



BCIT Events to Come

Wednesday, January 25

■ Presentation of "Ministry's Vision" by Garry Wouters, deputy minister, Ministry of Skills, Training and Labour will take place from 1130 to 1300 in the BC Tel theatre.

Thursday, January 26

■ Convocation will take place at the Willingdon Conference Centre, 4812 Willingdon Ave. The ceremony will begin at 1900.

- Electronic Engineering Technology
- Advanced Diploma of Health Sciences — Nursing Specialities
- Cytogenetics Laboratory Diagnostic Medical Sonography
- Nursing
- Automotive Service Technician
- BCIT Part-time Studies Certificates

Tuesday, January 31

■ A seminar on women's self-defense and awareness will be held 1800 to 2200 in the Recreation & Athletic Services weight room.

Wednesday, February 1

■ John Watson will hold an open discussion about BCIT's strategic plan. All staff are invited to participate in this session, which will be held from 1130 to 1230 in SW5, Rm 1850.

Wednesday, February 8

■ Dr. Monique Frize, chair, Canadian Committee on Women in Engineering, will speak at the Women in Technology brown bag lunch series.

■ BCIT Environmental Citizenship Fair 1995 sessions will take place from 1130 to 1430 in Town Square C. Call 432-8549 for information.

■ Meeting of Take Pride, BCIT's group for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and gay positive individuals. Meetings are held in the Telephone Exchange building from 1130 to 1330. For more information, call Gordon (6922) or Mark (8964).

Today's chuckle

New computer virus to watch for: The politically correct virus, which refers to itself as an electronic micro-organism.

On-campus experience led to the mall

Jennifer Comyns entered the BCIT two-year Marketing Management Technology program in 1990 on the recommendation of friends and family. In addition to completing the diploma program, Comyns went on to complete a Bachelor of Administrative Studies through BCIT and the Open Learning Agency while working as the student coordinator for Open House '92.

"It was an incredibly busy year," says Comyns, "but well worth all of the long hours. Working on Open House really prepared me for where I am now, and my employer looked highly upon the experience that can be attributed to my work as student coordinator."

With final exams just one week before Open House and a three-week strike nearly two months before the event, Comyns had to manage her time and stress effectively. "The biggest challenge came after the strike when the question arose whether or not to cancel Open House due to the amount of classroom time that had been lost. Eventually I spoke at a board meeting, explaining why we shouldn't cancel the event," says Comyns.

The outcome was positive and Open House '92 was a success with more than 20,000 attending the event.

Comyns' responsibilities with Open House included special event planning for events such as a career fair, the opening ceremony and entertainment.

"As marketing director of Capilano Mall, I organize special

events on an ongoing basis such as native heritage week, health fairs, fashion shows, environmental week and, of course, the yearly visit from Santa Claus. My Open House experience relates directly to my responsibilities in my current position," she explains.

In addition to special event planning, Comyns is also

responsible for advertising, the marketing plan and budgeting for the mall. "I really enjoy working in a mall," says Comyns. "In fact, I can see myself getting into the operations side. My goal is to one day be general manager for a mall."

—from Sheila Rees



BCIT graduate and former Open House student coordinator Jennifer Comyns shows off the mall where she is marketing director

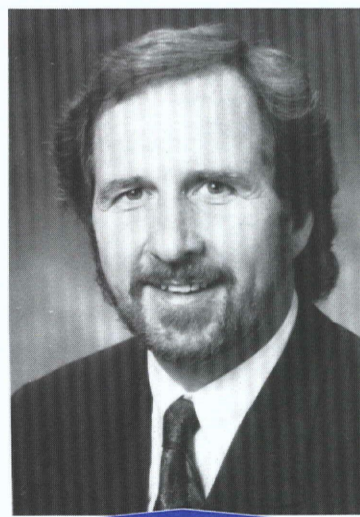
Bert Schendel photo

Future of education and training to be discussed

Several initiatives are in the works to improve how B.C. colleges and institutes meet the challenges of the next century, with developments such as seamless and flexible learning.

