

Kiosks tried in Library

Roomettes - colourful octagonal kiosks, similar to those in Sedgewick Library, UBC, are to be set up in the Library lobby on an experimental basis.

They enable students to work together on projects with less disturbance to their neighbours or to study without distraction, and break up large areas into design elements on a human scale more appealing to the eye and psyche.

Access is through an oval cut-out. They will be furnished with a table and six to eight chairs.

Plan gives Department of Labour prime say in training programs

"A new direction for Manpower planning and training" has been announced in a bulletin from the Ministers of Education and Labour.

Comments on the program are requested of the recipients, and the Advisory Council is studying it. The plan involves a cooperative approach to the development of training programs. The Labour Department would identify training needs and take prime responsibility for development of "technical and skill development programs" in conjunction with industry, labour, the Education Department, and schools, including BCIT.

The Department of Education would assist in development of programs and have prime responsibility for determining which training facility would operate specific programs, and supervise operation of the program.

A Joint Committee would have responsibility for supervision of the cooperative approach, establishing Program Development Committees to meet identified needs. Members would always in-

Restructuring legislation now awaited

Presentation to the Minister of Education on January 31 of the final report of the Task Force on restructuring the Institute under board management followed a month of tumultuous activity.

Publication of the preliminary report in early January was followed by a series of open evening meetings of the Task Force to hear reactions to the first draft and to consider submissions by all interest groups.

Majority and minority positions on key issues showed an irreconcilable split on the question of guaranteed staff participation in governance.

As well as the Task Force twice-weekly meetings, a series of staff association meetings were held to ascertain the views of the general membership, for the guidance of its representatives on the Task Force.

At the same time the ramifications of restrictions on staff and Institute explicit under new legislation, the Public Service Labour Relations Act and the Public Service Act, became an issue of major concern in staff association discussions.

Daily staff association bulletins and meetings culminated January 15 with a one-day study session with all classes being cancelled by Mr. Goard at the instigation of the society so that the issues related to governance could be debated. A vote at the conclusion reinforced the stand taken by the Staff Association.

Dr. Patterson, representative of the present Advisory Council, sees the Board, with responsibility for the operation of the Institute, requiring the authority to appoint those who are to administer: "A communications system within the line organization for students and staff should be the concern, to ensure the internal governing structure serves the needs of all."

He also recommends that staff be represented on selection committees for department heads.

Final presentations were made to the Task Force January 28.

Mr. Goard has been impressed by the amount of work the Task Force put into the project.

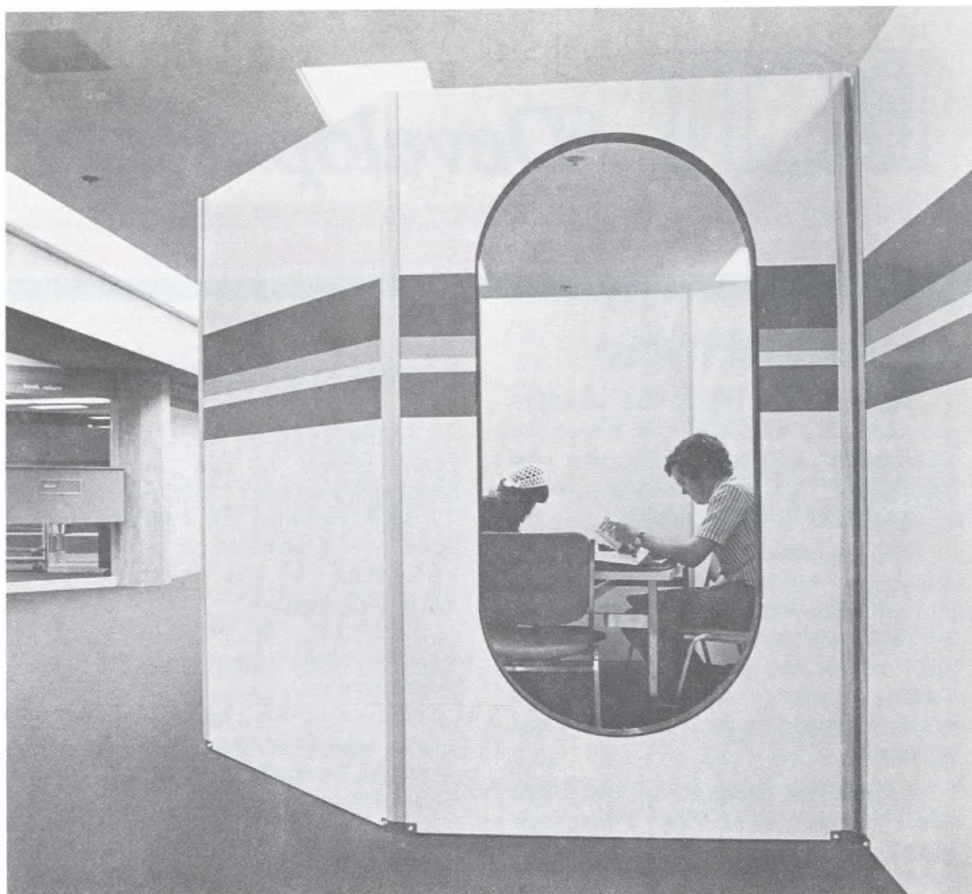
It is expected that the Minister, after considering the report, will have legislation prepared in time to be enacted during the coming session.

