

Douglas College Connection

2010

Alumni and Foundation News



Dispensing Optician Program Coordinator Tony Viani (left) helps a local senior with her eye care needs as part of a project run by the Douglas College Centre for Health and Community Partnerships.

Linking college and community for good health

The Douglas College Centre for Health and Community Partnerships (CHCP) is a hub for linking students, faculty and the community in interdisciplinary service-learning projects.

One recent project involved students from the Home Care Support Worker, Therapeutic Recreation and Dispensing Optician programs working with close to 40 seniors who came to the Coquitlam campus to cook, discuss nutrition and home safety, learn simple exercises and have their vision checked.

Everyone learned something as seniors taught the students some nifty dance steps, while students put into practice their classroom theory. Centre co-ordinator Joy Page says the session fulfilled one of the aims of CHCP which is to do community-based research.

CHCP is currently working with a number of community agencies on a variety of projects including Meals on Wheels, an evaluation of a women's pharmacy project for the Downtown Eastside, and the Tri-Cities Intercultural Workplace Project which is aimed at creating policies around recruitment and retention of foreign trained human service workers.

Since it opened in 2008, CHCP has been involved in 10 projects and received \$100,000 in grants.

New President looks to future



Dr. Scott McAlpine joined Douglas College as President in 2009

Dr. Scott McAlpine became president of Douglas College in August 2009 following the retirement of long-time president Susan Witter.

He came to Douglas College from Grande Prairie Regional College where he held a number of positions including Acting

Vice-President Academic and Dean of Arts, Science and Upgrading. He has an undergraduate degree in economics and political science and an MA in political science from Wilfred Laurier University. He went on to earn a PhD in political science from the University of Calgary, specializing in Canadian politics and international relations.

Since arriving at Douglas, Dr. McAlpine has immersed himself in college life while forging connections to the communities served by Douglas. He is currently completing a strategic planning process that will shape the future of the College for the next three to five years. The plan builds on existing strengths in the areas of internationalization and experiential learning and commits to creating seamless pathways into, within and out of Douglas.

Dr. McAlpine attends meetings of the Douglas College Foundation Board and is keen to involve Foundation supporters in every facet of College life. He observes that "for 25 years Douglas College Foundation has been supporting students at Douglas College through the generosity of its donors - you have truly touched and changed thousands of lives."

Business and beyond

Leading a business school in today's environment brings an array of challenges according to Robert Buller, Dean of the Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration at Douglas.

"We have a bit of an identity crisis," says Buller. "Business schools have a wide variety of names and their grads are found throughout the economy with many business grads working in government, at large non-profits and Crown Corporations as well as in the corporate sector. Marketing grads sometimes end up in philanthropy; accountants often make it into general management; and computer systems grads are everywhere."

Business often means management which is why many business schools incorporate management in their name so why is the business school at Douglas called Commerce and Business Administration? "Historical," according to Buller. "Business programs at Douglas started as a two year diploma after which students could transfer to university. UBC offered Commerce while SFU had Business Administration – so we incorporated both terms into our name to reflect the choices available to our students."

Regardless of names, business programs are heavy on the theory, "yet we know, and the people that hire our grads know, that success requires experience outside the classroom," Buller says.

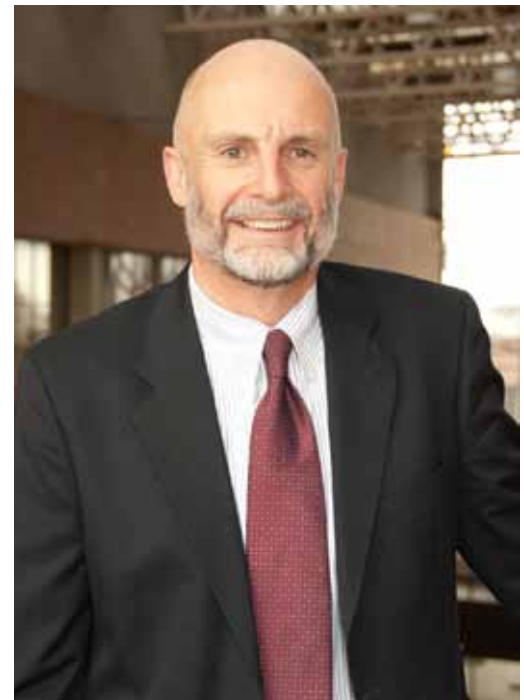
Business faculty at Douglas seize every opportunity to have students do projects, assignments, internships and practicums where they can apply their classroom learning to real situations, challenges and opportunities.

