

BCIT Events to Come

Wednesday, February 15

■ John Watson will speak about the new university to be built in Cloverdale, in addition to holding a discussion about BCIT's strategic plan. All staff are invited to participate in this session, which will be held from 1130 to 1230 in SE6, Rm 233 (BC Tel theatre).

Thursday, February 16

■ A general information session on how to become a residence advisor at Maquinna Residence will be held at 1900 in the housing office (SW11). Call 432-8606 for more information. Applications for the residence advisor position must be in by Tuesday, February 28 at 1630.

Monday, February 13 to Friday, February 24

■ BCIT Board of Governors and Education Council elections

Friday, February 24

■ Deadline for Challenge and Workstudy applications. Have completed applications in to SW1, Rm 2160 by 1500.

Thursday, March 2

■ A new employee orientation session will be held from 0830 to 1630. If you are new to BCIT and have missed your orientation, call Dina Bedard at 8824 to register.

Enviro tip

Share newspapers & magazines—sustain renewable resources and cut waste! For more information on this week's environmental topic, call 8288 (option 2).

Today's Chuckle

Sign posted on a display of "I love only you" Valentine Cards: Now available in multi-packs.

Drywallers drop in on centre

Students in the Wall and Ceiling Installing program, under the guidance of instructor Al Williams, have been working on a different kind of project than they are used to. Sixteen students have been working with Williams on a renovation project in the Musqueam Nation on the west side of Vancouver. They are transforming a maintenance shed into a drop-in centre.

The facility will be known as the "Felix Grant Centre" in memory of one of Musqueam's young band members. It will provide the community with a haven where band members can go and spend time without the pressures of alcohol, drugs and violence.

"Membership decided that it was in the best interest of the community to create this kind of service," explains Janice Simon, Musqueam drug and alcohol prevention worker. "We discussed the idea with the administration and Chief and Council and we were able to access the maintenance shed."

"We are really fortunate to have BCIT students help us out with this project,"

After a look inside the shed, it was apparent that extensive renovations were needed to make the centre a comfortable place. There was, however, little budget to pay for those renovations.



Wall and Ceiling Installing program instructor Al Williams (front center) with BCIT students and students from Musqueam Christian School
Mike Gdowski photo

Desperate to find a way to make the plan work, Simon got creative. "I thought to myself, who would know what to do? Where do people go to learn this trade? That was when I thought of BCIT. I called the general information line, explained myself to the receptionist and she put me through to Al Williams. Al came over the next day to look at our building. His response was wonderful and completely amazing," she enthuses.

Williams approached Rod MacNeill, associate dean, Construction Trades, for approval. "He agreed to the project because the work that the students would be doing on the reserve was part of their curriculum. The students were very receptive to the idea,

particularly because it is a permanent project. Training projects are usually torn down at the end of term."

Drywall supplier Pacific West Systems contributed to the centre by giving the Musqueam Drug and Alcohol program \$1,000 worth of materials for \$300.

Trades instructor Ken Smith and other BCIT students are currently in Musqueam doing the finishing work in the centre, expected to open by March.

"We are really fortunate to have BCIT students help us out with this project," says Simon. "It is the kindness and generosity of people that make ventures like this one successful. We are extremely grateful."

—from Sheila Rees



Two Musqueam Christian School students try their hand at drywalling
Mike Gdowski photo

Vision sparks healthy debate

Faculty and staff gathered for an informal meeting with President John Watson on February 1 to discuss the BCIT vision statement 1995-2000.

Watson discussed the challenges that BCIT will be facing in the future and looked to the audience for their feedback in all matters. "We have to focus on the real activity here," said Watson, "and that is what happens between the students and the instructors. We have to recognize that our customer, the student, is changing and we have to adapt to this change with new tools."

Staff and faculty expressed their concerns about adapting to this change in an economically tight environment, where they may

"We have to recognize that our customer, the student, is changing and we have to adapt to this change with new tools."

not have the necessary tools to make the change.

Watson acknowledged these concerns, and spoke of a proposal currently being made to government for a pilot project that would help us develop the right tools. These tools, a recurring concern among the audience, include computer equipment and time for professional development. "We

hope that this pilot project will become a model we can use throughout the institute, learning from both its successes and failures," said Watson.

VP Student Services and Educational Support Gerry Moss also addressed concerns over computer equipment. "We are in the process of buying new hardware that should be in place this summer, and within a year

we should be in a better place in terms of technology," said Moss. "In addition we have a consultant advising us on how we do business in the computer resources area. We anticipate answers on this by the end of March."

