"looking to the future ... for 20 years"

Volume 14, No. 1 September 6, 1984

In honour of the Institute's 20th Anniversary, next week has been declared "BCIT WEEK" on campus. Staff members with the Institute since 1964 will be honoured at a "Pioneers Reception" on Thursday evening and on September 14 BCIT will celebrate its 20th birthday with all staff and students.

Since last reporting in the Messenger, some of the plans for this day have changed and it should be noted that the Honourable Jack Heinrich will perform the official rededication ceremony and not Premier Bennett. The IBM-hosted reception is by invitation only and will take place after the ceremonies in the Food Training Centre Dining Room. A coffee/cake reception for all other guests will take place in the Student Activity Centre, together with a screening of videotapes portraying the BCIT of yesterday and today.

The Rededication Ceremonies will start at 3 p.m. on Friday, September 14 in the 2N plaza with, as well as the Honourable Jack Heinrich, BCIT's first principal, Cecil Roper and other guests from in inaugural opening ceremony in 1964. It will be a time of reflection and speculation as we recall that historic day in October, 1964 when Premier W.A.C. Bennett unveiled the plaque that announced B.C.'s first technical school officially open.

Included in the program will be a presentation by Burnaby mayor, Bill Lewarne of a certificate proclaiming September 9-15 BCIT Week, music from the 60's provided by a regimental band, an official BCIT portrait of everyone present and an attractive souvenir program to take away.

To help create the "spirit of 1964" guests are asked to observe the official BCIT dress code and, where possible, wear their "old school ties", available from Linda Bell in trailer 1B.

The dress code, in effect until 1974, went as follows:

For men: shirt and tie, business suit, or sports coat or blazer with suitable trousers. For women: attire should be appropriate and in accordance with the regulations for men.

The ceremonies will also mark the start of BCIT's Fund Raising Campaign to raise \$10m in capital funds over the next three years.

At noon on September 14 another special event honouring BCIT will be held when the Vancouver Board of Trade presents a special luncheon to salute our 20th anniversary with special guest speaker, Premier William Bennett.



Welcome back to the second half of BCIT's 20th Anniversary Year.

One of the several events planned for this month is a rededication ceremony [see story this page] to commemorate the opening of BCIT in 1964. All BCIT staff and students are invited to attend the informal ceremonies in the 2N Plaza on September 14.

Because of the Rededication Ceremony the Staff Social Club's FRIDAY AT FOUR, originally scheduled for September 14, has now been moved to September 28. However, there will be ample opportunity to socialize and renew acquaintances during the ceremonies and reception.

Credit Your Colleagues

Over the years many people have contributed to the life and progress of BCIT, many of them unsung heroes whose commitment is largely unknown to the community at large.

Is there a person or persons in your office who has laboured away, often staying late or handling extra workloads in an uncomplaining cheerful fashion?

Is there a faculty member extraordinarily committed in some way to the betterment of students or a colleague who is unfailingly cheerful and helpful?

Do you know a member of the technical staff who has made an extra effort to make contacts in industry so that students may gain greater exposure to the working world?

Is there anyone working under very limiting conditions yet who gets a lot done?

What about a person or persons outside BCIT who have given their time freely to some endeavour and displayed outstanding commitment? Advisory committee members would come under this category.

This year there is an opportunity to give those people a little formal recognition and the kudos they deserve by nominating them for a BCIT Commemorative Certificate. The scope for candidacy is wide and the cases illustrated above give only a few examples of eligibility. It's not necessary to limit yourself to one nomination either. According to Anniversary Committee member John Leech up to 500 nominations will be accepted for consideration.

"Out of each technology we expect to get between 15 to 20 names. We anticipate that some department heads may put forward as many as 25 to 30 nominations, depending on the

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size of the technology." It is advisable that faculty members consult within the department before making nominations to avoid duplication.

Leech urges everyone, especially deans and senior administration members to give some thought to making nominations. He also points out that external people can nominate internal people as well as the other way around.

"This is a great opportunity to recognize and pay tribute to those who have contributed beyond the call of duty," he says.

The committee hopes that the majority of nominations will be in by the end of September and they intend to consult with sponsors on the best way of presenting the certificate. See below for details.

Certificates will be awarded to acknowledge and recognize an individual's distinguished service and outstanding contributions to BCIT. These individuals may be either internal or external to the Institute.

