

DEVELOPMENTS

Volume 8 Number 10

A Newsletter for the BCIT Community

November 13, 1981

Teleconference Seminar heralds advance in long distance education

On Tuesday and Wednesday, November 3 and 4, BCIT's Distance Education Department coordinated a **Meet-Me Seminar on Teleconferencing** in the Teacher Training Centre Building, Anik-B studio.

Don MacLaurin of the Distance Education Department, coordinator of the seminar, says he feels the event was necessary to introduce the BCIT community to the many types of innovative instruction offered by

telecommunication presentations available.

There were 15 groups participating in this particular seminar, the Canadian locations being Quebec, Prince Edward Island and Burnaby, B.C. Participants in the U.S.A. were located far and wide, from Riverside, California to Princeton, New Jersey.

Adding interest for the BCIT group was the fact that Dave Brousson, Dean of Continuing Education and Industry Services,

The concept of a campus with no distance barriers is becoming a reality at BCIT. In September, 1980 the Knowledge Network began beaming programs from BCIT and other institutions to points across the province, via Anik B satellite. This September the Broadcast Communications Technology got in on the act by using the Network to relay their own long distance education program to Prince George. Now in its fifteenth month of operation, the transfer program has been an extremely effective cooperative venture between the College of New Caledonia. See story page 3. Another innovative step in the field of distance education is the Homebound Project, a system which uses speaker telephones to create a two-way communication link between the classroom and homebound handicapped students. A step in the same direction, but with different implications, came in the form of a Teleconference Seminar held here last week. Gloria Smith covered it for Developments.

telecommunication. All divisions of BCIT were represented at the seminar.

MacLaurin feels that adult education has to meet certain criteria, and stresses the need for 'the Human touch'. "The use of telecommunications adds the human element to a correspondence course by audio interaction, specifically for group tutoring," he says.

Briefly, a 'Meet-Me' is a two-way audio system that links groups of people in as many as 20 individual sites across the country using regular telephone lines. By using a portable conference speaker and microphone at each location, participants can dial a pre-determined number at a designated time and the 'Meet-Me' bridge links all callers together.

Anyone in the group can participate in the conference by activating the microphone and speaking. Whatever is said can be heard at all locations.

The 'Meet-Me' bridge for the BCIT seminar was located in Madison, Wisconsin, at the Center for Interactive Programs, University of Wisconsin-Extension. Seminar leaders, by means of video presentations and question periods, explained the many different types of

vacationing in Palm Springs, California, was able to participate in the teleconference at the university of California, Riverside Campus.

Audio teleconferencing is a relatively inexpensive means of mass communication and is particularly satisfactory when simple problem solving and information exchange is involved. Wisconsin's Center for Interactive Programs, through their research, feel that equal participation among group members is more likely to occur in well-moderated audio meetings than in either video or face-to-face encounters.

MacLaurin says that, "since BCIT has a provincial mandate, it has responsibility to reach the entire province with its technological programs."

"Telecommunication is one area being explored by the Distance Education Department in creating new programs and assisting existing programs in outreach" he says.

MacLaurin expressed enthusiasm about the response to the seminar and is hoping for even more BCIT and outside involvement at the next teleconference planned for February, 1982.



