



April 10, 2018

A Message to Our Community from Dean Glen Jones

Dear OISE Community,

As this term winds down, I know that many of you will be very busy with various academic and scholarly endeavors. As we prepare for the transition to what we hope will soon be spring, here are a few updates.

OISE Faculty Renewal

I am pleased to announce that all of our 2017-18 faculty searches have been successful, and that five exceptional new faculty members will be joining us in 2018-19. My thanks go out to the Chairs and members of the search committees, as well as support staff, for their hard work and expertise.

Indigenous Education

Dr. Jennifer Brant will be joining the Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning at the rank of Assistant Professor, effective August 1, 2018. Dr. Brant belongs to the Mohawk Nation with family ties to Six Nations of the Grand River Territory and Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory. She received a PhD in Education from Brock University in 2017 and is currently Assistant Professor in the Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning at the University of Manitoba. She has more than seven years of experience in university teaching and program coordination in Indigenous Education, with a particular focus on Indigenous women's issues. Dr. Brant is an accomplished Indigenous feminist scholar whose research foci include Indigenous women's literature as a source of empowerment, cultural identity formation, the development of Indigenous curricula, and the advancement of ethical space for Indigenous scholarship.

Literacy in Elementary Education

Ms. Cassie Brownell will be joining the Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning at the rank of Assistant Professor (Conditional), effective July 1, 2018. Ms. Brownell is currently completing her PhD in Curriculum, Instruction & Teacher Education at Michigan State University, with a dissertation on "Cultivating a Compositional Fluency in Elementary English Language Arts." She has extensive teaching experience both in literacy-related university teacher education courses and as an elementary school teacher, as well as experience mentoring graduate students. Her research program is focused on the use of digital technologies as pedagogical and methodological tools to enhance elementary literacy education for students of diverse backgrounds.

Comparative and International Educational Change

Dr. Claudia Diaz Rios will be joining the Department of Leadership, Higher and Adult Education at the rank of Assistant Professor, effective January 1, 2019. Dr. Diaz Rios

received a PhD in Comparative Public Policy from McMaster University in 2016. She is currently a Banting Postdoctoral Fellow at OISE, working on a comparative study of public-subsidized private schools in Argentina and Colombia. In the course of several teaching appointments, she has developed broad teaching experience in areas such as Education Policy, Public Policy, Sociology of Education, Migration, and Development. Her research focuses on the effects of governance reforms on school improvement and the global-local politics of governance reforms in different areas of Latin American education, including school choice, curriculum decentralization, and accountability.

Black Studies in Education

Dr. Rosalind Hampton will be joining the Department of Social Justice Education at the rank of Assistant Professor, effective July 1, 2018. Dr. Hampton received a PhD in Educational Studies from McGill University in 2016. She is currently a postdoctoral fellow in the University of Ottawa's Faculty of Education. Her area of expertise is Black Canadian Studies, and her dissertation was on "Racialized Social Relations in Higher Education: Black Student and Faculty Experiences of a Canadian University." Her academic research builds on an impressive background in community work and organizing, and her teaching interests and experience will enable her to make important contributions in the area of Black Studies in Education to both Social Justice Education and teacher education programs. In addition to her strong academic and community-oriented profile, Dr. Hampton is an accomplished visual artist with a background in Art Education.

Adult Learning in Indigenous Education

Dr. Jennifer Wemigwans will be joining the department of Leadership, Higher and Adult Education at the rank of Assistant Professor, effective July 1, 2018. Dr. Wemigwans is Anishnaabekwe (Ojibwe/Potawatomi) from the Wikwemikong First Nation. She received her PhD in Social Justice Education from OISE in 2016. She is currently a sessional Assistant Professor at York University, where she has taught a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses in Indigenous and digital learning. Her research focuses on the convergence between education, Indigenous Knowledge, and new media technologies. She has also engaged in an impressive array of media exhibition, practice and consultation, exploring the potential of new media technologies for learning in areas as diverse as Indigenous mental health, Ojibwe language, Indigenous history, First Nations spirituality, and multigenerational Indigenous cultural literacy.

Please join me in welcoming these outstanding new colleagues to OISE!

