



Dental Assisting Coordinator Debbie McCloy (seated) with students (from left) Sonya Van Hove, Katrina Gardner and Nicole Davie, hopes her team will pave the way to a relationship between the Masaka Regional Hospital in Uganda and the Douglas Health Sciences Faculty.

## Students prep for Uganda

The Dental Assisting Program is sending a trio of students to Uganda for a practicum for the first time.

Dental Assisting Coordinator Debbie McCloy is leading the team, which will work in Uganda for one month. They will provide direct care to patients while working with a local dentist in a clinic at the Masaka Regional Hospital. They will also travel to outlying areas to speak with people about preventative care.

“The dentist is willing to provide care and has the skills to do so. But he doesn’t have money or skilled support staff, so teeth that could be saved are often extracted because it’s the quickest and cheapest option available,” McCloy explains.

While her students have been working hard at fundraising for the trip, McCloy has been gathering donated equipment and supplies, such as restorative materials and sealants, from BC dental suppliers. Items remaining at the end of the practicum will be left at the clinic.

She hopes that by introducing a team approach to dental care that she and her students “may be able to create an awareness of what skilled support staff can do.”

“People line up and wait for care at the clinic. Four people working together instead of one makes a tremendous difference in how many patients you can help,” says McCloy.

She emphasizes that rather

than try to change the lifestyles of the people they meet, she and her students will aim to help patients improve their oral health within their current customs. For example, a greater emphasis on prevention may be accomplished with the use of thread instead of expensive commercial floss that the average Ugandan may not be able to afford.

McCloy hopes that her team will help establish a relationship between the hospital—which already works with Douglas students from Child, Family and Community Studies programs—and the Health Sciences Faculty. They depart for Uganda on April 25.



## A friendly agreement

The Faculty of Health Sciences recently entered a new partnership with Coquitlam School District 43. Clockwise from centre (standing) are Transition Coordinator for School District 43 Frank Gigliotti, Associate Dean of Health Sciences Silvia Wilson, Associate Superintendent of School District 43 Dan Derpak, Vice President Education Jan Lindsay and Health Sciences Dean Mike Tarko.



Music instructor Doug Smith is thrilled to have been asked to compose a piece for the National Arts Centre in Ottawa.

## Shredder to composer

Doug Smith has come a long way since shredding on the guitar with rock bands as a teen. On April 30, the Music Composition instructor will be in Ottawa to debut a piece commissioned by the National Arts Centre (NAC) orchestra.

“This is big news. I’m quite proud of Doug,” says Music Coordinator Bob Caldwell.

“This is the most exciting project I have done. It’s door-opening and I don’t know what will come through that door,” says Smith of the high-profile gig.

The piece will be performed by the NAC Orchestra as part of its Sea to Sky project. His is one of two original pieces that will be featured along with various works by visual and performing artists, all from BC.

Caldwell expects Smith’s latest achievement could boost interest in the Music Program.

“Students go with the reputation of a teacher, so it’s very important to the College to have Doug’s name out there,” Caldwell explains.

Smith has built his reputation despite an unconventional beginning in classical music. He first picked up a guitar at 12. His early inspirations were Hendrix, Dylan and the Beatles. Accordingly, he cut his teeth playing in rock bands.

However, Smith turned to classical music at 17, frustrated with his bandmates. “The only people I knew who could read music were classical musicians,” Smith says.

Today, he feels his background benefits his teaching.

“Style is secondary. I think music is like a language and within any language, there are many dialects,” says Smith.

As composing is a solitary pursuit, Smith enjoys the interaction he gets with his students.

“It’s energizing. They’re young and unjaded but burning with ideas. In order to teach, you have to stay active in your field. I get paid to learn more about what I love. That’s a pretty good gig,” says Smith.

By: Silvia Wilson, Associate Dean of Health Sciences

The Faculty of Health Sciences and Coquitlam School District 43 have developed a memorandum of understanding allowing graduating students from the district to have greater access to all programs in the faculty. The agreement honours the long-standing partnership between the College and the Tri-Cities, and has been signed as part of the Student Transitions initiative.

The memorandum dedicates a number of seats specifically

for students graduating from high schools in Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam and Port Moody. These students will need to meet the entrance requirements for each program, but will be considered within a pool of applicants from the district.

A huge thanks to the all the Health Sciences coordinators along with Dean Dr. Mike Tarko and District 43 officers Frank Gigliotti and Jill Reid.

A very special thanks also to Regional Student Transitions Coordinator Sharon Smith (VP Education office).



