

# BCIT MESSENGER

Volume 12, Number 2

A Newsletter for the BCIT Community

September 29, 1983

## Thom addresses Royal Commission

BCIT was invited to address the **Royal Commission on Economic Union and Development Prospects for Canada** September 9.

Gordon Thom, speaking on behalf of the Institute, called upon the Commission, headed by Donald McDonald, to articulate a comprehensive national technological educational training plan as a component of its national economic strategy. He reminded them that BCIT was developed as a federal initiative to meet economic projections identified in the late 1950's and, as such, would serve as an ideal case study.

Quoting from the BCIT Outlook Report of 1983 Thom said, "The

decline of productivity in the Canadian economy has emphasized the importance of science and technology to economic growth. This is evident throughout the federal government's economic development policies and programs, wherein research and development activities have received priority consideration. The government has, in effect, challenged the education and training system to meet the skill needs of the evolving "high tech" economy. This challenge has yet to be supported by increased levels of funding for education."

*BCIT's 12 page brief is available, upon request, from the President's office.*



**CKVU veteran, Dawn-Rae McLaren, joins BCIT as Knowledge Network producer. See story page 3.**

### Christmas hols

It's the first week of fall and some of us are already beginning to plan for Christmas. Statutory and negotiated holidays this year will fall on the following dates:

**Christmas Eve:** Saturday, December 24 (celebrated December 27)

**Christmas Day:** Sunday, December 25 (celebrated December 28)

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### FIREMEN LEARN ABOUT BCIT

If there's a fire at BCIT you can rest assured these firemen will know exactly where to go, thanks to Physical Plant Safety and Security manager, Neil Chadwick's, fire hall staff move around from district to district and he wants to make sure they are always familiar with our fire alarm systems, fire lane access for trucks, location of fire hydrants, etc. BCIT, by the way is divided into fire zones, so that when a bell goes off in the fire hall from a particular zone firemen know exactly where to zero in. These firemen, representing firehalls in the Burnaby area, visited BICT in August.

## Budget monitoring enhanced by new system

A new computerized financial information system will go into operation in the Finance Division early in 1984.

Purchased from Global Software Inc. of Raleigh, North Carolina, the system was chosen for its suitability to finance's needs and its reasonable cost.

Lake cites two specific reasons for installing the system. To enable Finance to be more efficient in responding to accounting needs and to speed up the reporting process on expenditures, allowing budget managers to keep closer tabs on their budgets. This will be achieved through three modules - General Ledger, Accounts Payable and Purchase Order Entry. The Purchase Order Entry, due to be in operation next summer, will bring the Purchasing Department on-line and allow

Finance to go to a commitment-based accounting system.

"When Purchasing responds to a request from a department and issues a purchase order, Finance will, in a very short space of time, be able to record it as a commitment against the department's cost centre," says Lake. This process currently involves a long delay before expenditure amounts show up on OPEC statements, making it difficult for budget managers to plan ahead.

The General Ledger and Accounts Payable modules will be in operation next February.

Lake says the new system has meant that a number of changes have had to be made to administrative cost centres resulting in the need for new cost centre numbers to be issued in October. "These new numbers will be in use in January, 1984," he adds.

### PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE STATEMENT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF BCIT 1984/85 OPERATING BUDGETS

*Serious economic problems continue to trouble many parts and sectors of our country. Within British Columbia, special challenges face the public sectors as social and financial policies reshape the level and type of services offered. As we begin to prepare our 1984/85 operating budget, we are not able to solve larger economic problems in isolation. Yet it continues to be necessary that we do our share and respond creatively and constructively.*

*Again this year I challenge every budget manager to help ensure that BCIT continues to be part of the solution to economic problems by providing highly trained graduates for British Columbia industry and government both now and for the future. Again I challenge every person associated with BCIT to come forward with imaginative and creative solutions. Innovative thinking by everyone over the past three years of budget challenges has done much to make BCIT remain strong and viable. It is appreciated.*

