Message from the Director

On behalf of the Joint PhD Program Committee, faculty, and staff, I would like to extend a warm welcome to those individuals who are commencing their doctoral studies this summer. I would also like to welcome back those students who are returning to campus to complete their second summer session, as well as, extend best wishes to those continuing in the program.

This July marks the 19th year of the Joint PhD program. The summer sessions provide faculty and students alike with opportunities to participate in provocative and engaging learning opportunities as well as develop collegial relationships and deep friendships that will sustain and energize them throughout their academic studies and beyond. The summer sessions also provide a time for personal growth and reflection. To that end, I encourage you to take some time throughout the month to enjoy the natural beauty of the Thunder Bay area.

Our summer instructors include Dr. Lisa Korteweg (Lakehead University) and Dr. Andrew Allen (University of Windsor) in Doctoral Seminar I, and Dr. Darren Stanley (University of Windsor) and Dr. Gerald Walton (Lakehead University) in Doctoral Seminar II. We are also pleased to announce that Dr. Susan Dion, distinguished Potawatomi-Lenapé scholar, Associate Professor, and life-long educator, will provide our summer keynote address on Monday July 9th. Dr. Dion’s research focuses on Indigenizing, decolonizing and realizing Indigenous education, as well as promoting Indigenous student well-being and achievement. We are delighted that Susan will be able to spend time on campus to speak informally with each of the summer classes and we invite all members of the Joint PhD community to join us for her keynote presentation.

This summer also marks a time of transitions, farewells and new beginnings. On July 1, the Secretariat Office will move from Brock University to Lakehead University under the direction of Dr. Tanya Kaefer. Dr. Kaefer has been involved with our program for many years and is a strong advocate for our students, staff, and faculty. I am confident that the program will continue to thrive under her leadership and the ongoing efforts of our Program Committee (Dr. Dolana Mogadime, Dr. Paul Berger, and Dr. Glenn Rideout). Please join me in congratulating Tanya in her new position.

Please also join me in acknowledging and thanking Ms. Beth Sellick for her service to the Secretariat’s Office over the past five years. We have benefited greatly from Beth’s extraordinary skills and efforts in managing our program, as well her patience, kindness, and dedication to those within it. Please join me in wishing Beth great success for the future as she begins her retirement and next set of adventures.

In closing, it has been my privilege to have served in the role of Director. The position has provided me with a unique opportunity to witness the ongoing growth and development of the program, as well as glean insights about the many gifts and talents of the students, faculty, and staff who work and study within it.

Warmly,

Vera Woloshyn, PhD
Director & Professor
Joint PhD in Educational Studies Program
**Keynote Presentation**
With Dr. Susan Dion

**Dr. Susan Dion** is a Potawatomi-Lenapé scholar who has been working in the field of education for more than thirty years. Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education at York University, she is Director of the Master of Education Urban Indigenous Cohort. Her research focuses on Indigenizing, Decolonizing and Realizing Indigenous Education, Urban Indigenous Education, Indigenous Student Well-being and Achievement.

Dr. Dion is currently principal investigator on a SSHRC Insight Grant titled *nIshnabek de’bwe wIn // telling our truths*, and is co-investigator on three SSHRC Partnership Grants. Dr. Dion works in collaboration with the Toronto District School Board Indigenous Education Centre and the Ontario Ministry of Education on research and program development. She is widely consulted by diverse community groups, workplaces, and institutions on developing methods for building more equitable, respectful relationships between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous people.

**Presentation**
July 9, 2018, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Advanced Technology & Academic Centre, Room AT 1101
Lakehead University

All are welcome.

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**Recent Graduates**

❖ **Susan Boyko** (Brock University, 2010)
On January 22, 2018 Susan successfully defended her PhD dissertation titled “Because It Breaks Your Heart”: A Study of Transformational Learning Among Adults with Cancer. Susan’s supervisor was Dr. Sharon Abbey.

❖ **James Czank** (Lakehead University, 2010)
On March 20, 2018 James successfully defended his PhD dissertation titled People in Discursive Spaces: Entry-level Humanities Education for Non-traditional Adult Learners. James’s supervisor was Dr. Juanita Ross Epp.