## Woodlands Project wraps up

Conrad Alberts was one of four former residents of the Woodlands School who spoke about their experiences on a panel called *Our Story*. Panelists also included, seated from left, former resident Richard McDonald, Pat Feindel, who was involved with the creation of the Woodlands Memorial Garden, former resident Bill McArthur and Classroom and Community Support instructor Wendy Parry, who moderated the panel. Not pictured are former resident Len Zimmer, family advocate Cathy Anthony and Jo Dickey, whose son Drew was a resident of Woodlands. *Our Story* wrapped up a month-long series of events inspired by the former Woodlands School and other institutions in BC.



A group of 42 students hailing from the United Arab Emirates are wrapping up a year of English as a Second Language studies at Douglas.

## Future firefighters finish studies at Douglas

The English as a Second Language (EASL) Department is celebrating the achievements of a unique group of students this month. Forty-two young men from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are wrapping up a year of full-time studies at Douglas through an agreement between the College and the Justice Institute of BC (JIBC).

“The students had huge mountains to climb, not just in terms of language, but also in terms of adaptation to the cultures of BC and North American academics and norms,” says Carol St. Jean, coordinator of contract immersion programs for EASL.

Today, all have solid oral communication skills and have been integrated into the English for Academic Purposes Program for their final semester at Douglas.

This is the second partnership between the EASL Department, the Centre for International Education and the JIBC. The institutions have previously worked together on a six-month program for a group of 21 Saudi police officers.

The current students were selected by UAE government officials based on their interest in firefighting. The majority are going on to continue their studies at the JIBC Fire Academy in Maple Ridge. They will celebrate their achievements at a closing ceremony being held at the JIBC on April 23.

## Employees earn credits for free

Save \$535. Take advantage of the opportunity to attend a three-day credit course from the Justice Institute of BC for free.

Foundations of Collaborative Conflict Resolution—Workplace Focus: May 26, 27 and 28 is being held at the New Westminster Campus.

Develop your skills in defusing emotionally charged situations, increasing self-awareness, clarifying communication and shifting from conflict to problem solving. Workshops to improve these skills are consistently requested by employees, with a lot of interest in the one-day Joy of Conflict Resolution workshop. This three-day program will go into greater depth and offer a highly participatory environment. Credits can be applied to an Associate Certificate in Workplace Conflict or Leadership and Conflict Resolution from the Justice Institute.

See the Employee Relations or Employee Development website for further details and registration.



## College employees get cuts for cash

Four stylists from Coquitlam's Centre of Attention set up shop in the atrium at the David Lam Campus on Monday, March 30 and, with scissors snapping, raised \$500 for students in need. Building Services Worker Mark Ferley, left, and Director of Institutional Research Bob Cowin, right, were pleased with their new coiffures. Draw prizes were awarded to Paula Freedy (Biology), Barb Thompson (Student Development), Evelyn Wright (Light Warehouse Training), Tony Viani (Dispensing Optician), Padma Vipat (Marketing Management), Laureen Flanagan (student), Luc Lang (Applications Services), Rosena Kamar (student) and Ted Littlewood (Dispensing Optician). The popular Cut-a-thon will be back next year.

## Be prepared

The Occupational Health and Safety Committee reminds employees that May 3-9 is National Emergency Preparedness Week. Be prepared both at home and in the work place.

Information and resources to help get prepared can be found at:

[www.getprepared.ca](http://www.getprepared.ca)

[www.pep.gov.bc.ca](http://www.pep.gov.bc.ca)

or your local city such as [www.vancouver.ca/emerg/](http://www.vancouver.ca/emerg/)



English as a Second Language instructor Kate Yoshitomi developed a new pair of Foundations courses for students wishing to study in Health Sciences programs.

## Caf offers sustainable seafood

The Cafeteria at Douglas is now offering sustainable seafood at both campuses.

Compass Group, which operates College food service supplier Chartwells, is working in partnership with the Vancouver Aquarium's Ocean Wise program and the Sea Choice program. It is committed to replacing one unsustainable species every six months.

Most recently, the Cafeteria replaced farmed salmon with wild salmon. It has also replaced unsustainable Atlantic cod with Alaskan Pollock. Compass Group is implementing menu changes at post-secondary institutions, hospitals, entertainment facilities and workplaces across Canada.

## Foundations for Health Sciences

The English as a Second Language (EASL) Department is launching a pair of courses this Fall for students wanting to upgrade their skills in order to enter a Health Sciences program.

Academic Health Care Foundations will create a win-win scenario for the health care industry and students,

says EASL instructor Kate Yoshitomi. The industry has a high demand for skilled individuals and students may improve their success rates when they go on to enrol in Health Sciences programs.

"Offering this is essential because it provides language training to students who are particularly interested in

pursuing careers in health care. It facilitates laddering into Faculty of Health Sciences programs instead of blocking access," says Yoshitomi, who developed the courses.

