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Strategic Implementation

Douglas College launched its new strategic plan entitled *Pathways to Success* in May of 2010. Approximately one year into implementation, the College has recently made a number of moves that will be of interest to the college community. I have reported on many of them already but some new shifts include:

- Academic realignment of DVST and EASL
- A move of CFCS
- The re-fitting of the concourse at New Westminster
- A shift in responsibility for Community Partnerships
- The establishment of an Office for Research and Innovation
- New program launches in Music Technology, Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Math and Science Teaching
- Approval to development stages of degrees in five areas (subject to further analyses approvals)

Many of these are described in more detail below. All of these support Douglas in becoming *the largest and most progressive baccalaureate degree granting college in British Columbia*. This year, we will also be going out, again, to the Douglas community to consult on the strategic plan and hear new ideas that are consistent with the goals outlined in that document, and to report back to the College on our progress to date on implementation of the plan. We look forward to your continued input and engagement with *Pathways to Success*.

Academic Realignment

The Academic Division is undergoing an alignment shift that will integrate departments currently in the Faculty of Developmental Education with three other Faculties. The plan is for English as a Second Language, Developmental Studies English, and Student Success to move into the Faculty of Language, Literature and Performing Arts; Developmental Studies Math to move into the Faculty of Science and Technology; and Adult Special Education to move into the Faculty of Child, Family, and Community Studies. The proposed shift in the Academic Division will reduce the number of Faculties from seven to six, starting in January 2012. In place of the position of the seventh Dean, LLPA will be permitted to hire an Associate Dean, which means that all six Faculties will have both a Dean and an Associate Dean. Some educational committee structures will change as a result of the realignment, but these changes should improve communication, collaboration, and decision-making, which, in turn, should improve learner pathways into college programs. In addition, the proposed plans should strengthen awareness of access as an important college value.

Child, Family and Community Studies to Switch Campuses

After an exhaustive review process, the Senior Management Team has made the decision to move the Faculty of Child, Family and Community Studies (CFCS) to the David Lam Campus in Coquitlam as of September 2012. This decision was not made lightly as we recognize that it will have an impact on many people, but it is absolutely in the best interests of the College.

As you know, growth is a key part of the Douglas College strategic plan. In addition, the College has to grow to meet the enrolment targets that accompany the funding we receive from the Ministry of

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Advanced Education. However, with our New Westminster Campus at well over 100 per cent capacity and David Lam at less than 70 per cent, changes had to be made to facilitate these goals.

Deans and Directors from all areas of the College were asked to contribute ideas about which areas could be moved from New West to Coquitlam. Many alternative scenarios were considered, including moving all of administration to David Lam.

However, in the end, CFCS was clearly the best choice. It is a large group that will open significant space at the New West campus. It has strong demand and unique programs, so there is less risk of losing students. And, importantly, there are a number of benefits to CFCS by making the move. For example, CFCS will be able to make use of the excellent facilities at David Lam that are currently underutilized. No other group would benefit as much from the ability to use those facilities in their teaching. Finally, CFCS itself has plans to expand and the move will allow CFCS programs to grow.

We'd like to thank the Faculty of CFCS for their understanding of this significant change. Over the next year, renovations will be made at David Lam to create comfortable spaces for new CFCS offices and CFCS staff and faculty will be involved in identifying their needs. Plans for the move are underway to have the faculty, staff and all courses and electives needed for CFCS programs to take place in Coquitlam, beginning in September 2012.

Concourse Grand Opening & ACCC Award Celebration

On September 22nd we will celebrate our recent successes with the grand opening of the refurbished concourse at the New Westminster campus. There are many people to thank for our beautiful new concourse, including CJP Architects and Bird Construction, but special recognition goes to our very own Director of Facilities, **Terry Leonard**, and Project Assistant, **Deb Jackson**, for looking after a myriad of details and working tirelessly to ensure the concourse was ready for the start of the fall semester. Thank you both!

In addition to the concourse grand opening, we will also celebrate Douglas College's 2010-2011 ACCC Gold Award for Internationalization Excellence. James Knight, President & CEO of the Association of Canadian Community Colleges, will be here to present this new ACCC award.

Everyone is welcome to attend this celebration event. The program starts at 3:30pm in the concourse, followed by refreshments and entertainment.

Community Partnerships

Community partnerships anchor Douglas College in and to the communities we serve, and provide opportunities for students and faculty to engage with the community on a variety of levels. Currently, the Centre for Health and Community Partnerships is tasked with overseeing partnership and research projects. Going forward, community partnerships will be part of the External Relations portfolio. Associate Vice President External Relations, **Hazel Postma**, will affirm existing partnerships and work with all Faculties to identify opportunities for new partnerships that benefit students, faculty and staff.

