

DEVELOPMENTS



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

Volume 5, Number 21

May 22, 1980

Plan scrutinized at forum

By **CINDY LOW**

BCIT's identity and the role it will play in technological education in the next few years were among the concerns raised at the Five Year Plan forum last Wednesday.

Other issues discussed during the two-hour session included the quality of education, applied research, capital and human resources, secondary school curricula and enrolment trends.

The forum, organized by a sub-committee of the Educational Council, gave staff, students and interested members of the BCIT community an opportunity to gather information about and voice opinion on the document.

About 150 people attended the open meeting.

Principal Gordon Thom, in addressing the issue of BCIT's identity, said that when BCIT was started in 1964, there were only two post-secondary institutions in the province (the other being the University of B.C.).

Thom pointed out that there are now more than two dozen.

"I would say our goal is to be unique, but it's harder to be unique when you're one of 24 than when you're one of two," he said. "If we aren't dynamic then we might as well be a community college."

"We're not totally masters of our own destiny," he added. "It's a complex system, largely beyond our control."

Thom also noted that "community colleges [are] striving to be not little universities, but little BCITs."

"I'm looking for uniqueness in BCIT and it's difficult as hell with the proliferation of all the colleges," said Dean of Business Management Ernie Iannacone.

There was also debate on whether BCIT should become a degree-granting institution, as

one of the goals in the plan is to develop and implement Bachelor of Technology degree programs.

Mathematics instructor Armand Paris noted that, for 16 years, the institute has been providing education at a level between the vocational and professional.

"I wonder where the degrees are taking the institution," said Paris.

"We have no mandate to pursue [it]," said Jim Caldwell of Surveying.

"Before we embark on the goal, we should establish the terms of reference from the department of education or any other powers that be," he said.

Norm Alexander of Forest Products pointed out that although the plan showed interest in developing new programs, it gave no support for existing programs.

The plan received criticism from several members of the group because it did not include guidelines as to how, or when, the plan should be implemented.

"It's a lot like the U.S. saying, 'We're going to rescue the hostages,'" said Don McLeod, of Chemical and Metallurgical.

"No one has said how we will do these things," he said. "I think we have to tell the government how we will do this before we go asking for money and resources."

"This Five Year Plan seems to be incorporating all sorts of things, but there are no plans for implementation attached to it," said Caldwell.

"This plan isn't a working



Richard Smyth, director of Physical Plant (left) and Henry Arthur, acting dean of Core, plan strategy during the forum on the Five Year Plan, held last Wednesday. Smyth chaired the meeting and Arthur summarized the session.

Bucks are the bottom line

The campaign for construction of a staff and student campus centre has come to a standstill pending a commitment for funding, reported the principal's task force at a meeting last week.

The task force, chaired by Dean of Students Jerry Lloyd, has proposed that students and staff approach the provincial government collectively for about \$4 million in funds.

The total projected cost of the student centre, with a construction gross area of 51,550 square feet, is \$3,685,000. The staff centre is estimated to cost \$737,000 for 9,000 square feet.

The figures are from a report to the task force from its Functional Requirements Committee, chaired by Director of Physical Plant Richard Smyth.

"Until we can go to Victoria, we can mark time," said Wayne Hepple, director of Purchasing and a member of the task force's Finance Committee. This sub-committee is headed by Duncan Macpherson, vice principal and bursar.

The task force put forth three resolutions which it hopes will be forwarded to the Board of Governors through the Ex-

continued on page 4

Parking policy in effect all year

Neil Chadwick and his staff are mad as hell and won't take it anymore.

"Parking vacancies are allocated to individuals on the waiting lists for the various parking lots from the top down as vacancies occur," said Chadwick, manager of Safety and Security at BCIT.

"This is the same way for all the lots on the campus," he said.

"There's only one policy and there's no point in staff coming in here and asking us to over-

ride that policy."

Chadwick said that the only exception is the limited number of parking spaces at the front of the campus which are permanently reserved for incumbents in senior administrative positions.

"If staff want to put their names on waiting lists, then they can see Helen Cartmill in Trailer 2T or call her at local 719, and we'll put them on any waiting list they wish," said Chadwick.

Chadwick added that the

reserved parking regulations are in effect all year.

"There will be relaxation of this rule during the summer months," he said.

"All staff must only park in the lot authorized by their decals all summer."

Chadwick also noted that staff members on leaves of absence should contact Cartmill to cancel payments and then arrange for retention of parking privileges for their return.