EASL previously offered language skills upgrading to students in conjunction with the Health Care Support

Worker (HCSW) Program, but it was limited to students wanting to enrol in that particular program. When it was discontinued in 2006, Yoshitomi began working on a new set of courses that would prepare students for any Health Sciences program.

"It was noted when the old upgrading courses were

running, EASL students who completed that training often went on to perform extremely well academically in the HCSW Program," says Yoshitomi. She anticipates students will have similar success with the new courses. Academic Health Care Foundations will be offered at the David Lam Campus.

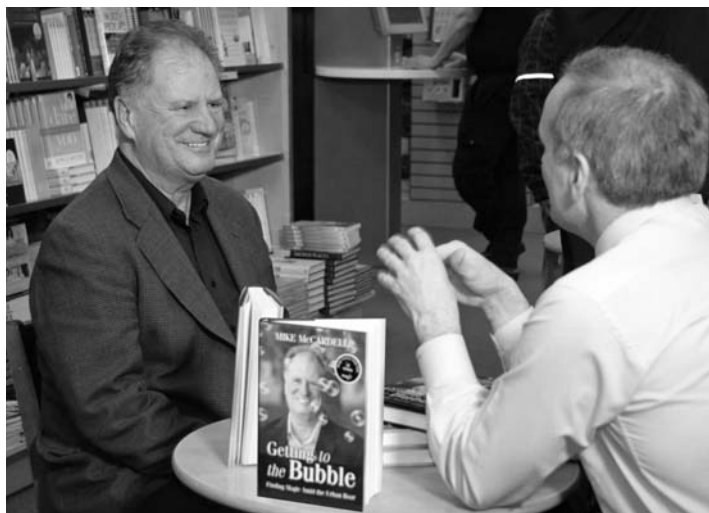
## Living books share wealth of experience

Eleven books were on loan recently at Chapters in Coquitlam – and each book had a story to tell, literally.

The books were people who had agreed to be borrowed as part of the Douglas College Living Library. Media Production Technician Mikki Herbold and Vice President of Educational Services Blaine Jensen took part, along with Coquitlam Mayor Richard Stewart, Global TV's Mike McCardell, an RCMP officer, a master gardener, a Moslem, a person living with mental illness, a career planner, a realtor and a tribal art collector.

"It was an eclectic bunch who had just as much fun chatting to each other as being borrowed," says Hazel Postma, associate vice president external relations.

Herbold spent 20 minutes chatting with someone who wanted photography tips



Global TV's Mike McCardell was on hand to loan himself out as a 'book' at the latest Douglas College Living Library.

so that he could ensure the photos he sends abroad to his children's grandparents are the best they can be.

"He came prepared – we compared cameras and talked about lighting," says Herbold.

Two-thirds of the books were borrowed, several repeatedly, while others were "left on the shelf, just like books in a real library," Postma adds. "But everyone enjoyed the experience and by partnering

with Coquitlam Public Library and Chapters we were able to offer a wider range of books."

The Douglas College Living Library, the first in Canada, is always looking for new books to offer. Anyone interested in sharing their passion, their expertise and their knowledge with others, can call 604-777-6168 and register to be a living book.



## Heavy lifters behind Research Day

Sport Science Chair Brian Storey and his team of students including, from left, Rozlyn Jacques, Anna Schachner and Patrick Taylor, were credited by Vice President Education Jan Lindsay with doing the "heavy lifting" in organizing the College-wide Student Researchers' Day. The event, which took place on March 31, was a first for Douglas, but Lindsay pledged her support for making the event an annual one.

# Events Calendar

## April 16-May 29

The Amelia Douglas Gallery presents, *Naitre*, Works by former Douglas students Jessie Couzelis and Trena Coulter. Opening reception April 16, 4:30-7:30pm Free

## April 25

The Community Music School presents *Douglas College Choral Society 25th Anniversary Gala* Saturday April 25, 2009 7:30pm, reception to follow Queens Avenue United Church 529 Queens Avenue, New Westminster. Tickets: 604-527-5469. \$15 general admission, \$12 students/seniors



## Travel dollars awarded

As five Early Childhood Education students pack their bags for Sweden, they and nine other Douglas students have a financial weight off their shoulders as recipients of International Studies Awards.

In addition to Sweden, their destinations include Uganda, Wales, Japan and Nepal. The awards range from \$500-\$900.

“This year students from the Faculty of Child, Family and Community Studies walked off with most of the awards—a remarkable 56% of all awards granted,” notes John Newark, manager of international contracts and projects with the Centre for International Education.