❖ **Boguslawa Gatarek** (University of Windsor, 2009)
On April 30, 2018 Boguslawa successfully defended her PhD dissertation titled Animals are Us: Applying the Common Ingroup Identity Model to Humane Education. Boguslawa’s supervisor was Dr. Dragana Martinovic.

❖ **Melissa Oskineegish** (Lakehead University, 2013)
On May 1, 2018 Melissa successfully defended her PhD dissertation titled The Role of Self-Reflective Practices in an ‘Aboriginal Education’ Course in Teacher Education. Melissa’s supervisor was Dr. Paul Berger.

❖ **Perez Oyugi** (Brock University, 2011)
On December 12, 2017 Perez successfully defended her PhD dissertation titled Institutional Dimensions of Professional Knowledge: Implications for School Administrator Constructions of Equitable Leadership Knowledge in Kenya and Canada. Perez’s supervisor was Dr. Denise Armstrong.
❖ **Antonio Redfern-Pucci** (Lakehead University, 2010)
On December 15, 2017 Antonio successfully defended his PhD dissertation titled *The Consumed University: Probing Neoliberalism in Higher Education*. Antonio’s supervisor was Dr. Gerald Walton.

❖ **Sirous Tabrizi** (University of Windsor, 2014)
On December 22, 2017 Sirous successfully defended his PhD dissertation titled *A Comparison of Educational Leadership in Islamic and Western Countries and a Suggestion of a Model for a Global Society*. Sirous’s supervisor was Dr. Glenn Rideout.

❖ **Owen Webb** (Brock University, 2014)
On January 23, 2018 Owen successfully defended his dissertation titled *Leading Restorative Change: A Case Study of Implementing and Sustaining Restorative Culture in an Ontario Middle School*. Owen’s supervisor was Dr. Julian Kitchen.

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### Current Student News

#### Comprehensive Portfolio Defenses

**Ghazala Ahmed** (Brock University, 2015)
Ghazala successfully defended her comprehensive portfolio on April 10, 2018 at Brock University. The title of her portfolio is *Finding my Authentic Self as an Immigrant Woman and as an Academic*. Ghazala’s supervisor is Dr. Kamini Jaipal-Jamani.

**Brandy Doan** (Brock University, 2015)
Brandy successfully defended her comprehensive portfolio on May 8, 2018 at Brock University. The title of her portfolio is *Building Confidence Through Personal Self-Assessment and Growth Mindset*. Brandy’s supervisor is Dr. Susan Drake.

**Susan Docherty-Skippen** (Brock University, 2015)
Susan successfully defended her comprehensive portfolio on December 18, 2017 at Brock University. The title of her portfolio is *From Surface to Depth: Tracing the Development of an Aesthetic Currere*. Susan’s supervisor is Dr. Hilary Brown.

**John Freer** (University of Windsor, 2015)
John successfully defended his comprehensive portfolio on January 16, 2018 at the University of Windsor. The title of his portfolio is *Examining Students’ and Educators’ Attitudes Toward Disability and Inclusion*. John’s supervisor is Dr. Cam Cobb.

**Alaa Kutbi** (University of Windsor, 2015)
Alaa successfully defended her comprehensive portfolio on March 5, 2018 at the University of Windsor. The title of her portfolio is *Challenges, Best Practices, and Social Media as a Teaching Tool: Perceptions of Female Faculty Members at King Abdulaziz University*. Alaa’s supervisor is Dr. Zuochen Zhang.

**Jessica Msofe** (Lakehead University, 2016)
Jessica successfully defended her comprehensive portfolio on May 17, 2018 at Lakehead University. The title of her portfolio is *Secondary School Students’ Educational Perceptions and Experiences in Nyarugusu Refugee Camp*. Jessica’s supervisor is Dr. Seth Agbo.

**Jody Rebek** (Lakehead University, 2015)
Jody successfully defended her comprehensive portfolio on February 23, 2018 at Brock University. The title of her portfolio is *A Journey Towards Mindful Leadership Learning and Scholarship in Higher Education*. Jody’s supervisor is Dr. Seth Agbo.
Holly Tsun Haggarty (Lakehead University, 2015)
Holly successfully defended her comprehensive portfolio on February 1, 2018 at Lakehead University. The title of her portfolio is *Minding the Maze: Ontologies of Arts-Integrating Inquiry*. Holly’s supervisor is Dr. Pauline Sameshima.