And the BCIT community can hear about those and other changes first-hand on Wednesday, when the province's No. 2 post-secondary education official is on campus to talk about the future of the system.

In a lunch-time presentation on January 25, Garry Wouters, deputy minister of skills and training for the Ministry of Skills, Training and Labour, will



Garry Wouters, deputy minister of skills and training for the Ministry of Skills, Training and Labour

outline the ministry's vision for change over the coming years.

It's a chance for the BCIT community to learn the government's direction on education and training-related issues and ask questions.

Life-long learning figures greatly in the government's plans.

Proposals call for extensive use of information technology to improve learning opportunities, along with the creation of community skills centres to bring training closer to home in regions around the province.

Plans similarly call for the system to be flexible and cost-

effective, with funding that rewards innovation and therefore builds on a school's strengths. Learning opportunities will be maximized by ensuring the highest efficiency in the management of institutional operation and facilities.

Under the possible changes that Wouters will be highlighting, the educational system would become streamlined to smooth the transition among all sectors, from K-12, colleges, private institutions and on-the-job training.

Wouters will speak at the BC Tel theatre in building SW6, January 25 at 1130.

Motorcyclists wreak havoc in woods

Recent vandalism on the BCIT woodlot has BCIT yew project coordinator Bruce Rothe counting trees in his sleep.

"Every tree has a number, and each has a database of information," he says. "So there's a lot of time invested in each tree. Now, I'll have to go through all the data to see which trees have been eliminated and which ones are still intact."

The vandalism took place sometime over the Christmas holidays, when the fenced yew plantation was broken into and used as a motorcycle circuit. Many of the three-year-old trees, which stand less than a foot in height, were damaged. "You can see the motorcycle tracks," says Rothe. "They were going around the edge of the plantation, and one bike appears to have gone too far into the mud bog."

Working from physical evidence at the site, Rothe pieced together the most likely scenario. "The bike sank into the mud, then they took the fence apart to use as sturdy footing while they rescued the bike."

While the fence sustained a lot of damage, Rothe says the situation could have been worse. "If they had kept going round and round on their motorcycles, we could

have lost all the trees."

Although the yew trees are strong and can withstand the occasional trampling, many have been buried or entirely uprooted. "Now I'll have to identify the trees all over again—it's really created a lot of work," says Rothe.

—from Ruth Raymond

Cross cultural workshop wins praise

A one-day cultural awareness workshop was held at BCIT on December 20, for the staff of the Renewable Resources program. The aim was to create new thinking, to enhance existing thinking and to create a foundation for relationship building between First Nations and the renewable resource staff at BCIT. The workshop stressed the importance of educating non-native staff to the cultural differences they may encounter when dealing with aboriginal students.

Attended by 20 BCIT staff and faculty, as well as fourth-year Forestry students from the Faculty of Forestry at UBC, the event proved to be a day of dialogue and learning.

BCIT's First Nations advisor, Brenda Ireland, facilitated the workshop, along with UBC's Mary Lou Couch (administrative assistant from the Faculty of Forestry) and Gordon Prest (First Nations coordinator with the Faculty of Forestry).



Brenda Ireland

Feedback on the workshop has been positive; here's what one participant had to say:

(Internal office memo sent December 21, 1994)

I would like to congratulate you for the well organized and stimulating cultural workshop held at the UBC First Nations House of Learning on Tuesday, December 20. I was also pleased to see the enthusiastic participation on behalf of the Renewable Resources faculty. (Other attendees included those from the Communications, Mathematics and Mining departments.)

This cross-cultural workshop provided us with greater insight regarding First Nations values and built a bridge between our cultures. The knowledge and understanding gained will definitely contribute to the achievement of our common goals.

Thanks again for a most interesting day.