More international opportunities are being planned for Douglas students next year and the College is exploring various ways to increase funding support, says Newark. Watch for more details in the Fall.

## International relations expand to Sweden

Five Early Childhood Education (ECE) students are headed to Sweden this Spring. They will be working in the preschool system that many professionals in the field laud as the one of the most progressive in the world in terms of practicing diversity and social justice.

“I think this will offer our students an alternative perspective to contrast and nurture our understanding of the philosophy and practices that we encounter in our local early childhood centres,” says

ECE instructor and Practicum Coordinator Alejandra Sanchez.

The students – Jennifer Brewer, Paige Cummings, Leticia Najera, Lisa Marie Bramley and Moira Stubbs – depart for Sweden on April 23 and will be working in four preschools located in Stockholm and Jonkoping, Sweden, for five weeks.

Sanchez is hoping to forge a formal agreement between the Douglas ECE Program and the preschools in which these students will be completing

their special needs and infant and toddler practicum.

“Jan Carrie, the Child, Family and Community Studies Dean and John Newark, director of the International Office at Douglas, have encouraged and supported this project from the start,” says Sanchez.

Ideally, the ECE Program would like to place practicum students in Sweden on a regular basis. Sanchez is also negotiating an academic exchange with the Stockholm Institute in which Douglas

students and faculty might participate as part of their professional training.

Sanchez hopes this practicum project will also “reaffirm the leadership of the Douglas certificate and diploma programs.”

Sanchez and colleague Laurie Kocher initially visited the Swedish preschools in August 2008 with Veronica Pacini-Ketchabaw of the University of Victoria.

## Briefly

Join the Print Futures: Professional Writing Class of 2009 for a celebration of their accomplishments at the 2009 Print Futures Portfolio Show. The festivities take place at the Amelia Douglas Gallery, April 8 from 4:30-7:30pm. More info at [douglas.bc.ca/portfolio-show](http://douglas.bc.ca/portfolio-show) or call Program Coordinator **Maureen Nicholson** at 604-527-5292.

Creative Writing instructor **Glenda Leznoff** is one of the new artists showing her paintings in Artists in Our Midst Annual West Side Art Walk. This annual art celebration involves 43 artists in more than 26 studios. The opening night group show will be held at Lord Byng Secondary School's art gallery on Thursday, April 23 from 7-9pm. On the weekend of April 25-26, the artists open their studios to the public

from 12-9pm. This event is free. To see photos and studio listings, visit [artistsinourmidst.com](http://artistsinourmidst.com). Leznoff launched her art career in September 2007, showing her paintings at the Amelia Douglas Gallery. Her work has been purchased by collectors across Canada.

Music instructor **Ellen Silverman** recently adjudicated bursary awards for the Vancouver Women's Musical Society, along with the North Shore Music Festival which wrapped up on March 6.

Philosophy and Humanities Department Chair **Dr. Robert Nicholls** presented a paper at the University of the Fraser Valley entitled, “Zarathustra's Love” on Friday, March 6. The paper argues that much of recent Nietzsche scholarship

rests upon “misrepresentations of Nietzsche's thought by demonstrating that, contrary to the commonly held view that Zarathustra is a misanthrope, the work by that name is the philosophical expression of the most profound love for human existence conceivable,” says Nicholls.

The Centre for Academic and Faculty Development has selected two faculty to serve with it for three-year terms, beginning September 1, 2009.

**Lin Langley** is currently a faculty development coordinator with the centre, a role she has held since 2005. An Interpersonal Communications instructor, Langley holds an MA (SFU) and has a strong background and experience in curriculum development, assessment methods, student

engagement, interpersonal communications and faculty development.

Sociology instructor **Alison Thomas** holds a PhD (University of Reading) and has taught at Douglas since 2005. Prior to this, she taught at the University of Victoria and at several UK universities. Thomas brings organizational, interpersonal and development skills to the role and a strong commitment to scholarly teaching. She is a member of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning cohort research group.

The Department of Biology sends a special thank you to instructor **Todd Harper**, whose invaluable connections resulted in retired electron microscopist **Frank Skelton** sharing his botanical knowledge, and to Linnaea Nurseries for providing a gift

of over 50 medicinal plants that are native to British Columbia for its Scholarly Activity Research. Skelton is a past president of the BC Native Plant Society. Extracts of the plants will be prepared and tested for their ability to alter mediators of inflammation.

In the Faculty of Language, Literature and Performing Arts, **Erin Miller** replaces **Pauline Hadfield** as the new Community Music School Assistant.

The Library wishes **Linda Fosti** the happiest of retirements after her more than 34 years of service, and extends a warm welcome to **Jean Kim**, the new Cataloguing Technician.