*In the past I have cautioned that we face cost pressures which will cause BCIT to be less labour intensive. It has been announced that province-wide Formula Financing will be in effect for 1984/85, thus we must continue our efforts to make us more cost effective and to increase our productivity as substantial financial pressure is brought upon us. At this point the formula has been finalized and we are working to shape it so technological education is properly supported. However, the status quo cannot be maintained and 1984 will again call for difficult and perhaps unpopular decisions.*

*We must pursue the long term development of the Institute while ensuring the effectiveness of our programs and services. Striving for much greater productivity will cause us to closely examine our range of activities and review our program mix on a program by program basis. At this stage it seems that it will not be possible for all functions to continue and that changes will be required in both the education and support elements of the Institute.*

*Our experience through three years of broadly based input and review demonstrates the strengths of our budget preparation process. I challenge everyone to become involved and to support the process in this, its fourth cycle. I challenge departments or budget units to understand their own budgets and to consider new solutions and I challenge others to take advantage of review sessions and other opportunities to make constructive input.*

## Broadcast student honoured

A couple of success stories from Broadcast Communications - **Connie Smith**, a student in the Radio Option who graduated last spring, has received the coveted Dan MacArthur Award for Excellence in Radio News Broadcasting from the Radio TV News Director's Association.



**Connie Smith**

The "Dan" was awarded to Connie for a 20 minute documentary titled **Street Stories**, dealing with juvenile prostitution in Vancouver.

The documentary, a course assignment, aired on campus radio station CFML December last year. It won over nine other entries from radio stations across Canada and, as awards are rarely given to students, counts as a real coup for Connie and the people responsible for training her.

Another tribute paid to the professionalism of the Broadcast department recently was the extension of the CFML license to five years. This is the maximum period obtainable under CRTC regulations and usually only given to professional stations.

# Former CKVU producer joins BCIT

by Trisha Mason

Only three months on the job and - "I like the way she goes about her business," says Knowledge Network coordinator Terry Garner of his new producer Dawn-Rae McLaren (or D.R. as most people know her).

Terry administers all BCIT programming for Knowledge Network while Dawn-Rae carries out the production responsibilities. The two work as a team, "bouncing ideas off each other," and basically doing all the things that have to be done to keep pace with the heavy schedule that has developed. The balance of the **Time of Your Life** shows (due to air live next March), **The Innovators** series and Dick Dolan's **Money Matters for the Eighties**, are some of their current major projects. Another major project due to come on stream October 24 is a six part series being done for the Medical Radiography department called **Quality Control Procedures for Automatic Film Processors**.

We caught Dawn-Rae at a taping session for one of the Dick Dolan shows where, coolly self-possessed, she was first explaining to workmen outside the office-cum studio that their activities and hers were incompatible, then posing for a Messenger photographer, all the while itching to get on with the task of producing the show.

It is this innate ability to remain pleasant and calm under pressure that makes Dawn-Rae a professional and what makes her widely known and respected in the broadcast industry.

Terry Garner, who was on the selection committee that hired Dawn-Rae in June, says the amount and range of her experience was impressive, especially her most recent responsibility as producer of CKVU's Vancouver Morning show which he called, "an awesome responsibility."

Feedback from industry contacts describing her as "tough, hard working and street smart" also impressed him.

The need for a producer became apparent when the volume of Garner's work reached a point where he literally, "had to be in three places at once."

A CKVU veteran, she started with the high profile TV company five days before it went on air back in 1975, Dawn-Rae has earned her professional status the hard way - from the bottom up. When she mailed CKVU her resume from Edmonton

where she was living, Dawn-Rae had little expectation of landing a job as senior production assistant. Her experience until then had amounted to two years with an educational TV station, "answering phones and cataloguing video tapes," and one year with ITV Edmonton as a script writer. Between jobs she had briefly worked as an air hostess.