—from J.T. Neilson, associate dean, Process and Renewable Resources Technologies

Alumni 30th anniversary fundraising campaign to begin

The BCIT 30th Anniversary campaign will provide graduates with the opportunity to support such initiatives as the new downtown campus, scholarships and bursaries, and ensuring that the BCIT library has the most up-to-date resources for students and alumni alike.

The campaign, expected to be launched sometime in March, is coordinated by a campaign committee chaired by John Leech, ASCT, CAE. Leech is a 1970 grad of Surveying and is executive director of the Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of British Columbia. He served on the BCIT board of governors from 1977 to 1981 and was vice chair of the board from 1978 to 1979. He was also elected president of the BCIT Alumni Association in 1985. Following are Leech's thoughts on how important this campaign will be to the BCIT community.

Campaign chair enthused

When BCIT calls and asks for help, my first reaction is to say, "Yes," and such was the case when approached to take an active role in the 30th anniversary campaign. Who can say no to helping the institute?

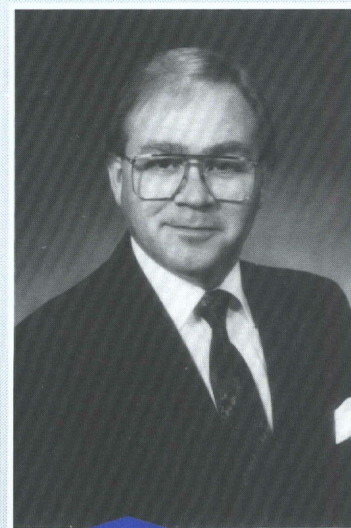
I am enthused about this campaign because of the commitment by key leaders, especially John Watson and

board chair Wynne Powell to using the campaign as a step towards building long-term programs together with the BCIT alumni.

There is a soft spot in the hearts of alumni for BCIT. Most grads found that in two short, yet intense years, we acquired a world-class education and built lasting friendships. I haven't

found too many grads who do not feel this way. Our challenge as grads of BCIT is to support the institute in providing high quality education and training.

I am confident we will exceed our modest target of \$30,000—an appropriate figure for the 30th anniversary. I know that BCIT grads, when asked, will eagerly put something back into the



30th anniversary fundraising campaign chair, John Leech, ASCT, CAE

institute. After all, grads are BCIT's best ambassadors!

—from John Leech

New financial system streamlines process

The board of governors has approved the acquisition of a new financial system for BCIT that can be integrated with the BANNER student information system. "We are really excited about the new package," says Gary Lake, director special projects, Finance and Administration. "It means that we can consolidate all the financial and material management functions into one system." These functions include budgeting, accounts payable, financial reporting, purchasing, fixed assets and Central Stores inventory.

"We will be doing a needs assessment study over the next

three months and we have already identified the need to install a faster processor in order to run the system," says Lake, project manager, who is working in conjunction with three project leaders. The leaders are Gerry Dokimenko, director, Financial Services, Terry Milligan, director, Materials Management,

and Murray Smith, senior systems analyst, MIS/Development.

"We have the software now and our tentative goal is to have the budget system up for December 1995 and the full system up by April 1, 1996," explains Lake. BCIT will not be alone in their

decision to switch to the new financial system though, Okanagan University College, Kwantlen College, Langara College and Vancouver Community College are either using the system now or will be soon.

—from Sheila Rees



News Briefs

Happy Birthday, CFML

Sunday, January 22 will be the 13th anniversary of campus radio station CFML's launch onto the airwaves.

In other broadcast news, long-time Vancouver broadcaster Red Robinson visited the Broadcast Centre recently, to shoot background footage for Red's Classic Theatre. If you caught the show on KVOS January 22, you will have noticed the familiar backdrop.

A note from Finance

The 1995 TD1s are available at the Finance counter in the Inglis building. It is advised that anyone wanting to claim tax credits in addition to the basic personal exemption or wanting to have additional tax deducted should complete one of these forms and return it to Finance to ensure proper tax deductions for the year.