These regulations are among more than 30 in a document approved by both the BCIT and PVI Boards of Governors. The documents are available from the Safety and Security office.

Chadwick said that the flow of traffic on campus has increased to the point where parking regulations must be strictly enforced even during the summer.

Instructors meet NAC

BCIT hospitality instructors joined fellow educators, government officials and representatives from the accommodation, food and beverage service areas at the annual general meeting of the National Advisory Committee (NAC) held recently in Vancouver.

The committee, a national industry-directed organization, is interested in providing information and guidance in the area of manpower education

and training for the tourism and hospitality industry.

"We advise government about what should be done in industry to raise the standards at both the federal and provincial level," said Bryan R. Goodyer, of the federal government Office of Tourism.

For the first time, the two-day event involved about 60 administrators and instructors of hospitality programs. They met to discuss common interests and goals.

"It was a real breakthrough," said Bob Brett, an instructor in BCIT's Hospitality and Tourism Administration Technology and coordinator of the one-day session.

"We don't want to create our own association, but we do want the opportunity to get together to talk about our role in hospitality and tourism. The NAC annual general meeting offered us a good forum for discussion," he said.



Joan Cooper of the Directed Study Centre watches as four engineers from the Central Broadcast Administrative Bureau, People's Republic of China, study a map of B.C. The delegation visited the Anik-B project recently to learn about satellite broadcasting techniques in Canada. Two other members of the group were interviewed live on Anik-B channels. Photo by Cindy Low.

Back from Boeing

BCIT marketing students in the transportation and distribution management option have just returned from a three-day field trip to the Seattle area. The group toured the Boeing Corporation, the United Parcel Service Northwest "Hub" and the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. Students also visited the container handling facilities at the Port of Seattle and the International Sea-Land Services Pacific Container Station.

"The field trip is an excellent means to tie together, in three days, what the students have been learning over the past two years," said Ernie Maitland, chief instructor of the technology.

"The students are treated like visiting business people. All concerned who meet the students take the attitude that these young people are potential customers of their services," he said.

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
Contributor: Cindy Low
Production: Michael Kluckner
Printing: BCIT Student Publications

The next issue of *Developments* will be published on May 29, 1980.

For the people

By CINDY LOW

Victor Heath has been carving in one medium or another for about 45 years, but it's only been in the last decade that he's hit paydirt.

Heath, of BCIT's Forest Resource Technology, works with soapstone. He is one of a few in the province who can transpose a chunk of the heavy grey rock into a highly-polished *objet d'art*.

In addition to carving soapstone, he prospects for it and repairs damaged pieces for companies and private collectors.

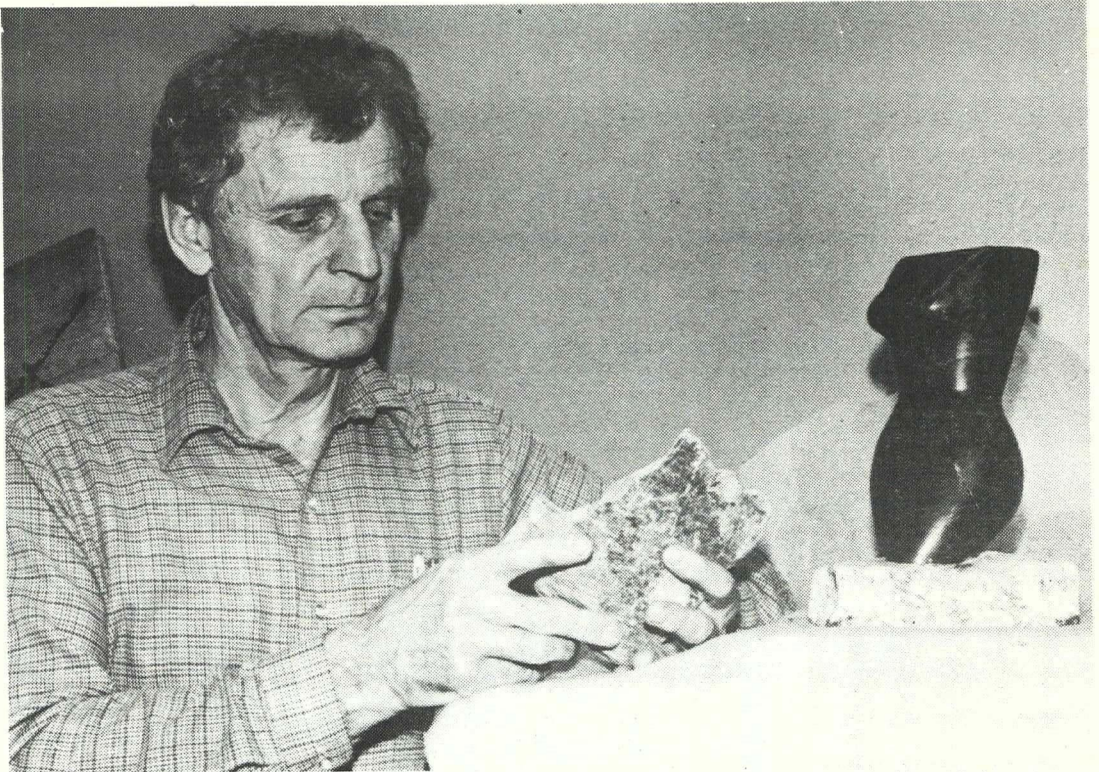
Heath started carving wood as a youngster, "mainly by instinct and eye." He has worked with African ebony and elephant's tooth, but seems happy now with soapstone.

