



BCIT UPDATE

A newsletter for the BCIT Community

May 10, 1993

Issue 16



Board Profile

Wendy McDonald was appointed to the BCIT Board of Governors in April, 1993.

She is the chairman and CEO of B.C. Bearing Engineering Ltd. which has 26 branches in Western Canada and the Yukon and a subsidiary company, US Bearings and Drives Inc. which has 10 branches on the west coast of the United States.

She has spent much of her life building up this company beginning during World War II when her husband gave her power of attorney. When her husband died in 1950 she applied all her business experience and determination to the company, building it up to its present size.

Many remember her inspirational keynote address during the 1992 School of Engineering Technology convocation.

She has won many awards over the years. In 1988 she was honored by the YWCA with the Woman of Distinction award for her business management skills. In 1987 Vancouver's Better Business Bureau recognized her contributions to the basic principles of the bureau. In 1987 she won the Power Transmission Distributor of the Year Award and in 1982 she was selected Canadian Businesswoman of the Year in the Schenley's Veuve Clicquot Award of Distinction.



Student Jan Borge explains the details of a new logic analyzer at a recent award presentation recognizing BCIT's industry student project concept. On April 27, BCIT won a national Conference Board of Canada award for the concept.

National Award Recognizes BCIT's Industry-Education Partnerships

Matching student expertise with real-world practical challenges has won BCIT a prestigious national award.

For its successful program of having students solve industry problems, BCIT received this year's National Award for Excellence in Business-Education Partnerships from the Conference Board of Canada on April 27.

In 182 industry-sponsored projects covering 30 fields, BCIT students worked with companies small and large. Among them were BC Transit and the Pulp and Paper Research Institute of Canada.

The scope of projects was as varied as the industry sponsors, with students successfully tackling problems covering everything from developing new uses for a custom-designed computer chip to creating a robotic system with the ability to see and move millimetre-long tree seedlings.

For BCIT's faculty and students, the award is further recognition that

the match of industry and education works — a concept developed by Dr. Dave Chowdhury shortly after becoming the dean of the School of Engineering Technology in 1988.

"It's a validation of what we've been working toward for years," says Ernst Wilmlink, student projects coordinator for BCIT's School of Engineering Technology. "This is the industry elite recognizing education in harmony with industry."

"We have always been good at that. We do what industry wants and needs, so we produce job-ready graduates."

One of the top projects was a new logic analyzer — a diagnostic tool vital for troubleshooting digital circuitry that's the heart of a computer system — from students Jan Borge and Paul Vallee.

Working with a major distributor of high-tech electronics equipment, their challenge was to find a new way to use a re-programmable computer chip.

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Starting from scratch, they abandoned the traditional design approach and reworked the chip so it could almost instantly adapt to numerous needed uses — effectively becoming many chips in one.

"We could get more out of the chip that way," says Borge, who graduated from BCIT and is now further developing the logic analyzer for future marketing.

"It allowed us to use a cheaper chip" — and cut costs by a staggering 80 percent over other analyzers, making the important technology affordable for schools and smaller companies.

And as for the National Award for Excellence in Business-Education Partnerships, Borge isn't surprised BCIT won over institutions from every province in Canada.

Working with industry gave him an insight into the field he might not have otherwise had. "It's an excellent opportunity for students to get real experience in the industry," he says of the partnerships.

Administered by the Conference Board of Canada and sponsored by Stentor — a group of Canadian telecommunications companies — the national award carries a prize of \$5,000, which will be used to further industry-sponsored student projects.



For the first time BCIT assembled a full team of runners for the ninth annual 10-kilometre Vancouver Sun Run April 18. Twenty-five faculty, staff and family members huffed and puffed their way around the scenic Stanley Park course. We finished 10th out of 262 teams and Tony Barren posted the fastest time. (Front row from left) Tony Barren, Ian Ross, Paula Pick, Ken Kajiwarra, Myrta Hayes, Jean Covell. (Middle row from left) Mark Lane, David Conder, Karen Engelson, Gordon Storey, Bill Hooker, Colin Shaw, Jim Hayes. (Back row) Alana Boyle, Loren Boyle, Mike Jervis, John Schoonover, Tomi Eeckhout, Waylin Lee, Chris Lalthwaite and John Watson. Missing, David Chapin, Colleen Goose, Robert Kercher and Kathy Nolan. Special thanks go to Holly Stanley for back up team support.

We are no bus, we're a BMW!

If BCIT was an automobile, a majority of high school students would describe it as a BMW, a recent survey has discovered.

Almost 300 high school students were surveyed following last month's Spring Tour Day and 31 percent said BCIT was like a BMW, 28 percent likened us to a Honda and 11 percent said a GMC Half-Ton.

Another surprising result of the survey was when students were asked where their parents want them to go following high school graduation. Parents with no preference totalled 34 percent, 26 percent preferred university and 22 percent favored BCIT. Only 4 percent favored community college.

"This is surprising," said David Bernard, manager of marketing and corporate relations who compiled the

survey results. "While university is still number one with parents, BCIT ranked a close second. The community colleges hardly registered as a preference among parents. These responses are decidedly different from the findings of our high school focus groups two years ago, which indicated strong university and community college preference."

The tours themselves seem to have a positive impact on students. Prior to the visit about 66 percent of students were considering enrolling at BCIT. Following the tour 87 percent are now considering enrolling at BCIT.