Strategic planning information sessions offered

All staff are encouraged to attend a presentation by John Watson covering strategic planning. It will be an opportunity, not only to hear about BCIT's vision and direction, but to voice your own opinions in an open discussion. The session will take place on February 1, from 1130 to 1230 in SW5 Rm 1850, and again on February 15, from 1130 to 1230 in SE6 Rm 233 (BC Tel theatre).

Parade planning

Take Pride, BCIT's group for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and gay-positive individuals, will meet on Wednesday, January 25 from 1130 to 1330 to plan a BCIT float for the Gay Pride '95 parade. The meeting will take place in the Telephone Exchange building.

Carpooling goes high-tech

The Safety & Security office (SW1-1001) now offers a computerized database that matches potential partners for carpooling. Potential poolers enter their names and requirements (such as times leaving home and school, driver/passenger, etc.), then the system finds the ideal pooling partner. The service is being introduced on a trial basis. For more information, call Rick McCallum at 6754.

For armchair travellers

BCIT photographer Bert Schendel presented the first in a series of audiovisual presentations about foreign cultures on Wednesday, January 18 in Inglis 117. Schendel will continue to share his world travels with interested viewers in small lunch-hour, brown-bag showings. Contact him at 8377 for the schedule of dates and topics.

The BCIT UPDATE is published weekly throughout the school year by the Information and Community Relations Department within Marketing and Development. Ideas, tips, fax or written submissions should be forwarded to the editor by **1500 Fridays, five working days prior** to publication. The editor reserves the right to edit for brevity, libel and accuracy.

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Please recycle your BCIT Updates in the White Paper recycling bin.

Remote sensing technology developed to advance killer whale research

Much of what we know about killer whales has come from field research done in B.C. And one of the best places to study these mammals is at Robson Bight in Johnstone Strait just south of Alert Bay...

—Volume 1, issue 1

"We're the hard chargers, the diggers, the go-getters"

A stirring keynote address, a packed house, and even a little humour, made the January 28 convocation ceremony a memorable experience for 176 graduates, their families and friends...

—Issue 2

More than just camels and sand

Two Electronics Technology graduates visit the United Arab Emirates to attend Open House...

Marine training facility to join BCIT

Walk into the Pacific Marine Training Institute in North Vancouver and the first thing you notice is that the building doesn't have floors—it has decks...

—Issue 22

Burnaby Lake project gets another boost

BCIT's Burnaby Lake System enhancement project received another boost last Monday when Environment Minister Moe Sihota announced that the provincial government would contribute \$10,000 to the project...

—Issue 25

Shinerama '94

Every year since 1989 Cameron McGee would come to BCIT and talk to students about Cystic Fibrosis during the annual Orientation Day and shinerama campaign...

—Issue 26

Fall arrest test carried out in steel structure

The Workers' Compensation Board and BCIT's first-year iron worker apprentices worked hand in hand September 23 to test out a new fall arrest system...

—Issue 27

Instructor helps group through innovative management

When part-time BCIT instructor Brian Giffen isn't teaching, he's acting as business advisor to a Vancouver society that's at the forefront of developing innovative devices to aid the disabled...

—Issue 30

Shedding a little light

Janis Huston has always been a creative person, and when she couldn't find someone with a high level of expertise in lighting design for a project that she was working on, she went to BCIT to learn how to do it herself...

—Issue 32

President Watson to leave BCIT

President John Watson, in an address to BCIT management on November 16, announced his intention to resign from the institute, effective August 31, 1995...

—Issue 33

Diamond mining: sometimes you have to be smart enough to be lucky

In the greyness where luck ends and skill begins, diamond prospectors roll their dice...

—Issue 5

My how we have changed! Celebrating 30 years of excellence

In the late 1950s, tractors and work crews were clearing 40 acres of bush on a patch of Crown land in Burnaby...

