



## **President's Report to Senate October 2022**

As Laurentian comes increasingly closer to emergence from the CCAA process, it is time to turn our focus increasingly on the future - and the future of Laurentian is our students and their return to Laurentian. Already this fall we have seen positive trends in registration in some areas, and as a result of the success of the Ontario Universities Fair, this Saturday, October 22, 2022, Laurentian will be hosting our annual fall Open House. Prospective students and their families will be visiting campus between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. I encourage everyone to experience and contribute to the energy by joining guided campus tours, the academic and student services fair and drop in lectures. Complete details for the open house are available at [laurentian.ca/openhouse](http://laurentian.ca/openhouse).

### **Ontario Universities Fair 2022**

On October 1st and 2nd 2022, a Laurentian team of 81 students, alumni, staff, admin, and faculty participated in the annual Ontario Universities Fair (OUF) at the Metro-Toronto Convention Centre in downtown Toronto. The fair yielded positive results for Laurentian as we welcomed thousands of visitors to our 2,200-square-foot booth, refreshed and redesigned thanks to the Marketing Department. Over the weekend, we collected 5,063 prospective student email addresses, representing an increase over previous years.

This success was possible as a result of teamwork, dedication, and support from those attending. Two of our staff members in particular led these efforts. Marie-Lynne Michaud and the Marketing team who found our new booth vendor, organized the design, and ensured the booth was a cut above the rest. Danielle Yasko-Pellerin (Events and Communications Coordinator for Domestic Recruitment) and was responsible for organizing logistics associated with the event. Indeed, the entire team deserves a round of applause.

### **Funding for Francophone Programs**

Laurentian is currently exploring potential funds/grants for the Consortium National de la formation en santé (CNFS) and the Office of Francophone Affairs (OFA).



### **CCAA Updates**

Laurentian is in the final stages of completing its CCAA restructuring and expects to emerge in the month of November. As was reported last month, the Plan of Arrangement that was presented at a meeting of creditors on September 14, 2022, was approved by the requisite majorities of creditors. Court approval of the Plan was obtained on October 5, 2022. The only step remaining is the implementation of the Plan, which will occur once various conditions have been satisfied. One of those conditions is finalizing the exit loan agreement with the Province of Ontario, which



on the pandemic and safety measures being taken by the University. While the situation on campus is currently stable, we must not become complacent as we move towards winter and we

congregate increasingly indoors. The University and the Council of Ontario Universities continue to monitor the situation closely and Laurentian continues to work closely with Public Health, Sudbury and Districts to ensure we are following all guidance to ensure a safe environment for students, faculty and staff. As always, I encourage everyone to be up to date on vaccination, to protect yourself and those around you.

**Kudos**

1. Congratulations to Maryam Pourmahdavi, PhD candidate of Natural Resource Engineering in Engineering Science at Laurentian University, who is the recipient of the prestigious Gordon M. Ritcey PhD award. This nationwide achievement in the hydrometallurgy section of Metallurgy and Materials Society of the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (MetSoc) is an incredible accomplishment for Pourmahdavi, who is also a 2019 Ontario Trillium scholar and 2020 Parya Trillium scholar. This is the first time that a Laurentian student has been the recipient of this award.
2. The School of Sports Administration (SPAD) has a lot to be proud of as over 300 alumni and students came together for a full weekend of events during the SPAD 50th Anniversary. Events were headlined by a Fundraising Gala at the Liberty Grand in Toronto, which attracted graduates and corporations to current and former General Managers of professional sports teams, graduates were eager to reconnect with former classmates and professors. The celebration extended into Sudbury throughout the weekend, where graduates spent time volunteering at the Elgin Street Mission, leading a hockey equipment drive and making new connections at the many social events.
3. I would like to thank Dr. Masha Krupp and Dr. Alessia Pastre who joined University Advancement, the School of Education & Health along with student and faculty colleagues to formally

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