Library is setting up kiosks similar to those in library at UBC, pictured here.

If they prove successful, the study areas in the library may be "landscaped" also.

"...By standing where it does at the centre of the university - which is to say at the centre of our intellectual lives - with its books in a certain order on its shelves and its cards in a certain structure in their cases, the true library asserts that there is indeed a 'mystery of things.' ...they fall, when gathered together, into a kind of relationship, a kind of wholeness, as though all these different and dissimilar reports, these bits and pieces of experience, messages from long before, from deep within, from miles beyond, belonged together and might, if understood together, spell out the meaning which the mystery implies."

... Archibald MacLeish, poet, participating in the dedication of a new library building at York University, Toronto.



'Can participation be a bridge and not a bog?'

..."We cannot expect people who have grown up with the western liberal tradition to accept institutions that are run as oriental dictatorships.

"The key college conundrum is to provide an acceptable degree of participation in decision-making without bogging down.

"And the road to hell can indeed be paved by good intentions. Dedicated, decent people marching under the banners of Total Staff-Student Involvement, Academocracy, Participation, can lead us into one hell of a mess. The harm that good people do!

"The mess means more and bigger committees, sub-committees and councils and more classes cancelled or skipped to allow people to attend. The mess means more elections and electioneering, new kinds of political personalities, complaints about complexity, frustration of those with initiative who want to make things move and their ultimate abdication to a type of institutional nice guy who is prepared to play the committee game whether anything happens or not.

"... Are there ways of maintaining bridges between administration, students and staff? Can we evolve machinery for honest participation in solving the problems which are close to where the shoe pinches and can we do it without bogging down?...

"Let's keep trying to strengthen communication through the line. Divisional deans who are worth their salt should know something of the feelings, fears and foibles of the students and staffs in their divisions and with some degree of trust should

be permitted to speak for them. They should also be able to keep the Vice-President and President informed so that they too can speak with insight on staff and student problems.

"There should be greater use of ad hoc members on committees, councils and boards at all levels...the chairman of every meeting in the college (going) over the agenda in advance and (asking) himself 'which students and staff should I add to the meeting for this particular deliberation?'

"Then there is the 'Bounce Back'. Sometimes a deliberation or decision can be delayed until particular groups of students or staff have been invited to make their views known.

"Why can't most Board meetings be open? ... Guests will soon learn ... that power in educational institutions is very diffuse and that most of the problems dealt with by the Board are of little or no interest to students and staff.

"As a corollary to open meetings, minutes or summaries of them should be circulated as widely and as quickly as possible."

