

# DEVELOPMENTS

A newsletter of information and opinion published by the Public Relations Department for the BCIT community

Volume 5, Number 13

March 20, 1980

## **A first for western Canada**

# **Program starts in September**

The first prosthetics and orthotics program to be offered in western Canada begins at BCIT in September.

"The institute has wanted to offer this program for a long time," said Brian Gillespie, acting dean, Health Division.

"Approval of the program reflects a great deal on the efforts of Art Ridgway, department head, Biomedical Electronics and Health Data and members of the prosthetics and orthotics field. They were able to convince Ministry of Health officials and members of the Ministry of Education that this program is desperately needed in British Columbia and western Canada."

The program will accept 10 students in its first year. Five students from B.C. will be selected, two students from Alberta and three Saskatchewan students will be admitted in September.

According to Gillespie, the program will be offered only in alternate years.

"Students will come into the program this September and the next group of new students will not be admitted until 1982. We don't want to overload the market."

Ridgway said the need for prosthetists and orthotists is small, but acute.

"There is a shortage of skilled prosthetic and orthotic specialists and only two schools in Canada offer training." One of the schools is in Quebec; the other school is George Brown College in Toronto.

During the two-year program, students will do all lab work in public and private labs in the City of Vancouver.

Students will receive lab instruction by prosthetists and orthotists, under the direction of BCIT instructors.

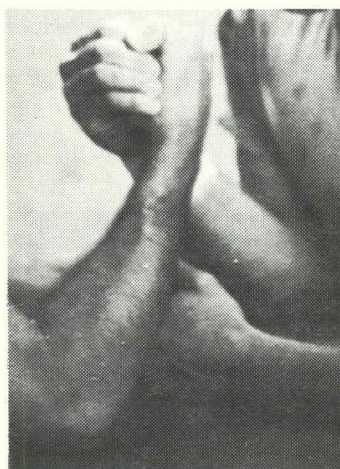
"Local agencies will play a major role in the development and running of the program," said Ridgway.

"More than 40 per cent of the students' training will be through working prosthetists and orthotists. Local agencies are definitely a major contributor."

Prosthetics and orthotics  
*continued on page 4*



*Local labs will play a major role in the program.*



**Today's the day!** BCIT/PVI wrist wrestling staff, faculty and students perform in the SAC at noon. Bouts will run for two hours. Drop in on the action which will feature men in weight classes of 175 pounds and more and under 174 pounds and women in an open weight division.

## **Council vacancy causes by-election**

Nominations close at 4 p.m. tomorrow for an Educational Council representative to replace Derek Swain, athletic manager, who resigned recently.

Nomination forms are available in the Educational Council office and the Staff Society office.

Members of the faculty and technical staff who have been full time regular employees of the institute for one year or more are eligible for nomination.

By-election polls will be set up in the Staff Society office on Monday, March 24 from noon to 4 p.m., Tuesday, March 25

from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Wednesday, March 26 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Eligible voters include all faculty and technical staff on the voters list. If your name does not appear, contact Patricia Maertz, secretary to the council.

Employees who are off-campus during the voting period may vote in advance or by mail.

Arrangements are underway for a poll for the Continuing Education Division night school staff.

For further information, contact Maertz.



## Hobbs named to SFU board



Michael Hobbs, former chairman of the BCIT Board of Governors, has received an appointment to the board of governors of Simon Fraser University from Dr. Pat McGeer, Minister of Universities, Science and Communications.

Hobbs, 51, served as a governor of BCIT's board for six years prior to retiring in December, 1979.

Hobbs, who is general manager in Vancouver of Cominco Ltd., is also a trustee of the National Museums of Canada; chief executive and chairman of Western Canada Steel Ltd.; president and chief executive officer of Hawaiian Western Steel Ltd. of Honolulu and chairman of Steel Recycling (1978) Ltd. in Richmond. He is also a chairman of National Hardware Specialties Ltd.

## Meeting comes to BCIT

For the first time, the British Columbia Business Educator's Association will hold its annual general meeting and workshop at BCIT.

The two-day meeting of high school business educators, which gets underway on Friday, May 9, will feature Minister of Education Brian Smith. Other speakers are Dave Renwick, director, Articulated Programs, Ministry of Education; Tim Crawford, director of Business Education at Eastview Secondary School in Barrie, Ont.; Ann Morris, AB Dick word processing specialist; and Terry Hoogie, department head, Handsworth Secondary School.

Participants will also tour the campus.

On Friday evening and Saturday, exhibits will be on view in the Food Training Centre main cafeteria.

## Courses study higher education

Contemporary issues facing technical institutes, colleges and universities will be the focus of two credit course offerings by the University of British Columbia Department of Higher Education during summer session.

