Summary

The 4th Annual Matariki Indigenous Student Mobility (MISMP) is an exciting opportunity for Queen’s undergraduate and graduate students to participate in an international experiential learning program focused on Indigenous knowledge. From June 23 to July 6, 2019, Indigenous and ally students, faculty and Elders from across the Matariki Network of Universities (MNU) will gather at Queen’s on the traditional territories of the Anishinabek and Haudenosaunee peoples to participate in land and community based learning on the theme of Learning, Language and Land.

The Matariki Network of Universities (MNU) is a network of seven universities: University of Western Australia (Australia), Durham University (UK), Uppsala University (Sweden), Tübingen University (Germany), Dartmouth College (USA), Queen’s University (Canada), and Otago University (New Zealand).

The program is designed to foster academic and personal growth opportunities for students who demonstrate a deep awareness of Indigenous issues and willingness to engage in reflection, dialogue, and debate. Participants will come away with a deeper understanding of Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee ways of knowing, understanding, doing, and honouring; issues impacting Indigenous peoples in Canada and around the world; and local initiatives for self-determination. Participants will be encouraged to share their knowledge, wisdom, and experiences from their own nations and cultures.

Queen’s is seeking undergraduate and graduate students who identify as Indigenous to participate in this program. Students who do not identify as Indigenous but have substantial course work and/or deep personal understanding of reconciliation and Indigenous cultures are encouraged to apply. Participation is funded, with the exception of some meals.

For more information about the program, please contact the International Programs Office at ipo@queensu.ca or visit B206 Mackintosh-Corry Hall.

The deadline for application is February 15, 2019.
Program Overview

Queen’s University will host MISMP from 23 June to 6 July 2019 for approximately 25 participants from across the MNU on the theme of Learning, Language, and Land. Through this program, participants can expect to:

1. *Increase their understanding and appreciation of, and ability to critically evaluate, issues that impact Indigenous communities* through exposure to the knowledge and experiences of local Indigenous communities. Participants will engage extensively with local community leaders and members, educators, and researchers on a range of themes, including Indigenous education, Indigenous language revitalization, social impacts of assimilative policies and residential schools, Indigenous arts, and many others.

2. *Gain a deeper understanding of and begin to articulate aspects of the history, culture, and social and economic enterprise of Indigenous communities around the world,* with particular focus on the sophistication of Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee ways of knowing, understanding, doing, and honouring.

3. *Facilitate exchange of interdisciplinary knowledge between Indigenous communities* and across international contexts. Participants will be encouraged to share knowledge, wisdom, and experiences from their own nations and cultures.

4. *Engage meaningfully with local initiatives for self-determination,* with emphasis on local models of shared territory and co-existence.

5. *Where appropriate, contribute to a growing body of multidisciplinary research relevant to Indigenous peoples.* Opportunities will be provided for undergraduate and graduate students to explore future opportunities in research and academia. Participants are encouraged to provide a presentation or knowledge sharing activity on current Indigenous based knowledge in the form of research, course work, or lived experiences. Participants will also contribute to a written publication containing contributions from MISMP participants after the event is over.

Program development is being led by Dr. Lindsay A. Morcom, Assistant Professor of Aboriginal Education, Queen’s Faculty of Education.

Some pre-program preparation in the form of short readings, or virtual or in-person discussion with other participants will be required. Specifics will be communicated to participants well in advance of the start of the program.
Eligibility

Application priority is extended to Indigenous undergraduate students currently in their 2nd or 3rd year, followed by Indigenous graduate students or current fourth year undergraduates who are returning to Queen’s for B.Ed., graduate or other type of study. Students who do not identify as Indigenous, but have demonstrated knowledge of Indigenous cultures, knowledge and reconciliation are also encouraged to apply.

Graduate applicants must be registered in a masters or doctoral program in any discipline at Queen’s University. Undergraduate applicants must be registered in a degree program in any discipline at Queen’s University and have completed at least one year of undergraduate study before the start of the MISMP program. Part-time students are eligible. If you have questions about eligibility, please contact the International Programs Office at ipo@queensu.ca.

Costs and Accommodations

All program participants will be housed in Queen’s University campus accommodations; this includes Queen’s participants. Field trips and meals for the duration of the program along with accommodation are funded through the Office of the Associate Vice-Principal (International). Participants should budget for small incidental fees such as additional meals and snacks not included in the program.

Students may wish to explore credit for this program with their home faculty. Program details will be made available for evaluation. If this program is taken for credit, tuition assessment will be made.

Summer Employment

MISMP may conflict with summer employment. MISMP undergraduate students may wish to apply to the Undergraduate Student Summer Research Fellowship (USSRF) program, which provides paid opportunities for continuing Queen’s undergraduates to conduct a research project in the social sciences, humanities, or creative arts under the supervision of a faculty researcher. The application deadline is March 1, 2019. To review the application and guidelines visit: https://www.queensu.ca/urs/funding-sources/undergraduate-student-summer-research-fellowshipsusrf.

For more information about the MISMP program, please contact the International Programs Office at ipo@queensu.ca or visit B206 Mackintosh-Corry Hall. Students interested in USSRF are encouraged to contact the IPO as soon as possible to discuss.
Application Process

Participants will be selected through a competitive application process. Applications will be assessed by a selection committee of Indigenous and ally faculty and senior leaders at Queen’s based on the quality of the application materials and how the materials fit with the overall theme of Learning, Language and Land.

There will be an interview with the selection committee for shortlisted candidates.

Application submission must include:

1) Statement of interest
The statement should explain the applicant’s interest in participating in a program focused on Learning, Language, and Land. Many forms of expression are welcome. Applicants may submit a written document (500 word limit), video, visual art, piece of music (format MP3) or other expressions that address the essence of the theme as the applicant interprets it. Applicants may wish to give consideration to life experiences, course work, research or other background that has prepared them to take part in this program.

2) Letter of support from a faculty member (undergraduate) or supervisor (graduate)
The letter of support should come from a supervisor or faculty member who is able to comment on the academic aptitude, maturity level, individual character and the ability of the applicant to engage respectfully with others from different cultures.

The deadline for submission is February 15, 2019. Applications should be submitted to ipo@queensu.ca or in person at B206 Mackintosh-Corry Hall.

Short listed applicants will be contacted for an interview during the week of March 4, 2019.

The successful applicants will be notified by March 25, 2019.