It is not just business students who learn from practical experience. According to Dr. Kathy Denton, Vice President, Education, students in all courses and programs benefit from opportunities to apply their learning. College can provide those opportunities in ways that often aren't available at universities.

Many first- and second-year science students supplement classroom learning with hands-on lab experiences. Experiential learning also occurs in Criminology, where students may attend court to observe a trial or tour a correctional facility; in Performing Arts, where students have opportunities to see live performances; and in Political Science, where students have traveled to Egypt and Jordan to participate in a Model United Nations.

As well, applied programs at Douglas College in areas such as health care and human services help students obtain work-place experience as part of their program to make them job-ready, Denton says.

If you know a business that wants to connect with Commerce and Business Administration students, please call 604-527-5444. If you know a community group that wants to involve students in a project, please contact the Centre for Health and Community Partnerships at 604-777-6501.



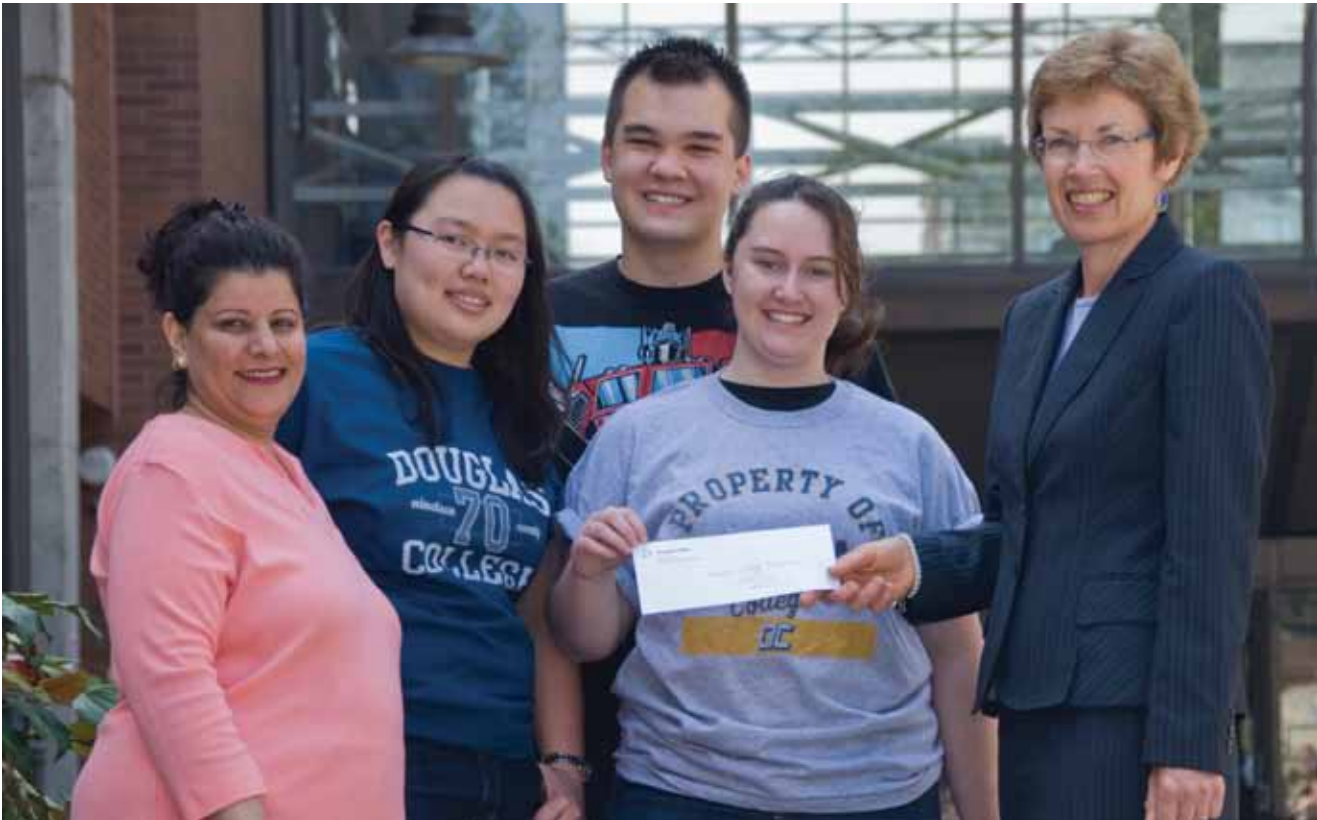
Dean Robert Buller

Donors help take care of business



"The financial support I have received over my years at Douglas College has allowed me to take full advantage of what Douglas has to offer. The support I have received has allowed me to take a full course load (five courses) while continuing my work as President of the Douglas College Business Association (DCBA). Looking ahead to the next academic year, the DCBA plans to continue hosting all of our signature events. These include the DCBA Annual Speakers Night, the DCBA Birthday Bash, and the DCBA Tax Service. The DCBA will also be starting the DCBA Student Business Card Service in Sept 2010. For more information please visit www.dcba-online.ca."

