

BCIT UPDATE

YOUR CAMPUS BULLETIN

SPECIAL RENOVATION ISSUE

SEPTEMBER 5, 1989

Welcome Back! By now, most of you will be aware of and maybe even a little confused by all the changes that have been going on during the summer. Although some renovations and equipment installations are not yet complete, the disruptions should soon be over and the results well worth waiting for.

Specific benefits to students and faculty are far reaching. As well as upgraded teaching facilities, new equipment and a cleaner, fresher looking campus, support services like Word Processing and Audio Visual have been upgraded to provide more efficiently produced learning materials.

For the first time in several years BCIT has received a major infusion of capital funding and the chance to become the institution we have dreamed of. Many of you have pushed hard for change and lobbying has been going on at different levels for years. Now, at last, our labs, classrooms and equipment are reaching the standards expected of an institution proudly referred to as, the Technological Flagship of the province.

The changes which have occurred over the summer as a result of several million dollars worth of funding from the provincial government in May, herald a new era for BCIT. Along with improved teaching and learning facilities comes the opportunity to start new initiatives with industry and the chance to show B.C. and the world that BCIT is a technological resource that can have a real effect on research, development and ultimately the economy of the province.

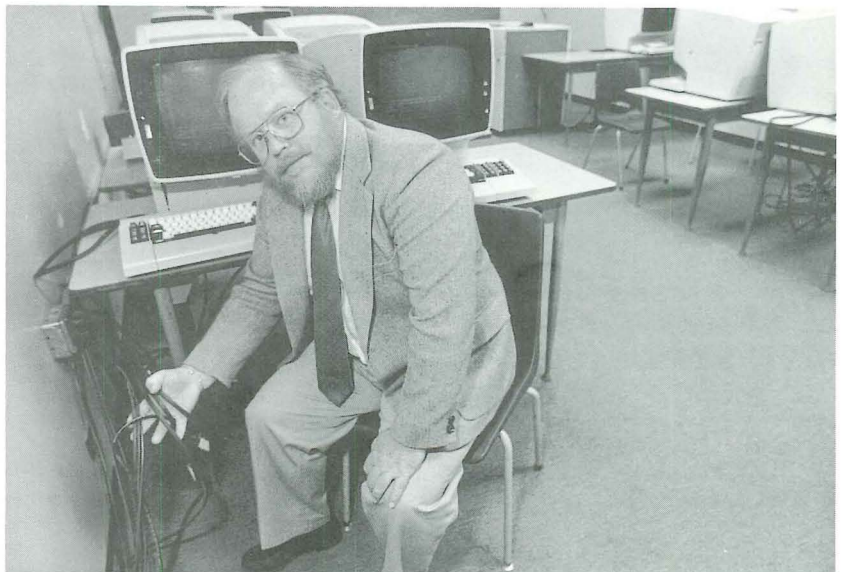
Computer Labs Get \$2.5 Million Upgrade

New streamlined computer labs installed over the summer feature the latest in computer technology. The upgraded labs herald a new era of computer training at BCIT, including increased access for industry. Pictured with Dave Peppar, acting director of Computer Resources, right, are Rita Richardson, coordinator of the labs and Murray Atkins, senior analyst.



Before Renovations

Unightly, cumbersome wiring and out-dated equipment were features of the old BCIT computer labs.



Photos: Ken Gill

UPGRADING

Microcomputer Labs

One of the most exciting projects tackled over the summer was the total upgrading of over 30 microcomputer laboratories, a \$2.5 million project which included computers, renovations and furnishings.

"This has increased microcomputer capacity on campus by 50 per cent and will keep BCIT current in computer technology for the next five years," says acting director of Computer Resources, Dave Peppar. "We have provided enough power and cabling capacity to make changes as technology grows."

"The funding has allowed us to take advantage of the new 386 machine technology, which is very high end, including some Sun work stations for geographical information systems and other applications requiring that kind of power. We will also have our first Macintosh lab, essential for work requiring sophisticated graphics capability."

1A and 2N buildings will have about 80 per cent of the total labs on campus. The others will be located in Inglis, 1P and the Downtown Education Centre.

