

## Play explores lasting effects of institutionalization

Parents bring their children to institutions seeking help, but only the kids know how it is to live at 'The I,' and many of them can't talk.

A fictional work inspired by the old Woodlands School, *Imperfect*, presented by the Theatre and Stagecraft departments, reveals what can happen when those considered "imperfect" are hidden away.

"It's a pretty dark subject. But I became more intrigued as I continued researching Woodlands and other institutions," says playwright Mary Burns, former instructor and chair of Creative Writing at Douglas.

After seeing a news report about headstones of deceased Woodlands residents being used to construct a staff barbecue patio and stairs, Burns was hooked.

Though the subject matter is gritty and challenging, director and Theatre Coordinator Allan Lysell says

*Imperfect* is not meant to be "a trial or accusation."

"The play is a question. How can we ensure that we don't repeat our mistakes?" he asks.

Burns agrees. "I want people to question the way we deal with people who need our help. And I hope that the audience will have a better understanding of what it might have been like to live or even work in an institution," says Burns.

Woodlands School was a provincial institution in New Westminster from 1950-1996. Its residents ranged from individuals diagnosed with physical and developmental disabilities to those with behavioural challenges deemed unacceptable by society to wards of the province. Former residents say physical and sexual abuse by staff was rampant. A class action suit against the provincial government is currently on hold.



Theatre students Bianca Spagnuolo, Callie Wallace and Christine Bortolin star in this semester's production, *Imperfect*. The play, inspired by Woodlands School, unveils tension between individuals, families and systems.

*Imperfect* is part of the Woodlands Project, a series of events exploring the social and historic relevance of institutionalization, particularly its lasting impact on individuals and families across BC. For a full listing,

please see *Events* in this newsletter.

Performances of *Imperfect* run March 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28 and 7:30pm. There are two special matinee performances on March 21 at 2pm and March 23 at 1pm.

All performances take place at the Laura C. Muir Performing Arts Theatre. Tickets can be purchased through the Massey Theatre box office (604-521-5050).

## Flexible options for 2010 Games

As the College gears up for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games, working options are being prepared to make things easier for employees who may find it difficult to get to work or who want to volunteer during the Games.

Classes are suspended from February 15-27, 2010 and the class schedule is extended to April 17. The College will remain open with limited services. Associate Vice President of Employee Relations Marian Exmann is currently putting together options for employees.

"The College will be as flexible as possible in employees' work during those two weeks. We will gently encourage people to take vacation or carry over vacation time. Some employees have already decided to take unpaid time off in order to volunteer or do paid work. Nobody will be forced to take time off," says College President Susan Witter.

Though each department will finalize the plan for its own employees, options that may

be offered include using more flex time during the Games, working longer hours for fewer days, or, for those who are not on the front-line with students, working from home, says Witter.

The College, along with all other public post secondary institutions in the Lower Mainland, has entered a community partnership with the Vancouver Olympic Committee (VANOC) to use its facilities.

Classrooms at both David Lam and New Westminster campuses may be used by VANOC on Friday evenings and weekends during the Games. Parking spaces will be open to the public as a park-and-ride depot from February 12-28, with 100 spaces at each campus set aside for employees.

"Based on parking lot usage during the Reading Break, 100 spaces will be ample. Also, with road closures during the Games, we anticipate a lot of people won't be using their cars," says Witter.

In return, the College will be allowed to nominate one torchbearer to carry the Olympic torch on a portion of the Lower Mainland route and will be a host site for VANOC recruitment, making it convenient for employees and students to look into paid and volunteer opportunities with the Games. The College will also have access to a limited number of event tickets – the exact number and purchase price have yet to be determined.

College contacts for the Games are:  
Jan Carrie (Paralympics) at [carriej@douglas.bc.ca](mailto:carriej@douglas.bc.ca) or 604-527-5135;  
Robert Buller (Olympic Games) at [bullerr@douglas.bc.ca](mailto:bullerr@douglas.bc.ca) or 604-527-5444;  
Terry Leonard (Facilities liaison) at [leonardt@douglas.bc.ca](mailto:leonardt@douglas.bc.ca); 604-527-5365  
Cassandra Mak (staffing) at [makc@douglas.bc.ca](mailto:makc@douglas.bc.ca) or 604-527-5774;  
Brad Barber (communications, marketing and advertising) at [barberb@douglas.bc.ca](mailto:barberb@douglas.bc.ca) or 604-527-5327.

