



University
of Windsor

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Welcome to 2018 Lancers!



Greetings!

With the beginning of a new year comes new energy. I'm excited about what's in store for the student experience at UWindsor in the coming year.

Some of you will recall that I wrote an incoming letter for all students in August. With the Fall Term under our belts, I wanted to provide a brief update on the initiatives that I spoke about in that newsletter and identify a few new initiatives we are excited about for the coming year.

I will keep the same headings that I used in the fall and will keep things as brief as I can.

Sincerely,
Ryan Flannagan
Associate Vice-President, Student Experience

Increase Lancer Pride or BUST!

Welcome Week. I am very pleased to report that our updated program, which featured an inter-faculty competition element, was highly successful. We'll be building on this program for Fall 2018. Keep your eyes peeled for the Faculty Team Leader recruitment effort. Applications will be available on the [Welcome Week webpage](#) in March. The Faculty Team Leader positions make this week and it's a great way to pay it forward.

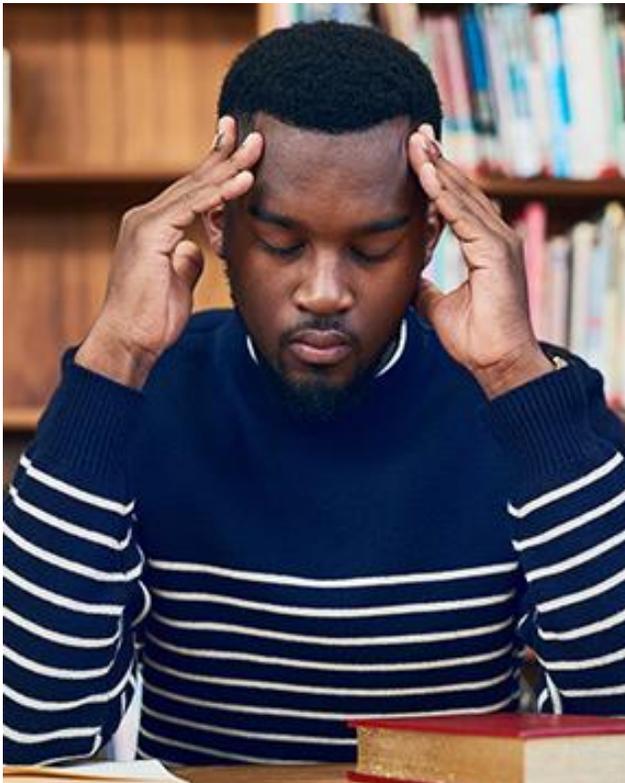
#ignitePride was our effort to get more students to our varsity games. I think it's fair to say we've seen the turnout that we did last year with perhaps a moderate increase for a few of our designated games. We have done several things to encourage more students to attend 2 of 9 designated games. Expect to see marketing about the Winter Term's matches. Again, grab a friend or two and look to attend at least one of these four dates.

- January 13, 4:00 p.m., women's hockey vs. York at South Windsor Arena
- January 26, 7:30 p.m., men's hockey vs. Waterloo at South Windsor Arena
- February 3, 6 (women) & 8 (men) p.m., basketball vs. Western in the Dennis Fairall Fieldhouse
- February 9, 6 (women) & 8 (men) p.m., volleyball vs. Western in the Dennis Fairall Fieldhouse

Build It and They Will Come... Hopefully



- I'm pleased to report that Student Accessibility Services has caught on across campus as I now rarely hear anyone refer to this office by its old name.
- The refurbishment of main floor of Dillon Hall will be complete in February. The Student Success and Leadership Centre end of the building has been completed and it looks great. Student Accessibility Services will be getting its facelift in January. **For all SAS students, note that SAS will be temporarily located in the North end of Dillon Hall for January.**
- The UWSA has opened the Hum Lounge. Please check out this space, which is beside the bookstore. It is fabulous! I expect Hum's alcohol licence will be approved soon.
- Over half the Student Experience portfolio's websites have been modernized. They are looking much better. We'll have the rest done by May.



Future Headline: 100% of UWindsor Get Through 1st Year!

Bounce Back has been launched. Using the latest evidence, it is designed to help students get back on track academically. I'm excited to report that as of January 3, we have more students interested in the program than we have spots. This is a pilot year for this new initiative. Assuming we do a good job we'll be increasing its size for Fall 2018.

[Learn More](#)

Do Not Mess With A Lancer. Ever.

Flip the Script was successfully launched in the Fall. Thirty-four women received this training. We had space for 60. Flip the Script is the only program in the world that has shown a significant decrease in the number of sexual assaults women experience for up to two years after taking it.

This program is completely free, it is fun, it is a great way to meet new people and it will help to keep you safe. I'd like to see **60 women participate this term**. Please check it out!

Here are the dates for the program:

- Tuesday evenings from January 23 to February 13
- Weekend of March 3-4
- Weekend of March 24-25

Safe Lancer was launch and 721 students, staff and faculty have downloaded the program. Our goal for the year is 1000. Expect to see lots of marketing about Safe Lancer so we hit this target. As a reminder, this app has a range of cool features, the coolest being a GPS virtual walk home option. If you're walking home late or if you want to know what to do during an emergency, you REALLY, REALLY should get this on your smart phone.

New for Winter 2018



- **Relay For Life – Winter 2019.** I've raised the possibility of this program with several student groups. Relay For Life is an amazing fundraising experience that if done right can be a powerful and fun student experience that brings students together. At **Carleton** (my last gig), I saw this program grow into an annual student leadership juggernaut. Many other universities in Ontario deliver a Relay program so there is a fun rivalry that develops between the institutions. The Student Success and Leadership Centre will be looking to recruit student leaders who are interested in delivering this initiative next year. Stay tuned for more information.
- **New Newsletter Format** – We've purchased a new visually appealing service that will allow us to make our bi-weekly newsletter even more glorious and informative. Keep an eye out for it.
- **Student Mental Health Strategy** – All of you will have received an email asking you to complete a survey concerning our proposed Student Mental Health Strategy. As of this writing, we have received over 750 responses. The info we've received is gold. Our goal is to have the Strategy completed for June 30th 2018. We're definitely on track.
- Speaking of Mental Health, the provincial government has provided all universities with new resources to help improve the wellness of our students. I'm pleased to report that with these new resources, we have added a new counsellor in Engineering and the Odette School of Business, and we've hired a new Mental Health Promotions position who's main objective will be to help build resiliency and wellness self-efficacy among students.

In closing, I hope you have a safe, productive and positive 2018.

Even with the energy that comes with a new year, I know university is hard. If you've made it this far and you're reading this, it means you're doing the right things. My advice: keep doing what you're doing. And if you can, pick one area that you want to improve and work on this one thing over January. **Remember:** it takes 20 to 40 days to develop a habit that sticks and a stable of good habits are what creates success in the long run.

As will always be the case, in 2018 the **Office of Student Experience** and its affiliated units are here to help.

Good luck Lancers!

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