AV thanks YOU

The Audio Visual Department would like to thank all who attended and contributed to the April 14 Instructional Technology Open House. In addition to those thanked already, our appreciation goes to Bob Coulter of Forsters, Jim Steele of Vic Audio and Gord Paullus of the Commissionaires.

Winners of Forsters gift certificates include: student Sean Sookochoff, Patrick Miller of VGH, Kees Boersita of Okanagan University College, Bill Moore of Bill Moore and Associates and Jean Romanisson of Timetabling. Nursing's Elaine Fraser won a cassette player from Califone Industries Ltd.

*From Larry Porter
Audio Visual Services*

Busy summer planned for BCIT

The spring term may be nearing an end but plans are in the works for a variety of activities throughout the summer that will keep things hopping.

IBM dedication

IBM Canada President Bill Etherington and Minister of Advanced Education Tom Perry will be on hand May 26 to officially open and dedicate the IBM Technology Block.

Graduating Awards Ceremonies

This year's graduating awards ceremonies will be held on June 16 at the Executive Inn on Lougheed Highway in Burnaby.

June 16

9 am

School of Business

12:30 pm

School of Engineering Technology

3:30 pm

Schools of Health Sciences

Electrical and Electronic Technology

Convocation Ceremony

After a successful January convocation at the Willingdon Church Conference Centre, this June's ceremonies will also be held there, moving out of the SAC gymnasium where it has been held in the past.

June 17

9:30 am

School of Business

3:30 pm

School of Engineering Technology

June 18

10 am

School of Electrical & Electronic Technology, Health Sciences, Trades Training.



Premier's Summit

BCIT's Burnaby Campus will be the home for some members of the provincial cabinet and numerous business, labour, education and training leaders attending the Premier's Summit June 23-25. Participants will stay at Maquinna Residence, dine in the Rix Club and attend meetings in the new IBM Technology Block.

About 120 will participate in the intense three-day summit which is made up of daily plenary sessions and smaller group discussions.

"What we are going to do is capitalize on the opportunities to show this group the significant contribution that BCIT is making to skills development and training," said David Bernard, manager of marketing and corporate relations.

Games for the disabled

About 100 bedrooms in Maquinna Residence and the Student Activity Centre will be used during the July 8-11, 1993, B.C. Games for the Physically Disabled.

Although the games themselves will be held throughout Burnaby, the initial registration will take place near the racquet courts and some

visually and hearing impaired athletes will stay in residence.

Over 300 athletes from B.C., Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, California, Oregon and Japan will participate in 10 sport disciplines. Don Steen, the games' chairman, is looking for BCIT staff interested in helping out with registration July 7-8. For more information call 737-3039.

Cooperative learning workshops planned

Improve the way small groups work. Help your students earn higher grades and attain higher level thinking skills. Give students the extra learning skills to work well in small groups.

You can enrol now in a cooperative learning workshop.

Level 1: August 16-19, 1993

Level 2: June 7-10, 1993

Trainer Training: August 16-19, 1993

Because BCIT is becoming a leader in implementing cooperative learning skills at the post-secondary level, internationally known David and Roger Johnson will be visiting us during the August sessions. To enrol call 8406.

BCIT This WEEK

Monday, May 10

Steel construction begins on Connector Building.

Tuesday, May 11

BOG meeting, Admin Boardroom, 4:30 pm open session.

Wednesday, May 12

Computer Systems Technology Student Project Fair, 10 am to 5 pm SE12-319, 320, 321, 323 and SW3-2620.

Thursday, May 13

Alumni Association AGM Rix Club, 6:30 pm.

Friday, May 14

Draw for 500.

If you would like your event in this calendar contact Ronaye Ireland by telephone at 8738, by PROFS RIRELAND or internal mail. Deadline is one week prior to publication.

CST hosts student project fair

Computer Systems Technology is holding a project fair for its second year students May 12.

The fair will display and demonstrate student projects done for industry during the past year. The projects are a necessary graduation requirement. It all takes place between 10 am and 5 pm in SE12-319, 320, 321, 323 and SW3-2620.

Recreation and Athletic Services — Summer hours of operation

June 1 to Sept. 3

Monday to Thursday 7 am to 10 pm
Friday 7 am to 4:30 pm
Saturday and Sunday closed

Classified

For Sale: 1990 Ford F150 Supercab 4 x 4 pick-up truck. 23,000 km, asking \$17,500. For more information contact Josephine at 432-8867.

Client Services serves 10,000



On April 20 Development's Kelly Beatty tried to print out a Lotus document — but it didn't work.

So she picked up her telephone, dialed Client Services at 8888, and asked for help. The problem was so tricky an expert was sent out to look at it. Little did she know that she was the 10,000th service request received by the department.

Service requests are problems that can not be solved over the phone. To mark the occasion a special cake was served for Kelly on April 28.

Kelly Beatty of Development (left) receives lunch for two at the Rix from Client Service's Michele Becket (center) and Robyn Harcott to celebrate the 10,000th service request received by Client Services. Robyn, by the way, generated the first service request while working in Timetabling.

Drive for 500 Lottery

Congratulation to Debbie Taylor, Vice President, Staff Society. This sounds like a broken record as Debbie has won already. Debbie won \$500 on December 11, 1992, and I'm sure she is as thrilled now as she was then. Again congratulations Debbie!

Next draw for the Drive for 500 is May 14th. GOOD LUCK!

The **BCIT UPDATE** is published throughout the school year by the Information and Community Relations Department within Marketing and Development.

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Editor: Terry Jorden, 432-8656
Producer: Ronaye Ireland, 432-8738
Fax: 436-5762



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