

BCIT

DEVELOPMENTS

VOL. 3 NO. 1 SEPTEMBER, 1977

BCIT instructor acclaimed 'hero'

Two Burnaby residents, one an instructor at BCIT, received the Medal of Bravery following their rescue of a man trapped in a burning car.

Brian Leslie, instructor in Forest Products, and Jari Vainionpaa were cited for the awards.

The cars of Vainionpaa, Leslie and Richard Johnson collided. Johnson's car exploded and burst into flames, and Mr. Vainionpaa immediately raced to the wreckage and tried to remove the victim. A second explosion burned Vainionpaa on the face and threw him back.

Leslie then finished pulling Johnson out of the burning car. But for the persistence of the two men, the victim would almost certainly have died.

The Medal of Bravery is Canada's third highest decoration for acts of heroism. The highest is the Cross of Valour; the second highest is the Star of Courage.

The presentations were made in Ottawa in June.

R.A.Y. program a success

BCIT's Athletics Department made good use of provincial funds this summer by employing students on two particularly outstanding projects.

The popular R.A.Y. program (Recreational Activities for Youth) employed ten students who supervised some 260 children in a variety of play and educational activities.

The second project, the construction of a fitness trail, was supervised by Assistant Athletics Manager, Jim Mitchell. Three students, Bill Thomas, Chris Robson (Bio. Sci.) and Colin Fletcher (Instrumentation) cut a trail through the woods in the south campus. Although the project proved to be too great for completion in a single summer, much of the trail has been covered by bark mulch and sawdust and should provide a delightful path for BCIT's growing number of fresh air and fitness enthusiasts.

Gordon Farrell elected

Gordon H. Farrell, R.I.A., an instructor in Financial Management, has been elected Second Vice-president of the Society of Industrial Accountants of B.C.

Marshall completes lecture tour

Greg Marshall of BCIT and Dr. William Ross of Simon Fraser University's Kinesiology Department recently completed a European lecture tour as part of a Department of External Affairs program fostering international scientific exchange.

No truth to the rumour

There is absolutely no truth to the rumour that the Principal's outer office is going to be called the Spaghetti Factory just because Kathie Milne is changing her name to Kathie (Mark) Angelo next year and Shirley Borelli works there and Ernie Iannaccone drops in frequently.

BoG will co-operate after McGeer assurance

Following personal assurances from Education Minister Dr. Pat McGeer that the excellence of B.C. Institute of Technology will not be impaired through inclusion in the new Colleges and Institutions Act (Bill 82), the Board of Governors has offered the Minister its co-operation in implementing the new legislation.

At its board meeting this month, two resolutions were passed offering positive co-operation and the expertise of staff members to the Ministry of Education for development of rules and regulations within the framework of the new enabling legislation.

The Board took its position following a meeting between Acting Board Chairman Mike Ferrie and BoG member Dr. Paul Trussel in the minister's office in Victoria.

The meeting followed passage of the legislation, opposed by the Board, Staff Society and Student Association.

While the Board has taken a co-operative approach, both the Staff Society and Student Association will continue to oppose the legislation and early designation of BCIT as a provincial institute. The resolutions of the Board read:

That the Board of Governors communicate to Minister of Education thanking him for the recent meeting and expressing the Board's appreciation of his reassurances with regard to a positive future for BCIT and technological education, and to assure the Minister of Education that the BCIT Board of Governors and Administration will work positively and co-operatively with his Ministry in implementing this legislation.

Further the Board of Governors appreciates the willingness on the part of the Minister to consult with BCIT through the Board of Governors with regard to the development of rules and regulations and offers the Ministry the expertise of the Executive Director, Personnel, Information and Student Services and the Executive Director, Administration and Bursar to work with the Ministry on the development of rules and regulations.

Few changes, says minister

BCIT will be able to perform the way it has in the past and in fact should flourish and become even more successful in the future under the new Colleges and Institutions Act (Bill 82).

This is the message brought back to the Board of Governors by Acting Chairman Mike Ferrie and BoG member Dr. Paul Trussel following a meeting with Education Minister Dr. Pat McGeer in his Victoria office.

The meeting followed passage of the new legislation in the Legislature during which the Minister was under heavy attack from opposition members over repeal of the BCIT Act and inclusion of the Institute in Bill 82.

A heavy lobby against the new Act was conducted by the BCIT Staff Society and the Student Association. Their cause was taken up by Liberal Leader Gordon Gibson, Conservative Leader Scott Wallace and Eileen Dailly and Dennis Cocke of the NDP.

