

Principal's Written Report
Queen's University Senate
27th November, 2012

As we approach the end of what has seemed an even busier fall term than usual, I would like to take the opportunity in this written report to highlight some exciting activities and initiatives on campus and in the broader community that I have been able to attend since the last Senate meeting. I will also provide a brief update on activities related to the Initiative Campaign launched earlier this fall.

Community Engagement

A particular theme of the Board-Senate Retreat held at the end of September was the need for enhanced communication between the Board, the Senate and the Administration. As I reported at last Senate, I have been meeting with groups of senators and have now met with about half of the faculty senators and with the student senate caucus. We have had very useful discussions about ways in which we can work together to improve collegiality at Senate and to better engage senators. One of the suggestions made at the Retreat was to engage Trustees more in the life of the university where possible allowing them to see, first hand, how Queen's currently works and to meet directly with faculty, staff and students who are not on governing bodies. To that end, I have begun inviting trustees to events on campus and am pleased to report that six trustees were able to attend a recent reception for newly tenured faculty and for those recently promoted to Professor.

On November 16th Queen's held a Community Breakfast at which some of our excellent students were showcased and their initiatives shared with community and business leaders. The theme for the presentation was "Putting ideas to work: student imagination, innovation and initiative". Presentations included one from students who were winners of the Queen's Summer Innovation Institute grand prize that provides financial support for Moja Labs, the company they founded through the Institute. The mobile platform they have developed makes it easier for travelers to explore a city's attractions. Business and not-for-profit community leaders attended this event. The breakfast also formed part of AUCC's "Open Doors, Open Knowledge" campaign taking place on campuses across Canada from 9th - 19th November. The theme of this national campaign is "Putting ideas to work" and it is designed to demonstrate the tangible benefits, both locally and nationally, of innovations developed in Canadian universities.

International Engagement and the Matariki Network of Universities

As senators will be aware, the Matariki Network of Universities, of which Queen's is a member, held their annual Board Meeting at Queen's in early November with Executive Heads and/or senior representatives from each of the seven partner universities that form this network. A recurring theme was that we needed more effective communication to take best advantage of the network. The cross-network connections that now exist at senior levels and between individual researchers and faculty members and staff will be extended to encompass, among other areas, student services, communications and marketing. As like-minded and similar sized institutions we have much to learn

from each other and we have the opportunity to provide numerous opportunities for student and faculty mobility within the network, and for joint teaching and research.

The visit of a delegation of senior administrators from Tsinghua University this month was a follow-up to my own visit to that institution in February. Provost Harrison and I met with the delegation as did a number of deans and department heads. This return visit provided an opportunity to broaden and further consolidate linkages with Tsinghua University for student mobility and joint research.

Convocation

On November 20th and 21st I was privileged to officiate with Chancellor Dodge when he conferred degrees on our graduates and honorary degrees on humanitarians and advocates for mental health, President Jimmy Carter and Rosalynn Carter; creator of the iconic Doonesbury comic strip, Garry Trudeau and prominent figure in Canadian theatre, Jacqueline Maxwell. Convocation is a joyous time for graduates and their families and a reminder of our mission to help our students to reach their full academic potential and develop the initiative for which Queen's graduates are known.

Mental Health initiatives at Queen's

Queen's continues its focus on building awareness on student mental health issues and providing enhanced support for mental health issues on campus. This month, Eric Windeler and I signed an agreement that will bring The Jack Project to Queen's. This agreement means that the student and youth-focused initiatives and programs to grapple with stigma, awareness, self-help and peer-help, often initiated by the young people whom they most benefit, will be nurtured and supported by Queen's. The programs that are developed will be available for adoption by secondary and post-secondary institutions across Canada. I continue to be in awe of what the Windeler family has achieved in the face of personal tragedy and feel honoured that they have chosen to provide Queen's with the opportunity to be part of this important initiative.

As we strive to continue to provide enhanced services for our students in the area of mental health I await the final report of the Principal's Commission on Mental Health, expected by the end of this month. This report will provide a roadmap for us in the future as we tackle these difficult issues and look to provide the best support for our students.

Advancement Activities

Since the launch of the Initiative Campaign in September, I have met with a number of key alumni and benefactors to discuss how their philanthropic support could advance Queen's academic priorities. Response during these meetings, from benefactors in Ottawa, Boston, Calgary, Kingston and Toronto, has been very favourable and we are making progress towards our fundraising goal for the Campaign. More than 60% of the \$500 million goal is now secured.

Principal Daniel Woolf: Schedule Highlights October 31 - November 27, 2012			
Month	Day	Location	Activity
October	31	Kingston	Lunch with Faculty Senators
November	1	Kingston	Telephone call with Professor Chris Higgins, Vice-Chancellor of Durham University
			<i>Matariki Network of Universities</i> (MNU) meetings and dinner
	2	Kingston	MNU meetings
			Hockey Game at the KRock Centre - Kingston Frontenacs vs Brampton Battalion
	3	Kingston	Engineering Open House
	4	Kingston	Queen's Debating Union's annual Chancellor's Cup
	5	Kingston	Queen's International Affairs Association Executive
			Queen's University Planning Committee
			Lunch with the Rector and students
	6	Kingston	Members of the Senate Student Caucus
			Interview with Ann Dowsett Johnston, Author of Women and Alcohol
		Toronto	<i>Standing Advisory Committee on International Relations</i> (SACIR) Teleconference
	7	Boston	Alumni, Prospective Donors and Friends
			Mr. Patrick G. Binns, Consul General of Canada to New England
			Queen's University Alumni Association and Consulate General of Canada Reception
	12	Kingston	AMS Executive
			Mayor Mark Gerretsen
			Lunch with a Trustee
			Reception for newly tenured faculty and faculty promoted to Professor
	13	Kingston	RESL 131A lecture - World Religions/Religious Worlds
			Queen's Engineering Society
			Tsinghua University Visit
			SGPS Executive
			2012 Academic All-Star Reception
			SGPS Council Meeting
	14	Calgary	Alumni, Prospective Donors and Friends
			Johnson Award Reception
15	Kingston	Alumni, Prospective Donors and Friends	
16	Kingston	Principal's Community Breakfast	
16	Kingston	Walkhome Walk-a-thon	
		<i>Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada</i> (AUCC) Teleconference	
		Lunch with Senators	
		Rector	
		Melissa Stylianou Quintet: A concert to raise awareness of student mental health initiatives at Queen's	
17	Toronto	John Orr Awards Dinner and Award Presentation	
19	Toronto	Alumni, Prospective Donors and Friends	
20	Kingston	Convocation	
		Queen's School of Business Research Awards reception	
		Residence High Table dinner	
		City Council Meeting	
21	Kingston	Convocation	
		Dinner with the Arts and Science Undergraduate Society	
26	Kingston	Faculty/Staff/Student Advisory Committee	
		AMS Executive	
		Town Hall Forum with Premier Redford	
		Military & Veteran's Health Research Forum	
27	Kingston	Senate Meeting	