"It's a very unusual stone," he said.

"Any carver who sees it wants it. It's just a lovely stone to work."

Heath has completed about 100 carvings in various shapes and sizes. He has carved three-inch whales, four-inch numbers to commemorate wedding anniversaries, and, more recently, foot-high human figures.

"They [carvings] are worth a great deal if they're done well," he said, adding that the small whale might sell at a retail price



Heath examines a piece of soapstone. The finished product, simply entitled *Her*, is Heath's latest carving. "I think it's the best I've done," he said. Photo by Cindy Low.

of about \$125.

To date, his hobby has not paid off in anything but personal satisfaction.

"I have not sold pieces of my own, although I have given some away," he said. "As soon as you start carving for a market, it changes your approach to it."

As for the prospecting end of it, Heath has filed a soapstone claim in the Chilcotin, although he realizes that the market for soapstone is relatively limited.

Getting the soapstone out is a complicated and delicate operation, and the quality stone is deeper in the vein. Furthermore, the stone is usually found in inaccessible country where rockslides are not uncommon.

"At the moment, we haven't gained anything—it's all cost. Sales are quite small, but it's something I enjoy doing," he said.

The soapstone then finds its way to the backyard of Heath's West Vancouver home, where he already has about six to eight hundred pounds of it from Revelstoke, Whistler, Stewart Lake and areas in Washington.

And when he finds the time, he looks at pieces of stone for a couple of months before carving.

"You don't make up your mind easily or quickly [on the

subject]," said Heath.

"It's always a challenge to look at a piece of stone and try to visualize an object in it."

When he does decide what he would like to carve, he sketches it on paper from six different angles.

"If you can't sketch it, then you won't be able to carve it," he said.

"Sometimes it's just as if the line is there in the stone and you're just working to it."

The carving itself starts with a saw or a hacksaw. As the carving grows nearer to completion, the tools become more precise.

Heath has to keep an eye on the stone for breaks or fractures while carving, or "you'd carve it and you'll get halfway through and it'll fall apart in your hands."

On many of his pieces, he has a base as an integral part of the sculpture. One of the reasons for this is aesthetics. The other is that the carver risks shattering the completed piece when he tries to bolt it to a separate base.

Heath also examines the various patterns and grains of the soapstone.

"You'd try to orient your carving to show the best sides of the grain. That's the secret of successful carving," he said.

Heath polishes the carving with very fine sandpaper and bare hands.

"You simply can't do enough polishing," he said.

"Then you oil it, rub it and oil it for maybe a month. Then you oil it again and put a light coat of wax on it."

The wax, a combination of beeswax and furniture wax, seals the piece as it hardens.

Heath spends a fair amount of time putting finishing touches on the carving. He squints at it from every angle, shaving off a bit here and a bit there, buffing a spot a shade more, bringing out the sheen of the stone evenly.

"You're hardly ever finished with a carving," he explained.

Heath said that he is often too busy to do as much carving as he would like. The repair-work he does for such stores as the Bay, Inuit Gallery, Images, Canadian Heritage, Cara, and "almost anyone else who does soapstone" also makes demands on his time.

He has just completed a course at the University of B.C., taken "to force myself to carve three hours a week." By the same token, he hopes to teach a night school course next winter in North or West Vancouver.