But despite her lack of formal training CKVU hired Dawn-Rae and, upon arriving in Vancouver, she found herself almost immediately caught up in the frenetic activity of a newly launched TV station. "I lost 15 lbs in the first month," she recalls. "It was simply a matter of learning what had to be done and how best to do it. No one knew any more than I did. I had no one to learn from."

Dawn-Rae, 32, worked for five years on the Vancouver Show before transferring to the morning show.

Casually dressed in dark V neck sweater and pink pants she vibrates with a kind of suppressed energy, her fingers kept occupied with the business of cigarette smoking.

"It was never ever boring, always challenging and always aggravating," she says of her seven years with CKVU.

"You never seem to achieve the perfect show and that is what keeps you getting up in the morning and going to work, hoping that maybe this day will be the one where everything works."

Dawn-Rae made the move to BCIT because she had filled most of the production jobs at CKVU and wanted experience at actually producing shows from start to finish. She is enjoying her new job and hopes to find time soon to get out and learn more about BCIT and its people.



Dawn-Rae McLaren, left, helps adjust camera during taping of **Money Matters for the Eighties**.

## **MONEY MANAGEMENT FOR THE 80's**

A BCIT Produced Series on

**KNOWLEDGE NETWORK** (Channel 18 converter)  
Host: Richard (Dick) Dolan of Financial Management  
**Mondays at 7 p.m.**

### October 3: **Introduction**

Setting objectives for a financial plan, with guest Mike Grenby of the Vancouver Sun.

### October 17: **Cash Budgeting**

How the average person can set up a cash budget, with guest Henry Atkinson of the Consumer Credit/Debtor Assistance branch of the Ministry of Consumer & Corporate Affairs.

### October 31: **Insurance**

An examination of the insurance needs of the average person.

### November 14: **Consumer Credit**

How to get a bank loan and what to do if you find yourself in financial trouble.

### November 28: **An Introduction to Investment**

A guide for people who have saved some money and are now considering investment.

### December 12: **Taxation**

Ways of Reducing Taxes

### December 26: **Estate Planning**

# ISIS makes progress

by Suzanne Yabsley

The project to implement the first of several proposed Management Information Systems at BCIT has made much progress since it began in April. The new system, known as ISIS (Integrated Student Information System), is scheduled to begin admitting and registering Continuing Education students in April, 1984, and will eventually automate all of the Institute's admissions and student record functions.

ISIS was purchased from a U.S. company, Systems and Computer Technology Corporation (SCT), who introduced the system to BCIT users in a series of special review sessions during April, May and June. These sessions provided an opportunity to compare ISIS with the Institute's current methods of admitting students and maintaining records.

SCT contracted to make some changes to ISIS in order to tailor it to the Institute's specific requirements. Using the review sessions as a basis,

BCIT users and the Project Implementation Team identified mandatory and desired alterations to the system and presented the resultant modifications list to SCT in July. This document covered a wide range of aspects, including relatively minor changes as well as more significant items, like the addition of BCIT's set concept to the system.

SCT will now begin making some of these modifications to ISIS as selected by the Institute. BCIT's Computer Resources Department will be responsible for the remainder of the changes, and the process of making and testing the modifications is scheduled to continue through January, 1984. BCIT staff will be trained on the system early in the new year, in preparation for spring registration.

Anyone desiring more information on ISIS is welcome to call Janet Robertson, ISIS Project Leader, or Margo Slater, Project Assistant, at Local 537.

# P.T. Learning Task Force ready for presentations

An Educational Council Task Force on Part-Time Learning at BCIT, made up of both BCIT and industry representatives has been asked to:

Review present provisions for part-time learning at BCIT, and to outline a mandate and make recommendations for its further development during the next decade.

The Task Force is due to report to the Educational Council by March 31, 1984. Most of the investigative work will be done from now until early December and the early part of 1984 will be taken up with analysis and report writing.