**Publications**

Gianluca Agostinelli (Brock University, 2016)

Elizabeth Boileau (Lakehead University, 2016)

Judy Bornais (University of Windsor, 2013)

Susan Docherty-Skippen (Brock University, 2015)

John Freer (University of Windsor, 2015)

Krystyna Henke (Brock University, 2017)
Jeff Irvine (Brock University, 2012)

Nicole Lee (University of Windsor, 2016)

Martha Moon (Lakehead University, 2014)

Presentations

Elizabeth Boileau (Lakehead, 2016)

Keri-Lyn Durant (Lakehead University, 2016)
Kortes-Miller, K., & Durant, K.-L. (2018, April). Speaking up and speaking out: A toolkit for healthcare professionals caring for older LBGT adults facing the end of their lives. Panel presentation at the Hospice Palliative Care of Ontario (HPCO) Conference, Richmond Hill, ON.
Durant, K.-L. (2018, April). What’s new in pediatric palliative care: Dying, death, and loss with Phoebe the sloth. Presentation at the Biennial Provincial Symposium on Paediatric Palliative Care, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, ON.

Fouada Hamzeh (University of Windsor, 2014)

Roozbeh Hatami (University of Windsor, 2017)
Hatami, R. (2018, March). Media literacy and fake news. Presentation at the University of Windsor Graduate Conference, Windsor, ON.

Krystyna Henke (Brock University, 2017)
Henke, K. (2017, November). Successful ESL classroom teaching by incorporating the arts. Presentation at the 45th Annual TESL Ontario Conference, Toronto, ON.


Jeff Irvine (Brock University, 2012)

Irvine, J. (2018, January). Interrelationship between mathematics and language arts instructional strategies and activities for middle school mathematics. Presentation at Sir John A. Macdonald Middle School, Brampton, ON.

Irvine, J. (2017, October). Motivation and feedback for high performance athletes. Presentation at University of Toronto, Toronto, ON.

Grants & Awards

Gianluca Agostinelli (Brock University, 2016)
Gianluca was awarded a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Doctoral Fellowship and Ontario Graduate Scholarship (Declined) for his research ‘For the boys’: Exploring male homosociality in team sports.

Elizabeth Boileau (Lakehead, 2016)
Elizabeth was awarded an Ontario Graduate Scholarship Awarded for the 2018-2019 academic year for her research titled: Children co-learning with the more-than-human world in Canadian forest school programs.

Judy Bornais (University of Windsor, 2013)
Judy was awarded the 3M National Teaching Fellowship. Established in 1986, the 3M National Teaching Fellowship is sponsored jointly by 3M Canada and the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (STLHE). It is the only pan-Canadian, cross-disciplinary recognition of educational leadership and excellence in post-secondary teaching. The Fellowship recognizes university and college teachers who have demonstrated: leadership in enhancing post-secondary teaching excellence locally, nationally, and often internationally; and superlative undergraduate teaching, sustained over several years.

Judy teaches in the University of Windsor’s Faculty of Nursing. She established the Standardized Patient Program, designed the simulation suites in the medical education building and the simulation program which is integrated through all four years of Windsor’s nursing curriculum. Judy also collaborated in the establishment of the University of Windsor Peer Collaboration Network.

Keri-Lyn Durant (Lakehead University, 2016)
Keri-Lyn was awarded an Ontario Graduate Scholarship for the 2018-2019 academic year. Her research is titled: An examination of pupil experience of death education using applied theatre.

Terry Trzecak (Brock University, 2016)
Terry was awarded the Brock University Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Studies Research Fellowship for her research Somaesthetics, the process of photography and the war veteran: An interdisciplinary inquiry.

Congratulations to all!
**Other News**

**Gianluca Agostinelli** (Brock University, 2016)
Gianluca is nearly finished co-authoring a book, *Rape culture: A primer for men*, with Dr. Gerald Walton at Lakehead University. On April 12, 2018, he chaired the Supporting the needs of others panel at Brock University's Mapping the New Knowledges Conference. During the fall and winter terms, he taught part-time at Brock University (Education) and Niagara College (English & Communications) and this summer, he will be teaching Grade-12, university English in Italy with the Niagara Catholic District School Board and the Hamilton Dante Centre for Italian Language and Culture.