...W.S. Trimble, Dean Professional Development, Humber College, in Canadian University & College, June, 1973.

(Dean Trimble has been a social science teacher, Vice-President of Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, and Chairman of the Board at George Brown College. His academic background is in economics, political science and education.

Education trends reported

Total university enrolment is expected to decline slightly again, for the fourth consecutive year, while total college enrolment increases somewhat.

Enrolment in full-time programs will likely drop again, while enrolment in part-time studies increases.

Enrolment in academic programs will continue to decline, while enrolment in technical-career programs expands.

The proportion of the B.C. population engaged in post-secondary studies will decline again, both as a percentage of the total population and as a percentage of the 18-to-24-year-old group.

Number of mature students registering for part-time studies is increasing.

These trends are identified in a report entitled "Projections of Post-Secondary Education in British Columbia," prepared by W. Garnett Picot for the B.C. Post-Secondary Education Enrolment Forecasting Committee.

The committee includes representatives of B.C.'s four universities, nine regional colleges, one private college and BCIT.

Mr. Picot says the reasons for these changing patterns are still unclear. However, he says, many students have been influenced by their expectation of difficulty in finding suitable employment after graduation from university or college. He notes that the number of drop-outs from Grades XI and XII has been increasing for two years.

"There is a need to develop delivery systems which are not campus-centred ...

"The open-college concept must be carefully examined and implemented if this province is to continue subscribing to the philosophy of access for all to lifelong learning opportunities."

... Editorial, ACE Newsletter, November 5, 1973.

Mr Goard voices appreciation

On his return, happy to be back, Principal Goard reports, "Despite what some people may think, work and a regular ordered life - the rut - is comfortable and healthful. In case any of the staff didn't realize it, BCIT is a good place!"

'Officially' back on a part-time basis, Mr. Goard expressed his wish to compliment Vice-Principal McAdam who stood in for him during the two and a half months of his absence, and

More rooms in residence

Residence facilities at Wilingdon have been expanded, nine extra bedrooms resulting from conversion of some office space, in the administration area.

Classrooms are being utilized for Extension and nursing classes.

Notification has been received that application for licensing of a Day Care Centre is receiving favourable consideration. BCVS has the responsibility for its establishment.

Office move gives lab space

Ten Business Technology instructors are now happily ensconced in capacious offices in the 'portable', freeing classroom 205 for use as an English Department language laboratory.

With 800 square feet to an office, these instructors now have privacy for counselling students and for lecture preparation.

Venture is in the black

MARGARET BRISCALL, GORDON FARRELL and PETER WOOLLEY are creators of the successful accounting set Canadian Hardware Supplies Ltd. developed after UBC discontinued a similar set.

Now in use throughout B.C. and across Canada in colleges and universities, it sold 5000 copies last year and sales of 6000 copies are anticipated for this year's revised set.

It was first introduced at BCIT four years ago.

to thank the Division and Department Heads who "kept the ship on an even keel in more ways than one."

He thanks, especially, Graham Fane and the executive of the student body "who kept a students' program of great variety going forward to the benefit of students as a whole."

"Everyone carried on in excellent fashion."

370 to give answers

The present 360 computer, overloaded with Programming, Forestry and Surveying student work, will be replaced June 1 by a rented 370, model 125 computer which has two television screens with keyboards.

During the summer it will be tested and new usages developed.

It will be able to deal also with programs such as that of Administrative Management students, too large for the present facility, which are now run elsewhere.

With the Institute expansion in 1976 it will be succeeded by a new and different computer, capable of meeting demands at that time.

Long distance monitoring here?

A communication link between medical facilities in the Queen Charlotte Islands and the Lower Mainland is in the discussion stage, with BCIT Medical Centre involved.

Physiological and other patient data would be transmitted either by Telsat or by landline or telephone, in which case simulation studies could be done here.