## New face on Board



New College Board member Michael Hwang took the Oath of Office on January 15.

The Douglas College Board welcomes new member Michael Hwang, who was sworn in on January 15. Hwang replaces Christian Codrington, who completed an exemplary term of service on December 31, 2008.

Hwang is the principal lawyer at Hwang and Company and a director of the Burnaby Board of Trade. He was the BC representative to an international development and relief agency and served on the board of Share Family and Community Services Society for six years. Hwang worked as a youth care worker at Vancouver General Hospital's Adolescent Psychiatric Assessment Unit while studying criminology and psychology at SFU, and holds a Bachelor of Laws from UBC.

## Change is good

The Occupational Health and Safety Committee reminds employees that **Sunday, March 8** is the start of daylight saving time.

To increase your safety at home, change all of your smoke alarm batteries when you change your clocks.

[deltafire.ca/Change.htm](http://deltafire.ca/Change.htm)



From left, Associate Dean of Commerce and Business Administration Julie Crothers, Marketing instructor Christina Cawkell, Marketing Chair Gail Tibbo, Marketing instructor David Moulton and Hotel and Restaurant Management Chair Mark Elliott took their students to Royal Roads University in Victoria to learn more about their options upon graduating from Douglas.

## Making connections at Royal Roads

Commerce and Business Administration faculty are continuing to build their relationship with Royal Roads University in Victoria.

“Our goal is to help students figure out where they can go from here and help them with their career options,” says Marketing Management Chair Gail Tibbo.

For the past several years, Marketing faculty and students have made an annual daytrip to Victoria to learn more about opportunities for Douglas graduates to continue their education at Royal Roads.

This year, they were joined by Hotel and Restaurant Management (HORM) Chair Mark Elliott and students from the HORM and Business Diploma programs. In all, 31 students participated, along with Associate Dean of Commerce and Business Administration Julie Crothers

and Marketing instructors Christina Cawkell and David Moulton.

Royal Roads has several options for HORM graduates to continue their education, including two master’s programs and a bachelor’s program. “It’s a natural for Douglas students. We have five of our graduates there now, completing their BA in International Hotel Management,” says Elliott.

The Douglas group was greeted by Royal Roads President Allan Cahoon, treated to a working luncheon, toured the campus and heard presentations.

“It’s a great opportunity to give students a personal taste of what Royal Roads has to offer,” says Tibbo. She adds that it has also been beneficial for Douglas faculty to generate a rapport with their students and their peers at Royal Roads.

## Creating the Best Student Experience: service assessment

At the College, we work hard to help students achieve their academic, professional and employment goals. An environment where students are treated as individuals, supported in their learning, challenged to be the best they can be, are respected colleagues in the learning community and, as a result, ignite their potential, is crucial. Currently, there is a campaign by the College to ensure students are getting the best experience possible.

All Douglas service departments, including contracted services, such as food, security, parking and cleaning services, took part in a second forum on Creating the Best Student Experience (CBSE) on January 30.

“Event evaluations indicate a high level of energy and commitment to this process,” says Vice President of Educational Services Blaine Jensen, who is leading the project.

The largest success of the day was discussing how to improve lines of communications with students and colleagues, says Jensen.

“In small groups, we discussed sharing communication strategies, creating a welcoming campus environment and getting to know other departments and



Improving communications among employees and students is key to ensuring the College has a welcoming environment, says Vice President of Educational Services Blaine Jensen.