—Issue 6

Thousands throng to Open House '94

The rain stayed away and the people came in droves. Open House '94 was a huge success with more than 2,000 high school students, countless former staff and board of governors members visiting the campus on Friday and thousands of families viewing exhibits on Saturday...

—Issue 11

Assignment Lillehammer: TV instructor and student get international field experience at winter olympics

Getting on-the-job training is expected at BCIT, but for broadcast student Mark Ganzert, the co-op position also happened to be the site the whole world was watching...

—Issue 12

Bachelor of Technology degree, finally a reality!

After many years of planning and development, BCIT will now be able to grant a Bachelor of Technology degree, Premier Michael Harcourt announced May 3...

—Issue 14

\$32-million Downtown Education Centre to be completed by Fall '96

BCIT's new downtown campus will play a key role in making job training more accessible to thousands of British Columbians, said Premier Mike Harcourt...

—Issue 15

New advisor promotes cross-cultural understanding

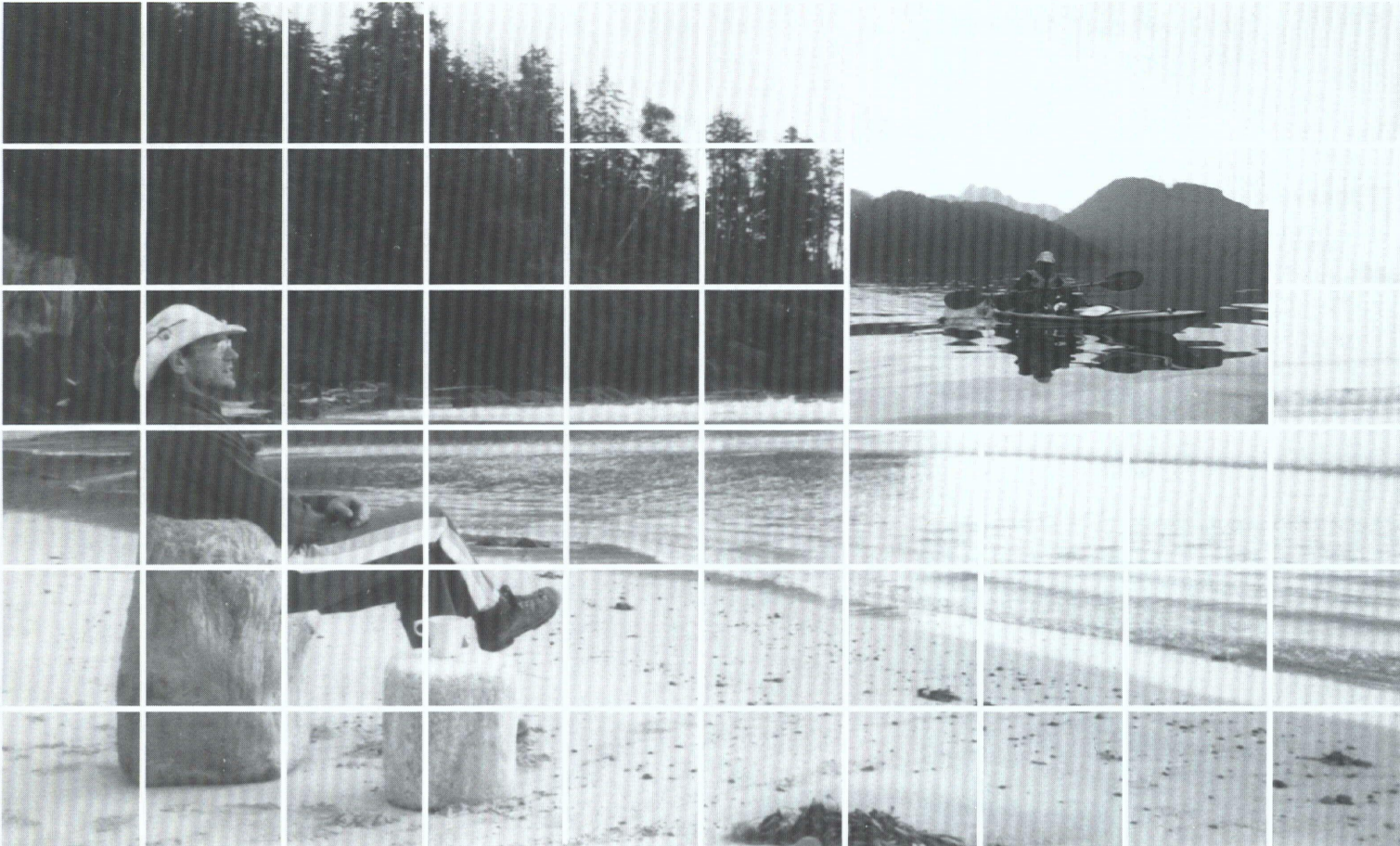
Brenda Ireland is looking forward to the challenges of her role as First Nations Advisor...