Watson will be holding a second open discussion on the BCIT vision statement on February 15. "I appreciate your feedback and look forward to hearing your opinions. After all, people's perceptions of where the roadblocks are depend on where they sit in the institute, and that kind of information is useful," said Watson.

—from Sheila Rees

Going the extra mile



Award winner Bryan Fair and Councillor Lynne Kennedy (centre) with representatives (left to right) from the Downtown Vancouver Association; WHERE Vancouver; BCIT; The Hyatt; Gray Line; Tourism B.C. and Tourism Vancouver.

Bert Schendel Photo

Bryan Fair, Health Part-time Studies program assistant, has just become the first person from a non-hospitality sector to win the Vancouver Hospitality Award.

Last September, he rescued a daytimer from the middle of traffic. "I was running across Broadway to catch my bus," says Fair, "when I heard something land on the street. I managed to retrieve it, after the bus I was waiting for had run over it, and realized that it was someone's daytimer."

The daytimer contained the owner's name but no address, so Fair went out of his way to track down the rightful owner—a man who lives in Oklahoma City.

The Vancouver Hospitality Award program began at Expo 86 as a means of recognizing such random acts of kindness. "Nomination ballots for the award are found in WHERE Vancouver magazine and the

"Fair's nomination came from a Canadian business associate of the grateful Oklahoma City man."

Vancouver tourism book," says Eleanor Ajram of WHERE Vancouver. "These magazines are available to visitors at a number of places including major hotels. We receive up to 100 nominations per month in the summer holidays and approximately 30 per month for the rest of the year."

Fair's nomination came from a Canadian business associate of the grateful Oklahoma City man. A letter of congratulations from the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Economic Development

caught Fair completely by surprise.

Fair received an even bigger surprise at the awards ceremony at Vancouver City Hall on January 18. The program's sponsors were there to present him with a number of gifts, including a trip for two to Victoria on Gray Lines and a framed print from Tourism B.C., to recognize his act of kindness. Councillor Lynne Kennedy presented him with a certificate and the official award pin.

—from Sheila Rees

New dean of Business appointed



Gordon Farrell will assume his new role effective June 1.

Bert Schendel photo

"It's really the students who add dimension to a subject"

When Gordon Farrell enrolled as a BCIT student in 1964, he didn't suspect that being on campus would become a permanent way of life for him.

Now, 31 years later, Farrell has accepted the appointment of dean of the School of Business. "Moving on to new challenges is exciting," says Farrell, who will oversee programs for the 1,500 full-time and 18,000 part time students who attend School of Business courses.

Those 29 years after graduation were spent as an engineering assistant, instructor, and, for the past nine years, head of the Financial Management program. Farrell also holds an MBA, is a Fellow of the Society of Management Accountants of Canada, and a member of the Financial Executives Institute.

Throughout the years, Farrell's close relationship with his students has enriched his life.

"It's really the students who add dimension to a subject," he says. "It's wonderful when you see their eyes light up because they've discovered they can use their knowledge in not only their personal lives, but in their career paths."

As dean of the School of Business, Farrell expects to continue this dedication to BCIT students by keeping partnerships with industry high on the priority list. "I'm certain we'll be able to expand our links with B.C. companies to offer their employees the specialized training they need," he says.

"I intend to work closely with faculty, staff and other constituents to bring forward a vision for the School of Business that meets the challenges, opportunities and changes of the 21st century," says Farrell.

—from Ruth Raymond



PAWWS



(Personal and Workplace
Wellness and Safety)

Energy fitness —pumps you up

The focus of energy fitness is the body's energy-generating network. Since modern lifestyles are often characterized by inactivity, the energy network of lungs, heart and blood vessels can become weak and inefficient. Getting energy fit means restoring the energy system to its natural state.

The basis of energy fitness is energetic physical activity, but how do you determine how much activity is right for you? The answer is an easy FIT formula, where F stands for frequency, I for intensity, and T for time.



Frequency

Three times a week is generally just right. Spacing your sessions to every other day is a good idea, since leaving activity out of your routine for more than 48 hours means you'll lose some of the gains you've made.

Intensity

Trust your instincts on this one; if it feels energetic, that's fine — if it feels taxing, you're likely pushing yourself too hard.

Remember that on-campus aerobics classes are free, and the weight room has plenty of new equipment that will satisfy your need for energetic activity. It's just a short walk away from anywhere on campus!

—from Rec Services



Time

Fifteen minutes of energetic activity is enough; any less won't give you enough of a workout.

What kind of activity you choose is up to you. You can tap dance your way to fitness just as well as you can swim or jog your way there. The thing to remember is that if you enjoy the activity you choose, you'll be more likely to stick with it.