The design of the 30 new labs was undertaken by an external company which worked with Computer Systems faculty to create labs that are spatially pleasing yet which provide the maximum number of stations. All wiring is hidden to avoid cleaning problems and all furniture is new.

A detailed report of the lab renovations can be found in "BCIT Computes", the Computer Resources newsletter which was distributed to all staff during the summer. "We anticipated that some of the work would spill into September and wanted to alert staff to the changes going on and help them with pre-planning," explains Peppar. Copies of the newsletter are available in Computer Resources.

To allow instructors the option of teaching courses the same way as last year, as well as the option of teaching them on the new equipment, efforts were made to make the lab configuration the same as last year, although some minor hardware upgrades were made. Some exceptions are the Hewlett Packard labs which are no longer available. Instructors with programs or data on the H.P. system are asked to contact User Help for assistance.

As part of BCIT'S mandate to promote industry liaison through technology transfer, the new computer labs are being made more accessible to industry, a move which Peppar says is creating a favourable impression with software companies requiring training for their employees and working in BCIT's favour when it comes to the purchase of software.

Audio Visual

A capital equipment grant of \$250,000 has enabled Audio Visual to mount a three phase upgrade of all campus audio visual facilities over the next two years. Phase 1 will cover the upgrading or installation of basic

A.V. equipment in all classrooms and meeting rooms and new equipment to Sea Island and the Downtown Education Centre. Phase 2 will increase the amount of A.V. equipment available to staff, e.g., slide projectors, computer display panels and video equipment. Both phases are due for completion this month as well as the first part of Phase 3, the upgrading of Theatre 1A/197 with a new sound system, video and data projection system, new electric screen and new overhead projection equipment. Theatre 197 is one of the most regularly used theatres on campus.

Bob Pollard, manager of Audio Visual, plans to issue a bulletin detailing the renovations and other developments shortly.

Word Processing

BCIT's word processing services to faculty will experience a giant leap forward in technological capability when Interleaf software and Sun Spark terminals are installed later this month at a cost of approximately \$130,000.

According to Print Services director, Bob McKenzie, the combination is state of the art in institutional word processing, one of the very few systems available that can give integrated graphics and text, extremely powerful pagination, formatting, revision and text handling. Both hardware and software is non-proprietary, meaning that BCIT can opt out of using it further down the line if it becomes outdated.

McKenzie says the system is so powerful that it is possible to take a 10,000 page document and change it from one column to two columns in the flash of a keystroke.

The new system will allow faculty access to word processing in a number of different ways. They can still bring their copy in written or typewritten form, but now if the work has been prepared on a P.C., instructors can bring the disc to Word Processing and have it reformatted and reproduced in document form much faster. This is possible because of the re-keying time that is saved.

Initially the Interleaf system will be able to access a number of different word processing packages, including WordPerfect and Microsoft Word.

The new system will be phased in over the next six months. During that time service will be available on the old AES, CPT and WANG systems as well as on the new system.

FACILITATING INDUSTRY

Technology Centre

A total of \$713,410 new money is going into the creation of new facilities to strengthen BCIT's role as a partner with industry. \$78,410 of that will be spent on offices in the old CIBC building for new Technology Centre director, Dr. Norman Streat and his staff. \$635,000 is being spent on renovating the A.T.C. building for applied research, industrial technology training and other activities expected to be generated by the Technology Centre.

Dr. Streat, formerly supervisor of

Mechanical Research at B.C. Hydro's Research and Development Division, is due to join BCIT on October 2.

A NEW LOOK AND A NEW IMAGE FOR BCIT

As well as the acquisition of new equipment and the upgrading of facilities, many of the recommendations made by the Institute's Marketing Task Force have been implemented. The Task Force has recommended ways of improving BCIT's overall image in the marketplace.

As well as recommendations to coordinate current internal marketing activities, the Task Force also recommended that BCIT take steps to (1) improve its learning environment by making it more comfortable, visually attractive and cleaner and (2) improve customer service by generating quicker, efficient responses to customer enquiries both on the telephone and in person.

