



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
OISE | ONTARIO INSTITUTE
FOR STUDIES IN EDUCATION

September 12, 2017

A Message to Our Community from Dean Glen Jones

Dear OISE Community,

Welcome to the 2017/18 academic term! It is hard to believe that the summer is winding down but I am holding onto hope that we will enjoy some warm and sunny days well into the fall. As things start to wind up for the term, I have a few updates and information items to share with you.

Academic Planning

Just before the summer, we sent the community a draft document of the Academic Plan asking for further feedback on the evolution of the plan. Accordingly, we are pleased to have received additional feedback and have made some further refinements. The draft plan is currently being reviewed by the Provost's Office. Our goal is to bring the penultimate Academic Plan to the OISE Council on October 25th for final consideration and approval-in-principle.

In the meantime, the draft Academic Plan clearly points to several key areas that require more immediate attention and consideration including Indigenous initiatives and Internationalization. Rather than wait on these key items, we have already started directing our energies to these important priorities and have begun a recruitment process for two new staff positions in these areas, both of which are partially supported with funds from central university initiatives. We will provide additional information on implementation in the coming months.

Tenure

With the final approval of the President, tenure has now been awarded to two of our colleagues. **Professor Stephanie Waterman** (Department of Leadership, Higher and Adult Education) is an expert in Native American / Indigenous college student experiences conducting important research on Indigenous post-secondary student success and how institutions support it. **Professor Jeff Bale** (Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning) is an exemplary researcher whose work focuses on how language education is valued in language policies, the impact of German education policy reforms on racialized students, and language teacher education.

I would like to congratulate these two esteemed scholars on their hard work and their continuing contributions to our community. We will be organizing an event to recognize the accomplishments of these colleagues later in the year.

Faculty Searches

Toward the end of 2016-17, the Chairs and Deans discussed our priorities for faculty renewal. I am pleased to announce that we now have University approval to conduct four new searches in 2017-18:

1. Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning: teaching stream position at the rank of Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream in the area of *Indigenous Education*;
2. Department of Leadership, Higher and Adult Education: tenure stream position at the rank of Assistant Professor in the area of *Adult Learning in Indigenous Education*;
3. Department of Leadership, Higher and Adult Education: tenure stream position at the rank of Assistant Professor in the area of *Comparative and International Educational Change*;
4. Department of Social Justice Education: tenure stream position at the rank of Assistant Professor in the area of *Black Studies in Education*.

In the coming days, advertisements for these positions will be posted and an announcement made regarding the membership of the search committees.

The Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning continues its search for a tenure stream Assistant Professor in the area of *Literacy in Elementary Education*, while the Department of Applied Psychology and Human Development continues its search for a tenure stream Assistant or Associate Professor in the area of *Indigenous Mental Health*.

This means that we will be running a total of six searches this year and I know that this will require a lot of work on the part of our chairs, department staff, and search committee members.

Renovations and Construction

In an effort to address our academic program requirements, we have carried out construction projects to create or improve classrooms, meeting rooms and research facilities on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 7th and 12th floors during the summer. Some of this activity will continue into the fall, and we apologize for any inconvenience this might cause. Other improvement projects in the building include: LED lights and sensors installed in offices, hallways and auditorium (installation in classrooms will start soon); repair of the front steps alongside Bloor Street, Parking lot Level 1-4 surface improvement, and replacement of the 3rd floor carpet. The sound system and microphones have all been replaced to improve the sound effects for the events held in the ground floor library space. Elevators have had extra maintenance during the summer in anticipation of the busy September period. The first phase of the major renovation project at the Jackman Institute for Child Studies is now complete (with some nail biting moments as we headed towards the new term) and the lab school is resuming operation at the 45 Walmer Road facilities while construction continues on the new Spadina facilities. My thanks to Clare Kosnik, the Director of JICS, and Richard Messina, the Principal of the Lab School, for their leadership and patience during this challenging period.

All of these construction initiatives will have a positive impact on our day-to-day activities, and I want to acknowledge the dedicated efforts of Helen Huang and her team who have been overseeing and coordinating these initiatives. I also want to recognize the many contractors, suppliers and facilities services staff for their concerted efforts over the summer period. Finally, I thank the entire community for demonstrating support and

patience throughout the period of this construction. Please continue to report any deficiencies and concerns to oise.facilities@utoronto.ca, or phone 416-978-0031.

Scent Free Environment

Finally, I just want to extend a friendly reminder that we should all do our best to support a scent free environment in the building by avoiding the use of perfumes, colognes, aftershaves and other scented products.

Take care,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glen Jones", written in a cursive style.

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