



A Newsletter for the BCIT Community

October 26, 1992

Issue 6

## Math and Science education:

*in need of an "attitude adjustment?"*

BCIT Broadcasting students and Marketing and Development staff pulled out all the stops to produce a video-taped panel discussion on math and science education, October 16.

Over 120 high school math and science teachers spent the morning as members of the studio audience in the video-taped television discussion answering the question: Does science and math education need an attitude adjustment?

The answer was a resounding YES.

Moderated by veteran broadcaster Don Hamilton, the panel discussion included Len Reimer, the vice principal of Kerrisdale Elementary, BCIT math instructor Louise Routledge, new CBC-TV science correspondent Lorraine Graves, scientist and astronaut finalist Dr. John Boyce, and former Vancouver Sun science writer and director of Policy and Planning for MAETT Tim Padmore.

The 90-minute discussion will be available to any educators requesting copies of the tape. As well, plans are in the works for a shorter version of the debate to be used on Knowledge Network.

A surprise visitor at the beginning of the morning was Premier Harcourt

## Standing room only crowd hear premier speak on referendum



Photo: AV Services

Michael Harcourt

**P**remier Michael Harcourt made his first visit to BCIT as premier October 16, spending the morning touring the campus and speaking at a jammed lecture hall on his reasons for voting Yes in the October 26 national referendum.

Over 200 staff, students and news media attended the speech in SW1 1205 to hear the premier and Liberal MLA David Mitchell speak in support of the Charlottetown Accord.



Photo: AV Services

David Mitchell

Introduced by new student association President Lyle Boivin whose arm was in a sling, the premier joked that "BCIT is pretty hard on its student president."

Prior to the speech, the premier visited the Broadcast Centre where he spoke to over 100 high school teachers on campus to attend a special panel discussion on science and math education. The tour continued to the Student Activity Centre, Financial Management, Cardiology, Fish and Wildlife and the Carpentry, Millwork and Machine shops before ending at the public meeting.

Wearing BCIT rugby shirts, Harcourt and Mitchell fielded numerous questions from students about the accord. Both said that the accord represents a rare moment of consensus that will not be repeated again if it is rejected.

By October 20, it was confirmed that Secretary of State for External Affairs Barbara McDougall would visit the campus to speak on the accord and Pacific Rim trade on October 20. Gordon Wilson, provincial Liberal leader, will speak at noon on October 23 for the No side of the referendum.

From Terry Jorden  
Media Relations

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who spoke briefly about the importance of science and math education in meeting the needs of an increasingly technological world.

After the discussion, teachers enjoyed a luncheon followed by a tour of several program areas. This event was held in conjunction with Science and Technology Week and was also a professional development day for teachers.

From Terry Jorden  
Media Relations

### Another element discovered...

In response to your "Administratium" article it's time to announce that the staff at Sea Island Campus (who teach Aircraft Maintenance, Avionics, Structures and Gas Turbine Overhaul and operate the well known fleet of aircraft known as "AirBCIT" out of the South Terminal of Vancouver International Airport), has long been aware of a substance as powerful and as baffling as "Administratium." This substance is called "Unobtainium." This complex element is both widespread yet extremely difficult to locate. When combined with "Administratium," "Unobtainium" has the power to shut down entire systems.

Many items, when placed on order have been found to mutate into "Unobtainium." One school of thought has it that the likelihood of such mutation is directly proportional to the urgency of the order. (Note: School of Thought is NOT part of the new BCIT structure.) However, it may also be directly linked to the high cost of the materials or items needed. Orders for items costing more than \$1000 have been known to disappear into some kind of "Unobtainium" black hole only to reappear some time later slightly changed and marked "not on capital list" or worse - in the form of the desired item just after it is no longer needed or is obsolete.

"Unobtainium" can be a frustrating substance as it has the property of being just out of reach yet in sight.

A sub-culture of technicians trained in production and handling of "Unobtainium" can be found in any organisation which has a stores or procurement area. These highly skilled individuals are able to produce large amounts of "Unobtainium" from the smallest order. All that is required is a measure of urgency injected by the person placing the order. This element is not to be confused with that other element produced by the same technicians "Notwhatiwantedite" which is believed to occur under similar conditions.

Word of warning: Our research has shown that "Unobtainium" may not be limited to items on order. Previously available services can mutate into this form. The criteria seem to be the same. Urgency and cost seem to be the catalyst. All staff are urged to review their areas and search out this insidious substance. But take your time, there's no rush.

From Stephen P. Peszel  
Sea Island

### Career Management Forum - November 17

BCIT in collaboration with the ASTTBC, is sponsoring a "Career Management Forum" on Tuesday, November 17 from 9 am - noon in the Administration Boardroom (no-host lunch at the Rix Club).

Chris Senior, Senior Executive at the Engineering Council, London, England will conduct the forum. Mr. Senior is an acknowledged expert in the field of career management. He has spent two decades promoting training and development in the United Kingdom.