Both courses, designed for administrators and faculty in the post-secondary education system, begin July 2 and run to August 15.

"The Community or Regional College" (Education 569) will cover the history, philosophy and development of the community college.

Attention will be given to curriculum, legislation, teaching and faculty evaluation and autonomy. Emphasis will be placed on current issues facing colleges in British Columbia.

The course runs from 8 a.m. to 10:10 a.m.

Dr. Gary Dickinson,

associate professor of Adult Education and former principal of East Kootenay Community College, is the instructor.

Topics such as admissions policy, finance, federal-provincial relations, post-secondary legislation, transferability and governance will be discussed in the course

entitled "Current Developments in Higher Education."

This course will be conducted from 10:25 a.m. to 12:35 p.m. by Dr. John Dennison, professor of Higher Education at UBC.

For further information, contact Dr. Dennison at 228-5252.

## Alumni Association looks for officers

Nominations for the ten-member Alumni Association Executive and Board of Directors are now open.

Nominations must be filed by March 31 at the BCIT Alumni Association office. The election of officers is set to take place during the first annual general meeting on April 16.

Members of the association will be electing a president, vice president, treasurer, secretary and two representatives from each of business, health and engineering. These officers are elected for a one-year term.

"The board of directors plays an active role in the

decision-making process," said Alumni Association treasurer Joan Angrignon. "Their input is very important in reaching grads."

All nominations should include a brief biographical sketch.

"We are looking for new people," explained Angrignon. "We want people who can offer ideas, time and energy during this building process."

During the meeting, which begins at 8 p.m. in the SAC cafeteria, President Ian Robertson will report on the activities of the association during the past year and financial statements will be distributed.

## Registry

The campus now has an "official" function registry to record "official" activities at the institute.

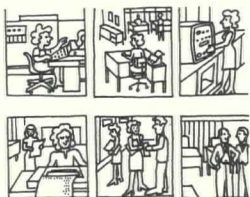
There is just one problem—what's the definition of "official"? Does it mean a visit by a major government figure, a campus tour or a committee meeting?

Until a decision is reached on the meaning of the word "official," the Public Relations Department, the appointed broker of the registry, will record all on-campus events.

Departments and groups should report events and meetings to Dave Jones, special events coordinator. Information should be submitted in writing one week prior to the campus activity. If events clash, Jones will be able to inform the departments planning the function.

According to Kathie Angelo, administrative assistant to the principal, the registry was recommended to prevent conflicts between functions.

The registry will provide useful information to the institute, its employees and visitors.





# BCIT invited to "visit" Mexico

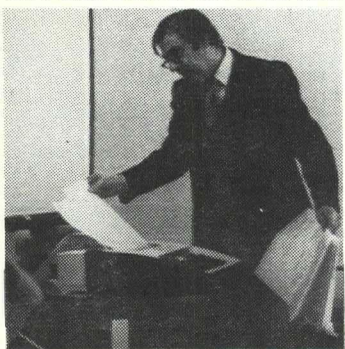
BCIT's reputation of technological excellence is spreading south to the land of serapes, sombreros and enchiladas.

One of Mexico's largest industrial empires—Industrias Unidas SA (IUSA)—is looking to BCIT for help in solving some of the problems of running a large industrial enterprise deep in the Mexico countryside. Communications, isolation and unskilled labor are among the firm's concerns.

Of primary concern to Mexican businessman Alejo Peralta is the lack of skilled labor at his Pasteje plant.

The operation at Pasteje manufactures products ranging from airplanes to Christmas light bulbs and employs more than 5,000 workers. The majority of Peralta's 5,000 employees are brought in from Mexico City.

Peralta is interested in the "manufacture" of a skilled labor force from local people; unsophisticated Indians who are unfamiliar with modern technology. They all speak in an Indian dialect and have little



Ed Rumohr, Canada Employment and Immigration and Abe Schellenberg, Occupational Council, were on campus last week to discuss CHOICES, a career information computer program. In the operation of CHOICES, students answer questions from the computer about his or her interests, skills, likes and dislikes. The computer reduces 1,100 occupational choices to about 25 which may be suited to the individual. Then, the computer supplies detailed information about specific careers. The project is now set up in 12 locations in the province on an experimental basis.

familiarity with Spanish, the working language of Mexico.

The local people are also conditioned to the *manana* attitude, the antithesis of the disciplined, energetic work ethic needed in a modern industrial plant.

Peralta has started to create a skilled labor group, but the job is not complete. He is looking to BCIT as the source to finish the task.