Chairman of the Task Force is Howard Morgan of Labatt's. He says that there have already been several orientation meetings and the Task Force is now ready to receive written presentations from individuals and groups. Sub groups of the Task Force will also be conducting interviews in representative areas both inside and outside BCIT.

"The Task Force terms of reference are very broad and we are open to all constructive input. So prepare and submit your presentations now," says Howard.

(Copies of the Terms of Reference are available. Enquiries and presentation documents should be addressed to the Task Force, c/o Brian Yeoll/Shirley Conder, Portable 1D - locals 604/474.

want to finish the course. For further information please call me or drop in (local 737, trailer 1G).

The Instructor Resource Centre is here to assist instructors. Anyone wishing an in-classroom evaluation or to discuss any aspect of a program should feel free to contact me. Remember, any contact with the I.R.C. is held in strict confidence.

## Problems? Call 657

Telephone local 657 has been established as the number to call when experiencing maintenance problems in classrooms.

All problems, except those concerning A/V equipment, should be directed to the person at this number, who will relay the information to the appropriate department for corrective action. Typical trouble spots might be lighting, water leaks, broken windows, broken furniture, etc.

# Library loses half a person

by Diane Nelsen

It was the same old story on May 1st, the SPRING PANIC. Summer's almost here. Oh no, that means shorts, suntops and, horror of horrors, SWIMSUITS!! UGH!! Well, eight of us in the Library decided to do something about our unsightly fat. We started a weight loss campaign -the Great Library Weight Off.

The procedure was simple. It was based on setting your own goal, monitoring your own eating habits and group support. We also decided to give ourselves a little incentive -MONEY. All participants went over to Medical Services for their initial weigh in on May 16. Each of us set our goal and put out \$10. We weighed in once a week and continued until June 30th. All who met their goal split the cash.

We didn't stop at meeting the goals. We started another session from July 1 to August 31. Those who wanted to lose more weight set another goal and those who met their goal were challenged to maintain their new weight. Well, August 31st came around and we had lost a total of **77.25 pounds**.

We are now into session number 3 and we plan to continue through the

year. The weight loss has been only part of our personal improvement. Some of us have always exercised and we are encouraging those who haven't to get involved in some form of physical activity.

So, if you find that half a person wandering around - don't send it back to the Library. We don't want it.

**Editor's note: the eight Fearless Fat Fighters are Joyce McEwan, Elizabeth Gdowski, Belvon Jung, Roberta Uchida, Susan Wahlgren, Wendy Oliver, Imma Macauley and Diane Nelson.**

# News from the Instructor Resource Centre

by Bert Clark, facilitator

Three Instructional Techniques seminars were held during the summer and I would like to compliment all participants for their time and effort.

Enquiries have already been made about when the next course will be held. Obviously ten working days back to back would be difficult to arrange now that the students are back so, in order to accommodate those interested in taking the course, I have scheduled one beginning **Wednesday, October 26 to Sunday, October 30**. Participants can then decide how they

# INFORMATION SERVICES FEEDBACK FORM

Is there anything happening in your area that would make an interesting story? We need story tips, ideas and suggestions for our readership through the *BCIT MESSENGER* and the media at large. BCIT has a story to tell and many publics to address and with your help we can spread the word. This form will be sent to you each month to enable you to keep us informed on a regular basis. Just tick the appropriate boxes and return via internal mail to Information Services. Keep a copy or copies in a prominent place on your desk or notice board for easy referral.

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Is there anything happening in your area, related to BCIT, that might be suitable for publication/promotion? Please describe briefly:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What audience(s) do you feel this information would be suitable for? *Please tick as appropriate*

**BCIT MESSENGER** – As well as being distributed internally, this publication also has a fairly wide external circulation, including advisory committees, MLA's etc.

**GENERAL MEDIA** – Includes Vancouver dailies, B.C. community newspapers B.C. general interest magazines and periodicals.

