



## **FNUUniv Announces Appointment of New President**

May 26, 2014 - The First Nations University of Canada's (FNUUniv) Board of Governors is pleased to announce that Dr. Mark S. Dockstator will be stepping into the leadership position as FNUUniv President effective July 1, 2014.

Dr. Dockstator brings a breadth and diversity of experience to the First Nations University of Canada. A member of the Oneida Nation of the Thames, he has been an Associate Professor, Indigenous Studies, at Trent University since 1997. In addition, Dr. Dockstator also served as Departmental Chair and Director of the PhD program. He received his Juris Doctor (J.D.) Degree from Osgoode Hall Law School, York University. He later pursued a Master's of Law at the University of Saskatchewan and then transferred to Doctor of Jurisprudence program at York University where, in 1994, he was the first First Nations person to graduate with a doctorate in law. His doctoral dissertation, entitled "Toward an Understanding of Aboriginal Self Government", is a blend of Indigenous and Western knowledge and was used as a foundation for the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples final report.

Dr. Dockstator has served as founding Chairman of the First Nations Statistical Institute, Senior Negotiator and Researcher for the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, President and CEO of Rama Economic Development Corporation, Special Advisor to the Royal Commission on Aboriginal People and Special Advisor to the Chief Commissioner of the Indian Land Claims Commission, to name a few. Dr. Dockstator has a great deal of business experience and has a specific research expertise in Aboriginal issues, having served as Principal Investigator on an array of national and regional research projects in areas such as Aboriginal health, treaties, Aboriginal languages and culture, education and economic development.

"The board and I look forward to working with Dr. Dockstator. His passion for research and education will inspire students, faculty, staff and alumni. He will be taking a pivotal role in leading the implementation of FNUUniv's strategic plan," confirmed FNUUniv Board Chair, David Sharpe.

"I very much look forward to returning to Saskatchewan and working with the wonderful students, excellent staff, Elders, Board members and supportive stakeholders of the First Nations University of Canada," stated Dr. Dockstator. "With the depth of experience, expertise and unique potential of the University to become a world class, First Nation based educational institution, I am delighted to have the privilege of being appointed President."



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# First Nations University of Canada

*tradition innovation leadership*

A search for a new president at FNUniv was initiated November 2013 by the Board of Governors' search committee with the assistance of the Geldart Group, a firm that specialises in Senior Academic searches.

Dr. Dockstator's appointment was approved by the FNUniv Board of Governors at its April 28-29, 2014 board meeting.

Dr. Dockstator is taking over from Acting President Juliano Tupone who has led FNUniv since April 2013. "We would like to acknowledge the commitment and scope of work that our Executive oversaw during the presidential search process. We are particularly appreciative of Juliano Tupone's dedication as he served both as Acting President and continued with his work as Vice-President Finance and Administration," stated Mr. Sharpe. "I want to thank him for everything he's done to build a solid foundation for the incoming president."

#### **About FNUniv:**

The First Nations University of Canada is a unique Canadian institution that specializes in Indigenous knowledge, providing post-secondary education for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students alike within a culturally supportive environment. It provides a unique opportunity to study in an environment that supports First Nations cultures, languages, and values.

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