Congratulations to Those Who Have Been Selected To Present a **Poster Session** at The 2014 CACUSS Conference!

**Understanding the Learning, Study, and Reading Strategies, Academic Achievement and Demographic Background of University Students With and Without a History of Reading Difficulties**

Dr. Bradley Bergey, Annie Laroche, Dr. Helene Deacon, Dalhousie University

We examine the learning, study, and reading strategies, academic achievement, and demographic background of university students who have a history of undiagnosed reading difficulties. Such students were more likely to be male, in certain faculties, had lower GPAs, and differed in their use of learning, study, and reading strategies compared to students without difficulties. We discuss the implications for student support service providers.

**Introducing SPARK**

Cathy Boyd-Withers, Mona Frial-Brown, York University

This poster session will introduce participants to York University's new, free, e-learning academic writing resource, SPARK (Student Papers and Academic Research Kit), which launched on Oct. 16, 2013. SPARK is a collaborative, pan-university project funded by the York University Academic Innovation Fund, and created by the Learning Commons, a partnership of the York University Libraries, the Learning Skills Services and the Writing Centre.

**IRIS - Inspiration, Reflection, Integrity, Success - What Can We Learn from Students' Stories of Success?**

Michele Corbeil, McMaster University, Brandon Smith, Ryerson University, Dr. Catherine Graham, McMaster University

Students want to be successful; academically, personally and socially when they arrive on our campuses in the fall to begin their academic careers during Orientation/Welcome Week. Orientation and transition programs that are multi-departmental collaborations promote a shared, campus-wide approach to student success. IRIS, now in its 10th year, is our orientation theatre production, created by and for students, and a shining example of a successful collaboration between the Faculty of Humanities, Residence Life and The Student Success Centre.
Inclusion Advancement Liaison: MSVU's Approach to Inclusion and Student Mentorship
Michelle Greencorn, Mount Saint Vincent University

The prevalence of university students diagnosed with a disability is rising and universities need to program accordingly to ensure students receive the necessary supports and opportunities, particularly within extra-curricular and para-academic pursuits. Disability Services, in collaboration with the Students’ Union, created a position for a student with a disability to reduce stigma and raise awareness of disability issues while offering student employment and social skills. This interactive session will provide an overview of our experiences.

The case for career development as a mental health intervention: A literature review with some interesting findings
Michael Huston, Jack Dobbs Mount Royal University

In preparing this research, the authors surveyed career development research literature produced over the past ten years. Findings make a strong case for career development as both a coping intervention, significantly reducing the stress associated with career decision-making, and as a mental health intervention offering significant benefits in several key areas associated with mental wellness.

Assessing Community: An institutional-wide focus group study at the University of Toronto
Tricia Kenderdine, David Newman University of Toronto

This presentation will address the process of establishing a campus-wide focus group study at a large institution, as well as the findings on how students find and build community networks at a large, complex, urban university. Findings were organized under three key National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) benchmarks of effective educational practice. We will also review institutional projects that have been implemented as a result of these assessment projects.

Setting the course for Supplemental Instruction Leaders: a case study
Tracey Mason-Innes, University of the Fraser Valley

Supplemental Instruction (SI) leaders are key to the success of supplemental instruction programs, yet little is known about the personal development and engagement of these peer leaders while in this position. This poster will present the results from a qualitative case study that examined the experiences and leadership identity development of six SI leaders. The SI leaders’ experiences were grouped into themes and then analyzed using the Leadership Identity Development model developed by Komives, Owen, Longerbeam, Mainella, & Osteen (2006).

The Journey of Becoming a Counsellor: A roadmap of a first year in practice
Sarah McCallion, Tamara Aleong OCAD University

This presentation will explore two counsellors’ journeys through their first year of practice. This is an opportunity to support professionals beginning a career in counselling as well as others
still experiencing the journey even years into practice.

Imitate, Improve, Inspire and Repeat  
Monica Munaretto, University of Guelph

This week we'll be inspired. We'll share ideas, best practices, and consider implementing these new ideas on our own campuses. We honour our students’ efforts by seeking new ways to improve our services. How do we honour those who inspired our ideas? What are the standards and conventions we should adhere to? With reduced resources, we shouldn’t reinvent the wheel, but can we replicate hastily? Join this discussion about collaborating, crediting and succeeding.

Planning a Leadership Retreat for students  
Melissa Ouimette, Margaret Neveau Algoma University

Through a combined effort of First Generation and Anishinaabe Initiatives Division, Algoma U has provided students with both a fall and winter Leadership Retreat. The purpose of these retreats is for students to spend a weekend experiencing motivational speakers, hands on experiential learning, and team building. The objectives for the retreat can be broken down in to three areas: knowledge, skill development and attitude learning. This 30 minute hot plate will provide information on how to plan a retreat, considerations for logistics and lodging, provide a list of presenters and ideas that have been successful as well as all CACUSS session attendees will participate in a creative take home craft. Student engagement is a number one priority and this event is highly successful.

The Battle Against Bullying  
Melissa Rothwell and Nadine Konyk, Lakeland College

Bullying occurs at all ages and in all societal levels. Unfortunately, due to social networking, cell phones, and the internet, students are being bullied 24 hours a day. This presentation will include tips on conquering bullying within academic institutions, and it will also address the issue of cyber bullying. We will discuss a campaign that Lakeland College is currently developing and our hopes to address bullying from a new and modern approach.

Alcohol Consumption: Reducing Harms through Effective Policies  
James Sanford, Acadia University

The most effective methods to reduce harms by alcohol occur at the system level. A strong combination of policy initiatives and community partnerships can impact the health of all community members.

The policies include controlling access to alcohol, implementing price controls, and restricting advertising and marketing, especially targeted at youth.

What is happening in Canada to create population level strategies to reduce harms and how can and do these initiatives impact post-secondary education?
The Stay Connected Mental Health Project - From the Clinic to the Campus
Cheyenne Smythe Kelvey & Dr. David Pilon Capital Health, Addictions & Mental Health Program

The Stay Connected Mental Health Project is a five year initiative designed to connect transitional age youth with the appropriate mental health and addiction services and supports that they require. This collaborative project involves a paediatric and adult mental health and addiction program and five universities in Halifax. Specific activities to promote campus mental health literacy, to build partnerships between university and hospital services and to highlight care pathways among these settings will be described. The policies include controlling access to alcohol, implementing price controls, and restricting advertising and marketing, especially targeted at youth.

What is happening in Canada to create population level strategies to reduce harms and how can and do these initiatives impact post-secondary education?

Creating A Visual and Human-Centered Protocol for Supporting Students in Distress
Andrea Yip and Jennifer Robinson OCAD University

In recent years, there have been a range of protocols, policies, guidelines, procedures and processes that have been developed by Colleges and Universities that aim to offer guidance on how to support a student in distress. These documents are critical in conveying a standardized and clear institutional practice when there is an identified concern with a student. Generally, these protocols have been established as a measure of responsibility on behalf of the institution so that frontline staff and faculty know when and how to respond to these concerns, many of which are related to mental health issues.

Through this presentation we will open up our process of design and development with the audience in hopes of garnering feedback, ideas and share experiences. We will ask participants to offer their visual critique of OCADU’s protocol and discuss what it means to create a shared visual language around distress, mental health and support.