process. There were three incidents reported (two First Aid and one Health Care). The GLC was closed for remediation from water damage and the Library was closed for one day due to air quality concerns from adhesive product used in roof reconstruction project

Upcoming Legislative Changes of Note:

1. Bill 18 “The Stronger Workplaces for a Stronger Economy Act, 2014” was passed by the Ontario Government on November 6, 2014. The legislation extends coverage under the Occupational Health and Safety Act to unpaid co-op students and other unpaid learners which will give them protection under the OHS Act such as the right to know about workplace hazards and the right to refuse unsafe work.
2. On November 7, a new regulation was passed under the “Smoke Free Ontario Act,” that would ban smoking within 20 metres of university playing fields beginning Jan. 1, 2015. In addition, smoking will now be banned on all patios. No leased space on University property will be permitted to sell tobacco. Enforcement is the responsibility of the Public Health Units. University policy will require an update to reflect this regulatory change.

4. Payroll

An information session was held on October 31, 2014, to all Staff, Faculty Administration that has responsibility for reviewing or approving timesheets. All employees submitting timesheets have now been set up electronically and have until December 31, 2014, to have the process fully automated within their department. The electronic timesheets has proved to be a successful launch and has resulted in saving valuable time for the Payroll Office.

Information Technology

Summary of Issues, Initiatives and Operations Since September 2014

Danny Reid, Director of Information Technology

1. EnrollmentRX

The recruitment module of EnrollmentRX has now been running for two months. Recruitment staff have received training, and have become more comfortable with the new system.

Due to scope of the work involved in migrating Admissions to EnrollmentRX, the target of this month was not achievable. Due to the manner in which the annual OUAC cycle works, the new target date is Summer 2015.

2. Mobile Telephone Services

A new agreement has recently been signed with Bell Canada for our mobile telephone services. We expect our overall costs will decrease by 25-30%, resulting in an annual savings of \$9-10K per year.

3. Landline Telephone Service

After several weeks of testing, we will be migrating from Bell PRI services to Vianet SIP services in January for our main campus phone connections. The expected savings will be \$25-\$30K per year.

4. Purchase Order System

A new Purchase Order system using our new Document Management System (DocuShare) will be entering a testing phase shortly. The new system will be completely paperless with approvals being done electronically. We expect the time savings will be substantial, both for the purchasers, and the back-end financial staff.

5. Infrastructure Upgrades

As part of our dedication to keeping our core infrastructure up-to-date for more reliability and performance, the IT department is currently evaluating and seeking quotes for a refresh of 40+ campus network switches. We hope to have a purchase made by early 2015, and all switches replaced by May 2015.

Physical Plant

Summary of Issues, Initiatives and Operations Since September 2014 Jeremy Wilhelm, Director Physical Plant

1. Arthur A. Wishart Library Reroofing

The library reroofing project has had significant delays due to the very wet weather we have been experiencing. The main library roofing has now been replaced with several days of detail work left to be completed. All new HVAC units are installed, with the final touches on the new control systems being completed in the next two weeks. All work and final commissioning is scheduled to be complete by November 21st, followed by training and demo sessions for AU Plant Staff.

2. Essar Convergence Centre Expansion

The new 80-seat classroom and sessional office renovations are now complete. The classroom is fully functional, and the sessional office furniture is currently on order. It is scheduled to be delivered and installed in order to have this space ready for use by the end of November.

3. George Leach Center Ontario Universities Athletics Expansion

The GLC Expansion project was awarded to Cy-Rheault Construction. This major renovation and addition project is currently underway. All areas of renovation have been started with many portions near or totally complete on the ground level, as well as the building shell on the second level is erected. The boiler system is installed on the second floor awaiting tie-in to existing heating lines. There have been weather related delays caused by leaks into the building. Cy-Rheault is being very proactive and fast to respond to all issues with the water leaks, but this has caused operational issues for the GLC. With the high amounts of rain there has been flooding in the GLC requiring the recent closure of the building. Water damaged materials are being removed and replaced/repared by remediation contractor. These weather delays, as well as the clean-up have pushed the projected completion date from December 1st to the 18th.

