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Fall 2017 Edition



GREETINGS INCOMING AND RETURNING STUDENTS

I'm beginning my second academic year as the Associate Vice-President, Student Experience and I wanted to try something new this year to communicate how we're trying to improve the student experience this year at the University of Windsor.

One initiative we started last year, was our bi-weekly newsletters to all students letting you know what events are up and coming on campus. These will continue this year starting in mid-September. In advance of that, I thought I would send a note detailing our most important program

changes for the coming year. My hope is you'll have a better sense of how the student experience is evolving and this will help to get more students involved on campus.

As much as possible, I'll aim to keep things short and high level, though there a few things where I'll likely be longer than I should. If you have any interest in the student experience at your university, perhaps look at the headings and look for what's of particular interest to you.

We hope many of you will stay engaged or become more engaged than you have been in years past. We want to build a more prideful University and students themselves play a big part of this. As a university with a large commuting population, engagement and building pride can be a challenge but if as individuals or groups we make small efforts, the results are powerful for the collective community. With this year, Student Experience and its various offices are dedicated to making your student experience better than ever!

So here it is. These are the major things we've been working on. But there are many other initiatives that are also underway.

Sincerely,

Ryan Flannagan
Associate Vice-President, Student Experience

 [@rflannag](#) *Follow me for regular updates, insights and ramblings.*



INCREASE LANCER PRIDE OR BUST!

So we (administration, students, student leaders, alumni) regularly have deep thoughts about how to get students more engaged in things that will help build our community in a way that students are feeling a greater connection with UWindsor and their fellow students.

Here's what's in store for this year...

We've rebuilt [Welcome Week \(aka Frosh Week\)](#). Several of the events are new, but the biggest change is that we've created an Inter-Faculty Rivalry where each of the faculties (excluding the Engineers- they have a separate program) will compete against each other for frosh week glory. Each Faculty will have multiple teams based on size and each of these teams will compete separately. At the end of the week, we'll have a winning team who'll represent their faculty. In addition to bragging rights, we're creating a sick looking trophy (ironically built by Engineering students) which we hope will help build a year-to-year tradition.

The student team that pulled together this year's Welcome Week program has worked SO HARD to make this happen!
INCOMING FIRST YEAR STUDENTS, let's set a new tradition and begin to build up



pride in your new University by attending our first event for Welcome Week, the [River Games](#) starting at 10:00 on September 4th.

[Commuter students](#) will be a big part of this taking off so I'm putting out a special call to all Windsor and Essex County students to represent themselves and their Faculties for this kick off activity. Commuter students more than any other population will make or break our pride efforts.

A note to the Student Leaders who are leading our new Welcome Week program. We (the University) are counting on you to lead our new students through this program. If you volunteered

for this role, I'm excited to see you in your new [faculty jerseys](#) welcoming, leading and cheering our new students into their new community. We need you to participate and embrace this key role.



LANCER (VARSITY) PRIDE

We want to see more students attending our Varsity games. Low turnout at Varsity sports is not just a UWindsor-thing. Student attendance across Canada has been down for several years.

This year Student Experience is once again partnering with Athletics, Residence, the UWSA and together, we're going to market the idea of ATTENDING TWO GAMES. We're going to focus on a limited number of games and we're going to encourage all students to pick just two of them to attend. It could be one football game and one hockey. One basketball and one volleyball. We have nearly 16,000 students and if only 20% attend two games, we'll absolutely crush our student attendance record from last year.

When you get on campus this year, you'll see our marketing efforts for these selected games. Talk to your friends, agree that you can play a role in building pride at UWindsor and pick two of these games. I myself am committing to attend each of the 9 games we are marketing, so I hope to see you there. Remember: two games of nine is what we're aiming for as a community.

The first such game - mark it in your calendars - is September 16th Lancers vs Western in football. As a Lancer alumnus, I loathe Western for their way too consistent football greatness. So plan to join your fellow students and join me and let us



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IGNITE PRIDE



SEPTEMBER 16 vs. WESTERN 1PM
SEPTEMBER 30 vs. QUEEN'S 1PM
OCTOBER 21 vs. YORK 1PM



NOVEMBER 3 vs. RYERSON 6PM & 8PM
FEBRUARY 3 vs. WESTERN 6PM & 8PM



OCTOBER 20 vs. OTTAWA 7:30PM
JANUARY 26 vs. WATERLOO 7:30PM



FEBRUARY 9 vs. WESTERN 6PM & 8PM

COMMIT TO A MINIMUM OF 2 OF THE 9 HIGHLIGHTED GAMES TO BE ENTERED INTO A DRAW TO WIN AN APPLE IPAD. CHECK-IN TO LANCER GAMES USING THE LANCER LOYALTY APP. THE MORE GAMES YOU ATTEND, THE BETTER YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!



be loathsome together as we lift our football team towards an epic upset of the Mustangs. Lancer football greatness awaits!