The forum will also examine: Defining continuing education and professional development beyond technical skills, the importance and benefits of CEPD in the 1990's, a partnership approach between employer and employee, etc...

**Reservations required  
as seating is limited.**

Please contact Ted Nodwell at  
ASTTBC

Tel: 585-2788 or Fax: 585-2790



Remember you count  
on November 4

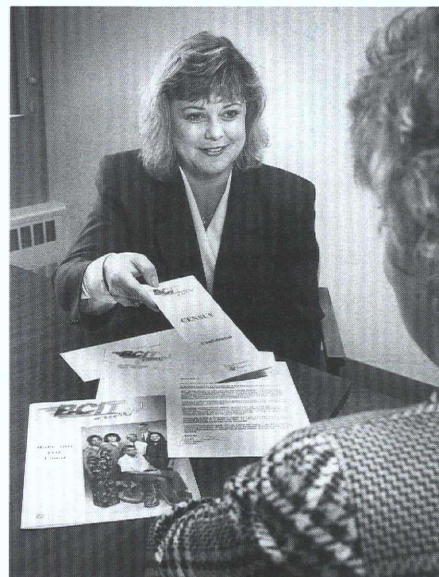


Photo: Media Relations

Wendy Waite

Director of Employment Equity Wendy Waite explains some details of the employment equity census to an employee. By now all BCIT staff have received the census and are filling in the four easy questions. Contained in the package is information explaining the census itself and answers to many questions like: What is employment equity? Is this information confidential?

This is not an optional survey, this is a census. Wendy hopes that you will take the time to fill it out.

### United Way

Don't forget the  
50/50 Draw.

Tickets: 1 for \$1,  
3 for \$2, 7 for \$5.

Draws are held on  
October 30 and November 20.

Tickets are available from Student Association, Admin. Building, Student Records, Purchasing, Medical Services, Student Services, Recreation Services, Duplication - Inglis Building, Road Runner, Word Processing, Automotive, Kaslo, Sea Island, Finance Wicket, and Downtown Education Centre.





## Health Part-time Studies celebrates!



*The "Rookie Teacher" award was won by Patti O'Shaughnessy, faculty member of the Emergency Nursing program, shown here with the wig and teaching aids she received during the presentations.*

Other award winners at the light-hearted Kaslo Campus ceremony are:

### **Polishing our Image Award**

Colleen Varcoe, program head  
Critical Care Nursing.

### **Rookie of the Year**

Arlene Peacock, program assistant,  
HPTS.

### **Rookie Teacher**

Linda Ross, contract faculty, Health  
Care Management.

### **Quantum Leap Award**

Charlotte Boychuk, program  
assistant currently acting  
Administrative Officer in the School  
of Business.

### **Excellence in Clinical Teaching**

Bev Pister, faculty Neonatal Nursing.

### **Excellence in Preceptorship Teaching**

Ruth Pasenko, Kelowna General  
Hospital.

### **Bridging the Gap**

Gladys McPherson, B.C.  
Children's Hospital.

### **Bridging the Gap cont.**

Janice Ford and Richard Clarkson,  
B.C. Construction Industry Health  
and Safety Council.

### **Without You We'd be Nothing**

BCIT Learning Resources Unit.

### **Dean's Award**

Sherry Campbell, contract faculty,  
Health Care Management.

### **Thanks for the Tip**

Ralph Kitos, Advisory Committee,  
Occupational Health Nursing.

### **Outstanding Players**

Reina Van Lagan, program head,  
Obstetrical Nursing and Sonia  
Williams, program head,  
Health Care Management.

### **Special Contributions**

Moirna Barnetson, HPTS, Donna  
Montgomery, Word Processing, and  
Debbie Freeman of Critical Care  
Nursing for their work in developing  
the new style guide for distance  
education materials.



*The "Tranquility in the Face of Disaster" award was appropriately awarded to Carol Reid of the Word Processing Centre by Lynn Johnson, Program Head Emergency Nursing.*

## Business Administration grad interns in Washington D.C.

During the summer BCIT business administration grad Tim Kocsar applied for a special internship with External Affairs based at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C. In August he learned that he had been selected but the catch was that he had to pay all his own expenses -- flight, room and board, everything. In August he came to BCIT for help in raising the money. Through a quick media blitz and a few telephone calls, Tim successfully raised the \$5,000 he needed. Here is a September 30 letter from Tim:

*Dear Marilyn, Susan, Cathy and everyone who helped out.*

*Well its been an exciting month. In the last four weeks I've seen so many places and talked to so many people. For example, the first day at work I attended a Senate Finance Committee on NAFTA. I spoke with several senators about their perspectives on Canada's involvement in the deal. I also spoke with a representative from Mitsubishi Headquarters and got a tentative job offer to teach English in the context of Canadian Business. Presently I am following up on this. I also got invited to a party at the Mexican Embassy from my counterpart in that Embassy. As you can imagine I'm having the time of my life. Every day something new and exciting takes place. Last Friday I went to a Capitals game along with the other interns. Afterwards we all went out for dinner with two of the players who were Canadian, one from Burnaby.*

