

2006-07 Multi-Year Accountability Agreement Report-Back for: ALGOMA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

As noted in the Multi-Year Accountability Agreement for Universities for 2006-07 to 2008-09 (MYAA), the government appreciates that implementing this and future agreements will be part of an evolutionary process which will incorporate maturing consensus on how to best measure and indicate access and quality. This will require a strong collaborative partnership between institutions and the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.

This Multi-Year Accountability Agreement Report-Back Template has been designed to assist with the ministry's continuing efforts to measure the participation of students from under-represented groups, and as outlined in Appendix B (the Multi-Year Action Plan) of the MYAA, update the planned net new hires table, and the strategies and programs that will be used by your institution to participate in the Student Access Guarantee initiative.

Pursuant to the MYAA, the release of the full amount of your 2007-08 and 2008-09 Accessibility to Higher Quality Education Fund¹ will be conditional on your institution confirming that it is on track for meeting its commitments, or the approval of an improvement plan by the ministry. The ministry will also use the completed Multi-Year Accountability Report-Back Template to review the progress made on the commitments outlined in your Multi-Year Action Plan. Based on this review, you may be required to submit an improvement plan to the ministry, developed in consultation with faculty, staff and students.

The information contained in this report-back template will also be used to inform the development of best practices and the creation of measures of system-wide results. These measures may be incorporated in revised requirements in future years to demonstrate system-wide improvements.

A. ACCESS**Increased Participation of Under-Represented Students — Measurement**

To assist with the ministry's continuing efforts to develop a system measure that will track the participation of students from under-represented groups (Aboriginal, First Generation, Students with Disabilities) the ministry is seeking new information with respect to the number of students who are self-identifying as under-represented pursuant to the methodologies currently in place to measure these students at your institution. Please refer to the measurement methodologies outlined in your approved Multi-Year Action Plan to track these students, and provide the total number of students who have self-identified as a member of each of these groups. The ministry recognizes that these measurement methodologies may require students to self-identify, which may result in under-reporting.

Individual students may belong to more than one group. In the cells counting respondents for each under-represented group, do not adjust for this potential double-counting. To the extent that you are able to do so, eliminate any double-counting in the column, "Total Number Self-Identifying as Member of Under-represented Group".

¹ Excluding your Per Student Funding portion of this fund.

Measurement Methodology (including description)	Student Groups in Your Student Population			Total Number Self-Identifying as Member of Under-represented Group	Total Number of Students Surveyed, if applicable
	Aboriginal	First Generation	Students with Disabilities		
	#	#	#		
Band-funded (Aboriginal students); Self-identification to advisors (special needs)	153		75		
First Generation survey circulated by e-mail to all students		62.8% of survey respondents, which extrapolates to 703 total			1,120 surveyed; 323 students responded (28.8%)

If you would like to provide any other comments, please do so in the following space:

Increased Participation of Under-Represented Students — Programs/Strategies

Pursuant to your approved Multi-Year Action Plan, please identify your proposed and achieved results for 2006-07. If your institution has not achieved your proposed results, please explain the variance in the column provided.

Strategy / Program	Indicator	Proposed Result	Achieved Result	Explain Variance between Proposed and Achieved Results (if applicable)
Increase number of under-represented students	Total number of students (not FTEs)	1122	1132	Our overall number of students is increasing. (Our FTE count also rose from 867 in 05/06 to 963 in 06/07). We estimate that half of our total student body is comprised of First Generation students, bringing our estimated total to 566 for 06/07.
	Total number of new-to-Algoma students	416 first-year 220 upper-year	180 269	There was a mistake on our original multi-year accountability agreement – 416 should have been the total number of new-to-Algoma students, with 196 as the total first-year proposed result. Recruitment into first year was slightly lower than we would have wished for 06-07. Again, using our estimate of 50% of our total student body being First Generation, we are now