—Aleem Jinnah



Zebeen Panju, Douglas College student recruitment/support specialist (far left) and Hazel Postma, Associate VP External Relations (far right) receive a cheque for \$3,470 to the Douglas College Foundation to be used to support students with financial challenges from Douglas College Student Ambassadors Aiko Yao Lim, Brian Jackson and Cara McBeath.

40th Anniversary Bursary

Roam through the corridors, peek into classrooms, eavesdrop in the cafeteria and it's impossible not to be caught up in the excitement and drama that permeates the lives of our students. They rush to class, scramble to keep up with homework, friends, jobs, exam schedules and the latest *YouTube* videos.

Wherever they have come from, Douglas College is where their future starts and they know it. Some are searching for a career, some come from other countries and never dreamed they'd one day go to college, some are changing careers or coming to school for the first time as a mature student, while others have overcome immense hurdles to be here. But in the hallways and classrooms, these differences fade as our instructors teach their passion and help our students find theirs.

This is easier to accomplish with a full stomach, money to pay the rent and tuition fees, and to buy text books. At least 20 per cent of our students cannot make ends meet and need financial assistance. Please help us help them by contributing to our 40th anniversary bursary. Complete the form in this newsletter and mail it to us, or call 604-777-6176 and donate by credit card. You will be giving the gift of hope for the future.

"I really appreciate receiving your donation and would like to let you know that you have lessened my financial burden substantially this semester. I hope to continue to achieve honour roll standing this semester and would like to thank you once again for helping me financially. People like you really do make the lives of students easier."

—Seema, Bachelor of Science
in Nursing Program

100% of your donation to the Foundation is used to support students – no administrative or overhead costs are charged on any gift.



Hazel Postma, Associate VP External Relations, Lisa Nielsen and College President Dr. Scott McAlpine.

Hope from the streets

The following is the text of a speech given by Lisa Nielsen at the 3rd annual Awards Luncheon hosted by Douglas College Foundation on March 24, 2010.

“I have options: law, forensic psychology or criminology. Ultimately, I plan to do something big. Something revolutionary. I plan to go big, because I have something to offer the world: a unique set of life experiences. I hope to continue to be employed by Dusk 2 Dawn, a 24 hour ultra-low barrier youth resource centre for kids

like me, kids at a place where I used to be. Homeless, addicted, abandoned and scared. They are welcome whether

they are high, drunk, withdrawing or straight. The services they offer are unique; laundry, showers, a pet room, a recording studio to name a few. I look forward to being a facilitator of hope in upper management there.

Where I was

In brief, a child who lost her father to cancer at 12, a single mother at 14, sexually exploited at 15, a meth addict at 16, single

mother on welfare at 18, Dusk 2 Dawn worker at 20. Those are the main events in the timeline of my life. Going into details would take hours with too many tears. The cards were stacked against me and nobody ever let me forget it.

Where I am

And here I am today, a college student, worker, mom and caretaker to an ill family member. I am getting A’s and B+’s. Why? Because of the help of people like you. It is because of you that I have the intellectual freedom to come up with beautifully insane ideas like my latest: a separate correctional system for emerging adults. Because of you I can speak so passionately about what I am doing and what I am learning. Best of all, people like you make me want to succeed. I am a bright enthusiastic woman, and my mind can take me anywhere I want to go, but I need the help. That help came from you.

Thank you”

DONATE NOW
douglascollege.ca/foundation



(Back row l to r): Tracy Green (Douglas College Foundation), Darrin Davidson (1st Year BPEC), Bea Sayson (Vice-Principal, A.H.P. Matthew Elementary), Alexis Biggar (PE Department - Guildford Park Secondary), Gord May, Coaches Association of Canada (Front row l to r): Rebecca Innis (2nd Year BPEC), Tamara Janzen (3rd year BPEC) and Kelly Toth (4th Year BPEC).

Sports Science faculty pitch in

Sport Science faculty are making a difference in the lives of their students. The Sport Science department is an example of how one area of the College actively contributes to the educational and personal successes of our students. In addition to their skills in the classroom they are helping students by donating to endowments held by the Foundation. Their donations help students overcome the financial challenges of making ends meet while pursuing their educational dreams.

