
Scott McAlpine

January 2011

Welcome Back

Welcome to new faculty, staff and students just starting at Douglas and welcome back to those returning. 2011 promises to be an exciting year in the history of Douglas College as we continue to grow and build on our record enrolments. Our ambitious Strategic Plan calls for us to be the “largest and most progressive baccalaureate degree granting college” in British Columbia and our strategic implementation planning will make us exactly that in terms of non-Trades FTE (full time equivalent) students. Stay tuned for more information on strategic implementation in the coming months as we continue to implement Douglas College’s *Pathways to Success: Strategic Plan 2010-2015*.

Director of Safety, Security and Risk Management

On behalf of the selection committee (Dave Taylor, Piotr Kisiel, Terry Leonard and Karen Maynes), I am pleased to announce that the selection for the above position has now been completed with the hiring of Nancy Constable as the new Director of Safety, Security and Risk Management for Douglas College.

Nancy was chosen from a large pool of candidates and brings to the position the education, experience and personal attributes to be successful in this new position. She has a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Simon Fraser University combined with extensive course work from BCIT and the Justice Institute. She holds a Canadian Human Resources Professional designation and is just completing the Associate Certificate in Workplace Conflict Resolution. Nancy is a member of the American Society for Industrial Security and the BC Post Secondary Emergency Planners Group, and will write her Certified Protection Professional exam early in 2011. In addition, she has completed several courses in Emergency Operations and Management at the Justice Institute.

Nancy has been with Douglas College since 2003, first in the Employee Relations Department and since 2007 in her current role as Manager, Facilities Services at the David Lam Campus. Prior to this she worked with BC Rail and the City of Burnaby. Nancy is the ultimate professional and will bring her strong interpersonal skills combined with her sensitive, reasoned and balanced approach to this new position.

Please join me in congratulating Nancy and welcoming her to the new position.

Recognition and Long Service Event

On December 2nd, the President and Board Chair welcomed about 200 employees, colleagues and friends to the 13th Annual Recognition Reception to express appreciation and thanks to long service employees for their years of dedication. To see the full list of long service employees for 2010, please see *inside douglas* at <http://www.insidedouglas.com/2010/12/recognition-reception-honours-douglas.html>.

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Recognition and Long Service Event, cont'd

The seventh annual Team Excellence Award was given to Douglas International for their outstanding contributions to Douglas College's educational and business processes with international students, domestic students studying abroad, and international opportunities for faculty members. This team consists of sixteen members – Betty Mitchell, Christiaan Bernard, David Chen, Melanie Yip, Cecilia Lascano, Jay Baik, Jenny Shin, EK Kim, Gail Johnson, Hiroshi Yasuoka, Laura Kim-O'Brien, Karen Ng, Monica Xu, Sandra Enns, Clarissa Scarelli-Wuertz and Jan Gara – led by Guangwei Ouyang.

The fourth annual President's Distinguished Service Awards were presented to Al Hyland and Gert van Niekerk. Al Hyland is in the role of Media Buyer in the Marketing and Communications Office, where in a relatively short period of time he has made an enormous contribution to the College through his marketing and media buying knowledge, his positive attitude, negotiation skills and tenacity. Gert van Niekerk is a Sports Science Instructor who has been with the College since it opened its doors 40 years ago and has worked tirelessly on behalf of the College. Gert was instrumental in establishing and growing the College's Athletics program as well as establishing the Bachelor of Physical Education and Coaching degree in 2006. Gert says, "Why retire? I love what I do."

Customer Service and Cashier Program Wins Award

In October, the Customer Training and Cashier Program (CSCT) received an Award of Excellence from The New View Society and Fraser Health (TriCities Mental Health) in recognition of the education and vocational training role this Adult Special Education (ASE) program plays in preparing students with disabilities with marketable skills for employment. Both agencies refer students to the CSCT to prepare them for positions in the fields of customer service and cashiering. The program's graduates are employed throughout the TriCities area and beyond.

Sixth Annual Envision Financial Light the Lake Festival

Thousands of lights sparkled throughout the Christmas season in Coquitlam's Town Centre, thanks to the sixth annual Envision Financial Light the Lake Festival held December 5th at Lafarge Lake Park. Through Light the Lake, the partnership between the Douglas College Foundation and Envision Financial has resulted in donations of \$100,000. More than half of this has been used to establish an endowment bursary that supports students in the Faculty of Commerce & Business Administration.

The lights remained on throughout December, reminding local residents of the Foundation and its work to raise money for student aid.