Voice mail hot tips

Re-recording your message

Before or after pressing # to mark the end of a message and before entering the destination mailbox, you can press 1 or 11 to review the recorded message. If you are not satisfied, you can re-record all or part of it by using recording controls.

Recording controls

Messages can be edited by pressing:

- 1 or 11 to listen to what has been recorded
- 2 to pause
- 5 to re-record over the undesired part of the message

—from Gloria Mattie



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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Managing Editor:
Carol Dion, 432-8865

Editor:
Ruth Raymond, 451-6900

Contributors: Sheila Rees, Ruth Raymond, Stephen Barrington, Rec Services, Gloria Mattie

Design and Desktop: Trish Anderson, Ronaye Ireland

Production:
Ronaye Ireland, 432-8738, Mary Murray

Distribution:
Mary Murray, 432-8410
Fax: 436-5762



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

Program gets new safety valves

An outcome of a special presentation in BCIT's Piping department on January 24 will allow students to see not only what is currently big in industry, but also what is up and coming.

John O'Sullivan, vice president, Westcoast Seismic Protection Co., presented Dave Bowles, chief instructor, Piping Trades, with sample earthquake actuated automatic gas shut-off valves.

The shut-off valves became part of the earthquake safety code in southern California and will be mandatory as of July 1, 1995. Earthquake safety valves have been installed on meters throughout B.C. since 1990 when the Vancouver General Hospital became the first of hundreds of buildings to install one.

"Six years ago the valve was sitting on a desk in Ottawa awaiting approval, says O'Sullivan. "We kept asking them when something was going to be done but it took about a year before something happened." The earthquake that struck California on October 17, 1989, made the difference. Within hours O'Sullivan received a fax concerning the automatic shut-off valve and the Westcoast Seismic Protection Co. was in business.

"By bringing the valves into the classroom, the students have the opportunity to learn how they work, how to install them and how to reopen them. After all, only graduates of a gasfitters program are qualified to reopen the valve because they will be the ones trained to know if there has been, or there is still, danger of a gas leak," says O'Sullivan.

"With more and more earthquake preparedness happening, we must remember the threat of fires if gas lines start to leak. The Lower Mainland is one of the largest users of natural gas, with 8,000 miles of gas lines under our streets. That's enough to go around Canada twice," explains O'Sullivan.

"The potential for fire is certainly an issue and the effects could be devastating," he adds. According to the Munich Reinsurance Seismic Study of a

major earthquake striking the Vancouver area, half of the projected property loss could be due to fires. Kobe, Japan and Northridge, L.A. bear strong witness to these projections.

Two of the gas shut-off valves are now available as demonstrational aids for gasfitting students. One will be securely braced to the Plumbing building gas meter and the other will be used in the classroom.

O'Sullivan, on the invitation of Anne St. Eloi, coordinator, Women in Trades/Special Initiatives, School of Trades Training, has spoken to two of the class A (industrial) gasfitting classes already. "Now, with the valves on site, the instructors can integrate their usage into the curriculum and students will graduate with the most current information available," he says.

—from Sheila Rees



Automatic shut-off valve is presented to BCIT — Left to right: Rod MacNeill, associate dean, Construction Trades; Dave Bowles, chief instructor, Piping department; John O'Sullivan, VP, Westcoast Seismic Protection Co.

Students awarded for industry-sponsored project

Students in the Computer Control option in the School of Electrical and Electronic Technology have the opportunity to work with industry sponsors on a project basis. Two students received an award on January 26 for the success of their industry-sponsored project.

Tomas Lili and Paul Scowen, in conjunction with Advanced Light Imaging (ALI) Technologies in Richmond, B.C., have created a video test generator to test ultrasound imaging equipment. "The generator has been built from an original design in a six-week period when the students were taking five other courses," says Jim Hayes, instructor,

Electronics Engineering Technology.

"When a doctor needs a photo of an ultrasound scan it is digitized and put into a computer by ALI's equipment," explains Scowen. "Then, the photo can be transmitted anywhere in the world. Our circuit allows ALI to check out the operation of its imaging equipment."

Although Lili and Scowen have now completed their course, they have been contracted by ALI Technologies to carry out the final stages of the project so that they have a prototype form to use in-house.

—from Sheila Rees



Norman Street, director, Technology Centre presents award to Tomas Lili and Paul Scowen for their industry-sponsored video test generator project. Bert Schendel photo

Chess tournament held on campus



Deep concentration abounds as students plot their chess strategies.

"The game of chess has many educational benefits"

When director of the Student Association Stephen Miller and BCIT President John Watson were lamenting the fact that their sons could beat them at the game of chess, Miller decided to do something about it.