—Issue 17

The year in review: 1994

Over the past year, Update has brought you stories about events and people in the BCIT world. Here are a few of the headlines that graced the front pages of Update during 1994.





Voice Mail Hot Tips

Message confirmation

If you request message confirmation, the system offers two choices;

- confirmation of receipt
- notification of non-receipt

When you select confirmation of receipt (1), the system sends a message to your mailbox telling you when the recipient has listened to your entire message.

When you select notification of non-receipt (2), you receive a system-generated confirmation message only if the recipient does not review the message within a pre-determined time frame.

Procedure:

- press 2 from main menu
- record greeting
- press # when finished recording
- enter destination mailbox number
- press 0 to select message delivery options
- press 3 to select message confirmation
- press 1 to select confirmation of receipt OR press 2 to select notification of non-receipt
- press # to send

—from Gloria Mattie

STAFF PROFILE

Enjoying recreation at work and at play

Paul Fortier, recreation programmer, Recreation and Athletic Services, works in a position that he considers the best job on campus. "We have a great department, the majority of which is made up of students," explains Paul. "What people don't always realize is that we are an institute department rather than part of the Student Association."

Fortier came to Pacific Vocational Institute (PVI) in July 1980 with a Bachelor of Recreational Education degree from the University of British

Columbia. "I started as a recreation programmer before the PVI/BCIT merger took place. I went to Program Advising a year before the merger and eventually returned to Recreation and Athletic Services when a position opened up here," he says.

Fortier's job involves coordinating the intramural program, special events and instructional programs. "Our biggest event is the Quintathlon, a relay race that in a good year can involve up to 24 teams of seven participants each. At the

moment we are busy preparing for Faulty Towers, a construction event that will take place on January 25," he says.

While there are only four full-time staff members in the department, there is quite a bit of student representation.

"I usually hire 12 to 15 students to coordinate the intramural program and another 30 to work as officials. Intramural is our biggest program with approximately 1200 students participating in a given term," he says. "My favourite part of the job is working with the students

who on average fall into the 20- to 25-year-old age group."

Fortier's job is an active one but his favourite activity happens off campus. "Ocean kayaking is my release, it's my spiritual fulfilment. I usually go away for a week of ocean kayaking on the west coast of Vancouver Island every summer," says Fortier.

When not at work or on the ocean, Fortier enjoys spending time with his wife Jackie and their daughters Simone and Colleen.

—from Sheila Rees

Fitness & Recreation

Tai Chi

Wednesdays, February 1 to April 26 —1230 to 1330
\$27 for 12 one-hour sessions.

Women's Self-defense

A special evening seminar will be held Tuesday, January 31 from 1800 to 2200 on the topic of women's self-defense and awareness. The cost is \$16, and the location will be the weight room.