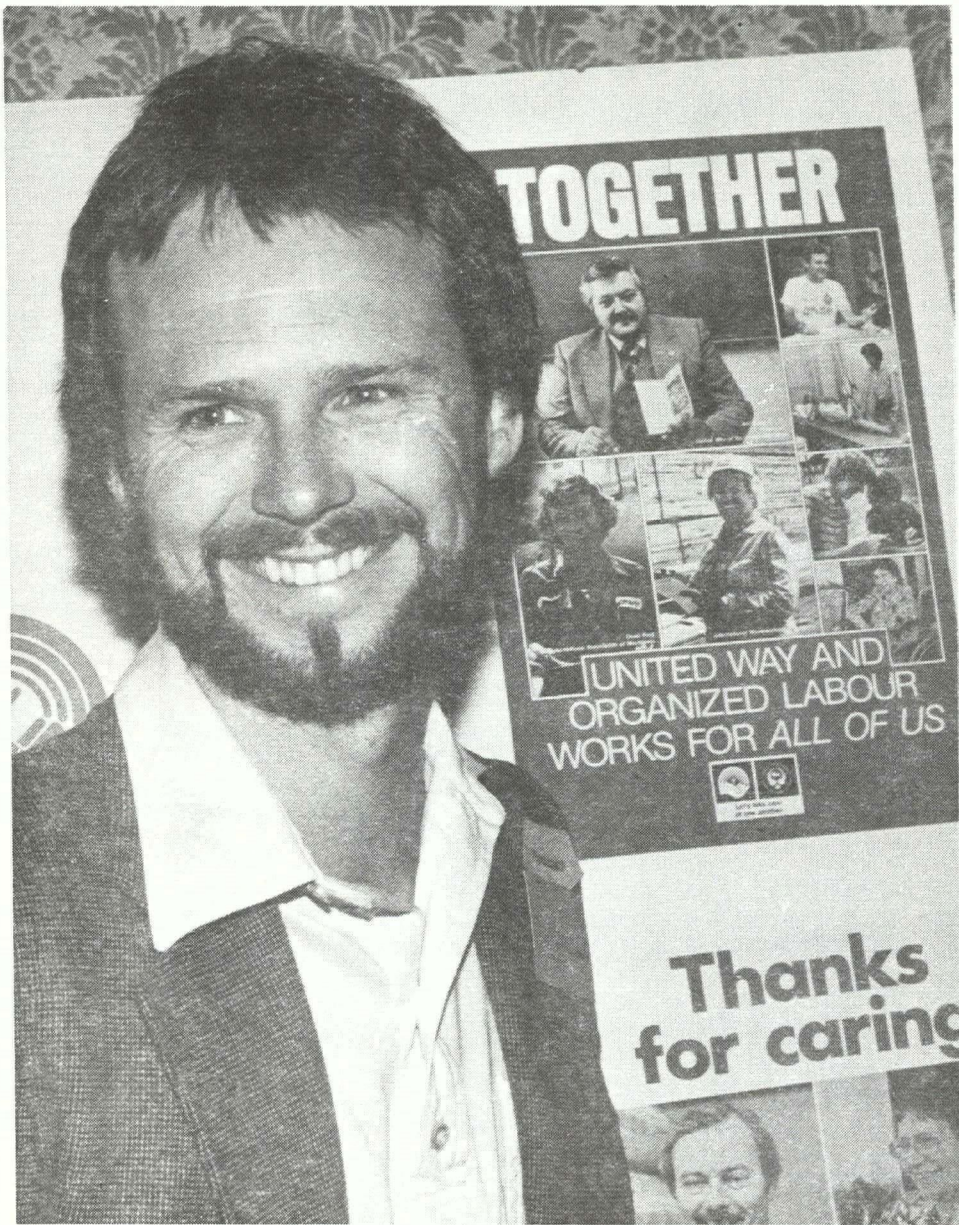
A budding young technologist twiddles the dials on an active filter display unit built by BCIT electrical students for display at Discovery fair. Approximately 26,000 people visited the event held October 23 - 30 at Robson Square Media Center. Photo Errol Borsky



Educational Council

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION TASK FORCE REPORT ON TECHNOLOGICAL TRAINING IN ENGINEERING, HEALTH, SCIENCE AND RELATED FIELDS

A meeting has been arranged for Educational Council members to review and vote on the revised BCIT Draft Response to the above report. Everyone is invited to attend this important meeting in the Food Training Centre dining room November 17 at 6:30 p.m.



Heart attack! Do you know what to do?

A one-day course on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is being planned for BCIT staff on either November 17 or 18. St. Johns Ambulance and the Community Education Resource Centre are the agencies who will provide the CPR instruction.

The course is designed to instruct students how to recognize and deal with heart attack and choking victims. You will learn how to ensure vital oxygen levels are maintained to the brain until expert help arrives on the scene.

Offered earlier in the year, the course received such a favorable response that members of the Health and Safety Committee decided to offer it again. If you are interested in participating call Bob Pullen on local 318.

The picture opposite should show all the BCIT employees who have contributed to this year's United Way campaign, but 132 people were a little hard to fit. We could also have shown all the dollars contributed, but again would have had trouble showing all 13,600 dollar bills. Instead we're showing BCIT's campaign coordinator Daryl Brice, who would like to remind us that it's not too late to make a pledge. Just call him on local 203 for a pledge card.



United Way

Universities told to cut, compensate and reduce

Universities have been told they must make substantial adjustments in programs to meet society's needs while facing a general budget tightening.

In a letter to Dr. W. C. Gibson, chairman of the Universities Council of B.C., Dr. Robert Stewart, deputy minister of Universities, Science and Communication said that increases in certain areas of programming must be compensated for by decreases in other areas.

"For the next several years I anticipate that increases in government grants in support of universities will not exceed increases in the cost of living. I recognize that this may create difficulties for the universities who have become accustomed to more substantial lifts," Dr. Stewart wrote.

"In particular the concentration of expenditures in salaries and the way in

which the demographic distribution and the university salary structure combine to increase the expenditures on faculty remuneration will not be easy to accommodate."