Following third reading and recognizing the new Act as law of the province, the BoG felt it should have an early meeting with the Minister to review its position. The Minister welcomed the opportunity.

Ferrie reported to the BoG that he was able to clear up some misunderstandings the Minister had about BCIT and found that communication channels between the Ministry and the Institute were not as clear as they should be.

"He appreciates our attempts to open up the channels and I feel that future problems will be resolved much more quickly," said Ferrie.

He reported that the Minister said:

- BCIT will not be designated as a provincial institute under the new Act for at least six months
- That BCIT must establish its position within the new Management Council (The council concerned with capital funding comprised of BoG chairmen from all colleges and institutions)
- That, except for representation of students and faculty on an advisory council rather than the BoG, the BCIT Act will not really change

Trussel supported the chairman's assessment of the McGeer-BCIT meeting and commended Ferrie for making the Minister aware of the history of BCIT and the stresses of the past.

Trussel emphasized the need for communications between the two.

BoG member George Suart said it appeared Trussel and Ferrie had a good hearing with the Minister and that the conclusion was obvious.

"This is the law and we have to make the regulations as efficient as possible and applicable to BCIT," said Suart.

The work of the advisory committees and the concern shown by them in letters of opposition to the new bill were pointed out by the board members.

The Minister, during debate, received many letters asking for exclusion of BCIT from the new Act from advisory committee members. The Vancouver Board of Trade asked the Minister to delay third reading until his newly-appointed task force could review the legislation and make recommendations; however, the Minister placed a high priority on passage of Bill 82 and the third reading was proceeded with.

Reactions to Bill 82

Principal

Principal Gordon Thom assured every student and every holder of a Diploma of Technology that the excellence of the Institute and the value of the diploma will continue despite passage of the Colleges and Institutions Act.

Clause 83 of the Act repeals the BCIT Act and places the Institute in omnibus legislation with regional colleges and other institutions.

"The assurances made by the Minister (Dr. Pat McGeer) during debate of the legislation in the Legislature and those made to the Board of Governors have greatly relieved some of the concerns I had for inclusion in the Act," said Thom.

He said the post-legislation consultation on regulations within the new Act is expected to take place shortly and at that time "we will discuss BCIT's options and objectives within the framework of the legislation."

"Timing of designation of BCIT as a provincial institution will be a major point of the discussion," said Thom.

Staff Society

Staff Society President Len Johnson called Bill 82 (Colleges and Institutions Act) "generally regressive legislation with specific deficiencies for BCIT."

The president of the Society, which represents faculty on the campus, cited two major shortcomings of the Act:

1. Failure to recognize the significance of technological education as a distinct component in the spectrum of educational services in the province, and;
2. Intrusion of the Ministry of Education in the collective bargaining process and other labour relations decisions traditionally under the jurisdiction of the Department of Labor and Labor Relations Board.

Johnson said:

"The legislation does not provide appropriate arrangements for funding, curriculum development, and articulation of technological programs. Technological education in general, and BCIT in particular, cannot be dealt with appropriately without amendments to Bill 82. A make-do such as funding arrangements through the Universities Council does not address the problem.

"We feel certain that the faculty and technical staff of BCIT will continue individually to devote their best efforts to maintaining the level of effectiveness for which BCIT is widely known. The Staff Society will certainly continue to encourage this professional approach.

"Considering the approach that the Ministry of Education has taken to date, the reality of the situation now appears to be to press for appropriate amendments of Bill 82 to salvage as many of the provisions of the BCIT Act as possible."

Students

The Student Association has no alternative but to work within the confines of Bill 82, said president John Scott.

"It is law and I suppose we must accept it," he said.

"However, there remain two major points which must be resolved."

"We feel that in order to make the transformation as soon as possible, the Institute should make every attempt to ensure the full six months expires before proclamation," he said. [This was promised by the Minister.]

The student president has asked for a re-examination of the student representation on the board and hopes for an amendment that will make that possible.