Peralta wants BCIT to move in and update the technical knowledge of the factory technicians and engineers now. He also wants assistance in curriculum development and instructional techniques. Elec-

trical department head Reg Ridsdale visited Mexico, sized up the technical staffing problem and is now coordinating the Canadian end of the IUSA project. And, he isn't wasting time.

Starting this summer, Ridsdale needs six BCIT staff to go to Mexico on "working summer vacations."

"They will donate their time in return for an interesting, challenging and enjoyable experience which will aid their professional development," said Ridsdale.

IUSA will look after all travel, living and medical expenses.

During the summer of 1980,

BCIT staff will work with teachers, technicians and engineers in basic electricity and electronics, hydraulic and pneumatic equipment, molding and stamping tools and dyes and manual and automatic machine tools.

Peralta would also like to see a BCIT staff person develop an English language technical library.

The staff upgrading program will be developed over several years.

"Other areas of expertise will be required in future years," explained Ridsdale.

"The need in electronics will  
*continued on page 4*

## Nigerians want working relationship

The institute's involvement in the Nigerian technician training program is about to end, but it will continue to cooperate with the African nation in a "working" relationship.

"Education officials want to look at continued BCIT involvement," said Bob Mason, dean of Engineering. "They want to look at other areas of interest, such as faculty exchanges."

Mason has just returned from a two-week study tour in Nigeria. The tour, sponsored by the Canadian Bureau of International Education, involved Canadian institutes participating in the Nigerian project.

In addition to exploring future BCIT work in Nigeria, Mason assessed different aspects of technical education in Nigeria.

He visited Kaduna

Polytechnic, where he discovered instructors have a strong interest in faculty exchanges. Mason also visited Kaduna Institute of Technology, a two-year institute offering training in trades and under-technician programs.

"Their library is woefully weak," explained Mason. "It had practically nothing in it, just some old technical books. They asked for assistance in supplying any discarded books at all."

Other stops included the University of Zaria and the Kano Technical Training School. Mason also met with Ministry of Education officials. Some of the people he talked with had visited BCIT and knew about its programs.

According to Principal Gordon Thom, BCIT will have an opportunity to get more involv-

ed in Nigeria through the newly-established campus International Education Advisory Committee.

"BCIT has developed strong links with their educational counterparts in Nigeria," said Thom. "They respect BCIT and now that we know their needs and wants we can help in other ways."

Thom said he is looking forward to developing other programs, such as faculty exchanges.

## We're going weekly

*Developments*, according to feedback received by the Public Relations Department, is serving the campus well as a communications vehicle. In fact, contributions of information have increased to the point where it has been decided to publish *Developments* weekly during a trial period.

As of Thursday, April 3, *Developments* will be published each and every Thursday up until the week following Convocation when it will cease until mid-August.

Following the April-May publication experiment, it will be decided whether production costs and time requirements will allow it to resume as a weekly newsletter in September or go back to twice a month.

## Former employee passes

Air Vice Marshall Walter Alyn Orr, a former BCIT employee, died March 10, 1980. He was 70 years old.

Orr joined BCIT in May, 1965 as a technician. During his ten years at the institute he acted as assitant to chairman of the Technological Planning Committee.

"BCIT was very fortunate to have, in its development years, the service of Walter Orr," said Principal Gordon Thom. "His advice was sought and modestly

given to many people at BCIT."

Orr's community work involved serving on the board of the Van Dusen Botanical Gardens and the board of the Corps of Commissionaires. At one time he acted as chairman of the board.

Rev. Canon J. Whinfield Robinson described Orr as "a man of the mode that looked on duty, integrity, self-sacrifice and modesty as the guides to his life." He is survived by his wife Barbara, two daughters, a son and four grandchildren.



# CAMPUS BRIEFS

The next Educational Council meeting will be held on Thursday, March 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the Pacific Vocational Institute boardroom.

\*\*\*

Anyone interested in joining the BCIT Staff Tennis Club should drop into the Campus Life trailer, Tuesday, March 25 at 12:30 p.m. to discuss setting up a club.

\*\*\*

A new jazz dance session gets underway March 24. Classes, which will run to May 5, include warm-up, stretches, isolations, combinations and choreography to music. No previous dance experience is necessary. The sessions will be held every Monday from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. For registration information, contact **Louise Preiswerck** at local 607.

\*\*\*

Central Stores will be closed for year-end inventory Friday, March 28 from noon to 4:30 p.m. and all day Monday, March 31. Service will resume Tuesday, April 1 at 8:30 a.m. Mail service will not be affected.

\*\*\*

Comptroller, **R.V. Skulski** announces changes in location and telephone locals for **Ford Ramsay**, operational accounting, room 201; **Norah Andrew**, budget and cost control and budget office staff, room 204A; **Bob Koblenky**, cost accounting and **Gary Lake**, project accountant, room 229, locals 702 and 631 respectively. **Bette Hardie**, accounts payable

## New program cont'd

*continued from page 1*  
specialists in the health care field design, fabricate and fit artificial limbs, appliances, supports, braces and remedial devices.