Nominations should be made in writing to the Chairman, 20th Anniversary Committee, c/o Dean of Development, BCIT. They should include:

• Name and phone number of nominator

· Name, address and phone number of nominee

· Relationship of nominee to BCIT

• A brief, one paragraph explanation giving reason for the nomination

If you know anyone who "fits the bill" [Advisory Committee member, faculty member, etc.] please submit your nominations as soon as possible. As stated, these certificates will only be awarded during the anniversary year.

Bookstore to sell popular paperbacks

The BCIT Bookstore has undergone renovations this summer in order to provide more sales space for a diversified range of new products and to provide a better display situation for textbooks. The sales floor has been increased by 30 per cent and storage space has been realigned. A new display window and counter have been added and a paint job has removed many years of accumulated grey.

A new innovation will be the addition of magazines, popular naperbacks and trade books in mid

September.

This is in addition to our already large stock of Personal Computer titles. A special order system is in place for those wanting to acquire a special title of interest.

- Ian Nash

Educational Council Elections Imminent

Prosposed changes to the composition of Educational Council, which includes provision for the election of two department heads from the Schools of Engineering, Health and Management, one department head from the Division of Academic Support and one from the Continuing Education departments, have been approved by the Board of Governors. Details of upcoming elections are listed below.

On September 24 there will be an **Orientation Session for New Members** and on September 27 a workshop titled, "**Pursuit** of Excellence".

EDUCATIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS — 1984							
Group	Elected Members	To be Elected for 1984-86	By-Election to Complete 83-85 term	Nominations Close	All Candidates Meeting	Voting Time/Date	Voting Place
Faculty & Technical Staff School of Engineering Technology School of Health Sciences School of Management Academic Support Division Continuing Education — Full-time — Part-time Library Counselling, Computer Resources, Timetabling	3 3 3 3 1 1 1	2 2 2 2 2	1 1 1	September 17 12:00 noon	TBA	September 18 Noon - 4:00 p.m. September 19 9:00 a.m 2:00 p.m.	Dean's Office Dean's Office Dean's Office Dean's Office Dean's Office TBA Institute Librarian's Office TBA
Faculty-at-Large	3	3		September 19 4:00 p.m.	September 20 12:00 noon	September 20 1:00 p.m 4:00 p.m. September 21 9:00 a.m 4:00 p.m.	North Foyer North Foyer
Department Heads School of Engineering School of Health Sciences School of Management Academic Support Division Continuing Education	2 2 2 1	1 1 1	1	September 17 12:00 noon	тва	September 20 9:00 a.m. · 4:00 p.m.	Dean's Office Dean's Office Dean's Office Dean's Office VP Education Office
Managers Finance, Administration Resource Departments	2	2					VP Administration & Bursar's Office
Students School of Engineering Technology School of Health Sciences School of Management Continuing Education	1 1 1	1 1 1		ТВА	TBA	TBA	ТВА

Alumni

Elections for members from Engineering Technology, Health Sciences and Management to be arranged.

Advisory Committees

Elections for members of Engineering Technology and Continuing Education Advisory Committee to be arranged.

Nominations

Nominations for all elections open Thursday, September 6, 1984.

Nominations forms are available from the President's Office and the Deans' Offices

New BCIT telecourse will offer starting a business advice on province-wide scale

Unemployment and economic uncertainty have caused more and more people to consider starting businesses of their own. BCIT's role until now has been simply to try and keep pace with the increasing demand through its part-time business courses, realizing that it was limited to serving only the Lower Mainland within time schedules unsuitable for many.

With the news earlier this year that the Institute had been granted \$15,000 to adapt a video series called, 'Starting a Business' for presentation on the Knowledge Network, those restrictions have suddenly disappeared, enabling people across the province to take the course for credit or simply for interest in the comfort of their own homes.

"Starting a business has the widest appeal of all business management training in B.C. today," says Randy Vandermark, head of Marketing and coordinator of study materials for the series.

"As well as the general public, we were getting a lot of requests from technologies right here at BCIT for introductory courses on the subject."

Both Vandermark and Knowledge Network coordinator Terry Garner are enthusiastic about this latest asset to BCIT's growing "education via television" repertoire. Both were involved in intricate day to day manoeuvres to acquire the course earlier this year.