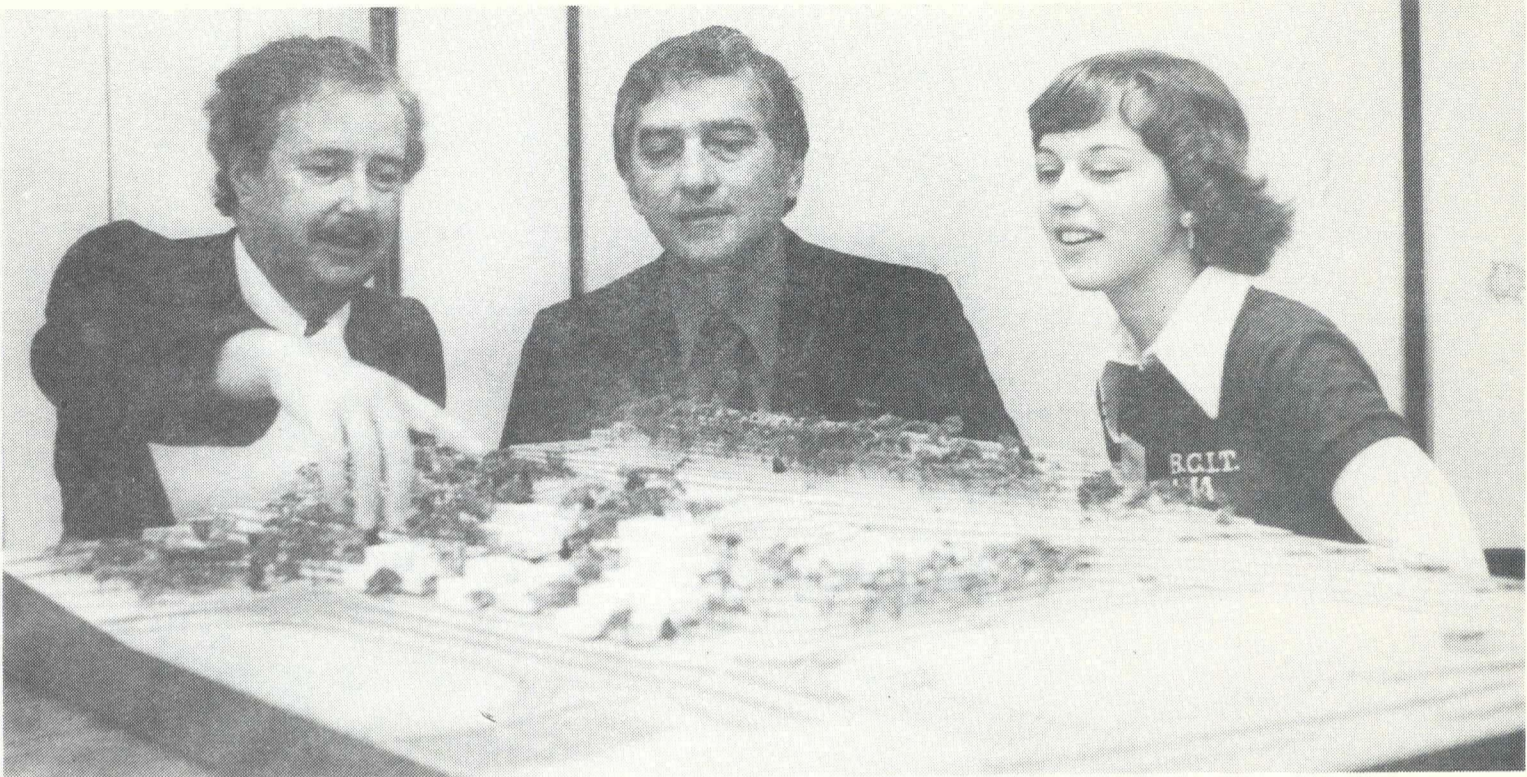
"At this point, we do not feel the advisory committee is at a sufficiently high level in the proposed structure to allow student input to be meaningful," he said.

Scott said he feels government has made a drastic mistake in overlooking the democratic rights of the students at BCIT.

He said he hopes the Ministry will soon be made aware of the value of student input and "allow us the right to continue participation at the decision-making level."

PRINCIPAL GORDON THOM POINTS OUT DETAILS OF THE NEW RESIDENCE TO BURNABY-SEYMOUR MP MARKE RAINES AND STUDENT BUSINESS CHAIRMAN JEAN BENGOUGH LAST WEEK.

RAINES WAS ON CAMPUS TO ANNOUNCE THE APPROVAL OF THE \$2.6 MILLION FEDERAL LOAN FOR THE RESIDENCE CONSTRUCTION.



Residence funds get government okay

A \$2.6 million loan for the first student residence on the campus of B.C. Institute of Technology has been approved by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, it was announced by Marke Raines, M.P. for Burnaby-Seymour.

Construction of the complex to house 250 students started Friday.

Almost 50 per cent of students attending BCIT are from outside the Lower Mainland and accommodation has been a perennial problem.

The wood-frame, cedar clad complex is comprised of five individual houses, each with an apartment for a married couple who will act as resident advisors plus 48 single rooms.