"It's a demanding profession," explained Ridgway.

"Graduates require special skills. They must combine technology with craft and human relations. Prosthetists and orthotists must be able to understand the patient. They must have the ability to assess individual needs and recognize patient problems."

(E-N), is now at local 704; **Dione Bitzer**, revenue assistant, is at local 763; **Rose Whitaker**, payroll records clerk is at local 873 and **Norma Morris**, payroll clerk is at local 873.

\*\*\*

The first annual St. Patrick's Day Irish Spring Dance, Toga Party and Fundraiser has been cancelled.

\*\*\*

**R.V. Skulski**, comptroller, wishes to advise that the bookstore will be closed to business for annual stocktaking on Friday, March 28.

\*\*\*

Softball, anyone? Plans to put together a BCIT mixed staff softball team to compete in a city league are underway. If you are interested in playing softball and looking for some fun, call **Louise Preiswerck**, Campus Life trailer, local 607.



*Campus Recreation is sprucing up the playing field. While this upgrading project is underway, Jim Mitchell, assistant athletic manager, wants students, staff and faculty to "keep off the grass" until June 30.*

Former Dean of Health Stan Richards was one of the major forces behind the program. He worked to get the program going, according to Ridgway.

Other "prime movers" include Arnet Pentland, chairman of the advisory committee and owner of J.A. Pentland Ltd., a local prosthetics and orthotics company; Ed Desjardins, manager, G.F. Strong Rehabilitation Centre; George Taylor, chief brace-maker, G.F. Strong Centre and Richard Parkinson, manager of Hodgson Orthotics Ltd.

## Staff wins trophy

Experience and bench strength proved to be the winning combination for the BCIT Staff Marauders in their fight for the 1979-80 Intramural coed hockey championship.

The Marauders defeated the hard-working Chem/Met Miners 5-4 for the title.

The Miners scored two early goals in the first period to take the club into the lead. Al McLean, director of the Counselling Centre and Jim Linton of Audiovisual retaliated for the Marauders to end the period.

## Campus increases donations

BCIT's 1979 contribution to the United Way campaign increased by 11 per cent from 1978 donations, according to statistics released by R.E. Henderson, general campaign manager of the 1979 fundraising drive.

BCIT donations reached \$10,239 through 89 contributions from payroll deductions and cash donations.

In a letter to Principal Gordon Thom, Henderson conveyed his appreciation to faculty, students and staff for their support. He also thanked Thom and BCIT campaign chairman Robert Chisholm, department head, Forest Resource, for their commitment and personal interest in the United Way campaign.

The universities and colleges 1979 contributions amounted to \$132,788. The University of British Columbia donated \$85,970, Simon Fraser University contributed \$22,580, Vancouver Community College pulled in \$9,189, Capilano College reached \$3,567 and Douglas College provided \$1,243.

## Mexico contd.

*continued from page 3*  
grows as IUSA becomes more involved in the design, development and production of electronic equipment."

Plans are currently underway to move into electrical manufacturing.

In the second period Linton added two more and McLean finished off the Marauder's scoring with one goal.

Final scoring came in the third period with goals by N. Montith and D. McLaren for the Miners.

The coed hockey trophy will be presented, along with t-shirts to the Marauders, at the Campus Recreation Awards Banquet, Friday, April 18.

## Free lecture on campus

"Does Life Imitate Television or Does Television Imitate Life?" is a question Dr. Tony Westman, of Simon Fraser University, will address in a free lecture on campus April 2.

The lecture, sponsored by the BCIT Staff Society Educational Development Committee, begins at 12:30 p.m. in room 197/198.

Dr. Westman teaches beginning and advanced film production techniques in 16 mm film.

Among his awards for cinematography are a Canadian Film Award ETROG, an Alberta Film Festival Award, a Yorkton International Film Festival Award and an Alberta Motion Picture Film Industry Association Award.

Dr. Westman's photographic experiences include underwater photography and aerial photography from fixed wing aircraft and helicopters.

Dr. Westman's lecture is the fourth in a series.

The final lecture is set for April 30 when Dr. Bryan Hiebert, of SFU's Faculty of Education, will speak on "Stress and Stress Management."

**Developments** is published every Thursday. Letters to the editor will be published, if signed and without libelous content, but may be edited to meet space requirements. All material should be typewritten.

Publisher: Public Relations Department

Director: D.D. Melville

Editor: Penny Freno-Link

The next issue of 'Developments' will be published Thursday, April 3.