In April the Ministry of Education announced a special funding program to help colleges and institutes acquire or adapt telecourses. Suddenly the race was on to make a proposal and submit it to the committee by their deadline.

In their acceptance letter the committee called the BCIT submission an, "innovative and creative proposal for the development of a course that will be a benefit to the public of British Columbia."

When "Small Business Management," by Raymond W.Y. Kao, was chosen as the accompanying textbook, publishers Holt, Rinehart and Winston offered to contribute finan-

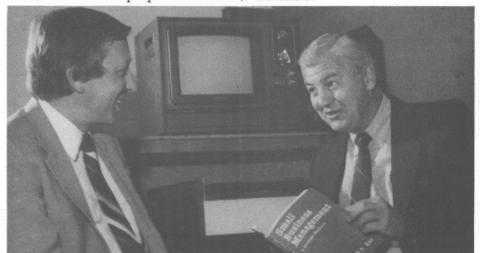
cially to the series. They also requested first refusal on purchase of new materials, written this year by Vandermark and faculty members Jeff Salton and Morie Shacker. Marketing instructor Lloyd Rapchuck did the editing.

When BCIT's "T.V. students" tune in September 26 through December 12 they will get solid advice on everything they need to know about starting a business. By videotape they will be taken on location to a variety of small businesses to meet people with first

hand experience. A one hour teleconference will follow each half hour KNOW program to enable students to call in with questions.

The Ministry for Small Business, which is handling publicity, will make taped copies of the series available at all of their regional centres across the province.

"Starting a Business" will run for 12 consecutive Wednesdays, 8:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., starting September 26. The registration fee is \$75 with an additional \$35 for course materials.



Randy Vandermark [left] and Lloyd Rapchuck of Marketing discuss the new 'Starting a Business' series during a recent editing session at the Broadcast Centre.

... Also this fall

BCIT has a growing presence on the Knowledge Network — literally — since the introduction of a new series called Hydroponic Gardening — Grow With the Flow. This is an introductory series designed to stimulate viewers' interest in applying a more controlled and productive method to their home or commercial gardens. It is produced with the support of the Biological Sciences technology.

The series marks the television debut of Bio Sci instructor, Jim Muir, who proved to be somewhat of a 'natural' on camera. Jim's co-host for the series was another relative newcomer, first year Journalism student, Julia Foy.

The taping of each program was a 'single take' affair in the Bio Sci greenhouse, with side-trips to some of the hydroponic gardens located throughout the lower mainland.

"Hydroponic Gardening — Grow With the Flow" is a four-part series of half-hour programs which will be broadcast on the Knowledge Network Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. beginning September 5. Each episode will be repeated the following Saturday at noon, beginning September 8.

Returning to the airwaves this fall is another BCIT production, "Money Management for the Eighties", scheduled for broadcast on Thursdays at 6 p.m. beginning September 13.

- Dawn-Rae McLaren

CAMPUS ROUNDS

CAMPUS ROUNDS is a column about staff and faculty members at BCIT. Although we will do our best to stay informed of all events, omissions will sometimes occur. To prevent this, we urge all staff and faculty members to submit pertinent copy a week prior to the publication date (every second Thursday) or call Information Services on local 738.

Summer Roundup '84

Martha Kellman, a faculty member in Psychiatric Nursing, gave birth to a son, Matthew Dhru, weighing 6 lbs., on June 16.

Circulation's **Michelle Philippe** has a new daughter. Bryna, weighing 7 lbs. 8 oz., was born at 6:45 p.m. on June 20th — in time for the summer solstice.

Health Division Records clerk, Chris Smith, welcomes a 6 lb. 12 oz. daughter, Bailey, born on July 7th.

Penny Wright, a former secretary in Health Engineering gave birth to an 8 lb. 11 oz. daughter, Elizabeth Anne, on August 17.

Bev Iwata, formerly of the Finance Department, gave birth to a 7 lb. 15 oz. boy in Grace Hospital on Friday morning, August 24.

Cindy Innes of the Registrar's Office and husband Derek have a new daughter. Tamara June was born June 8 at Lion's Gate Hospital, weighing 7 lb. 10 oz.

Debbie Holtz of Financial Systems gave birth to a 5 lb. 9 oz. boy, Andrew Alex Benjamen on June 8.