OISE Convocation

Please be sure to set aside time to join our graduates at the spring OISE Convocation Ceremonies. **June 12th from 10am-12pm** (Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of Education, Master of Arts (OISE only; excluding CSE) Master of Education Certificate in Leadership in Higher Education). **June 20th 6:30 – 8:30pm** (Master of Arts - CSE only Master of Teaching Undergraduate Degrees Bachelor of Education – Primary/Junior (CTEP program) Bachelor of Education – Intermediate/Senior (CTEP program). We are delighted to have our honorary graduand Dionne Brand speaking at the June 20th ceremony. We will be organizing OISE community gatherings for both convocation ceremonies (following convocation on the 12th, and before convocation on the 20th) and will distribute more detailed information towards the end of this month. For more information on the ceremonies please visit the Office of Convocation website.

2018 R.W.B. Jackson Lecture

We are extremely pleased that Dr. Cindy Blackstock has agreed to give the 2018 Jackson Lecture (in conversation with CBC's Duncan McCue) on June 13th. The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the OISE Auditorium and conclude with a reception in the OISE Library. As many of you know, Dr. Blackstock is the Executive Director of the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada. Her lecture is entitled "Spirit Bear: Decolonizing Canada by Lifting up the Children." You can register to attend the event at:

<https://tinyurl.com/OISEJacksonLecture>.

Graduate Student Research Conference

I want to encourage members of our community to attend the OISE Graduate Student Research Conference taking place April 20-21st. This year's organizing committee has done an incredible job putting together an impressive program that includes 144 presentations and 9 special workshops along with invited speakers and much more. I encourage you to visit the [GSRC conference website](#) for further details and to register. It would be wonderful to have a large number of OISE faculty participating and supporting their graduate students.

AERA

A large number of OISE faculty and students will be attending the AERA (American Educational Research Association) conference in New York City from April 13 to 17. Our presence at this year's event represents an opportunity for OISE to prepare for 2019, when Toronto will be host to 15,000 plus participants at AERA. This year will therefore represent a terrific opportunity to set a path for OISE's integral involvement next year. If you are at AERA in New York this year and wish to attend the OISE Reception please RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/OISEatAERA>

Congress

Many of you will be attending Congress at the University of Regina at the end of May in order to participate in CSSE, CSSHE or one of the other social sciences or humanities associations. We will be holding an OISE party on Tuesday, May 29th and will circulate additional details closer to the event.

Town Hall

On March 28th we held a public town hall conversation focusing on implementing the academic plan; more than 50 members of our community attended. The event provided the Dean and Associate Deans with an opportunity to review a number of community initiatives that have emerged in response to the [new academic plan](#), and to obtain suggestions on other ways of moving forward. Our thanks go to all of those who took the time to participate.

VOIP

The university is actively in the process of switching phone systems to an Internet based telephone service (VOIP) provided by BroadConnect Telecom. The Education Commons has been working with the business officers and University of Toronto Telecom to identify which existing lines need to be migrated to the new service provider and the type of service plan and hardware required (e.g. phone, headset) for each line.

Some OISE units are ready to migrate such as CPL, the EC and the dean's office while others have yet to finalize their migration information. Your business officers will keep you informed of the specific migration timeline for your department/unit. We are planning to switch OISE unit by unit over the next two months. The following link provides some more general information about the project and a list of FAQs.

<http://telecommunications.utoronto.ca/1208-2/1-voip-faqs/>

We will continue to communicate and coordinate with the unit business officers throughout the process.

OISE New Staff

I am pleased to welcome Alison Grossman to our Dean's office team as the Office Assistant. Alison joined us on April 9th, and she will be supporting a wide range of administrative operations within the Dean's Office while also providing front-line assistance to visitors. We are very excited to have Alison join OISE and I hope you will take a moment to warmly welcome her to the Institute.

With Gratitude to SJE Chair Professor Abigail Bakan

As many of you will know, Professor Abigail Bakan completes her term as the Chair of Social Justice Education on June 30, 2018. Abbie has been a valued colleague and confident of the OISE leadership team, bringing equity, diversity and justice perspectives to all of our institutional priorities and initiatives. I want to take this opportunity on behalf of the institute to thank Abbie for five years of time, energy and commitment to the faculty, staff and students of our community.

Take care,



Glen A. Jones, Ph.D.
Professor and Dean