
Scott McAlpine

January 2012

Welcome Back

Welcome back to a new semester and a new year! I hope that everyone enjoyed the best of the holiday season and was able to spend some quality time with friends and family.

We anticipate another exciting and productive year ahead as we continue to move forward with the implementation of our strategic plan, *Pathways to Success*, transition from GroupWise to Microsoft Outlook, and rollout of the College's new branding – just to name a few!

We each have a role to play in ensuring our students have the best educational experience at Douglas College. I thank all of you for your efforts and hard work, and wish each and every one of you a successful and fulfilling year ahead - both personally and professionally.

Reviewing our Chinese partnership programs

As you may know, Douglas College has two award-winning partnership programs in China.

The Douglas College Board has initiated an independent review of the policies and procedures governing them, to follow up on a 2010 internal review that was done by Douglas faculty. That internal review identified issues around English-language proficiency and supplementary exams at the Heilongjiang Institute of Science and Technology (HIST) in Harbin, which led to changes that were implemented by faculty and administration in 2010 and 2011.

The independent review, being conducted by Deloitte and Touche, is to ensure that those changes have been effective and sufficient in 2012 to meet Douglas College standards. It should be completed by the end of March and I'll report back on it then.

International education is a key component of the College's strategic plan and we want our international programs to be the best they can be. I look forward to the recommendations of the independent review and seeing what, if any, changes could be made to improve our programs. Comments or questions can be submitted to feedback@douglascollege.ca.

See our [news release](#) for more information.

New Faculty Emeritus

The Faculty Emeritus award was established in 2004 as a way to recognize the excellence of retiring faculty. As well as having made an outstanding contribution to the College community, faculty who receive this award remain committed to and engaged in College activities such as mentorship, scholarship and strategic academic planning. These dedicated individuals are nominated by their peers

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for their excellence in teaching and related work, outstanding contribution to their discipline or area, and for their contribution to the College.

Since 2005, 28 faculty have received the Faculty Emeritus award. I am pleased to report that **Carol St. Jean** from the Department of English as a Second Language will be honoured in 2012. Carol will receive her award at the March 15th meeting of the College Board.

Congratulations to Carol on her new status as Faculty Emeritus!

New Selections and Appointments

I'm pleased to report that two administrative positions have recently been filled.

Keith Ellis has been selected for the position of Special Projects Officer from January 4 – August 3, 2012. Keith has been an instructor at Douglas since 1993 and has served the College in a variety of roles, including a 5-year term as Education Technology Coordinator and as Acting Dean in the Faculty of Science and Technology.

Tom Whalley has been appointed Interim Associate Dean for the Faculty of Language, Literature and Performing Arts for the period of January 1 – June 30, 2012. Tom is a long-serving member of the Department of English as a Second Language, has taught in Communications and Modern Languages, and has most recently been serving as Interim Dean in the Faculty of Developmental Education.

Please join me in welcoming Keith and Tom to their new roles.

College's New Branding

This month, the look of Douglas College changes with the rollout of our new branding material, which reflects a lot of engagement and listening to faculty, staff and students.

We have a new logo and new awareness images and messages, based on the idea of "Do what you love. Be good at it." I like the new material and so far the feedback I'm hearing is positive. The approach is sophisticated, compelling and smart. It reflects the high quality of our programs, our teaching and our student services. It also reflects our strategic plan, and its vision to be the largest and most progressive baccalaureate degree-granting college in British Columbia.

You can get an in-depth overview of the College's new image on the 'inside douglas' blog at www.insidedouglas.ca. Updated materials including logos and letterhead templates are available at www.douglascollege.ca/employees/mco.

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Aboriginal Gathering Place Official Opening

The official opening of our Aboriginal Gathering Place is quickly approaching. The January 19th celebration will include remarks from His Excellency Steven Point, the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia, and Chief Rhonda Larrabee of the QayQayt Nation, as well as a photo display covering the building of the Gathering Place from start to finish. Attendees will enjoy ancient and contemporary songs and dances, a reception with traditional Aboriginal treats, and tours of the Gathering Place. The College community is invited to this celebratory event starting at 3:00 p.m. in the Laura C. Muir Performing Arts Theatre.

Zambia Global Leadership Program

The Douglas College Zambia Global Leadership Program offers students a rich personal and professional experiential learning opportunity through training, immersion and reflection. One of last year's interns, Rosie Hernandez, was recently named 'the entrepreneur' and *Top 24 under 24* by 24 hour magazine for her work in Zambia. Her work also raised the profile of the program and caught the attention of the Foundation for International Community Assistance (FINCA), one of the world's largest microfinance organizations. FINCA has contacted Douglas College's Centre for Campus Life directly to partner with Douglas to support two student interns in Zambia and provide funding to the Zambia program. Information regarding the program can be found at www.douglife.ca/zambia.

Real Experience in Applied Leadership (R.E.A.L.) Program Launch

A new partnership with the City of New Westminster will provide our students with applied leadership experiences through placements within community programs through the City of New Westminster's Community Schools and the Parks and Recreation Board. Each student will be matched with community programs, receive training, supervision, support and evaluation during their placements. The program is open to all Douglas students but is highly relevant to students interested in the following career paths: education and teaching, government and the non-profit sector, sports and recreation, child and youth care and others. An optional component and benefit of the program will be working with fellow R.E.A.L. program students alongside city officials in the planning of a major New Westminster city event in the spring of 2012. This year's cohort will include 15 Douglas students and begin in January 2012.

Upcoming College Events

Aboriginal Gathering Place Official Opening

Thurs. January 19, 2012, 3:00-4:00 p.m., Performing Arts Theatre, New Westminster Campus

Employee Recognition Reception

Wed. April 18, 2012, 4:00-6:00 p.m., Performing Arts Theatre, New Westminster Campus