English Department secretary, Lorna Markvardsen, became Lorna Peacock when she got married last May.

Electrical head, **Ed Warkentin**, exchanged vows with his new wife Patricia in a ceremony this summer.

Rita Themmen from Student Records and Jim Southcott were married on August 10.

Another BCIT wedding took place on August 10 — this one in Detroit, Michigan — when **Mike Young** of Biomedical Electronics married Maxine Wilson.

Cathy Fleming of the Staff Society will become Cathy McGee when she and Danny take their vows on September 8.

Development Group's Lynda Bennett and partner Grant Watson plan a small and informal September 8 wedding aboard a 31-foot sailboat in Deep Cove. Lynda and Grant are waiting until November for their honeymoon in the Caribbean.

Campus Food Services staff travelled far and wide this summer. Colleen Shinnan, night service cashier at the Campus Cafe, tasted the life of the commercial fisherman when she landed a summer job as a deckhand. Colleen cleaned fish. cooked, navigated, and generally helped out while working on a commercial salmon-fishing boat during June and July . . . Roadrunner cashier, Evelyn Brown, visited Okanagan Lake where she went watersliding and, it is rumoured, para-sailing. . . Erna Stobbauer visited the Grand Canyon and the Napa Valley while Tina Taylor travelled to San Francisco and toured California. . . June Slightholme and Kay Konechny made separate visits to Reno where they each had "more or less good luck". . . Ainslie Peach reports that her daughter's new horse, a thoroughbred gelding Kanata pony, is like a new member of the family at the Peaches' home in Richmond.

Some other BCIT staff members travelled overseas this summer. Paddy O'Reilly of Engineering Continuing Education was in Switzerland while Paula Kent of the Development Group visited her parents and family in England and Italy.

The Library reports a number of staff changes . . . Carrie Dyke has transferred to the Registrar's Office . . .Irene Neil has left B.C. and BCIT to return to Nova Scotia . . .Terence Ollerhead has a new position at SFU . . .Cindy Themmen is now in the School of Health Sciences . . .New staff in Circulation include Jody Fostvelt, Shirley Clarke, Anita Louie, and Judy Cowland.

Karen Holtz has moved from Purchasing to the Division of Academic Support.

Good luck to Marketing instructor **Jeff Salton** who left this summer and is now doing private consulting work.

Farewell also to **Karen Ireland** of the Development Group who leaves September 14 to embark on a new career as owner/operator of a new muffin shop in Oakridge Mall.

In response to the transit strike, Helen Cartmill, traffic coordinator in Physical Plant, has organized a car pool. Would-be lift passengers and drivers are asked to write their names and relevant information on a big chart pinned on the wall of Trailer 2Q, the new traffic control trailer. Trailer 2T is now used for storage.

Election fever brushed BCIT this summer when dean of Development, **Dave Brousson**, took a leave of absence to run as a Liberal candidate in the Capilano riding. Brousson went to University with John Turner and was an M.L.A. in the North Vancouver - Capilano riding several years ago. Brousson would like to acknowledge the support of a number of BCIT people who helped out during his campaign.

President Gordon Thom has a new administrative assistant. Sheila Dwyer started her new position on Monday, August 27. She formerly worked for Mitsubishi Canada Ltd.

Margaret Briscall of Financial Management had a well deserved honour bestowed upon her this summer when she became a Fellow of the Society of Management Accountants of Canada. Margaret is a BCIT "pioneer", having been with the Institute since its earliest days.

News from the Electrical/Electronics Technology: Ron Barrett is recuperating at home after being hospitalized in mid-July and having several emergency operations. Ron is expected back on campus sometime in September . . . Dick Guy has been hospitalized since last May as a result of a brain aneurism. He is able to receive visitors at Lions Gate Hospital, where he is in serious condition following a shunt bypass operation . . . Reg Ridsdale, retired E & E department head, underwent a successful triple heart bypass operation this summer.

E & E department head, Ed Warkentin, reports on new full-time, temporary staff in Electrical/Electronics. Loren Boyle comes to BCIT from Microtel Pacific Research . . . Norman Cousins hails from NAIT . . . Mike Inch and Mark Lane were in private industry before assuming their new positions . . . Gary Schellenberg moves to E & E from the Physics Department.