Dr. Stewart continued:

"Despite this tight situation, it will continue to be necessary that the universities make substantial adjustments in the programs they are providing, in order to meet the evolving needs of society. For example, the medical teaching expansion must go ahead to completion. There must be an increase in the number of engineers graduated from the universities, provided that enough suitably qualified students wish to take engineering. It will probably be necessary to continue expansion of the offerings in business administration. Undoubtedly there will be others.

"These increases will have to be compensated — probably overcompensated — by decreases in lower priority areas. It may, for example, be necessary to eliminate certain programs altogether from one or two universities in order that they can be concentrated to the point of viability. It may even be necessary to take some action with respect to entrance requirements which could conceivably reduce the total number of university students in the province.

"In the face of these difficulties the universities must strive to maintain and improve quality, which must not be sacrificed for the sake of maintaining or increasing numbers in areas where the demands of society are not particularly high."

Letter reprinted from *The Ubysey*, U.B.C.'s student newspaper.

Innovative long distance transfer program still going strong

BY LOUISE GOFF

Ten students at Prince George's College of New Caledonia are participating in a pilot program initiated by BCIT's Broadcast Communications Department.

The students, five in Television and five in Broadcast Journalism, receive one and a half hours instruction on Thursdays from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. "live" from BCIT via

satellite as part of Knowledge Network, the B.C. government's educational T.V. operation.

The first hour is devoted to instruction and the last half hour is left open for a telephone question and answer session. "This time allows for dialogue and input between student and instructor," says instructor Brian Antonson. The course, Basic Introduction to Broadcast, involves introduction to some television, radio and broadcast journalism techniques.

The students will spend a total of 30 weeks during the school year viewing from Prince George, complete a final month at BCIT then be prepared to enter their second year on campus. In addition to the inter-active sessions they are also learning cable operations and gaining hardware experience at New Caledonia, as well as the usual courses in statistics, computers and English.

The Knowledge Network recently moved its technical headquarters from BCIT to a former bio-medical studio on the UBC campus. According to David Roach, executive director of Network Services, BCIT was only intended as a temporary technical headquarters. Now in its

second year of operation, the network transmits 98 hours of packaged educational programming per week to about 70 B.C. communities, primarily to educational institutions.

Future plans for the system include a transfer to the Anik-C satellite from the present cablevision and Anik-B, and a "closed-circuit" network.

Firewood

Now that the leaves are crackling underfoot and there is a wintry nip in the air you may be on the lookout for reasonably priced firewood.

Some enterprising BCIT Forestry students are selling split maple, birch and alder at \$90 for a cord (4X8X8 feet) and \$45 for half a cord (2X8X8 feet). The cost may be a little more if you live more than four miles from the Institute, as mileage is added to the price. For an extra \$10 the students will even stack the wood for you.

Interested? Drop your name, address and phone number in the Loggers Sports envelope found in room 248 of building 1A and you will be added to the waiting list.

Election held

The BCIT Alumni Association held their Annual General Meeting and election of officers last Thursday, November 5. The following members were elected: President, Robert Fawcett, Vice President, Michael Deane, Treasurer, Debbie Cull, Secretary, Barry McKinney, Engineering representatives, Chandra Vinod and Guy Foyle; Business representatives, Linda Bell and Cheryl Hallum. There were no nominations for Health Representatives.

Developments, on behalf of the entire institute, wishes to express condolences to Forest Products instructor Gordon Harris and his family on the passing of his wife Jean, Saturday, November 7.

A memorial service was held Wednesday, November 11 at St. Giles United Church.

Persons wishing to express their sympathy to Gordon and his family may do so with a donation to the Terry Fox Marathon of Hope Fund.

ANNOUNCING THE THIRD ANNUAL CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, December 6, 1981
SAC Building, BCIT
1-4 p.m.

Games/Entertainment/Gifts/Snacks

* Special Guest Appearance from Father Christmas and His Helpers *

All children from age 2-12 are invited. Please fill out this form and send to Barry McKinney (Forest Products) before November 13. The cost is \$4 per child and \$1 per adult. Cheques should be made payable to the BCIT Staff Social Club.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Name: _____
BCIT Local: _____ Home Phone: _____
Number Attending: Boys _____ Ages _____
Girls _____ Ages _____
Adults _____

I will be available to help with the party for an hour or so:

- Yes
 Yes
 No

BITS 'n PIECES

Brighten up your party or gathering with lively barbershop renderings. Quartets, octets and choruses available at reasonable rates. Contact Ray Young on local 834.

For sale — Lady Kenmore convertible washing machine. As new \$400 o.b.o. Contact Jean Heggie on local 297.

For Sale - Braun juicer. As new. \$50. Contact Trisha on local 738.

Honey for Sale — \$1.00/lb. in 10 lb. pails only. Contact Phil Henderson on local 601 or visit the Student Association Office in the SAC.