				serving 224 new First Generation students.
Increase number of Indigenous students attending Algoma	Total number of self-identifying Indigenous students	210	153	Of the 153 students, 116 are band-funded. We are short of our estimate; we will continue to place increased emphasis on long-term recruitment strategies (eg., work with elementary schools in remote communities) and on collaborative work with the Shingwauk Education Trust, developing an Anishinaabe Studies focus using new courses accredited through Algoma University College.
Broaden recruitment area for Indigenous students (thereby lowering the % from 2 local reserves)	% sponsored Indigenous students from Garden River & Batchewana	38%	31%	Variance is positive; means that we are recruiting from a wider variety of First Nations and from the urban First Nations communities.
Increase number of Indigenous graduates	# self-identified Indigenous graduates	15	19	We are proud of this increase.
Increase number of First Generation graduates	Measure 6-year graduation rates	To be established		Rates will be measured through CRSDE – this current year is our first year of participation

If you would like to provide any other comments, please do so in the following space:

Student Access Guarantee and Commitment

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
The institution took into consideration the Ministry's student tuition/book shortfall calculation in allocating financial aid, as set out in the 2006-2007 Student Access Guarantee Guidelines	Yes	

If you have answered no, please explain:

2007-08 Student Access Guarantee

Pursuant to Section 2.1 of the Multi-Year Accountability Agreements, your institution will participate in the Student Access Guarantee (including the new Access Window which allows Ontario students to identify costs and sources of financial aid).

The detailed requirements for participation in the student access guarantee as outlined in the 2007-08 Student Access Guarantee Guidelines. Please complete the following table to update the strategies and programs that your institution will use in 2007-08 to participate in the Student Access Guarantee initiative.

<p>Describe how your institution will meet students' tuition/book shortfalls. As part of your description identify whether aid towards tuition/book shortfalls will be:</p> <p>a) Provided to those students who apply for institutional financial aid; or</p> <p>b) Automatically issued to students based on their OSAP information.</p>	<p>Tuition/book shortfalls are covered through SAG money automatically issued to students based on the OSAP-SAG generated list.</p> <p>Funding for the SAG is provided through the TSA (Tuition Set Aside Funds)</p>
<p>Identify whether your institution plans to provide loan assistance to meet tuition/book shortfalls of students in any of your second entry programs. If so:</p> <p>a) Identify the programs by name and by OSAP cost code;</p> <p>b) Describe how you determine how much loan aid to provide.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>If your institution has a process in place to collect statistics on the socio-economic accessibility of Professional programs that you offer, please describe the data that you collect.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Describe other financial support programs and strategies that your institution will use to assist university students facing financial barriers to access, including identification of programs that provide case-by-case flexibility to respond to emergency situations that arise for students.</p>	<p>Exceptional expense bursaries through the Tuition Set Aside.</p> <p>Donor-funded award and bursary program.</p> <p>Entrance Scholarship program and continuing scholarships</p> <p>On-campus work study programs</p> <p>Fee payment arrangements (individual cases)</p>
<p>Briefly describe your review process for students who dispute the amount of institutional student financial assistance that is provided as part of the Student Access Guarantee.</p>	<p>For students who have applied for institutional financial assistance to help meet their needs in attending Algoma U and request review, one of the Financial Aid Office staff will meet with the student, review in depth the submitted application form, discuss any changes in the student's circumstances, review OSAP assessment to see if there have been changes and discuss what options may be available. The Financial Aid Office staff will then meet to review and re-assess. Once re-assessment has been done, the Financial Aid Office staff will meet with the student to review and if necessary discuss other funding sources.</p>

If you would like to provide any other comments, please do so in the following space:

B. QUALITY

Quality of the Learning Environment

Pursuant to your approved Multi-Year Action Plan, please identify your proposed and achieved results for 2006-07. If your institution has not achieved your proposed results, please explain the variance in the column provided.