Student Recruitment: Domestic

Summary of Issues, Initiatives and Operations since September 2014 Brent Krmpotich, Director, Domestic Recruitment

1. Salesforce Implementation

A large portion of the director's time has been spent on the implementation of Salesforce, our new CRM system. Salesforce has been named the most innovative company in North America by Forbes magazine 4 years in a row. It is a very robust system, configuring the system to maximize functionality has been challenging and interesting. There are many advantages that will improve student recruitment. Thus far we have been able to implement:

- Online registration for events
- Creation of email templates and workflow rules to automate emails
- Email sync with Outlook vastly improving activity tracking
- Integration of Constant Contact. Email marketing is now tracked on individual prospects
- Instant messaging service Chatter has been introduced. This will improve information sharing within and between departments

2. High School Outreach

Members of the Recruitment Department have been visiting high schools across Ontario since Sept. 22nd. Algoma's Recruiters attend approximately 350 high school events per year putting them in contact with half of the province's public high schools. This year we were forced to cancel 40 visits as a result of an unanticipated staff departure midway through October.

3. Ontario University Fair

Algoma University sent 10 representatives including the Registrar and President to the Ontario University Fair (OUF) in Toronto Sept. 19 – 21st. OUF is the biggest student recruitment event in North America with 120 000 attendees over the course of 3 days. This year Algoma chose to scale back its investment in OUF by reducing staff and IT costs. In the past Algoma typically sent 20 representatives including faculty to the fair. Algoma experienced a significant decline in student information gathered this year. Overall attendance at the fair was down slightly. In general students seem less interested in giving schools their contact details; most prefer to visit websites on their own.

4. Open House November 4th

Algoma hosted an Open House for students and parents on Tuesday November 4th. The event consisted of a welcome from the president, academic and administrative fair and program specific information sessions. This year we moved the fair from a weekend to a weeknight in order to attract more local students. The change in date was successful. We went from under 20 local students last year to 48 this year. Feedback from faculty, staff and students was very positive. I anticipate using a similar format next year.

Student Recruitment: International

Summary of Issues, Initiatives and Operations since September 2014

Joanne Elvy, Director, International Recruitment

1. Educational fairs in Colombia, with visits to various Uniminuto campuses (September 2014)

Algoma University participated in 3 fairs in Colombia, as well as initiated extensive planning sessions on five campuses of our partner institution 'Uniminuto' on ways to extend our existing institutional agreement.

2. 2 + 2 Agreements in China, Bangladesh & Sri Lanka (Student Mobility initiatives – Computer Science)

Algoma University is at the latter stages of finalizing an agreement with North University of China (Taiyuan) whereby Chinese students will start their studies in their home institution, to then finish the final two years at Algoma to receive a dual degree from the two institutions in computer science. Similar agreements have also been initiated with Yunnan University (YU) in Kunming, China; American International University Bangladesh (AIUB) in Dhaka, Bangladesh; and Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT), Colombo, Sri Lanka.

3. Education Fairs & school visits – Pakistan (October 2014)

This was the second time Algoma University visited Pakistan for recruitment purposes. This time, we focussed on school visits and high school counsellor training. We have already received solid applications for fall 2015.

4. Agent & school visits – Bangladesh and India (October & November 2014)

Face-to-face meetings with potential students at our agency's office in Dhaka initiated applications for winter 2015. Algoma also participated in presentations in secondary schools in Dhaka (Bangladesh) as well as Noida, Gurgaon, Delhi and Chandigarh (India), including evening educational fairs.

5. Education fairs in Taiwan and China (October & November 2014)

Algoma University participated in a 3-city education fair in Taiwan (Taipei, Taichung, Kaohsiung) in October 2014. To strengthen our outreach in Mainland China, we also joined an educational tour in southwest China, sponsored by the Canadian Consulate in Chongqing (Kunming, Guiyang, Chongqing and Chengdu), that involved educational fairs, school visits, and one-on-one meetings with Chinese school representatives.

6. School visits – Japan (November 2014)

Algoma University will visit six universities in six days in Japan, to support exchange programs, short-term programming, and fee paying students from partner institutions.

Extension Programming

Summary of Issues, Initiatives and Operations Since September 2014

Brian Leahy, Operations Director – Extension Programming

1. Algoma University @ Brampton

On Sunday, Oct 26th a convocation ceremony was held at the Brampton Golf Club to celebrate the accomplishments of approximately forty students from our Brampton extension who have completed their degree requirements over the past two years. Susan Crawford, Chair of the Brampton Board of Trade, delivered an inspirational keynote address to all in attendance. A special thanks to Dr. Myers, D. Marasco, business faculty, staff and student/alumni volunteers for making this a very memorable event for our graduates and their families.