Kitchen, living room area, and wash-

ing facilities will be available for each group of 12 residents.

"Central Mortgage has not funded student residences in Canada for some time," said Raines, "however, BCIT became a very special case."

BCIT Principal Gordon Thom said he was delighted at the news from Ottawa.

"This is the culmination of the efforts of a great many people on our staff and in public positions who recognized the great need for accommodation in order for BCIT to fulfil the provincial role it has been given," said Thom.

Thom commended the work of Raines, MLA Elwood Veitch and particularly the efforts of the Minister of Education, Dr. Pat McGeer, who gave transfer of land to BCIT a top priority with his

senior ministry officials.

The principal said there were so many staff members involved in the long-standing project that "it would be unfair to single out any one person's efforts."

"It was a tremendous job by them all," he said.

The 3.4 acres of land required for the residence was provided by the provincial Ministry of Education.

Hans Haebler Co. Ltd. of Vancouver is the general contractor and Zoltan Kiss and Partners of Vancouver the architects. Ray Letkeman, a BCIT graduate, is the project architect.

The residence will be ready for occupancy September, 1978.

Raines brings word

Federal Member of Parliament Marke Raines (Burnaby-Seymour) personally brought the news of BCIT's residence loan approval when he visited the campus last week.

Raines has worked in Ottawa on behalf of the BCIT lobby for residence funding, pressuring the B.C. Liberal caucus to give the project its stamp of approval and a high priority.

The Burnaby-Seymour MP also set up appointments and "opened a number of doors" for the presentation of the project in Ottawa by past student president Sharon McElroy, Dale Michaels, Executive Director of Personnel, Information and Student Services and Dick Melville, Director of Information Services.

Swain in Greece

BCIT's Athletics Manager, Derek Swain, was selected by the Canadian Olympic Association as a delegate to the International Olympic Academy. The Academy is held annually at the historic site of ancient Olympia, Greece, and provides a forum for international discussions on the development of the modern Olympic Games.

The major topics of this year's proceedings involved concern for the political, economic and philosophical implications of the competitions which have grown to command immense prestige throughout the world.

The opportunity to explore the ruins of several ancient Greek stadia and gymnasia was of particular interest to Derek, who this spring completed his Master's degree in the area of sports history. During his travels in Europe, Derek was also able to attend the Royal Henley Rowing Regatta in England and was a guest at the National Sports School of Switzerland.

Industry Services activity up

During the past year Industry Services and the Directed Study Centre continued to provide a wide variety of educational and training services throughout B.C. in a variety of modes.

Special attention has continued to be given to the special needs of government and industry as expressed by the client population. This has resulted in presentation of material of specific relevance and effectiveness in individual circumstances.

There was a modest increase in this activity over last year with particularly heavy activity in the January to March period. In the technical and business area, supervisory courses remained at a high level but there was a marked shift toward developing training and instructional skills within client organizations. In the justice area, basic and in-service training for sheriffs, justice of the peace training, together with seminars for support staff were the major activities. Courses in evidence and court procedures were also presented for a number of agencies and for day school fish and wildlife students at BCIT.

Statistical summary:

Item	Performance
Courses	202
Students	3,250
Student hours	101,348
Full-time equivalent	283

The major involvement of the development group continued to be the production of correspondence, correspondence-seminar and classroom material for both the Ministry of Highways and the B.C. Forest Service programs. A series of avalanche and ski area management courses were also held.

A major achievement was the completion of the Canadian Forest Fire Behaviour System training manual in cooperation with both the B.C. and Canadian Forest Service.

Statistical summary:

Item	Performance
Lesson units (3-hour equivalent) developed	82

The Directed Study Centre continued to expand its services to individuals unable to attend classes at BCIT. The number of courses offered increased from 7 to 26 within the year. These have included courses for the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators for which BCIT is now an accepted outlet. Centre staff also revised two mathematics courses to self-paced and machine marking systems.

Statistical summary:

Item	Performance
Net registrations at year end	1,719
Assignments handled	3,719
Student hour equivalent	11,157
Full-time equivalent	31

Dr. V.M. (Paul) Parikh joins BCIT

Dr. Paul Parikh, who has recently joined BCIT as a Consultant in Educational Planning and Co-operative Education, brings to BCIT a varied educational background and a wealth of experiences from university teaching here in B.C. and abroad. He comes from Notre Dame University of Nelson, where he was a professor of chemistry and the head of the Department of Physical Sciences. Prior to joining NDU in 1965, he taught at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, and at Universities of Bombay and Poona in India. He completed his undergraduate studies at Poona and his doctorate studies at Queen's.