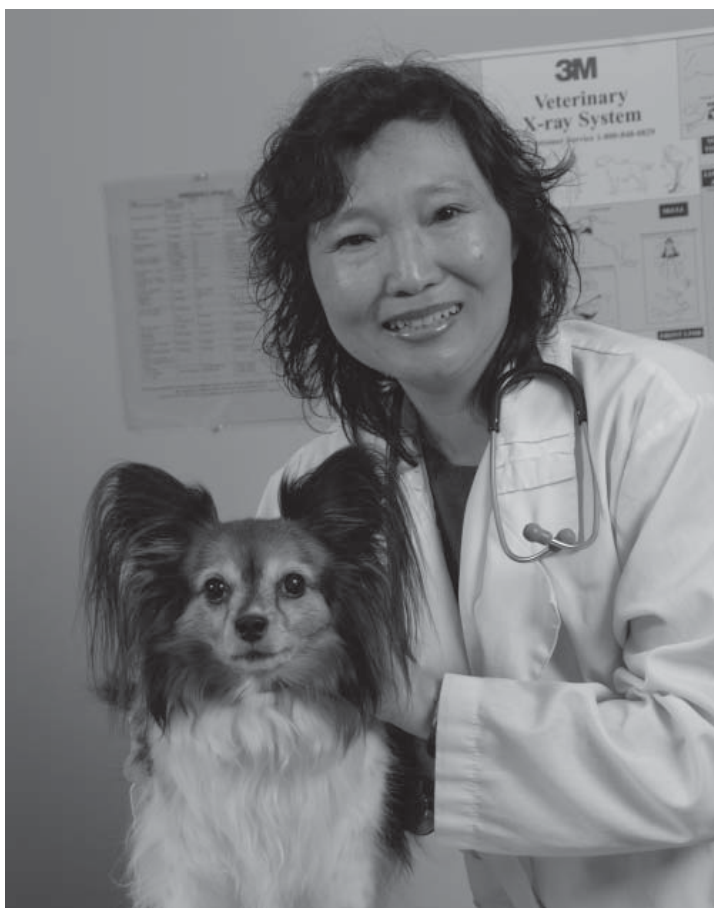
individuals,” Jensen explains.

The afternoon was dedicated to discussing how to effectively have students and employees assess the quality of services at the College.

A College wiki – a webpage designed to enable employees to contribute to or modify its content – has been created to facilitate communications

and develop assessment techniques. To see the CBSE wiki, go to myDouglas, click on the CBSE tab, then follow the links accordingly.

The next CBSE Forum will be March 27 from 9-3:30 at the David Lam Campus.



Animal Health Technology instructor Dr. Pauline Chow says a new lecture series sponsored by Nestle Purina Petcare and taking place at the David Lam Campus is a win-win partnership.

## New vet lecture series at Douglas College

The Douglas Animal Health Technology (AHT) Program is partnering with Nestle Purina Petcare to provide continuing education to the veterinary community.

“As full-time faculty of the AHT Program and a practicing veterinarian, I greatly value accessible continuing education opportunities,” says instructor Dr. Pauline Chow.

A series of lectures, at the David Lam Campus, starts on March 24 with a talk on animal dentistry. Each lecture is approved for 1 ½ hours of continuing education by the BC Veterinary Medical and Animal Health Technologists

associations. Members of both professions are required to participate in continuing education in order to remain licensed. Admission to the lectures is free for veterinarians and animal health technologists.

Offering opportunities for continuing education was part of the original vision for AHT, says Chow. She was already familiar with Purina through requesting support and sponsorship for AHT equipment and student awards. Purina had previously offered complimentary lectures on a smaller scale. Both Douglas and Purina are winners in this new

partnership, notes Chow.

“It allows Purina to expand a single annual lecture into a series, while promoting Douglas College and the AHT Program in particular. We are also offering tours of the AHT facilities prior to the lectures so that should draw even more attendees,” says Chow.

Though the lecture series is open only to veterinarians and animal health technicians, a new series for the Douglas community and public may be offered in the future. For more information, please contact Pauline Chow at [chowp@douglas.bc.ca](mailto:chowp@douglas.bc.ca).

# Events Calendar

## March 5

The Arts at One presents *Student Showcase*, 1pm, Laura C. Muir Performing Arts Theatre. Free. Info: 604-527-5723

## March 5-April 4

The Amelia Douglas Gallery presents *Dead and Buried: The Cemetery at Woodlands*, an exhibition by Michael de Courcy. Opening reception: March 5, 4:30-7:30pm. Artist's talk: March 6, 10am, room 1614. Free. Info: 604-527-5723

## March 11

The Alumni Association presents *19th Annual Douglas College Career Exploration Fair*, 10am-3pm New Westminster Campus

## March 12

The Alumni Association presents *19th Annual Douglas College Career Exploration Fair*, 10am-3pm David Lam Campus

## Guarding against plagiarism - instructors test new software

Experience déjà vu when marking essays? Instructors from all faculties are invited to evaluate an on-line program, turnitin.com. Using it, students can ensure they have properly footnoted their work and instructors can make sure a student's work is indeed his or her own.

Instructors who have used the program give it high grades for effectiveness and expediency.

