January 28, 2018

A Message to Our Community from Dean Glen Jones

Dear OISE Community,

I hope that the beginning of 2018 found you feeling rejuvenated from the holiday break and ready for a fantastic year full of possibility.

OISE is currently conducting five faculty searches and while quite a few visits have taken place, there are a number of short-listed candidates joining us for interviews and talks. Please take time to warmly welcome our guests and also to attend the public talks of these potential future colleagues.

Here are a few updates on several significant community milestones and new initiatives.

**Academic Plan**
On Thursday, January 25th, the University of Toronto Academic Board reviewed the OISE Academic Plan: Leading and Learning from Within. This was the last step in the formal governance process and we are pleased to say that the plan is now “official”. Since the beginning of the consultations, we emphasized the process as being just as important as the plan. Nonetheless, we have reached an important milestone and we should celebrate. We will be inviting everyone in February to a community event where we will take a moment to reflect on how much we have accomplished and how much more we can do together to act upon on the plans we articulated.

**Dr. Eric Jackman Institute of Child Study**
Last week, we celebrated the grand opening of the new Dr. Eric Jackman Institute of Child Study (JICS) building on Walmer and Spadina Road. The celebration included almost 400 guests including President Meric Gertler and Chancellor Michael Wilson. It provided us with an opportunity to recognize the large number of donors who contributed to this initiative, like Dr. Eric Jackman and the Honorable Margaret McCain, and celebrate the wonderful ongoing accomplishments of the Institute and the Lab School. I would like to express my personal gratitude to the dedication of the outstanding leaders who navigated this quite difficult construction process, especially Clare Kosnik, Richard Messina, Helen Huang, and the amazing staff at JICS, APHD, Education Commons, Facilities and Operations who made it all happen.

**International Ph.D. Students and Fees**
As some of you may know, the University of Toronto recently announced that beginning in September of 2018, all international Ph.D. students will pay the same level of tuition as domestic students. Changes in funding arrangements will also allow OISE to modestly
increase the number of international Ph.D. students that we will be able to admit each year. Details on the new targets have been distributed to the departments and will influence our current admissions decisions for fall 2018. These new arrangements will contribute to our broad goals of increasing internationalization at OISE.

**OISE Wellness Committee**

As part of the Academic Plan, we had identified the need to establish a representative advisory committee to consider issues of Mental Health and Wellbeing. In November 2017, I called for expressions of interest from the community to join the OISE Wellness Committee. I am pleased to announce the membership of the committee: Ai-ri Brown, Lauren Brown, Christopher Caldwell, Laurie Faith, Navroop Gill, Abby Goldstein, Pierre Lee, Aryel Lutchmie-Maharaj, Jayson Moore, Shelley Murphy, Serena Retson, Jeananne Robertson, and Ann Trakosas. The committee will meet for the first time later this month, and we will provide updates to the community as we move forward in this area.

**OISE Decanal Promotions Committee 2017-18**

I am pleased to announce the composition of the Decanal Promotions Committee for 2017-18. In accordance with the *Policy and Procedures Governing Promotions* as well as the *Policy and Procedures Governing Promotions in the Teaching Stream*, the Decanal Promotions Committee is advisory to the Dean, and will consider all recommendations for promotion to the ranks of Professor and Professor, Teaching Stream made by Department Chairs following the deliberations of Departmental Promotions Committees. The membership of the committee is as follows:

- Professor Tara Goldstein, Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning
- Professor Monica Heller, Department of Social Justice Education
- Professor Eunice Jang, Department of Applied Psychology and Human Development
- Professor Jennifer Jenkins, Department of Applied Psychology and Human Development
- Professor Kiran Mirchandani, Department of Leadership, Higher and Adult Education
- Professor Amy Mullin, Department of Philosophy, UTM (Provostial Assessor)

**Sexual Violence and Harassment Policy (On-Line Training Modules)**

The University of Toronto has approved a new policy on sexual violence and harassment and it is important for all members of our community to be aware of the policy and the important resources available through the new Sexual Violence Prevention and Support Centre at UofT. The University of Toronto has recently released an online sexual violence education and prevention training module for all students, staff and faculty members. I encourage everyone to complete the [UofT Online Sexual Violence Education and Prevention training module](#) and support our efforts to create a campus environment that is safe for all.

Take care,

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