

2007-08 Multi-Year Accountability Agreement Report-Back for: Hearst

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 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 continue assisting with our 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 again seeking 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		
	#	#	#		
Only the following first generation students have received financial aid: OSAP recipients with dependent children		5		0	n/a

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

Hearst has added to the funds received from the Ministry for first generation students and has allocated financial aid in the form of bursaries to first generation students (neither mother nor father has a university degree) who had received OSAP support and also had dependent children. Others are helped through the regular financial aid programs.

We are working on ways to reach into the communities to identify potential qualified first generation students who have not considered attending university as well as other potential qualified students who also have not considered attending university because of a lack of financial capabilities.

Francophones and Northern and rural students have also been identified as under-represented in universities. Hearst's mission is to make university education accessible to francophones living in Northeastern Ontario, by offering full university programs in their region. It continued to do so in 2007-2008 and has made university education accessible to 200 students on its campuses in Hearst, Kapuskasing and Timmins. Faculty and staff travel from campus to campus on a weekly basis; regular face to face interaction has ensured both students' success and quality education, as shown by questionnaire results and high retention rates.

Increased Participation of Under-Represented Students — Programs/Strategies

Pursuant to your approved Multi-Year Action Plan, please identify your achieved results for 2007-08. If your institution has not achieved your proposed results, please explain the variance and your planned remedial action in the column provided.

Strategy / Program	Indicator	Proposed Result	Achieved Result	Explain Variance between Proposed and Achieved Results (if applicable) and Any Remedial Action You Expect to Take
Access	# of programs offered	More programs offered across the region on the campuses in Hearst, Kapuskasing and Timmins	22 full programs offered on three campuses	
	Percentage of students enrolled who give proximity to the institution, lower costs and	High proportion of students identifying these as important reasons for choosing to pursue university education on one of Hearst campuses.	Proximity 89%, Lower costs 77%, French Language Programs	

	availability of French language programs as the main reasons for choosing Hearst Community support	Sustained community support for Hearst (06-07 result:	97% 7% increase in student financial aid to community fundraising efforts.	
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If you would like to provide any other comments, please do so in the following space:

Student Access Guarantee and Commitment

Instructions for 2007-08:

Through your signed MYAA, you committed to participate in the student access guarantee. For 2007-08, this meant meeting students' tuition/book shortfall in allocating financial aid, as set out in the 2007-2008 Student Access Guarantee Guidelines.

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
The institution met students' tuition/book shortfall in allocating financial aid, as set out in the <u>2007-2008 Student Access Guarantee Guidelines</u>	X	

If you answered no, please explain.

Please complete the following table, using the most recent available year-to-date information from your institution's 2007-08 OSAP student access guarantee report screen (This screen can be accessed by your Financial Aid Office).

2007-08 TUITION / BOOK SHORTFALL AID:		
	TOTAL \$	# ACCOUNTS
Expenditures for Tuition / Book SAG Amount	See Laurentian University	

	report	
Other SAG Expenditure to Supplement OSAP		
Total		

Date screen was last updated: day / month / year

MYAA Action Plan – 2008-09 Revision: Student Access Guarantee

Pursuant to Section 2.1 of the Multi-Year 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 are outlined in the [2008-09 Student Access Guarantee Guidelines](#).

Please complete the following template to update the strategies and programs that your institution will use in 2008-09 to participate in the Student Access Guarantee initiative.