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Research opportunities will move to a Research and Innovation Office once it is established. The creation of a Research and Innovation Office was one of the interim recommendations of the Task Force on Research, Scholarly Activity, and Faculty Development.

Douglas Launches the Music Technology Certificate Program

The Music Department has launched a state-of-the-art, one-year Music Technology Certificate program this September. The only one of its kind in a public post-secondary institution in Western Canada, the MTC program gives students hands-on experience with studio set-up, audio recording, sound sequencing and synthesis, score production, and music for film and video. Students in the MTC program participate in music electives and activities, including ensembles, and will be producing portfolio-quality projects by the year's end. Twenty-five out of the maximum twenty-six seats are full as of week 1, despite a late spring launch. Thanks go to **Blair Fisher**, program developer and coordinator.

U-PASS Launch at Douglas College

On September 7th Douglas College hosted the Official Press Conference to launch the new U-Pass BC Program. The launch was the culmination of years of student advocacy and 18 months of work for College staff. Douglas College's **Blaine Jensen** provided leadership as the chief negotiator for the 11 public post-secondary education institutions in Metro Vancouver. Our implementation team led by **Nicki Kerr** and **Stephanie Fraser** worked through the complicated process of starting a new transit pass. The launch and roll out has gone extremely well thanks to the implementation team, which consisted of: **Stephanie Fraser, Blaine Jensen, Nicki Kerr, Luc Lang, Rob Linschoten, Anne MacMillan, Jerin Mece (DSU), Tim Rattel (DSU), Shalini Verghese, Brenda Walton and Kerry Wong.**

Educational and Information Technology Plan

The constantly changing field of educational technology requires us to stay current and relevant. This year we will see many changes to the educational and information technology of Douglas College. The behind the scenes stages of moving to Microsoft Exchange (Outlook) has started. You will not see any changes for several months but the work has begun installing servers, programming and training for our CEIT professionals.

After a thorough review of how we govern and manage Educational and Information Technology, we are making some changes to the Terms of Reference for Educational Technology Forum (ETF) and Technology Planning and Management Committee (TPMC). These groups provide open forums and dialogue around technology at Douglas College and provide planning and prioritization direction to Senior Management. The changes will include broadening committee membership and changing TPMC's name to Technology Steering Committee (TSC). The revised Terms of Reference can be found on the CEIT web page at: http://www.douglas.bc.ca/_shared/assets/ETF_Document74865.pdf.

The new Terms of Reference reinforce the long-standing Douglas College commitment to strengthen the representation and role of faculty and staff in the use of technology in teaching, learning and other educational activities. It will also support the Deans' role in providing strategic and tactical direction for the use of technology in teaching and learning.

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2011 Pioneer Award Recipient of the “Ambassador Award”

Psychosocial Rehabilitation (PSR) Réadaptation Psychosociale (RPS) Canada is a national association of individuals and organizations committed to the provision and growth of psychosocial rehabilitation services to support the recovery of persons with serious mental health issues.

PSER/RPS Canada announced recently that **Dr. John Higenbottam**, Department of Psychology, has been chosen as the 2011 Pioneer Award Recipient of the “Ambassador Award.” This award was chosen for an individual/volunteer/service provider/health provider/educator who has demonstrated dedication and excellence in providing psychiatric rehabilitation services consistent with PSR Canada’s Code of Ethics and the Core Principles and/or made outstanding contributions toward educating and mentoring a new generation of leaders.

Threat Assessment Training

Kevin Cameron, Diplomat with the American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress and a Board Certified Expert in Traumatic Stress, returned to Douglas College on August 29th and 30th to provide Level II Post-Secondary Threat Assessment Training. A follow up to Level I Threat Assessment Training provided by Kevin in December 2009, this session engaged attendees representative of all College employee groups, including front line faculty and staff, student services, counselling, disabled student services, academic advising, administration, occupational health and safety, members of the College threat assessment team and campus security, as well as representatives from the College Board, Douglas Students Union and New Westminster Police.

Training was based on the multi-disciplinary violence threat/risk assessment team model, wherein the primary purpose is to determine if a threat maker or individual of concern poses a risk to the target and/or himself, and take appropriate measures to ensure the safety of the target and/or threat maker. The secondary purpose is to determine a course of intervention based on assessment data that addresses contextual variables contributing to the threat-making behaviour of the individual of concern.

Kevin highlighted for participants that the better the data, the better the assessment; the better the assessment, the better the intervention. The session focused on data analysis and strategic interviewing techniques including assessing the level of commitment in language used by a threat maker, a threat maker’s level of threat-related knowledge (i.e., general versus an inordinate amount), and assessing anonymous threats. The importance of conducting fact-based, data-driven threat assessments was emphasized.