Brian Storey, Chair of the department, and Gert Van Niekerk, a Sport Science co-ordinator, have been donating for more than eight years to the Sport Science Faculty Leadership Award. The endowment was created by faculty and is given to a student who has made a positive contribution to Douglas College and the community. Alison Gill, another Sport Science co-ordinator, made her first donation in support of student aid in 1998. She has since established the Kent Community Fieldwork Fund to honour her father, and the Sport Science Undergraduate Student Council Fieldwork Endowment. Each year the Sport Science and Coaching Department distributes seven awards to students in amounts ranging from \$100 to \$1,000.

“Once again, I would like to thank you for your generosity. I will continue to work hard in order to reach my goals and make a difference in my community.”

— Katrina, Bachelor of Physical Education and Coaching Program

DOUGLAS DAYS MAJOR EVENTS

Fall Fair

Date: Saturday, Sept 18
Time: 11am - 3pm
Location: Campus Green at David Lam Campus (1250 Pinetree Way, Coquitlam)

The 2nd annual Douglas College Fall Fair, hosted by the Douglas College Alumni Association and the Foundation, is set for Saturday, Sept 18 from 11am-3pm on the Campus Green at David Lam Campus, rain or shine.

The purpose of the event is to:

- Provide a fun, family-oriented event for the Tri-Cities community
- Promote Douglas College programs and raise money for student aid

Douglas College Self Employment Marketplaces

Date: Tuesday, Sept 21
Wednesday, Sept 22
Time: 9am - 4pm
Location: David Lam Campus
1250 Pinetree Way,
Coquitlam

New Westminster Campus
700 Royal Avenue,
New Westminster

40th Anniversary Homecoming

Date: Friday, Sept 24
Time: 4pm - 9pm
Location: New Westminster Campus
concourse, cafeteria and plaza

All Douglas College alumni are invited to the New Westminster campus Friday, Sept 24 from 4pm-9pm for Homecoming!

Douglas College Foundation Gala "Masque Royale"

Date: Saturday, Oct 30
Time: 6:30pm - 11pm
Location: New Westminster Campus
Gymnasium

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Douglas College Foundation, as well as the College's 40th anniversary, the Foundation is hosting a special fundraising gala event with the theme of a Renaissance Masked Ball.

Alumni Benefit Concert in Celebration of Douglas College's 40th Anniversary

Date: Monday, Dec 13
Time: 7:30pm
Location: Performing Arts Theatre,
Douglas College

Lance Ryan, tenor and Douglas grad
Viviana Maria di Carlo, soprano
David Boothroyd, piano

Envision Light the Lake

Date: Sunday, Dec 5
Time: 3 - 7 pm
Location: Lafarge Lake Park in Coquitlam

The 6th annual Envision Financial Light the Lake is a fun-filled family event featuring a Christmas market, kids activities, hot chocolate and yummy treats, as well as appearances by Ronald McDonald, celebrity emcee Steve Darling, and of course, Santa.

Money raised supports student aid at Douglas College. Admission is free. For more information on volunteering, or to become an event sponsor please visit: douglascollege.ca/foundation.

From drop out to doctorate

Dr. John Bertram dropped out of high school in 1972 and worked at job sites ranging from paper mills to thoroughbred stables. By 1976 he realized he was not getting any long-term satisfaction from these positions and, after hearing radio ads about Douglas College, he stopped by the campus.

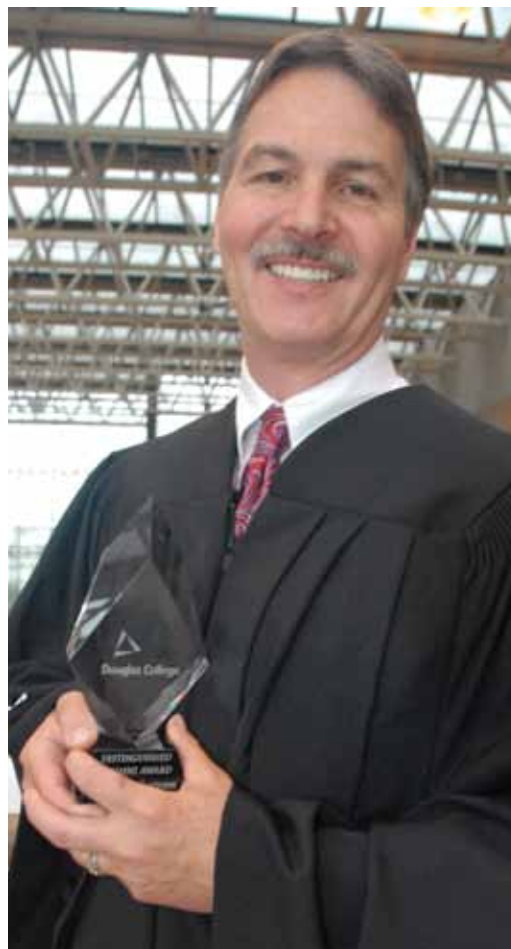
“The counsellor planned the next two years of my life,” John says, recalling that as he signed his registration form, he recognized a life-changing moment.