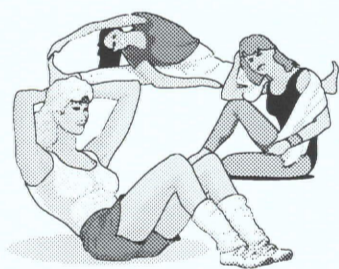
Line dancing

Beginners:

February 1 to April 9
Cost:\$42

Intermediates:

February 22
Cost:\$31
1800 to 2000 in Taps pub



Aerobics

Ongoing until May 12

Morning sessions:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday
0705 to 0755

Noonhour sessions:

Monday, Thursday and Friday
1140 to 1210

Monday

1240 to 1310

Afternoon sessions:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

1640 to 1725

Aerobic fitness classes (including step) are free for staff. Register at the Recreation office in the SAC. For more information about these, or any other fitness activities, call Gloria at 8287.

This week's enviro tip

Buy in bulk with a buddy—reduce waste & save \$\$\$! For more information on this week's environmental topic, call 8288 (option 2).

Staff News

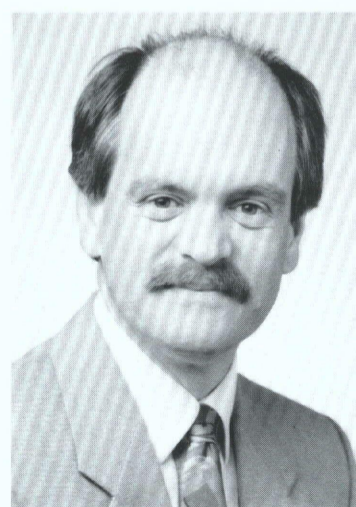
Kudos

Congratulations to Brian Anderson, instructor with the School of Computing and Academic Studies, who received the Student Association President's award for excellence in teaching. The award recognizes Anderson's strong desire to help his students succeed in their courses.

Startling workshop offered

Startle your students with vivid images of concepts, processes, and reality. Take them where no student has gone before. Engage their brains with bar-coded videodiscs!

This workshop is one in a series of workshops leading up to the Slice of Life '95 workshop (a medical multimedia conference) in June. Facilitators Tom Nowak and Griff Richards will help you bring high-tech pizzazz into your classroom. To register, call the Learning Resource Unit at 432-8927.



Val Karpinsky

Appointments

After accepting the search committee's recommendation, John Watson appointed Val Karpinsky as Registrar. "I have great confidence that BCIT will be well served by his appointment," said Watson.

OOPS

A photo caption in the January 16 Update's lead story failed to include Jim Bruce (back row, fourth from right). He came all the way from Maitland, Nova Scotia to attend the training session referred to in the article.

Classified

For Sale: Men's top-of-the-line Nordica rear-entry boots, size 28.0 (10 1/2-11 shoe size). Used weekends by retiring little old man in golf shoes! A steal at \$11. Call Michael at 8218 or 434-7184 to try them on for size.

For Rent: Whistler log home for bed and breakfast, \$50 per person per night. Walk to ski lifts. Call Jack at 5108 or 925-1433.

For Sale: Large three-piece sectional couch. Dark grey/black velvet, excellent condition, \$650. Pair of blue/grey authentic sheep skin seat covers, almost new, \$120. Call Lisa at 8431.

For Sale: Fluorescent orange 1976 GMC school bus, highway driven, \$3,000. Great for Partridge Family types or camper conversion. Call Ruth at 6900.

For Rent: Beautiful three-bedroom house, 10-min. walk to Coquitlam Centre, close to schools. \$1,250/month. Available immediately. Non smoker, no pets. Call 944-2963.

For Sale: 486DX80 computer. 8 meg RAM, 1-31/2" and 1-5 1/4" floppy drive, 212 Western Digital-HD, MS mouse, ATI Ultra Plus 2 meg DRAM graphics card, NI SVGA monitor, 2 game ports, 2 serial and 1 parallel port. \$1900 obo. Call Ronaye at 8738 or 922-1295.