**Keri-Lyn Durant** (Lakehead University, 2016)
Keri-Lyn has taken on a research assistant position, for the 2018-2019 academic year, with Dr. Kathy Kortes-Miller (Joint PhD Lakehead University alumni) to work on the MAiD in Northwestern Ontario: Exploring the physician experience project.

**Alumni News**

**Jennifer Brant** (Brock University, 2017)
Jennifer was the recipient of the Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education George L. Geis Dissertation Award. The George L. Geis Dissertation Award is presented for the outstanding dissertation or thesis, in Canadian universities, that examines higher education topics. Jennifer’s dissertation is titled “Journeying toward a praxis of Indigenous maternal pedagogy: Lessons from our sweetgrass baskets.” A link to her dissertation can be found on the Joint PhD website (www.jointphdined.org).

**Kathy Kortes-Miller** (Lakehead University, 2015)

This book provides a guide for Canadians who want to make the best decisions for themselves and their loved ones when it comes to planning for end-of-life. It takes perceptions of dying and death out of the dark and makes them an integral part of life that deserves and demands acknowledgement and respect.

*Talking about death won’t kill you* focuses on regaining control over healthcare decisions, personal conversations, and informal caregiving, rather than focusing on formal healthcare resources. This handbook covers immediate concerns like funeral arrangements, long-term planning around a terminal illness, sample conversations, suggestions for workplaces, how to talk to children about death, and more.
Alumni Profiles

Nesreen Elkord (University of Windsor, 2017)
Dr. Elkord graduated from the Joint PhD in Educational Studies Program in 2017. She is an Arab immigrant educator, a passionate scholar of immigrant students’ education, and a mother of three. She is the co-chair of the Windsor Essex Local Immigration Partnership’s (WE LIP) Youth Planning Committee, an initiative of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) to encourage communities across Ontario to develop a comprehensive plan for the delivery of newcomer services. Nesreen is published in the area of mathematics education, narrative inquiry, and inclusive education. She is currently involved in several research projects including a qualitative inquiry into the experiences of immigrant parents in a recent evidence-based parenting program. The research project involves investigating best practices to culturally adapt the program to better fit the needs of the immigrant families. She is also involved in research endeavours with the Mathematics Knowledge Network (MKN), funded by the Ontario Ministry of Education.

Laxmi Pathak (Lakehead University, 2017)
Dr. Pathak graduated from the Joint PhD in Educational Studies Program in 2017 in Social, Cultural and Political Contexts of Education. He is now a contract lecturer in the Faculty of Education, and a writing coach for graduate students across disciplines, at Lakehead University. Laxmi works on English as Second Language and Cultural Competency Education. Recently, Laxmi has travelled to Nepal with Dr. Wayne Melville and effectively co-presented and conducted the Writing Workshop with graduate students of Padma Kanya Campus, a Women’s College under Tribhuvan University. Laxmi is also a research associate of Ryerson University, Toronto. He has spent over thirty years teaching at schools, colleges, and universities. Working as the first author, Laxmi has designed and developed series of text books for English language learners in Nepal. He has published book reviews and articles in various journals. His research area includes multi-cultural education, character education, cultural competency education, social justice, language, linguistics, and Literature.

Monique Somma (Brock, 2017)
Dr. Somma graduated from the Joint PhD in Educational Studies Program in June 2017. As an Ontario Certified Teacher, Monique spent the first decade of her career in education as a classroom teacher in both special education and inclusive classrooms. During this time, she became a doctoral student with a research focus on human rights, teacher attitudes toward students with disabilities, and best practices for inclusive education. She has been and continues to be involved in several large research projects looking at the inclusion of students with disabilities in schools, most recently co-authored a report titled If inclusion means everyone, why not me? in collaboration with University of Western, Community Living Ontario, and ARCH. Since defending her dissertation last Spring, she has been working as an assistant professor in the teacher education program at Brock University. Monique continues to advocate for, teach, research and write about best practices for teaching students with disabilities in inclusive classrooms within the faculty and within school boards across the province.