After upgrading his high school courses John enrolled in biology and found his passion. He transferred to UBC where he earned a BSc, moving on to Biomechanics and an MSc in 1984. From there he went to the U. of Chicago, receiving his PhD and the prestigious William Rainey Harper pre-doctoral fellowship. John did post-doctoral training at Dalhousie and Harvard and since has held faculty positions at Ithaca College, Florida State U. and Cornell. Currently a Professor of Biology in the Faculty of Medicine at the U. of Calgary, John teaches in various programs including health sciences and engineering, and co-ordinates the anatomy teaching program.

John has published extensively and received research funding from the National Science Foundation in the US, and NSERC in Canada. He is regularly invited to give presentations at notable scientific meetings around the world, institutions that he says would never have admitted him when he began his post-secondary journey.

John’s done a great deal with the opportunities provided by his early years at Douglas College and that he epitomizes the slogan, “You can go anywhere from here.”

Nominations are now open for the 2011 Distinguished Alumni Awards. This award recognizes the quality of our graduates and their contributions to the community. If you know of a special Douglas College Alumnus you’d like to nominate, call 604-777-6171 or email us at alumni@douglas.bc.ca.



2010 Distinguished Alumnus Dr. John Bertram found his life’s path at Douglas College. “I came to Douglas College at a time of major transition in my life,” says Bertram. “And it showed me what I was capable of.”

Planning your gift

Don’t miss out on the tax advantages available for estate gifts which can include a bequest in your will, a gift of life insurance, trusts, annuities and more. If you already have Douglas College in your will, or are planning to do so, the Foundation would like to know.

“It gives us a chance to thank you while you are alive and it also gives me a chance to include you in activities and events at the College that you might enjoy,” says the Foundation’s Hazel Postma.

As well, knowing someone is considering leaving a bequest to the College enables her to start a conversation that could lead to some other form of bequest besides cash.

“Sometimes a cash gift is not the most beneficial form of giving,” Postma explains. “With the removal of capital gains on gifts of publicly traded securities, it can be much more advantageous from a tax perspective to donate stocks, bonds, mutual funds or other assets.”

DID YOU KNOW:

- Douglas College turns 40 in September
- 65% of our students are female
- Two-thirds come from New Westminster, Burnaby, TriCities, Ridge Meadows, the rest from throughout Metro Vancouver and across BC.
- 600 are international students
- 1,800 students received financial support in 2009
- We award an average of 260 Bachelor Degrees, 200 Associate Degrees, 800 Diplomas, 220 Certificates and 150 Citations each year.



Tenor of the times

Date: Monday, Dec 13
Time: 7.30 pm
Location: Performing Arts Theatre,
 New Westminster Campus
 Douglas College

Funds from the concert will be used to establish the Lance Ryan Vocal Achievement Award which will be given annually to an outstanding singer in the second year of the University Transfer program in Music.

On Tuesday, December 14, Lance Ryan will lead a voice master class in the Performing Arts Theatre from 12.30 to 2.30pm. Free admission.

For more info on all events contact the Alumni Office: alumni@douglas.bc.ca or 604-777-6171.

Douglas College graduate and renowned tenor, shown here in his performance as Otello at Städtische Bühnen Münster in 2005, comes back to New Westminster this winter for a special performance marking the 40th anniversary of the College.

Yes! I would like to help students at Douglas College with:

a monthly donation in the amount of \$ _____

a one-time donation in the amount of \$ _____

Please include your full name and address for tax receipting purposes.

For monthly gifts, please complete credit card information.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Postal Code: _____

Daytime phone: _____

Email: _____

I have enclosed my cheque payable to Douglas College Foundation.

Please charge my credit card.

Check one: Personal Corporate

Check one: Visa Mastercard

Card #: _____

Exp: _____ / _____

Please mail or fax this completed form to:

Douglas College Foundation
 PO Box 2503
 New Westminster, BC V3L 5B2
 Ph: 604 777-6176 Fax: 604 777-6269
 www.douglascollege.ca/foundation

Charitable registration No.: 118887587 RR001

A tax receipt will be issued for all donations of \$25 or more provided your full name and address is listed above.