Ralph Smylie, left, Art Ridgway and Tony Elston show that you can have your cake and eat it too. The three department heads, leaving the institute after many years of hard work, were honored at a farewell party last Wednesday. Photo by Cindy Low.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

A wine and cheese party to bid farewell to **Jacque Jones** and **Wendell Joe** has been slated for 4:30 p.m. on May 28 in room 2N 204 in the Canada Employment Centre. Jones, who has decided to go into business for herself, will resign on May 30. Joe, who has worked at the BCIT CEC office since 1974, has accepted a transfer to the UBC branch. Those planning to attend the party should contact

Dick Forbes -Roberts or **Shirley Fiesen** at local 333.

Here are the details for those who keep asking about the availability of **Sid Andersen's** book, *Your Pennies Become Dollars*: Penny Stock Press, Box 430, Queens Village P.O., New York 11428. There is a 30-day money-back guarantee on the \$19.95 book.

THIS MONTH

Thursday, May 22
6 p.m.

BCIT advisory committee chairmen are invited to meet members of the administration and Board of Governors for dinner and discussion in the Food Training Centre dining room. One of the topics of discussion will be the BCIT Five Year Plan.

Friday, May 23

Exams finish

Saturday, May 24

10-3 pm

Massage—Level II. Workshop in Room 294A. \$10. Register in Campus Life trailer.

Monday, May 26

TDC seminar, "Systems Analysis and Design." To May 30 at the Holiday Inn, Vancouver city centre.

TDC seminar, "Computer Graphics." Sheraton Villa and BCIT campus.

Thursday, May 29

6:30 p.m.

Educational Council meeting in the PVI Boardroom. Among the items on the agenda is a report on the Five Year Plan.

Forum continued

continued from page 1

document," said Bill Sheriff of Operations Management.

Gil Johnston, director of Institutional Planning, said that the institute has to "forge new links, tasks and opportunities," particularly since the line between academic and applied technological education is becoming increasingly blurred.

"These are the people and this is the institution that will do it, and this is all the document says," he said.

Johnston added, however, that "without a consensus or without some relatively strong commitment to any plan, we might as well not have it."

Director of Physical Plant Richard Smyth, who chaired the forum and the council's sub-committee that organized the consultation process, told *Developments* that he was pleased with how the forum went.

"Basically, there was a lot of input," said Smyth. "That people stayed to the end says that they're pretty interested and

that it was important to them."

Henry Arthur, acting dean of Core and one of the organizers of the forum, said that he was impressed with the professional tone which the discussion took.

"The discussion and the tone of the discussion were at times critical, but always constructively so," said Arthur.

"I was very pleased to see the nice, clear, professional, direct interchange between Gordon Thom as principal and members of the BCIT community," he said.

Arthur noted that there was a consensus during the forum about some of the problems, but not about the solutions.

"It was well attended and it addressed some of the central issues of the plan. This meeting today brought to fruition the request by the board for consultation, and there was excellent discussion," said Thom.

Issues brought up in the forum have been recorded and will be the basis of the sub-committee's report to the Educational Council.

Bucks are the bottomline cont'd

continued from page 1

executive Committee: that the board designate fully-serviced land at a mutually agreeable site for each centre; that the board support the co-ordinated solicitation of funds from government; and that the board assist in the operational costs of each facility excluding the commercial areas.

A list of priorities for the student centre, drafted by the Student Association, rated the following at the top of the list: boardroom, SA offices, cafeteria, pub, publications and print services, games room, storage, reception, information kiosk and lounge/lobby.

Lesser priorities included a bank, multipurpose room, bookstore, hot kitchen, TNT, theatre, lobby, hair salon, travel bureau and daycare centre.

The staff centre would have a dining room, kitchen, meeting rooms, bar and lounge, foyer and offices.

Hepple, reporting on an earlier meeting of the Finance Committee, said that both groups faced the problem of obtaining "some damn cheap

money, or writing both projects off at this time."

"It was clearly put forth that we wouldn't be competing for educational dollars," said Hepple.

"The only way we could see it in the committee was to get some interest-free money—a repayable loan, whether it's over 25, 30 or 50 years, we can work that out later. Without it, the cold, hard bottom line was you just couldn't finance it," he said.

"I think for both of us, it would behoove us to join as a united front and go for the whole ball of wax," he said.

"Let's go for the whole bundle."

Treasurer Bob Greenhalgh reported that there now is \$20,000 in Student Association funds.

"There'll be \$84,000 this time next year," he said.

Fundraising for the staff centre may mean approaching the staff for fees in advance, said Hepple.

"The bottom line always comes down to the bucks," he said.