2. Algoma University @ St. Thomas

The Academic Planning & Priorities Committee, and ultimately Senate, is currently considering a two-phase re-launch proposal intended to address a number of key challenges faced at this extension operation over the first two years of operation. The first phase involves minor changes to current programming to better address identified interests of prospective students in the St. Thomas/Elgin County and South-London area (shift to one-year model, revised course roster, increased awareness campaign, etc). A number of new programming ideas have been suggested and phase two of the redevelopment effort would include market research aimed at determining which opportunities might best suit the needs of this market. It is anticipated that amendments to our donor agreement with the Palmer Estate would help ensure the financial viability of this operation during the two-year re-launch period. A review of our re-launch efforts, and the operation in general, would be completed by Jan 2017 in order to allow the institution to make a final decision on the direction of this extension.

3. Algoma University @ Timmins

As part of our ongoing efforts to grow enrolment, improve access to education in the North and to build on our partnership with Northern College, we are currently finalizing plans to offer a pilot course (Introduction to Social Work) to students in Moosonee and Haileybury during the winter term. Information sessions have been organized in both locations and there has been strong interest to-date. This course would be delivered via video-conference utilizing the top quality equipment Northern has in place. A final decision to proceed will be based on enrolment.

Shingwauk Residential Schools Centre & Special Advisor to the President for the Residential Schools Legacy

Summary of Issues, Initiatives and Operations since September 2014

Jonathan Dewar, Director

The Centre's first co-publication under the SRSC Imprint initiative has just been released. "Residential Schools: A National History – With the Words and Images of Survivors," by Larry Loyie, Wayne K. Spear, and Constance Brissenden, is co-published with Indigenous Education Press and is available at www.goodminds.com.

The Centre was awarded a \$146,000 curatorial project grant from Canadian Heritage's Museum Assistance Program to conduct research and develop new content and exhibition design over the next 18 months. The curatorial project, "Healing and Reconciliation through Education," led by Jonathan Dewar, SRSC Director, and acclaimed Onandaga artist and curator Jeff Thomas, will see a fully realized plan for several strategic and highly visible public spaces at Algoma University, including Shingwauk Auditorium, to be transformed through a combination of professional gallery and museum practice to augment our telling of the history and present day story of Algoma University. This plan will form the basis for a proposal to augment AU's 50th anniversary efforts.

SRSC Director Dewar is a co-investigator on a SSHRC *Insight Grant* called "'Beyond Reconciliation': Indigenous Arts, Public Engagement, and the Aftermath of Residential Schools" (\$499,371, University of Alberta, to 2017). A cornerstone of this grant is "to support the creation of summer institute programming, research capacity, and a new publication imprint at the Shingwauk Residential School Centre (Algoma University). While there will be programming over five years at University of Alberta, Thompson Rivers University, and University of Regina as well, the Centre now has the principal funding for Summer Institute programming through summer 2017. This will include a Shingwauk Gathering & Conference under the theme of "Art and Archives."

Director Dewar is also a co-investigator on a newly awarded SSHRC *Partnership Development Grant* called "Embodying empathy: fostering historical knowledge and caring through a virtual Indian residential school" (\$195,657, University of Manitoba, to 2016).

The Centre continues to offer site tours to learners of all ages, with regular elementary, middle, and secondary school visits, visits by community groups, and university student-centred tours and lectures. In October, The Centre will host nine students from Nipissing University for a two day learning visit.

The Centre has been asked to develop a course for public servants by the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch of Health Canada. This next-level cultural competency course will focus on reconciliation in practice and will be funded by Health Canada.

The Centre now serves as the host for the Ontario Project of Heart site and is the Ontario representative for this national project.

The following new publications have come out of the Centre:

- Accepted for publication: Chapter on "Aboriginal Art and Reconciliation" (working title) commissioned for Visions of the Heart: Engaging Canadian Aboriginal Issues 4th Edition, Ed. David Long, Oxford University Press [Forthcoming 2015]. **Peer Reviewed.**

