



January 10, 2024

VPR Report to Senate # 716-January 17, 2024

### **Brock LINC Holiday Market**

The annual Brock LINC Holiday Market took place on November 29-30 in the RFP Atrium. 23 vendors participated in the market (15 students and 8 staff members), with the majority of businesses led by women. Revenue generated by individual businesses at the market ranged from \$200 to over \$2,000.

Feedback from participants was extremely positive. As one market vendor reported via an anonymous survey, "This was my first time at the Brock LINC Holiday Market (and my first year at Brock in general) and it's lovely to see the amount of creativity and small business support that is in this school. I attest that Brock has THE BEST staff and students."

### **Navigate Awards**

On December 6, award winners from the Fall 2023 cohort of the entrepreneurship program Navigate were announced at the Brock LINC Holiday Social.

- Brock Business Communication student Nadine Bongers won the \$2,500 Navigate Student Award for her pitch on her business, nehdeen, a sustainable business focused on clothing swaps.
- Brock alum Ben Pretty (BSM '23) won the \$2,500 Navigate Community Award for Boost Coffee. Boost Coffee is an iced coffee beverage containing nootropics – supplements that improve thinking, learning, and memory – to help students perform better at school.

Applications for the Winter 2024 cohort of the Navigate program are open until January 11. The program usually attracts a cohort of 15 to 20 entrepreneurs each term who spend 11 weeks working with mentors in small groups to build out their business ideas.

### **Funding For Mew Prototyping Program**

In January, a formal announcement will be released that the John Dobson Foundation is making a \$75,000 donation to the Brock LINC to support the development of a prototyping program for Brock students, faculty, and staff. The program serves as a bridge between the Navigate program and the LINCubator, and will support product, technology, and research-based ventures at Brock University.

### President's Annual Staff Recognition & Awards

I am delighted to congratulate the Animal Care Services team on being presented with the Outstanding Team Award on Dec. 12, 2023, during President's Annual Staff Recognition & Awards event. As their award citation put it, "without the exceptional work of the ACS team, it simply wouldn't be possible to conduct the innovative research occurring at Brock that allows our investigators to generate new knowledge and interventions across a broad range of fields and affecting stakeholders at the local, national, and international levels... [T]he work of the ACS staff allows for Brock researchers to continue to raise awareness of Brock's research portfolio and is critical for recruitment of future students and funding."

This is a richly deserved recognition of the excellence of the Animal Care Services team and their commitment to supporting research at Brock. My congratulations to Shawn Bukovac, Kristin Bray, Sarah Kehoe, Tom Eles, and Kaitlyn Luttjehuizen.

### Call For CRC proposals

The Office of the Vice-President, Research is inviting proposals from academic units to recruit:

- One Tier 1 NSERC Canada Research Chair in an identified scholarly area
- One Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in an identified scholarly area targeted to Indigenous (First Nations, Métis, Inuit) peoples

Consult the [Canada Research Chair section](#) of the Research Enterprise SharePoint site for details. Faculty Deans must submit the proposals and ranking forms to [vpr@brocku.ca](mailto:vpr@brocku.ca) for review by the CRC Selection Committee. The deadline for receipt in the VPR office is **March 14, 2024**.

M. McGinn

Acting Vice-President, Research