5.8: **Report of the Provost** 

Item for: Information

Forwarded by: Patti Weir

## 1. Winter 2023

17,289 student registered for Winter (excluding those studying US – VABE, Dual JD)

- 10,000 students registered in all face-to-face courses (58%)
- 6,960 students registered in both face-to-face and online courses (40%)
- 329 students registered in all online courses (2%)

This is very consistent with Winter 2022.

## 2. Student Experience

#### a) UWILL Discover

Tim Brunet, Coordinator Outstanding Scholars and Student Ledership Student Success received a SSHRC Connection Grant valued at \$35,585.00 for his project entitled "UWill Discover Sustainable Futures 2023" - The project team included: Dr. C. Houser, P. Calarco, F. Duarte with support from N. Wiebe. The funding will support conference equipment, workshops, and student awards.

b) Gordie Howe International Bridge: Community Benefits Plan Announcement

The Community Benefits Plan initiative funds projects on both sides of the border that will bring positive social and economic change to our region.

*Turtle Island – Indigenous Education Centre* received funding to host two Pow Wow events and March Break/Summer Camps that will engage local Indigenous and non-Indigenous secondary school students. The project team included: Turtle Island with support from the Indigenous Education Council Executive, Beverly Jacobs, and Vincent Georgie

## **3. CTL/OOL Appointments**

**Russell Nahdee** has been appointed as an AAS Indigenous Learning Designer in the Office of Open Learning and will work on helping faculty Indigenize digital learning spaces (online and hybrid courses for example), incorporating Indigenous pedagogies in digital learning, providing Indigenous and decolonial perspectives on technology, working with Indigenous partners in the community to collect, share, and appropriately protect Indigenous knowledges in digital forms, and a range of other initiatives.

Jaimie Kechego has been appointed as a Learning Specialist, Indigenization in the Centre for Teaching and Learning. She is Anishnaabwekwe from Deshkaan Ziibing (the Chippewa of the Thames First Nation reserve) located near London, Ontario. Jaimie will provide a space to have conversations about how Indigenous knowledges would look in courses and programs and then help put those conversations into action, assisting in the development and implementation of programs, research, and initiatives for Indigenization. This will involve an honest and ongoing relationship building.

# 4. Black Scholars Hiring Initiative

The applications closed January 10, 2023. 425 applications are in circulation across the academic Faculties for adjudication. The core areas of strength have emerged: Black Studies, Sustainable Development and Public Health. Thank you to the Core selection committee for their efforts in the first round of reviews.