"In terms of workload it is very time consuming to check individual references," says Bachelor of Science in Nursing instructor Roberta Mercier.

The program is also a great teaching tool for students, she adds.

"Students work harder to explain ideas or thoughts in their own words and to me, this is the best indication that they truly understand a concept or idea," says Mercier.

Accounting instructor George Fisher, who first used turnitin.com at SFU, agrees.

"It stimulates students to focus on the importance of properly citing referenced works. It is easy to use, takes very little time, and is an extremely strong deterrent to plagiarizing," says Fisher.

It takes about 30 minutes to set up a class on turnitin.com and 10 minutes to run a set of class papers through the system. Students can use turnitin.com to view feedback on their papers prior to handing them in to ensure that they have footnoted correctly. It is also a good tool when students are working on group papers to ensure referencing is consistent throughout.

Turnitin.com has been used by UBC, SFU and other universities across Canada for more than five years. The College has purchased a license to use turnitin.com on a pilot basis. To try it out, contact Anne Gapper at gappera@douglas.bc.ca or 604-527-5604.

## Getting pumped for Student Researchers' Day



Office for New Students Manager Kyle Baillie, with Bachelor of Physical Education student Rebecca Cadger, took part in a student research project examining how music selection can impact a runner's performance. Baillie is doing three runs for Cadger and her research partners: with no music; with his favourite music; and with his least-favourite music. This project will be featured on College-wide Student Researchers' Day on March 31 at the New Westminster Campus.

## A winning contribution



Psychiatric Nursing student Tracey Wendland, second from right, was presented with Canucks tickets by Marketing students Thailan Tran (far left), Pooya Ezadpana (centre) and Marketing Chair Gail Tibbo. Wendland was entered in a draw for the tickets after participating in a Marketing Research project studying the feasibility of offering a nursing management program at Douglas.

## Summer web registration

Summer 2009 registration for College employees begins on March 19 at 10am. To receive your early registration date and time, please ensure you fit into one of the following categories:

1. You attended classes or applied for admission for the Summer 2008, Fall 2008 or Winter 2009 semesters. Contact the Registrar's Office at local 5527 and identify yourself as a College employee planning to register for the Summer 2009 semester.
2. You are a College employee with a student number and you did not attend classes or apply for admission for the Summer 2008, Fall 2008 or Winter 2009 semesters. Complete an Application

for Readmission form to reactivate your student number. Identify yourself as a College employee when reapplying. Contact the Registrar's Office at local 5527 to advise that you are planning to register for the Summer 2009 semester.

**Note:** All reapplicants must meet the College entrance requirement of English 12 with a grade of "C" or equivalent.

3. You are a College employee who has not yet taken academic courses at Douglas College. Complete an Application for Admission form and return it to the Registrar's Office as soon as possible. Identify that you are a College employee

when applying. Ensure that you have met the entrance requirements for the program of your choice. Contact the Registrar's Office at local 5527 to advise that you are planning to register for the Summer 2009 semester.

**Note:** Applicants must meet the College entrance requirement of English 12 with a grade of "C" or equivalent.

Please contact Employee Relations regarding application and applicability of fee exemptions as a College employee as well as the Education Training and Accord Applications for Funding.

## Flyer goes digital

Hard copies of the Employee Development Program flyer listing professional development workshops, seminars and information sessions for College employees will no longer be printed. Instead, the flyer will be available on-line in April through the soon-to-be unveiled Employee Development website. Watch your GroupWise in-box and the College website for details.

# Events Calendar

## March 12

The Department of Criminology presents *Asylum*. Film presented by co-producer Heidi Currie and special guests, director Lisa G. and nurse Norma McMurdo. 4:30-6:30pm, room 2203, New Westminster Campus. Discussion to follow. Free.

## March 20-28

The Departments of Theatre and Stagecraft present *Imperfect*, a new play by Mary Burns. Laura C. Muir Performing Arts Theatre. Tickets \$10-\$15 - call 604-521-5050 Info: 604-527-5723

## March 27

The Faculty of Language, Literature and Performing Arts presents, *Our Story*, a panel discussion with former residents and their families and former employees of the Woodlands institution. 1pm, Laura C. Muir Performing Arts Theatre, New Westminster Campus. Reservations: 604-527-5723. Free.

