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**Scott McAlpine**

**August 2011**

Welcome and welcome back to all staff, faculty, Board members and administration after what I trust has been an enjoyable summer break. Hopefully you had many opportunities to relax and have some summer fun with family and friends.

I would like to acknowledge and welcome our newest Deans and Directors to Douglas College. In 2010/2011, three new Deans were hired: **Catherine Carlson** (Humanities and Social Sciences), **Meg Stainsby** (Language, Literature, and Performing Arts), and, most recently, **Pamela Cawley** (Health Sciences). In addition, a new Associate Dean, **Brian Chapell**, was hired in Science and Technology. I'd also like to welcome our newest Director, **Debbie Schachter**, in Learning Resources. Congratulations to all! Dean searches for the Faculty of Child, Family & Community Studies and Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration will commence this fall.

The 2011/2012 academic year promises to be another exciting and full year as we move forward with our vision of becoming "*the largest and most progressive baccalaureate degree-granting college in British Columbia.*" As we gear up for the new semester, there are a number of information items and upcoming events to share with you.

#### **EVENT Magazine Wins Big**

EVENT magazine, now in its 40th year of publication, is a celebrated literary journal where new and established talent — in fiction, poetry, non-fiction and critical reviews — can be found. Three of EVENT's contributors were recently recognized at the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual National Magazine Awards held in Toronto. **Jeff Stautz** was awarded the Gold prize in Fiction for his story "Asymptote"; **Jesus Hardwell** won the Silver prize for "Sandcastles"; and **Monty Reid** received an Honourable Mention for his poems "Smoke", "Update from the ATM", and "For a New Kitchen". Congratulations to Jeff, Jesus and Monty for their fine work! Special thanks go to **Rick Maddocks**, Editor through last summer; **Elizabeth Bachinsky**, Editor since Fall 2010; **Ian Cockfield**, Managing Editor; and to the magazine's dedicated team of writers, editors, donors and volunteers.

#### **IRSL Book Award**

Congratulations to **Gail Edwards**, History Department Chair, and **Judith Saltman**, UBC School of Library, Archival and Information Studies, on receiving an International Research Society of Children's Literature (IRSL) award for their book *Picturing Canada: A History of Canadian Children's Illustrated Books and Publishing* (University of Toronto Press, 2010). The award was announced at the recent IRSL Congress in Brisbane, Australia and honours a distinguished book by an IRSL member published in the two years prior to the Congress. *Picturing Canada* comprises an account of the history of children's English-language publishing in Canada, concentrating on illustrated works and picture books, from the beginnings of Canadian children's literature to 2005. Congratulations to Gail and Judith on this prestigious award and recognition by their peers.

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### **New Name for Employee Relations**

Effective immediately, the Employee Relations name will be changed to Human Resources. The primary rationale for this change is that the latter is more reflective of the range of activities and services provided by this department than the former (e.g., recruitment, benefits administration, training and development, employee-related policy development and planning). This change is also consistent with current practices within the post-secondary education sector.

### **Matrix Task Force**

The Matrix Task Force was charged last year with reviewing the College's timetable for scheduling courses. The Task Force has concluded its business and produced a final report that contains a very creative proposal for a flexible matrix with a common start time. The report has been reviewed by Senior Management Team and the Timetable Operations Committee. In September, the Vice President, Academic, will circulate a paper with several matrix options for the college community to consider.

### **Strategic Plan Update**

We have made significant progress on many initiatives in the Strategic Plan. Among these are learner pathways, new program development, re-branding, internationalization, and many others. This fall we will be updating the environmental scan and taking stock of our progress on *Pathways to Success*. We will keep you posted on upcoming opportunities for input as this process unfolds.

### **NWC Concourse Update**

Construction work on the NWC concourse continues to make steady progress as completion of the project draws near. Here's the latest update:

- new student commons is nearing completion and will be ready for a September start
- scaffolding has been installed on the north and south building face for the application of acoustic materials
- flooring finish is nearing completion
- double pane classroom windows have been installed, along with the application of coloured film
- planters and accessories are scheduled to arrive the week of August 22<sup>nd</sup> and furnishings the week of August 29<sup>th</sup>

All works are expected to be completed and operational for the new semester start on September 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **Upcoming Events**

Please make note of the following upcoming college-wide events in your calendar:

*Annual Summer Wrap-Up BBQ*

Wed. August 31<sup>st</sup>, 12:00-2:00 p.m., New Westminster Campus

Thurs. September 1<sup>st</sup>, 12:00-2:00 p.m., David Lam Campus

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

to the Douglas College Board and Community



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*NWC Concourse Grand Opening & ACCC International Award Celebration*

Thurs. September 22<sup>nd</sup>, approximately 3:30-5:00pm, New Westminster Campus Concourse

*Employee Retirement Dinner*

Fri. November 18<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m., New Westminster Campus, Upper Cafeteria

*Holiday Celebrations*

Tues. December 13<sup>th</sup>, 4:00-6:00 p.m., David Lam Campus, Boardroom

Thurs. December 15<sup>th</sup>, 4:00-6:00 p.m., New Westminster Campus, Upper Cafeteria

*Employee Recognition Reception*

Wed. April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012, 4-6 p.m., New Westminster Campus, Performing Arts Theatre/Foyer

*(Note this event, previously held in the fall, has been moved to a spring date.)*