- Accepted for publication: “From Trauma and Residential Schools to Art, Archive, and Healing.” Roots and Routes of Displacement and Trauma: From Analysis to Advocacy & Policy to Practice. Eds. Sheila Gruner and Sohelia Pashang. Rock’s Mills Press [Forthcoming 2015]. **Peer Reviewed.**
- Accepted for publication: “Walking With Our Sisters, Sault Ste. Marie: A Photo Essay” (working title). Reconciliation – Work(s) in Progress: Creative / Critical Dialogues. Eds. Gabrielle Hill and Sophie McCall, Arbeiter Ring Press [Forthcoming 2014]. **Peer Reviewed.**
- Accepted for publication: “Adrian Stimson: A Critical Dialogue” (working title). Reconciliation – Work(s) in Progress: Creative / Critical Dialogues. Eds. Gabrielle Hill and Sophie McCall, Arbeiter Ring Press [Forthcoming 2014]. **Peer Reviewed.**
- Accepted for publication: “From Profound Silences to Ethical Practices: Aboriginal Writing and Reconciliation.” The Oxford Handbook of Canadian Literature, Ed. Cynthia Sugars, Oxford University Press [Forthcoming 2015]. **Peer Reviewed.**
- Accepted for publication: “Where Are the Children?” and “We Were So Far Away...”: Exhibiting the Legacies of Indian Residential Schools, Healing, and Reconciliation.” Museum Transformations: Art, Culture, History, eds. Annie E. Coombes and Ruth Phillips (in the International Handbook of Museum Studies series). Wiley-Blackwell [Forthcoming 2014]. **Peer Reviewed.**

Student Services

Summary of Issues, Initiatives and Operations since September 2014 Tom Mauro, Director of Ancillary and Student Services

1. Student Services

- Representatives from Good 2 Talk, a 24 hour hotline service for post-secondary students who are experience crisis or mental health issues, was on campus Oct 28th creating awareness and promoting their services to students and staff.
- Student Services staff continue to implement and support many campus life initiatives such as EID Dinner, Brazilian Night, Corn Maze, Pumpkin Carving Contest, Pet Therapy and many others.
- Algoma University introduced an academic support program called “Bounce Back”. This program is designed to assist students who are placed on academic probation or very close to doing so. The program entails a series of academic support workshops spread out over the term which focuses on improving study, note taking, research, writing, numeracy, and time management skills. A prize will be awarded to the student who has the largest increase in their GPA by term’s end.
- Attended the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) presentation entitled “Fighting Extremism Together” which pertained to the foreign fighter phenomenon. CSIS felt that having representatives from the local university was important.
- Career and Coop Services recently improved their website to make it more functional for students and have since seen increased inquiries

2. Residence

- The focus of Residence Life programming this year is increasing the physically activity levels of residence students. There have been recreational activities planned at the GLC on a weekly basis, as well as a softball game, pick up hockey and public skating at the John Rhodes.
- As part of our ongoing social education “Lunch and Learn” series, the Sexual Assault Care Centre met with Residence students on Nov 7th to better inform them of social responsibility and the services available. Gambling Addictions is planned for January.
- Residence Life staff continue to plan social activities for residence students such as Halloween Door Decorating contest , midnight breakfasts, coffee nights and game nights.
- Residence is currently operating at an 80% occupancy rate of all revenue beds.

3. George Leach Centre

- Ongoing construction, weather, and water damage has caused significant closures to the facility. Members have been relocated to the YMCA until further notice. Some fitness and varsity programs have been cancelled while others have been relocated to other facilities in the community.
- GLC Student assistants where possible have been provided working opportunities in other departments on campus. GLC Full time staff have been provided alternative workstations and continue expansion planning and fielding calls from the community about current GLC conditions
- The GLC hosted a very successful 5Km Colour Dash on the campus as part of Homecoming Weekend. Over 200 runners/walkers taking part in the fundraiser for ARCH.
- In partnership with Searchmont, 62 Algoma U students took advantage of a special discounted pass that included lift, rentals and transportation for the season.

4. Varsity

- On November 2nd the Algoma wrestling team attended the McMaster Open in Hamilton where they brought home three medals: a gold, silver, and bronze. Alex Fry, a first-year Computer Science wrestler from Defiance, Ohio, earned gold in the 120-kilogram division. Second-year wrestler and last year's Female Student-Athlete of the Year, Natasha Doroodian earned silver in the 67-kilogram division. Sociology major and rookie wrestler Steven Kymes from Dafer, Michigan, claimed bronze in the 72-kilogram weight class.
- Our first year in OUA Men's and Women's Soccer was challenging but the teams performed better as the season went on, in particular the Men's team who posted draws against Brock and Waterloo. Lauren Moore and Nick Palazzi finished first in the OUA with the most number of saves made by a goal keeper.
- Over Thanksgiving, the Cross-country running team participated in the annual Muskegon Community College Jayhawk Invitational in Muskegon, Michigan. Third year runner *Anna Stilin's* posted a personal best for the women's five-kilometre race with a time of 19:35, placing 16th.

5. Ancillaries

- Morningstar, the new food services provider, conducted its first town hall meeting with Residence students on Oct 15th as part of their ongoing commitment to provide the quality service to our students.