Describe how your institution will meet students' tuition/book shortfalls. As part of your description identify whether aid towards tuition/book shortfalls will be: a) Provided to those students who apply for institutional financial aid; or b) Automatically issued to students based on their OSAP information	There are no students' tuition/book shortfalls, and the university strives to maintain costs as low as possible for students in order to foster an increase in participation rates in the region. Average cost for books is \$500, with a maximum below \$1,000. Institutional financial aid is given to students who apply and demonstrate need.
If your answer to the above question was 'a,' please identify what specific internet portal(s) or program(s) students at your institution apply through to be considered for tuition/book assistance provided as part of your participation in the student access guarantee. Identify any applicable deadlines.	Information on financial aid is provided on the university's web site www.uhearst.ca and applications are accepted at any time.
Identify whether your institution plans to provide loan assistance in values greater than \$1,000 to meet tuition/book shortfalls of students in any of your second entry programs. If so: a) Identify the programs by name and by OSAP cost code; b) Describe how you determine how much loan aid to provide	No second entry programs are offered.
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.	Availability of financial support is broadly advertised inside and outside the institution. Needy students, either full-time or part-time, may apply for financial aid at any time and their requests receive a prompt response.

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.	The Student financial aid committee will consider any request for a review. The Committee's mandate is to ensure that no student is denied access to the University for financial reasons.
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B. QUALITY
Quality of the Learning Environment

Pursuant to your approved Multi-Year Action Plan, please identify your achieved results for 2007-08. If your institution has not achieved your proposed results, please explain the variance and your planned remedial action in the column provided.

Strategy / Program	Indicator	Proposed Result	Achieved Result	Explain Variance between Proposed and Achieved Results (if applicable) and Any Remedial Action You Expect to Take
Quality	Student success and satisfaction Students participating in the study trips Students who use academic counselling and advising services	High student satisfaction under high requirements for success High participation rate in a study trip to Costa Rica High student satisfaction for academic support services: counselling for programs and written French, library,	High students satisfaction: quality of education 96%, high requirements in French 83%, Easily accessible faculty 97%. Student participation 11% (24/220) Academic support services are easily accessible 88%	

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

Results on students satisfaction were obtained through a survey questionnaire completed by full-time and part-time students in the Spring of 2008. One third of the students (76/220), both full-time (51/76; 67%) and part-time (25/76; 33%) have returned their completed questionnaire.

Net New Hires

Pursuant to your approved Multi-Year Action Plan, please identify your actual net new hires for 2007-08. The ministry appreciates that accurate data on net new hires for 2008-09 may not be available until late fall. As such, please identify your planned net new hires for 2008-09.

Actual New Hires in 2007-08 Planned New Hires in 2008-09		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 2007-08	0.5	2	0	1	0	0
	Actual 2007-08	0.5	1	0	1	0	0
	Planned 2008-09	0	0	4	1	0	0
Retires / Departures	Planned 2007-08	1.5	0	1.3	0	0	0
	Actual 2007-08	1.5	0	3	0	0	0
	Planned 2008-09	1	1	0	0	0	0
Net New Hires	Planned 2007-08	-1	2	-1.3	1	0	0
	Actual 2007-08	-1	1	-3	1	0	0
	Planned 2008-09	-1	-1	4	1	0	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 2007-08 net new hires.

Variance is explained by changes in programming needs during the course of the year.

Student Success: Student Retention Rates

Pursuant to your approved Multi-Year Action Plan, please report on the 2007-08 retention target achieved by your institution. If your institution has not achieved your proposed results, please explain the variance and your planned remedial action in the column provided.

	Proposed 2007-08 Retention Target	Retention Rate Achieved	Explain Variance between Proposed and Achieved Results (if applicable) and Any Remedial Action You Expect to Take
1 st to 2 nd Year	75%	77% (94%)	
2 nd to 3 rd Year	73%	71% (97%)	

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

Retention targets are exclusively for students who pursue their university education at Hearst. Retention rates achieved are close to these targets, but they also show (in brackets) retention rates which are much higher when transfers to other universities or to colleges are taken into consideration. Many of these students have to transfer to other institutions because of the limited choice of programs at Hearst.

C. ACCOUNTABILITY

Please insert the current internet link to your posted Multi-Year Action Plan and 2006-07 Multi-Year Accountability Agreement Report-Back in the following space: www.uhearst.ca

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 and 2006-07 Report-Back.

2007-08 Report Back Contact: Raymond Tremblay

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