## A sweet fundraiser

Dental Assisting student Katrina Gardner presents Geordie Craig and Angela Ikuallaq with free movie tickets donated by Meadow Town Cineplex Odeon. Dental Assisting students Nicole Davie, far right, and Sonya Van Hove, far left, sold Purdy's Chocolates to fundraise for their trip to Uganda. Read more about the first trip by Dental Assisting faculty and students to Uganda in next month's INside.



## Faculty Emeritus recipients honoured

The College Board honoured retirees Kevin Barrington-Foote (Music), Mary Burns (Creative Writing) and Dr. Adrienne Peacock (Biology) on February 19.

President Susan Witter and Acting Board Chair Ann Kitching presented Barrington-Foote and Peacock with plaques commemorating their new status. The honourees enjoyed a strong turnout from their colleagues and peers, in celebration of this recognition.



Three retirees, including Adrienne Peacock (Biology), at left, and Kevin Barrington-Foote (Music), received Faculty Emeritus status last month. Not pictured: Mary Burns (Creative Writing).

## Tell us how you really feel

At INside, we're considering a makeover and we want your input. And because we like to give you options, you can either fill out the following survey and return it to Lori Kittelberg, Communications and Marketing Office, 4700, New Westminster Campus by March 24, or you can watch GroupWise for a link to submit your answers via [surveymonkey.com](http://surveymonkey.com).

### How often do you read the College newsletter, INside:

- monthly  every couple months  
 hardly ever or never

### If you were sent a monthly reminder that the latest issue of INside was available on-line, with no printed version available, would you:

- be more inclined to read it  
 be less inclined to read it  
 read it the same regardless

### Do you read the July and August issues of INside?

- yes  no  occasionally

### What section of INside do you read first?

- News  Events  
 Briefly  not sure

### Would you like to see more employee-written stories in INside?

- yes  no  not sure

### Comments/suggestions:

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## Briefly

Mark your calendars: the Douglas College Choral Society's 25th Anniversary Gala takes place Saturday April 25 at 7:30 pm, at Queens Avenue United Church, 529 Queens Avenue, New Westminster. Reception to follow. For tickets, call 604-527-5469 or buy them at the door. \$15 general admission, \$12 students/seniors.

The Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration congratulates Office Administration instructor **David Cordon**, winner of the 2008 Toastmasters Table Topics Contest for the province of BC. The competition is held each year to determine the province's top impromptu speaker. Cordon had to first compete in and win contests at three levels in order to reach the

provincial championship, which was held in November, 2008 and featured the top 10 impromptu speakers in BC.

Cordon was also named the provincial runner-up in the 2008 Speech Evaluation contest, which was held last May. Each of the 10 contestants won contests at three levels before reaching the provincial finals, where they were judged on their oral evaluations of a speech, given by a test speaker. Cordon credits his experience evaluating speeches at Toastmasters with helping him provide meaningful feedback on his students' presentations in the classroom.

Faculty Programmer for the Sport Institute at the Centre for Sport, Recreation and Wellness **Dave Munro** has

been named to the City of New Westminster's Board of Parks and Recreation. Munro will serve a one-year term as a community member. The board is comprised of politicians, school board officials and community members, providing overall direction to the New Westminster Parks and Recreation Department.

Recently retired CSRW director **Lou Rene Legge** has taken on the role of managing director for the BC Wheelchair Basketball Society. This position is a one-year maternity leave. She will be working closely with outgoing Sport Science instructor **Tim Frick**, who recently stepped down as head coach of the National Women's Wheelchair Basketball Team, but will continue to work at the grassroots level in BC.

Frick retired from the College effective February 28.

The Chemistry Department congratulates Lab Technician **Mi Young Matz**, who gave birth to a 6lb 7oz baby girl, Michaela, at 11:11pm on February 6.

In the Centre for Educational and Information Technology, **Ryan Cousineau** moves to Supervisor, Instructional Computing and Desktop Services at the David Lam Campus.

In the Faculty of Language, Literature and Performing Arts, **Pauline Hadfield** moves from auxiliary to regular as Language and Literature Assistant.

In the Registrar's Office, **Adam Klein** moves from auxiliary to permanent Information Services Assistant, working at the David Lam Campus. The Registrar's Office also offers its congratulations to Admissions Officer **Vanessa Bailey-Smith** and her husband, Mike Gillan, who were married on the beach in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico on February 24.

In Senior Administration, **Alba Caporale** moves from auxiliary to regular as Clerk Typist/Receptionist.