Many goals have been reached as a result of these recommendations. Broken or worn out fixtures, furniture and drapes have been replaced with approximately \$100,000 spent on new tables and chairs for classrooms in the 1A and 2N buildings.

The cleaning schedule has been accelerated to allow for daily cleaning of classrooms, labs, washrooms, stairwells, building entrances, corridors and hallways; weekly buffing of floors and bi-weekly floor buffing in offices. Trades shops will be cleaned, swept and mopped every week instead of monthly as before.

Improving our responsiveness to phone-in enquiries was undertaken by means of staff telephone seminars organized by Student Services director, Val Karpinsky and Sandra Mabs of Personnel. Other activities designed to improve the Institute's telephone enquiry handling include a quick reference guide (included inside the soon to be published internal telephone directory) and staff tours. The tours, organized by Jim Mitchell of Recreation Services, were conducted in August to acquaint front line staff with various service departments, locations and functions. An additional one is scheduled for October.

THE INCONVENIENCE FACTOR

With so many major projects to be completed in time for the start of a new school year, many staff members have had to put in considerable extra effort. Involved in much of this activity has been Physical Plant with director Walter Watkins, facilities development manager, Peter Genge, project coordinators Ken Gill, Irene Sombathy and Kelly Isford and a hardworking team of clerical staff. Also busy behind the scenes have been Ron Sterne, responsible for coordination between Brian Gillespie and the various user groups affected, Wayne Hepple and Terry Milligan of Purchasing, and staff liaising with Physical Plant on behalf

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of the areas affected.

President Watson says that despite a hold up of funds initially, everything has been done to minimize inconvenience to instructors and students. "The kinds of things we are doing have the potential to produce dislocation and insecurity, but I hope people will be patient and understanding and if there are problems to please make them known to appropriate members of staff."

Walter Watkins also asks for staff cooperation and forbearance. "We believe that these improvements and new equipment will give students a better opportunity to pursue their career goals," he says.

TAKING CARE OF THE CAMPUS

A brighter, cleaner, more efficient campus to start the new school year is a source of pride for us all. But the high numbers of students and staff using the facilities will eventually take its toll if care isn't taken to maintain the facilities in good condition. Everyone is urged to do their bit to maintain this standard by observing any rules posted and notifying Physical Plant of any breakages or maintenance needs.



The **BCIT UPDATE** is published by the Print Services Department, located on the second floor of the Machine Shop. Deadline for all submissions (verbal or otherwise) is 4 p.m., Tuesday.

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MAJOR RENOVATION/CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS		
PROJECT	BUDGETED CONSTRUCTION COST	STATUS
Campus Master Plan	\$100,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft complete.• Review by campus community in September.• Presented to Board for approval in October.
ARCS Laboratory, ATTC Building	\$150,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project complete.• Staff in place.
Fume & Exhaust Ventilation, 1A Building	\$590,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expected completion October 1.
Mechanical Upgrade, J.W. Inglis Building	\$125,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Upgrade of existing ventilation and air conditioning system by September 1, followed by complete re-design of ventilation system.
Renovations, D.E.C.	\$75,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completion targeted for September 1.
Carpet Installation, D.E.C.	\$24,071	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete.
Microcomputer Upgrade, 2N, 1A and J.W. Inglis	\$503,320	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completion targeted for September 5.
Technology Centre, 1A Building	\$78,410	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completion targeted for early October.
Technology Centre, ATTC Building	\$635,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completion targeted for November 17.
Upgrade, Maquinna Residence	\$106,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completion targeted for September 1.
Satellite Boilers (domestic water heaters to 3A, Library, SAC & J.W. Inglis)	\$300,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All installed and operational
Critical Care Nursing Lab, 2N/413	\$34,200	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete except for one piece of equipment.
Power Engineering Relocation to Central Heating Plant, Mechanical Building	\$653,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Substantial completion by September 5.
Collision Repair, Building 17	\$400,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completion targeted for January 1, 1990.
New carpet installation in portables	\$105,391	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completed September 1.

LET'S CELEBRATE

To celebrate our new, improved campus and get reacquainted with each other after the summer break, President Watson invites all staff to an informal wine and cheese social:

SEPTEMBER 12
4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Food Training Centre