"Student satisfaction with learning may represent little more than the illusion of 'having learned'--conclusion by 3 medical educators of a study reported as 'The Doctor Fox Lecture = a paradigm of educational seduction' published in The Journal of Medical Education. They suggest their study raises serious questions about use of student ratings of faculty members."

News Briefs

Gung hay fat choy! Staff were invited to join the Chinese Students Association at their annual Chinese New Year Ball, January 18 - a 10-course dinner of Chinese cuisine, with a Kung Fu exhibition and Chinese folk dance for entertainment.

Hawaii-tanned MICKEY McDOWELL, formerly with Columbia Bitulithic, is the newly appointed Staff Development Coordinator, Extension Division.

The next B.C. College Debating Tournament will be hosted by BCIT here in March. PETER WOOLLEY is chairman of Local Arrangements and has all information.

PATRICK THOMAS, senior instructor in the English department, was recently elected to a seat on the Greater Vancouver Regional District Council, as representative for Bowen Island.

A well attended afternoon reception for Staff on the Friday prior to Christmas, hosted by the Student Association and the president of BCVS Student Association, proved an enjoyable opportunity for getting acquainted.

Associates have been pleased to hear that DEREK MANN, recovering from open-heart surgery, is now up and about. He is expected to be back at least part-time after the Spring break.

Ken Brambleby writes

Kyoto
23 Dec

Dear friends:

Although Canada can only barely be considered a Christian country, it is not until we reside in a non-Christian country that we realize how pervasive the effects of the religions are. For example, I am locked into a Japanese work week system and will be in my office every day next week (except Sunday); my holiday begins on 28 Dec. and ends 6 Jan. It is the New Year that is recognized not Christmas.

This company, Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. is the largest electronic-electrical manufacturer in Japan and its past president and founder is famous for his philosophical approach to business. Indeed the basic business principle, enunciated and reinforced daily is "To recognize our responsibilities as industrialists, to foster progress and to devote ourselves to the further development of world culture."

Nowhere is the desire for profit taken to be of paramount significance. As it turns out, since the employees clearly know why they are working and what the goals are, the company turns a very respectable profit each year. But that is not the prime aim.

... I haven't yet begun to unravel the way that communication takes place. There seems to be considerable variation, depending on the division. Two important features, however, are common: the morning meeting and the evening ceremony. The first is a daily gathering for about 10 minutes of the employees in each department or section where a different member addresses the group each time on some appropriate subject. The manager or group leader also has his say. The second takes place at the end of the work day and all members sing the objectives --they have been set to music. In short, the intention is to build group spirit. A wise move for the Japanese, since they have an inherent desire to form groups where each person can recognize where he belongs. By contrast, our companies are barren open places indeed.

(Mr. Goard's comment: Daily assembly, anyone?)

Soon I will send information about a summer training program for overseas students - perhaps BCIT could participate.

With all the best for the coming year -

New in the Library

...Getting away from it all

QH Wilderness days
81 "Handsome volume--by one of
067 the most perceptive and literate nature writers."

R Complete outdoors encyclopedia - ("all the essential
SK information the outdoorsman
33 needs--" Includes latest in
S646 camping equipment, major
sources for advanced instruction
and lists of places for practicing skill, etc.)

R Sunset
SK Western Campsites: directory for recreational vehicles and tent-campers. Late
601 1972 revision. Fishing,
ALS85 wilderness trail heads, boating,
rockhounding, gold panning, reservations. Camp cooking ideas.

R The world wildlife guide
SB (Covers all the world's outstanding national parks, including 200 areas in U.S.)
W63 Detailed maps, photographs, accommodation, best time to visit, time required to see, fees, cost of hiring guides and equipment.)

R Standard encyclopedia of
GB the world's oceans and islands
471
H9

R A field guide to animal
SK tracks
232
M8

SH Washington state fishing
559 guide.
J6

R A field guide to trees and
CK shrubs
482
p43

SB 320.5 The vegetable book: an unnatural history. "The limits to what is edible depend on hunger and availability"

QB 44.2 Boundaries of the universe. A thoroughly engaging book on a most fascinating subject."