

The clocks have changed, there's the annual debate about whether we should abolish clock changes entirely, the days are definitely getting longer... After Reading Week, it always feels like a mad dash to the end of term, compounded by the extra work of budget year-end and budgeting for the next year, this year under a newer, more open process. I hope everybody is coping!

I won't repeat any history here, just give updates where they exist. The Operational Transformation Consultant has been chosen by our evaluating team, has been approved at a special Board meeting and by MCU (Ministry of Colleges and Universities), and now we are proceeding to negotiate the contract, and when that is done, the successful vendor will be announced publicly, and the work will begin. For the Strategic Plan Consultancy shortlisting has happened, the interviews followed by decision meetings will take place next week, a Board meeting has been scheduled for April 11, after which it will follow MCU approval and contract negotiation.

Searches continue for various permanent positions: University Secretary, Associate University Secretary, General Counsel, Legal Counsel, VP Finance & Administration, and Associate VP Human Resources. There are also the searches for President (awaiting its final two members, see later in the agenda today) and Provost, decanal searches (Arts, Education & Health), and shortly for the Associate VP Francophone Affairs. A number of the 10 faculty hires authorized in January are proceeding well. More faculty searches and staff searches will proceed after the 2023-24 budgeting process is complete.

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investors, for its educational programming, outstanding business opportunities and networking events. If you are in the mining industry, this is the place to be.

David Harquail, Chair of Franco-Nevada Corporation, Chair our Board's Finance Committee, and the major donor behind the Harquail School of Earth Sciences, MC'd a Laurentian breakfast event for about 100 alumni and friends, providing an excellent opportunity to showcase our numerous accomplishments and to reconnect with partners and collaborators, community leaders, donors and alumni. The overarching message was "Laurentian is Back!" I also spoke at this event, also attended by Governors Jeff Bangs and Don Duval. The PDAC-SEG Student Minerals Colloquium, organized annually by our graduate students, was held March 7, and the Metal Earth Research Meetings, coordinated by MERC March 2-3, were two additional successes at PDAC. The Laurentian booth where HES, MERC, Metal Earth, and the Goodman School of Mines had a presence, was very much visited by alumni, industry leaders and potential students and partners. MIRARCO hosted a booth at the Northern Ontario Mining Showcase and held a successful press conference announcing a new Research Chair position and partnership with Vale to advance the recovery of critical minerals from mine waste. Vale has committed \$875,000 over five years to support this new Industrial Research Chair program in biomining and bioremediation as part of efforts to reduce mine waste and capture additional value from mined material. The Government of Ontario will also contribute \$750,000 through the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corp. to support this industrial research chair program. The industrial research chair program led by Dr. Nadia Mykytczuk will develop, pilot and work towards commercializing bioleaching and bioremediation processes including efforts to recover nickel and cobalt from low-grade pyrrhotite tailings and other wastes.

Laurentian students were again very successful at the Canadian Mining Games, hosted in Vancouver by UBC and BCIT, with two first place finishes (Underground Mine Design and Sustainable Development) as well as two third place finishes (Health & Safety and Tailings & Closure Management) in the 2023 competition. Next year, Laurentian will host the 34th Canadian Mining Games here in Sudbury.

The French language programs in the School of Education have successfully renewed their accreditation with the Ontario College of Teachers / Ordre des enseignantes et des enseignants de l'Ontario (one concurrent program and two consecutive programs). The Professional Continuing Teacher Education unit, led by the Micro-credential and non-credit programming department in collaboration with the Faculty of Education and Health, has been re-accredited by the Ontario College of Teachers for 12 additional qualification and additional basic qualification courses this year.

The Centre for Continuing Learning, directed by Bettina Brockerhoff-Macdonald, in collaboration with the School of Education and the School of Liberal Arts, received funding from the **Ontario French as a Second Language (FLS) Teacher Supply Challenge Fund** to "support the provision of flexible and targeted programming or services that will re-balance the pool of FSL

engagement, and energy everyone brought to the week organized to raise career skills and awareness throughout the student body. Career Week included a Work Study info session, an on-campus part-time job meet and greet for Staff to meet with motivated students. There were workshops throughout the week on topics like resume building, cover letter writing, job search, networking, and interviewing, each delivered in French and English. There were more than 50 School boards from across the country organized into a virtual Education Career Fair for Students.

The Laurentian University community welcomeR

celebrated on March 8th, Laurentian recognized women and their achievements all week long, March 6th - March 10th. On March 4th, EDHRO collaborated with Black Lives Matter Sudbury to present the Black Futures keynote address, ***Trust Black Women***. University Advancement highlighted 5 Laurentian Alumnae on social media to celebrate their personal and professional achievements: Bo Wang-Frape, Christina Visser, Ra'anaa Ekundayo, Jen McKerral, and Giovanna Verrilli. They graduated from a variety of programs including Business Administration, Commerce, Architecture, and Communication Studies.

The Peer Programs Office hosted a _____ from 7 p.m. to midnight. Supports: Exam Prep, Research and Citation Help, Test-taking Strategies, Tutoring Support, Wellness Support, and Writing Support. Feature activities: Euth