**B.C. TRADE PUBLICATIONS** – Specific to technology or area involved (we are currently developing mailing lists and your help in suggesting suitable publications would be appreciated.  *suggested publications*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**OTHER PUBLICS** – i.e employer groups, professional associations, etc.

Does this story(ies) have a time limit or deadline for publication? Please explain.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Technology/Department \_\_\_\_\_ Local \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Information Services reserves the right to select and develop suitable story material.*

# INFORMATION SERVICES FEEDBACK FORM

# Relating to Students Easy for New C.E.C. Manager

by Louise Wright

Bev English, the new acting manager of the Canada Employment Centre on campus, brings a unique blend of job experience and education to the position.

Bev received her degree in General and Psychiatric Nursing from Essondale in 1965. Last year she enrolled as a mature student in BCIT's one-year Business Administration course and graduated this May.

Helping people has played a large part in Bev's professional career. She worked as a Vancouver police woman, a store detective in Victoria, a para-professional social worker helping families and children, an employment counsellor in the Yukon and, more recently, as an on-site liaison counsellor with the Yukon Vocational and Technical Training Centre where her experience working with educational officials helped prepare her for the job at BCIT.

Although Bev held middle management positions in her nine years with the Canada Employment Commission she felt the need to return to school to upgrade her skills.

"The double diploma program offered at BCIT is unique in Canada," she says. "It is especially beneficial for people who need to modernize their management skills and for those who find themselves promoted into management positions."

The "nice break from work," Bev expected when she made the decision to take a year's leave and return to school proved to be more than she bargained for.

"I almost went crazy that first term, she remembers. "I found that it was a different world being a mature (she was 39 at the time) student with other students half my age. I discovered that BCIT has a well earned reputation for expecting a lot

from its students."

With help from patient instructors, a course in math preparation, guidance from the Counselling Centre and time management assistance from the Core Learning Centre ("crucial at BCIT") Bev made it through.

"By Christmas, when I knew I was really on my way, I bought a BCIT tee shirt which I still wear with pride," she says.

Bev took the job of acting manager for the Employment Centre in July after the retirement of manager, Dick Forbes-Roberts.

"It is an excellent opportunity to put my skills to work and, having been a student here, I am familiar with the campus and the needs of students."

The Centre's prime function is to help BCIT students find employment in their chosen field. Career and creative job search counselling is available to full and part-time students as well as alumni for up to two years after graduation. Students are also offered assistance in preparing professional resumes - "a crucial document in getting an interview with prospective employers, says Bev. "We want all students to use our services. With the present highly competitive job market we have found that students must be more creative in applying for positions and we want to help."

Jobs are obtained for students through an on campus employer visitation program and through the Centre's four member staff's policy of visiting potential employers in the community.

"We also visit BCIT alumni who have their own businesses, reminding them not to forget BCIT grads when hiring."

Bev, very conscious of the special problems facing mature students, welcomes them to come and talk to her, "I want to reassure them that they are not going crazy," she says.

Bev cites strong family support as one of the reasons she has been so successful. A happy event occurred in December while she was still plodding away at BCIT - she married her Kamloops high school sweetheart of 20 years ago!



## RECREATION SERVICES ACTIVITIES

### Swapmeet

Scheduled for October 5, 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. in the Student Campus Centre. Make a profit as a seller or check it out as a customer. Stall holders charged \$2. Make reservations at the Campus Recreation office in the S.A.C.

### Aerobic Fitness

Drop in or join the course. Monday, Wednesday and Friday 7:15 a.m. to 8 a.m. or Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 4:45 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Register for the course or pay \$2 to join a session. No classes October 10.

### Refit Class

A slower paced fitness program for those just starting out. Tuesdays and Thursdays 7:15 a.m. to 8 a.m. September through December 8. Fee \$20.

### Massage Course

A one day course on Saturday, October 15 from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Program will consist of instruction in massage for tension, stress and therapy. Fee \$5. Register prior to 12 noon on October 12.