If you have a service to offer, item for sale or rent, event to publicize or a lost/found announcement, please call the Public Relations Department on local 738 or 827.

campus rounds

Jim Mercer, acting director of Personnel, is now in the process of putting together a search committee for the position of director of Computer Resources. Mercer explained that this position has such a wide scope on campus that it will take a little time to choose the committee members, compose an advertisement to place in Lower Mainland newspapers, and then prepare a short list. Mercer hopes to have the position filled by early in the new year.

Jhere's a new buyer in Purchasing. Bruce Walsh is his name and he comes to us from U.B.C., where he was buyer in charge of scientific and medical equipment, the same position he now holds at BCIT. Walsh replaces Gordon Hunt who left September 25 to assume new responsibilities as a purchasing agent with Eagleridge Hospital in Port Moody. Walsh started his job at BCIT on October 26.

Personnel/Labor Relations has had a name change. In future the department will be known as Personnel and Employee Relations Services. The change was recommended by Ken MacKeracher, new vice president of Institute Resources and Development and officially changed by the President's Executive Committee. Jim Mercer, acting director of Personnel, feels the change was made to reflect Personnel's holistic approach to the employee.

Jish, Wildlife and Recreation instructor Mark Angelo was seen grinning bashfully from behind a newly acquired Canadian Citizenship certificate recently. Angelo, who came to BCIT six years ago, was born in Los Angeles. He explained simply: "Kathy and I decided B.C. is where we wanted to stay."

Inhabitants of Building 2N, long sufferers from poor ventilation, lighting and acoustics, can take heart. Construction Manager Larry Taylor has announced that funds have now been allocated for improvements and construction work is expected to commence early next summer.

No, it wasn't the gnomes of Zurich you saw at BCIT's branch of the Bank of Commerce on the Friday before

Halloween. It was Snow White, Prince Charming and the Seven Dwarfs. Fooled you eh?

Bank staff, overcome with Halloween madness, were seen doing the normal things bank people do in full Disney-style costumes. Sharon Jang from the bank administration office was Snow White to bank manager Mrs. M. Brooks' Prince Charming. The rest of the staff were Dopey, Sneezy et al.

Not quite Grey Cup claibre, but a lot of fun Thursday, November 25, when North meets South in the fourth annual Snowball football game. Kick-off time is 12:30 p.m. on the all-weather field behind the SAC.

Captain for the North team, Mark Angelo (local 836) explained that North includes all the offices in Building 1A, north of the mail room, plus the library. South which takes in the rest of the Institute and all the portables, is captained by Marketing's Ron Venne (local 587). All staff are urged to join in, either as players, or observers. Why not give your captain a call?

BCIT's director of Institute Budgets and Analyses Norah Andrew is normally found up to her eyes in PPBA material but she has managed to find the time to acquire the title of Chartered General Accountant (CGA), a goal she has been working toward for six and a half years. Andrew was accepted into the Association of Chartered General Accountants on October 10, 1981.

Ken MacKeracher, tired of hearing his Institute Resources and Development (I.R.D.) group referred to as Nerd, or other similar sounding terms of endearment, wants the group henceforth to be known as Resources and Development, or R and D. This is not an official name change.

Donna Eastman, administrative assistant to Ken MacKeracher, will have a new challenge during the next few months. She will be working in Personnel and Employee Relations Services on a special assignment set up to help formulate personnel policy and to organize the new arbitration award into a Staff Society contract.

Eastman, who graduates in December from BCIT's Personnel Management Program, is looking forward to the change.

Her position in Resources & Development will be filled temporarily by Nancy Young from the Institutional Planning Department. Both began their new positions on Monday, November 9.

Ron Siddaway, acting director of Computer Resources, is off to Costa Rica. Siddaway, who hopes to leave on November 30, will be working at the Costa Rica Institute of Technology on two major projects. The first will help the Institute to select and install computers and associated equipment, and to establish the organization and function of the computer centre.

The second project will involve Siddaway in the design of an on-line information system for the legislative assembly. This system will be located at the Costa Rica Institute.

Siddaway, who will be using his vacation and maybe some leave of absence time to complete the projects, will be working as a volunteer through Canadian Executive Services Overseas (CESO), an organization which helps newly developing nations by providing volunteers with different types of expertise.

Jhe Staff Society is holding a Technological Representatives Meeting on Wednesday, November 18 at 12:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in building 1A, room 288 and all Tech Reps are urged to attend.

DEVELOPMENTS

Director
Dick Melville

Editor
Trisha Mason

Printing
Don Wright, Student Publications

Editorial Assistance
Louise Goff, Gloria Smith

This newsletter is published every Thursday by the Public Relations Department at BCIT. We invite your letters to the editor, which may be edited for brevity, clarity or libel. Story ideas and tips are also welcome. Deadline for all submissions is Wednesday, the week preceding publication.