*As for work, I find that I'm getting a lot of experience. I did not realize that I had the right combination of work experience and academic studies for the position. One of the strongest aspects was my computer experience from BCIT. I have used Lotus, WordPerfect and dBase. Everyday I send messages to many places over North America concerning matters in Congress. Working in the Congressional Relations section also requires writing skills. I have made several reports on NAFTA and sent*

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them to Ottawa. The section that I am in is the most interesting in all the Embassy. We are all following the elections quite carefully. My largest assignment so far is to write a large report on all the non-incumbents. I've been told that Canada is interested in these people because a large upset is expected. With so many new people there exists a great amount of uncertainty in relation to international trade.

From Susan Walters  
Development Office

## Kathy Vance

Dr. Kathy Vance of the Communication Department has been invited to speak at the Canadian Council for Refugees national Fall conference in Winnipeg in November.

Kathy was invited because she helped plan province-wide consultations on an important new federal government English language training program. These provincial consultations, among the first in Canada, were sponsored jointly by the federal government and Affiliation of Multicultural Societies & Immigrant Serving Agencies (AMSSA). Kathy also serves as an AMSSA board member. AMSSA is an umbrella group of 59 member organizations from across the province.

On September 26, 1992, at the AGM of AMSSA, B.C., Kathy was reelected to the Board for a second two-year term.

She was also reappointed chair of the newsletter committee and will continue to edit **Cultures West**, AMSSA's newsletter, which has a circulation of over 1500.

In the spring, she was reelected to the Executive of B.C. TEAL, the Association of Teachers of English as an Additional Language for a second two-year term.

## Diapers!

**Phillipa Dermott**, Clerical Assistant in the BCIT Employment Placement Services Office, gave birth to a 6lb 14oz girl on October the 8th. Her name is Brandy-Lee. Mum and Dad are doing just fine.



## Christmas Dance

The annual staff social club Christmas dinner/dance is scheduled for Friday, December 11 in the Rix Club. The cost is \$20 and this includes a lavish buffet. Doors will be open at 7:30, dinner will be served at 8:15 and the music starts at 9 pm. Reservations must be made in advance through the Rix Club. Why, not make this your departments year end get-together.

## Canada Savings Bonds

1991/92 Canada Savings Bonds are available for pick-up at the financial services counter on the lower floor of the J.W. Inglis building. Times are 9 am to 4:25 pm Monday to Friday. Please bring your social insurance number as I.D.

The rate of interest for the 1992/93 bond is 6%. The deduction is \$4.28222 per \$100 of bonds for 24 pays from November 13 to October 1, 1993.

From Rosemary Small  
Payroll & Benefits

## Oops we goofed...

**Dave Condor's** name was omitted from the list of Quackademics in our October 13 Update issue. He was the runner and passed five other teams. Would one expect a condor to go faster than a duck? Quack quack. And the Cardiology photo on page 2 in our October 19 issue should have been attributed to Audiovisual Services.

## CLASSIFIED

**For sale:** Living room furniture - all like new. Moved, doesn't fit new living room! 3 seater sofa with matching chair - antique white with muted peach, grey, blue tones; 2 dark grey wing back chairs, original price \$3,500. Asking \$1,400. Call Marilyn 8773.

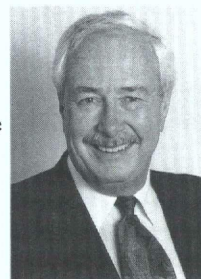
**For rent:** Pitt Meadows (Somerset) 6 years, immaculate 3 BR main flr, 2 baths, f/p, \$900 + 2/3 util.; 2 BR ground level, separate ent.; \$600 + 1/3 util.; Shared W/D, enclosed dbl. garage. N/S, N/P, Ref. Available December 1. 469-2925.

## Moves...

**Mike Cannell**, Associate Dean, Construction & Metal Industries will be Acting Dean, School of Trades Training from October 5 until November 6, 1992. During this time **Ted Marchant**, Chief Instructor, Machinist Group will be Acting Associate Dean, Construction & Metal Industries.

**Gordon A. Thom** has moved to the position of Vice President responsible for Outplacement and Executive Search, The Clifford Group.

Thom's background includes: President Emeritus BCIT, Principal-in-Charge for B.C. with the international firm of Drake Beam Morin, an M.Ed. in adult and higher education from UBC and an M.B.A. from the University of Maryland. Other accomplishments include: Vice Chairman, Vancouver Board of Trade; Chairman of the Task Force and Project Director for "Making Canada Productive"; President of the Association of Canadian Community Colleges; Convocation Member of the UBC Senate; Director, UBC Alumni Association; Director, Rotary Club of Vancouver; member of the Program Committee of the Human Resources Management Association; honorary member, ASTTBC.



Gordon A. Thom

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