2011 BC Colleges (BCC) EAs' Conference

Douglas and Langara will co-host the upcoming BC Colleges (BCC) EAs' Annual Conference. Laureen Dailey and Shelagh Donnelly are partnering with their Langara counterpart to develop plans for this two-day event, to be held in Fall 2011.

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DOUGlife Website

Last April, 30 Campus Life student leaders collaborated with 30 Office for New Students (ONS) Student Ambassadors to create a plan for improving the student experience at Douglas College. The students identified the fact that, while there were many events on campus, there was no one place to get more information or sign up to participate. They saw the need to create an interactive hub for co-curricular student activities. The hub would need to host a college-wide co-curricular events calendar, publicize events, share information and opportunities, provide an ability to sign up, and even allow students to post their own events.

Over the summer, the Centre for Campus Life staff worked long and hard to create www.douglife.ca, a dynamic, fun and informative website that connects Douglas students to all co-curricular activities. DOUGlife currently includes the Douglas events calendar, volunteer opportunities, student clubs, recreation, wellness and leadership.

To date, the impact of DOUGlife has exceeded expectations, with very heavy traffic and, more importantly, an increase in student involvement and engagement. Student clubs have flourished with more than 300 students joining clubs directly through the DOUGlife system and, as a result, 18 new student clubs are thriving this semester. Furthermore, volunteerism has also increased, with more than 110 students signing up through DOUGlife to volunteer for on-campus initiatives.

Other programs have also seen considerable increases in involvement; 67 students enrolled in the new Campus Life Leadership Program and more than 1,400 students have participated in recreational activities after two months of classes.

The Campus Life team is planning to continually improving the site and welcomes ideas, information and feedback from all departments.

New Video Conference Teaching Rooms

The successful first class being taught via the new video conference teaching rooms occurred on Wednesday, January 4th. Jennifer Kirkey of the Department of Physics and Astronomy is teaching Physics 1110, which is a calculus based mechanics and waves course. Twice weekly, she is lecturing from David Lam where there are 18 registered students, and broadcasting those lectures to New Westminster to an additional 18 students. This will be a proof of concept for this type of course delivery, as the number of students interested in the course is fairly evenly divided between the two campuses – in other words, not enough students to run the course at either campus but enough combined students to give a full class. This is also a laboratory based class and the entire laboratory portion will be held at David Lam. Thanks go to CEIT and Facilities for the work they did to transform two regular teaching classrooms into state of the art videoconference teaching rooms over the break between classes.

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Training and Development Workshops

On December 7th, 13 employees participated in a workshop, "Putting Your Best Foot Forward", where they obtained practical guidance regarding the recruitment process and how to be a confident applicant. Participants consistently rated both the content and the presentation as excellent and included comments such as, "Super knowledgeable", "An outstanding program", "Well paced, good balance of presentation and answering questions".

On December 9th, 13 employees attended a health and wellness information session, "Signs and Symptoms of a Stroke and More". The presenters were Dr. Kennely Ho, a neurologist and physician stroke lead for Fraser Health's Stroke Strategy, and Jody Edwards, a PhD candidate at the UBC Department of Physical Therapy and Brain Research. Participants stated they found the presenters to be extremely knowledgeable and informative on prevention and research.

Douglas College Professional Development Day

Theme: "Technology: The Great Experiment"

When: Wednesday February 9th, 2011

Where: The New Westminster Campus

All Douglas College employees are welcome and encouraged to attend. This is a day where employees of the Douglas College community can gather, reflect and discuss our work. It is an opportunity to increase our responsiveness to emerging trends and enhance our understanding of the broad topic of technology as it applies both inside the College and outside in our daily lives. **To read about the schedule for the day and learn about keynote and concurrent session speakers, see the Employee Development website, http://www.douglas.bc.ca/employees/employee-development/pdf/ed_eflyer.pdf.**

Douglas College: The First 40 Years

Professional Development Day, February 9th, is the date scheduled for the launch of this brand-new history of Douglas College. Written by retired administrator, Gerry Della Mattia, and edited by Event's own editor, Ian Cockfield, the book takes a not-so-formal look back at our 40 years, complete with archival photographs. Watch for the launch in the foyer of the Laura C. Muir Performing Arts Theatre, and have your copy signed by the author (book price TBA).

National Professional Board Staff Network (PBSN)

In collaboration with college counterparts across Canada, Shelagh Donnelly launched an e-mail network for *Professional Board Staff Network* (PBSN) peers, creating a forum for ongoing, national sharing of expertise and best practices. Early usage suggests that this resource has been well received, and PBSN members are working to identify a college to host a listserve.