Teaching of Psychology Conference

This summer the Psychology Departments at Douglas, Kwantlen, and Langara hosted the biennial Vancouver International Conference on the Teaching of Psychology. The three-day conference attracted more than 150 faculty from 16 countries. The conference provided workshops, current sessions, keynote addresses, and informal opportunities to interact with colleagues from around the world. Among the keynote speakers was Phil Zimbardo, who is known for conducting the famous Stanford prison experiment.

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Late Summer Orientation 2011

For the first time ever, all three Douglas College Late Summer Orientation dates 'sold out' in advance, with nearly 1,000 students signing up to take part in events at DLC and NWC. Hosted by the Office for New Students, LSO featured everything from campus tours and Student ID creation to an "Opportunities Fair" where students could sign up for various co-curricular clubs and activities.

Additional workshops included a motivational presentation and student skit which encouraged participants to get involved in the Douglas community. The Centre for Campus Life delivered a high-energy stage show, with a live hip-hop dance class and promotional video showcasing the Douglife.ca website. In addition to over 100 student volunteers, a large number of faculty and staff dedicated many hours of their time to welcoming new students, and the result was an outstanding first experience for our incoming class.

Over a dozen faculty members hosted "Class of Your Own" sessions in which they spoke with students about life in a college classroom, while staff from the Bookstore, Aboriginal Student Services, CEIT, Registrar's Office, U-Pass, Facilities, Financial Aid, Co-op Education and Chartwells provided students with access to service and support, rounding out a very colourful start to the Fall 2011 semester.

Thanks to ONS staff **Eric Glanville**, **Melody McKiernan** and **Jill Sutherland** and Co-op students **Roisin Connolly** and **Aiko Yao Lim** for their leadership role, and to all the ambassadors and volunteers for helping make Late Summer Orientation 2011 a huge success!

International Education Hosts Cities and Cultural Heritage Forum

On August 8th, Douglas International hosted a Cities and Cultural Heritage Forum which featured presentations from Canadian and Chinese experts with the purpose of creating direct dialogue between our two countries about efforts to preserve cultural heritage in an atmosphere of urban development and expansion. Thought provoking presentations were made by representatives of the Culture Regeneration Research Society (CRRS), the Beijing Union University (BUU) and Douglas College. **Scott McAlpine** delivered a keynote presentation on *Urbanization, Gentrification and Displacement: Cultural Implications*; **Michael Wilson** from Earth and Environmental Sciences presented *Multi-Culturalism and Evolving Sense of Place in Coquitlam, British Columbia*; and **Earl Noah** from the Geography Department spoke on *Continuity and Change: Heritage Preservation on Columbia Street*. These presentations were complimented by five more presentations from our Chinese scholars. This group is discussing the potential for a much broader, global forum or conference in the future.

Bachelor of Performing Arts Degree Program Lifts Off

A Special Appointee to serve as Project Manager for the Bachelor of Performing Arts Degree Steering Committee has recently been hired. **Marcus Youssef** will be working with the four partner institutions – Douglas College, Capilano University, Langara College and Vancouver Community College – to launch this unique, collaborative, inter-disciplinary degree-completion program at Capilano in May 2012.

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New Employee Orientation

The College Orientation and Welcome events held at New Westminster on August 31st and David Lam on September 1st were well attended with a total of 33 new employees attending in total. The participants gave feedback about both events which indicated repeatedly that they appreciated the information they received and the opportunity to hear directly from the President and members of the Senior Management Team, as well as the tour and the Health and Safety presentation. General comments included: "Lovely welcome, well organized." "Friendly, enthusiastic welcome." "Very informative." Participants were all invited to join the Summer Wrap-up Barbeque and enjoy being part of the Douglas College community.

"Lunch and Learn" Wellness - Employee Workshops

During July and August, Wellness lunch and learn sessions were presented by Human Resources to college employees. Six topics were given at both New West and David Lam campuses. The well-received sessions, which attracted 192 participants, were as follows: Healthy Eating Habits; Coping with Negative Thoughts; Healthy Sleep Habits; Building Resilience: Learning to Roll with Life's Punches; Committing to a Healthy Lifestyle; and Parenting Teens.

Upcoming Events

*NWC Concourse Grand Opening & ACCC Internationalization Excellence Award Celebration
Thurs. September 22nd, 3:30-5:00pm, New Westminster Campus Concourse*

*Employee Retirement Dinner
Fri. November 18th, 5:30 p.m., New Westminster Campus, Upper Cafeteria*

*Holiday Celebrations
Tues. December 13th, 4:00-6:00 p.m., David Lam Campus, Boardroom
Thurs. December 15th, 4:00-6:00 p.m., New Westminster Campus, Upper Cafeteria*

*Employee Recognition Reception
Wed. April 18th, 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.)*