*Note: BCGEU members registering for aerobic fitness programs are entitled to a 75 per cent refund on fees. Pay first, then take your receipt to Personnel.*



# CAMPUS ROUNDS



After three years as an assistant instructor with Biomedical Electronics, **Bob Gravelle** has decided to exchange the, "rain forest" of beautiful B.C. for the "sand dunes" of Saudi Arabia. His colleagues wish him much luck and success in the future and say, "we hope he enjoys singing, as wine and women are taboo!"

The **Health Information Technician** option is now in full swing. It's a one year program and one of two options offered by the Health Information technology.

**Electrophysiology** is a brand new Health Division program covering lab and lecture instruction at BCIT with clinical experience in the neurophysiology departments of local hospitals. It comes under the umbrella of the Health Engineering Services department and appears to be getting a good reception.

Alan Nichols, department head of Health Engineering Services, wishes to welcome a number of new staff members who have joined the department over the summer: **Ian Dyck**, Prosthetics and Orthotics, **Laurie Montgomery**, Health Information Technology, **Dave Moreau**, who joins Biomedical Electronics as a faculty member and **Larry Eastwood** as a technical staff member.

Acting dean of Engineering, Ron Sterne's, new administrative assistant/secretary is **Susan Edwards** who comes to BCIT after four years as a corporate secretary with Wilkinson Metal Industries.

Apologies to **Grace Malm**. We printed her poem reflecting on retirement in the last issue of the Messenger and commented that she had requested it to be printed. This was a mistake. It was, in fact, Gordon Thom who sent in the request. We also inadvertently left off the opening lines to Grace's poem which read, "With apologies to Frank Sinatra and Paul Anka."

Congratulations to **Frank Bordignon** of Physical Plant and wife Rosanne on the arrival of James Matthew, born September 16 at Royal Columbian Hospital. "Jamey", who weighed in at 8 lbs. 7ozs., is a brother for Bernadette.

## BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC

Thursday, September 29  
8:30 - 11 a.m. & 1:30 - 4 p.m.  
Medical Services (in the S.A.C.)

High Blood Pressure Increases Risk of Stroke, Heart Failure, Kidney Failure and Heart Attack - because it adds to the workload of the heart and arteries  
- most people with high blood pressure have no symptoms  
- it occurs in all age groups, in men and women and in all races  
- high blood pressure can be treated  
- come in and have yours checked

## WART CLINIC

Every Thursday  
10 o'clock a.m. to 4 o'clock p.m.  
Medical Services (in the S.A.C.)  
Attended by Dr's Copping and Hurst

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

**Boxing Day:** Monday, December 26  
**New Year's Eve:** Saturday, December 31 (celebrated January 2)  
**New Year's Day:** Sunday, January 1 (celebrated January 3)

The book, **Introduction to Pathophysiology - Basic Principles of the Disease Process**, recently written and illustrated by two members of the Basic Health Sciences department, **John Emes** and **Tom Nowak**, has been adopted for use in a course by the department of pathology at UBC. Congratulations John and Tom!

Herb Kettner is an instructor in the **Lumber and Plywood technology** and not **Forest Resource**, as incorrectly reported in the last issue of the Messenger.

Welcome back to **Mike Barrett**, who has been on leave from BCIT for three years and has now returned to the **Biomedical Electronics** technology to resume his duties as an instructor. While on leave Mike spent some time in Saudi Arabia.

Moving from the Business Division as department head secretary is **Karol MacFarlane**. She now works as administrative assistant/secretary for acting dean of Core, Henry Arthur.



Recreation Services' athletic therapist, **Sherri Lee**, has taken the plunge from the working world into academic life at BCIT. Sherri left her seven year position this summer to enroll in the **Diagnostic Medical Sonography** program.

**Ralph Wyatt**, a licensed physiotherapist, will be available in Sherri's old location on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Referral to this service has to be made by Medical Services, located next door to the therapy room in the SAC. Treatment is only available to those showing a medical plan number.