Miller's seven-year-old son Max won the Vancouver Regionals for his age group last year. "He prefers chess to anything in the world and as a result I have become involved with the junior educational chess circuit," Miller says.

Miller approached Watson with the idea to sponsor a tournament at BCIT. As a result, the institute and Student Association sponsored a tournament on campus January 28. Three hundred people attended the event, including 150 chess

players. The tournament was broken into five sections, divided by rating and age.

"The game of chess has many educational benefits," says Miller. "It is part of the math curriculum in Quebec, parts of Ontario and parts of the Lower Mainland. The tie-in with math and science is based upon the principles of analytical thinking, understanding the consequences of your actions, future planning and good sportsmanship."

—from Sheila Rees

How to make claims for extended health benefits

To claim a reimbursement of expenses covered by your extended health benefits coverage, you must provide original receipts with a completed claim form (available from reception in the Human Resources department) to our carrier, the Medical Services Association. These should be forwarded within 90 days of the date the expense was incurred.

You may mail these directly to MSA at the address on the claim form or have the Human Resources department forward them for you. A delivery is made to MSA every Friday morning, so all claim forms received by then will be included in the package. Please note that there is no notation made of your claims by the HR department. It is your

responsibility to keep your own extended health expense records.

Failure to submit within the 90-day time period will not invalidate the claim. However, in no event will a claim be considered if MSA receives it later than December 31 of the calendar year following the year in which the expense was incurred.

Payment of the claim will be forwarded directly to you unless MSA agrees to your request to pay directly to the provider of the service and/or supply.

Remember that there is an overall \$25 deductible per person or family each calendar year.

For details regarding what is covered under your extended health benefits plan, please

consult your benefits brochures. Additional copies are available by calling the receptionist in Human Resources at 8384.



New technical university on horizon

A new \$100-million technical university to be built in Surrey will specialize in granting applied degrees, Premier Mike Harcourt announced last week.

Designed to meet the post-secondary educational needs in the Fraser Valley—the province's fastest-growing region—the facility will open in 1999 and will serve 3,300 students.

Despite its location, it will be a university for the entire province, Harcourt said at a news conference at the Surrey plant of satellite component manufacturer Norsat International Inc.

"In today's market there's a great demand for applied degrees," Harcourt told the crowd of media, politicians and senior officials from Fraser Valley colleges and BCIT.

"The key goal is employability ... through expanded access to education, students will gain relevant work skills, learn

advanced technology and prepare for employment in the labour markets of the future."

Set to be built on what's now a 29-hectare cow pasture in Cloverdale, the new university will be located on Highway 10 about one kilometre east of 176th Street. Construction is expected to begin next year.

An interim planning council soon to be appointed will decide what programs the new university will offer. BCIT will be represented on the council, as will Kwantlen College, University College of the Fraser Valley, business, labour, students and educators.

Unlike traditional universities, the new facility will make it

easier for people to return to school to upgrade skills, promised Dan Miller, Minister of Skills, Training and Labour.

"In all of our planning, we have not ever denigrated the idea of a liberal-arts education. (But) we think there is a greater need for a technical institution."

Tapped into a network of interactive video services, the university could be linked to centres around the province, taking the school's new programs to people who need them, he said later.

No name has been announced for the new university, British Columbia's fifth.

—from Stephen Barrington

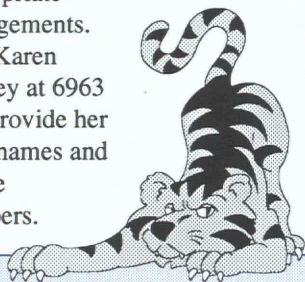
Plan to attend a session with John Watson on February 15 in SE6, Rm 233. He'll be talking about this important university announcement, as well as discussing BCIT's Strategic Plan.

Staff News

Shhh, it's a surprise

Howard Peto, of Counselling Services, is retiring at the end of March. The department is planning a "reasonably surprise" retirement function for him at the Rix Club on March 10.

If you would like an invitation or to participate in any way, please let Counselling Services know by February 15 so we can estimate the numbers and make appropriate arrangements. Call Karen Harvey at 6963 and provide her with names and phone numbers.



T4s available

You may pick up your T4 slip at the front counter in Finance between 0900 and 1625 on Monday through Thursday, or between 0830 and 1625 on Friday. All T4s that have not been picked up by February 17 will be mailed on Monday, February 20.

Departments on the move

The Registrar's office administrative group will be moving from their present location in SW1 Rm 1545 to SW1 Rm 2170. The move will take place on Tuesday, February 14 (Happy Valentine's Day!), and may disrupt phone service.

