
Semi Annual Fiscal Review and Northern Sustainability Grant Update

The Administration provided an information update to the Finance Committee of Board of Governors on the semi-annual review of the budget variance and projections for the fiscal 2019-20.

The University has received confirmation of the One-Time Northern Tuition Sustainability Grant in the amount of \$4,344k to provide temporary relief funding to Laurentian and its Federated Universities, for the reduction in tuition rates. Unfortunately, this amount represents \$1.6 M less than required to offset the 13% cumulative decrease in tuition that we have experienced for 2019/20. Laurentian is working with the MCU, Northern Universities and COU on this file. Once

the implications to the year-end projection for fiscal 2019-20.

During the first 6 months of 2019-20, Laurentian University closely monitored enrolment trends and progress towards achieving its goals for the Fall Term. In addition, the University is continuing its sustainability initiatives (efficiencies, additional revenues and savings) as outlined in the Growing Stronger Together budget document approved by the Board of Governors on April 26, 2019.

Overall, after consideration of the projected budget variances, the University is estimating a small operating deficit for the year ending April 30th, 2020 in the amount of \$878k or 0.5% of the operating budget. The Administration will continue efforts to adhere to the Board approved budget parameters, with the goal of a balanced operating budget by the end of fiscal 2019-20.

Alumni Engagement

On November 20th, I was pleased to have the opportunity to meet with several Laurentian Alumni in Montreal. One of the outcomes of these meetings is the development of a plan to host a Laurentian Alumni event in Montreal in the New Year as part of our continuing efforts to build the Laurentian Alumni network.

In addition, on November 29th I attended a very enthusiastic dinner of the Laurentian University Alumni Association in advance of their full day strategic planning retreat on the 30th. I am so impressed with the dedication of the leadership of our Alumni Association who generously give so much of their time in support of Laurentian and their fellow alumni.

NOSM Board Retreat

I attended a NOSM Board retreat November 27-28th, with sessions meant to inform the new NOSM strategic plan that is up for discussion. A breadth of topics were touched on during the retreat, and I wish to highlight that one of the consistent themes was the desirability of building a closer relationship for NOSM within Laurentian and Lakehead Universities. I look forward to working with the NOSM leadership team and colleagues to building the relationship with Laurentian.

VPR and Provost

The job profile for the search for Vice-President Research is now complete and out to market. I would like to thank the members of the search committee and all members of the community that

commented on the final draft of the profile that was circulated recently. The committee and I look forward to a successful search for a dynamic individual that will lead our research, scholarship and associated creative activities to new heights over the coming years. The first meeting of the committee to consider candidates for short listing has been scheduled

For the position of Vice-President Academic and Provost, the community survey has been completed and the search committee will be meeting shortly to discuss the results and assemble the profile. Boyden Executive Search has been retained as a consultant for this search.

Festive Gathering

It was a great pleasure for my wife Johanne and me, to host so many members of our community

Congratulations to Kadre Gray as he became the Voyageur's all-time leading scorer in Men's Basketball. He surpassed Norm Hann's record of 1722 points, which was established in 1993. Kadre has earned many awards in his time as a Voyageur, including being named Canada's USPORTS Athlete of the Year, two-time USPORTS Basketball Player of the Year and multiple OUA Player of the Year awards.

Hailey Chase, OUA Singles Rowing Champion, won a Bronze Medal at Canadian University Rowing Championships. Haley was named Canadian University Rowing Athlete of the Year.

Charles Alexander won gold for OUA Singles Rowing.

Men's Cross Country Running - 6th at OUA Championships (qualified for USport National Championship) and came 12th at USport National Championships going from 12th in the province just a few years ago to 12th in the country this year.

Men's Soccer: Augustus Oku named Laurentian 2nd Team OUA East All-Star, Nick Esperanca named Laurentian 2nd Team OUA East All-Star.

The efforts of our Sports Administration students were once again lauded by US-based professional sports teams as a group of our 4th year students visited Washington, DC to complete consulting projects with the Washington Wizards, Washington Capitals and other teams. The teams were very impressed with the group, which was led by faculty members Dr. Anthony Church and Dr. Claude Vincent.

International Education Week -