Strategy / Program	Indicator	Proposed Result	Achieved Result	Explain Variance between Proposed and Achieved Results (if applicable)
Quality of academic programs	BIU change	1045	1133.25	We are proud of this increase. We are increasing the number of four-year program options for students on campus, and this increase has been positively received by students, accounting for the larger than expected increase in BIU values.
Quality of classroom experience	% first year foundation classes taught by tenured faculty	52%	48.4%	A higher-than usual number of hires means that many of our full-time faculty are not yet tenured.
Quality of classroom experience	% of classes between 25 and 50 students	25%	32.05%	The higher figure is actually a sign that we are moving towards our goal of 35% of our classes in this category more quickly than planned. Our objective is to balance small class sizes with fiscal prudence; overall, the % of classes with 50 students or fewer will remain at or near its current 90%.
Linking students to resources	# students participating in library instruction		865 (approx. 72%)	Goal is now to increase student participation by 10%/year
Reflecting our special mission in the curriculum	% of total courses in calendar with some Indigenous content		26%	Goal is now to increase by 5%/year

If you would like to provide any other comments, please do so in the following space:

Net New Hires

Pursuant to your approved Multi-Year Action Plan, please identify your actual net new hires for 2006-07. The ministry appreciates that accurate data on net new hires for 2007-08 may not be available until late fall. As such, please identify your planned net new hires for 2007-08.

Actual New Hires in 2006-07 Planned New Hires in 2007-08		Faculty / Academic			Student Services Staff*		Admin Staff**
		Full Time Tenured	Full Time Limited Term	Part Time (FTE)	Full Time	Part Time (FTE)	Full Time
Hires	Planned 2006-07	3	4	0	0	0	0
	Actual 2006-07	1	6	0	1	0	0
	Planned 2007-08	9	2	0	0	0	0
Retires / Departures	Planned 2006-07	4	1	0	0	0	0
	Actual 2006-07	2	2	-6.4	0	0	-1
	Planned 2007-08	3	5	0	0	0	0
Net New Hires	Planned 2006-07	-1	3	0	0	0	0
	Actual 2006-07	-1	4	-6.4	1	0	-1
	Planned 2007-08	6	-3	0	0	.5	0

* For student services staff definition, please refer to the student services functional area definition developed by the Council of Finance Officers - Universities of Ontario (COFO-UO) of the Council of Ontario Universities to report on expenses in their annual financial report. Student Services Staff do not include ancillary staff.

**For admin staff definition, please refer to the administration & general functional area definition developed by the Council of Finance Officers - Universities of Ontario (COFO-UO) of the Council of Ontario Universities to report on expenses in their annual financial report.

If applicable, please explain variance between the proposed and actual 2006-07 net new hires.

Student Success: Student Retention Rates

Pursuant to your approved Multi-Year Action Plan, please report on the retention target proposed by your institution for 2006-07, and your achieved rate.

	Proposed 2006-07 Retention Target	Retention Rate Achieved	Explain Variance between Proposed and Achieved Results (if applicable)
1 st to 2 nd Year	74%	87%	Increased number of 4-year programs assists in retaining first-year students. Our retention rate from 1 st to 2 nd year is now around the national average.
2 nd to 3 rd Year	84%	75%	Targets were set too high: Trent's, for instance, is 52% for this category for this year. We will continue to seek to

			improve our upper-year retention rate.
3 rd to 4 th Year (if applicable)	82%	56%	Targets were set too high (especially given that not all our programs have a four-year option): Trent's, for instance, is 47% for this category for this year. We will continue to seek to improve our upper-year retention rate.

If you would like to provide any other comments, please do so in the following space:

C. ACCOUNTABILITY

Please insert the current internet link to your posted Multi-Year Action Plan in the following space:

http://www.algomau.ca/pdf/0608_action_plan_for_univ.pdf _____

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If the Action Plan is moved to another location on your web site, please provide the ministry with an updated link.

This report-back document constitutes part of the public record, and as such, should also be made available on your institution's web site. Please ensure that this document is posted at the same location as your Multi-Year Action Plan.