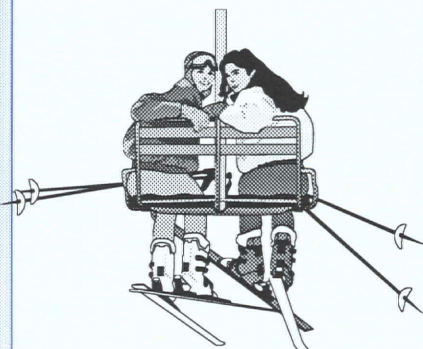
The Student Records department will be temporarily relocated to the old Technology Centre (SW1 rm 1100) for six to eight weeks while their offices are being renovated. They should return to their SW1 Rm 1585 location in early April. Student Records phones will also be disrupted for a short period.

Student Records will be moving during the week of February 13 to 17. During that week there will be a temporary Student Services wicket set up in the registration area (SW1 Rm 1311). The same temporary wicket will be set up during the week of their return after renovations have been completed.

Recreation & Athletics

Give yourself a lift

BCIT Recreation and Athletic Services still has lift tickets available at reduced rates. Adult day passes go for \$40 (Whistler); \$41 (Blackcomb); and \$20 (Grouse). Night passes to Grouse are also available for \$16.



Challenge '95 and Workstudy applications available

If you are considering hiring a summer student, or a workstudy student for the 95-96 academic year, ask for the appropriate applications by sending a PROFS note to FINAID.

The deadline for completed Challenge '95 and Workstudy applications is 1500 on Friday, February 24, in SW1, Rm 2160. For more information, call Amanda Hill at 8741.



Mike Gdowski photo

STAFF PROFILE

Charming snakes ...and students

On January 31, Karl Boerner, instructor, Development Studies, School of Trades Training, retired from BCIT after 25 years of dedication.

Boerner came to Canada from Germany in 1954 and worked at a variety of jobs before earning his degree and starting his teaching career in 1965. "I had to wait until I turned 21 to leave Germany, then I immediately set off for Montreal where I worked as a dishwasher," says Boerner. "Germany had just lost the war and times were very hard. I wanted to be the uncle in Canada sending care packages to my family if things ever got bad again."

Several years later Boerner moved to Vancouver and worked as a busboy in the Georgia Hotel. Then, in his next job as an arc welder for BC Electric, he decided to go back to school for some formal education. "I realized that I was spending all day long in a ditch and I just didn't want to do that for the rest of my life," explains Boerner.

As a result he earned a degree in Math and Science from UBC. "When I graduated from university I went on to teach math and science at the high school level. Eventually I started working at BCIT, teaching a

course in adult basic education, and I have been here for the last 25 years," he says.

Boerner's former students will remember him as "the snake charmer," the instructor who used to feed his corn snake frozen mice as students looked on in wonder.

Not only was he nicknamed "the snake charmer," but Boerner also became known to his students as a "mean old turkey," a title he stills holds with pride today. "I was disciplining a student for arriving late for a test and the following day another student slipped a note under my door telling me I was a 'mean old turkey.' I loved that nickname and still have the original note," he says.

Boerner speaks fondly of his experiences at BCIT: "I've enjoyed it all because the job has always been fun. Now that it is time to retire I have the opportunity to travel and visit my family." Boerner looks forward to seeing his daughter Renate who lives in Hong Kong, and his other daughter Carmel who lives in Los Angeles. I also plan to return to Germany to see my mother and step-father in Hamburg."

—from Sheila Rees

Classified

For Rent: Two-bedroom, two-storey townhouse in Whistler Alpine Meadows area available for mid-week rental. Sleeps six. Within walking distance of Meadow Park, swimming pool, ice arena, rec. centre, store and bus route. Easy drive to the Village and ski hills. Fully furnished, park right outside the front door. Only \$150 per night (\$25 each if you have six people). Call Sylvia at 451-6772 to reserve.

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 Rent: Whistler/Blackcomb large log cabin, two minutes from lifts, \$39 per person per night (some restrictions apply). Call 858-5644, or fax 858-9999.

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 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: 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 \$115. Call Michael at 8218 or 434-7184 to try them on for size.

For Sale: 486DX2-80 computer. 8 meg RAM, 1-3/2" and 1-5/4" floppy drive, 212 Western Digital-HD, MS mouse, ATI Ultra+ 2 meg DRAM graphics card, NI SVGA monitor, 2G/ 2S/1P port. \$1900 obo. Call Ronay at 8738 or 922-1295.