BUILD IT AND THEY WILL COME... HOPEFULLY

I am very pleased to let you know the University is investing over \$300,000 into completely refurbishing the lower level of Dillon Hall. New paint, carpet, new furniture. If you've been in this space, you'll know it's tired. Our wonderful students deserve wonderful space. I'm most excited about the creation of a student lounge which is the space where our Academic Advisors are currently located. This will become a space where clubs can meet or students can hang out to study. We're also doubling the amount of exam space in Student Accessibility Services. This work will be done over the course of the Fall Term.

Many of you will visit Student Disability Services on the lower Level of Dillon Hall. It will remain there, but we've officially re-named SDS to [Student Accessibility Services \(SAS\)](#). Same services and dedicated staff - new name.

[The SOCA Armouries project](#) is racing towards completion and the new \$30M Science building is going up as fast as I've seen any building go up. It's very exciting stuff!

The UWSA has nearly completed its new lounge and it is fantastic! I think they've done a really nice job with this space and I think



students are going to use it. I can definitely see students chilling and drinking coffee during the day or having drinks and socializing in the evening. As a community we've really missed this kind of space. Great job to the UWSA to get this done!

We are updating all of the Student Experience websites. This is long, long overdue. To see what form they'll take, [check out the Residence page](#). It's a big improvement. In addition to our website, we're also rebranding our social media presence and consolidating a lot of our Facebook and Twitter handles into the following centralized locations so we can have more frequent and meaningful content.

We currently have a contest going on Facebook where you can win a great Lancer prize pack simply for liking our new page. [Check it out here!](#)

Here's where you can find us:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/UWinStudentExp

Twitter: www.twitter.com/UWinStudentExp

Instagram: www.instagram.com/UWinStudentExp



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

Incoming First Year Students, this message is for you. In Winter 2018 we will be launching the Bounce Back program. Bounce Back is designed for students who academically fall down during their first term of university. It's not an uncommon occurrence. Literally, some hundreds of you will fall well below your entrance average and will be in academic trouble come January 2018.

If your cumulative average is approximately below 63 at the end of your first term, expect an email in January asking you to join this program. The program will connect with you to see what tweaks need to be made to get you headed in the right direction. It could be time management, exam anxiety, you're working too many hours at your part-time job, or it could be a combination of several things.

Bounce Back is designed to help you... wait for it...Bounce Back from a poor first term.

Of course, we're not wishing a poor first term on anyone. We want you to crush it and we know you can! Just know that as of this year, there will be a new program to help get back to where you know you can and should be.





Do Not Mess With A Lancer. Ever.

I am extremely pleased to announce that the Office of the Provost and Vice-President Academic (my boss) has provided \$150,000 over three years to implement the Flip the Script program on our campus. This program, which is also known as the Enhanced-Assess, Acknowledge and Act program, provides women with information and skills on how to resist sexual assault if someone tries to coerce or harm them. You can't prevent someone from trying to hurt you (because only they are responsible for their choices), but there are things you might be able to do to get away when you realize someone is doing something you don't want. This is the only program in the world that has shown a significant decrease in the number of completed sexual assaults women experience, up to two years after taking it. We are looking to have 120 women participate in this new program this year.

The Flip the Script program is both empowering and fun and includes a 3-hour self-defence component. And without question, all of UWindsor wants to ensure that every space in this program is filled. We know that sexual assaults happen way more than they should. They shouldn't but they do. This workshop will give you information and skills to resist if someone tries to hurt you. So keep your eyes peeled for Flip the Script this fall.



I am also stoked about a new safety app we're rolling out this fall. [Called Safe Lancer, this app has a range of cool features](#), the coolest being a GPS virtual walk home option.

Walking home after dark? Worried about your safety? Bust out the Safe Lancer app, hit the walk home feature and you'll be connected with Campus Police's dispatch and they'll be able to monitor your walk home in real time - step by step. When you arrive home, hit the button and it lets us know you're safe. Run into any difficulties, hit another button and we visit you ASAP because we know exactly where you are! Keep your eyes open for this new program in the fall once you get on campus. You can download it now on both the Google Play and Apple App Stores. Remember, it's called Safe Lancer.