Ancillary Services head Val Karpinsky reports that the summer was a busy time for the Maquinna Residences. B.C. School Sports held athletic skill development camps here and 500-600 students streamed through the facilities over a five-week period. The Canadian Olympic Wrestling team stayed here on their way to the L.A. Olympics, and the B.C. Safety Council held a one-week conference on campus.

The Vancouver Whitecaps, as guests of Recreation Services, held a camp at the Institute and the gym was site of a weightlifting competition at the end of August.

President Thom has been elected Vice-Chairman of the Vancouver Board of Trade for 1984/85. He was Secretary/Treasurer and member of the Executive Committee of the Board last year and prior to that was a director for three years.



BCIT's on-campus Canada Employment Centre has undergone some staff changes during the summer months. Alison Meunier on-campus recruitment co-ordinator for the last two years, began

maternity leave a week earlier than she had planned. Alison and husband Dan Schumaker's baby boy, Gregory Donald, weighing 7 lbs, 2 oz, was born on July 28, and is welcomed by the entire C.E.C. staff.

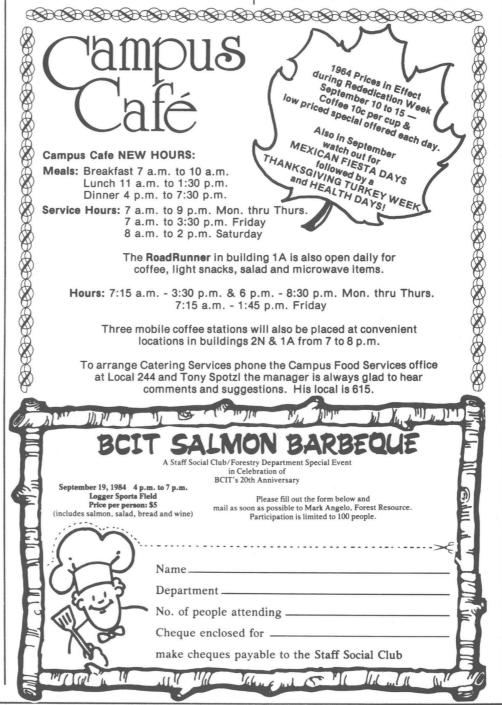
"We consider him our baby," says Bev English, C.E.C. Manager. "It's just that Alison's going to look after him."

Alison is expected back on campus in February.

Judy MacDonald has joined the Centre as an employer relations counsellor. Judy, a former teacher, transferred to C.E.C. on-campus from the Professional and Technical Canada Employment Centre. She has been with C.E.I.C. for three years.

Carolynne Tysen has been assigned to the Centre on a term basis, reflecting the Commission's confidence in the employability of BCIT graduates. Carolynne, who hails from Saskatchewan, is an experienced employment counsellor who wil bring new ideas and directions to the job.

Joanne Parker, who acted as the C.E.C.'s receptionist for the last three years, left on July 27 to train as a cosmetologist. The process of filling the position is underway.





Ron Sterne

resince BCIT first opened its doors 20 years ago Ron Sterne has contributed to its growth and evolution. There is every indication that he will continue to draw on his considerable energy and enthusiasm to help BCIT meet the challenges of the 80's in his new position as dean of the School of Engineering Technology.

Sterne, a chemical engineer by training, began his career at BCIT as a math instructor. In 1976, he became head of the Math Department and in 1979 acting dean of CORE. AS acting dean of Engineering for 18 months before his appointment became official in May, he has already overseen some major changes

Two short years have seen an increasing use of computers, the implementation of HITRAC and Co-op education, and the development of the three new Skills Growth technologies. The School of Engineering Technology has become well-known for these headline-grabbers, but Sterne, with typical even-

handedness, points out that there is something new happening in every engineering technology. Educational Council has approved a third-year Natural Resources Diploma in Forest Resource; Survey has put in a new one-year certificate program; Civil and Structural now has an option in Soils-Geotechnical; Process/Biological Sciences is looking into a program in Land Use Management . . . the list continues.

"I think that improvements to the curriculum are all important," Sterne sums up. "It's just that some happen to catch the public's attention more than others."

Sterne is cautiously optimistic about BCIT's future in an era of restraint. "I think that BCIT will continue to do an excellent job in the future," he says, "but it is going to need resources and I think we have to make sure we convey that to everyone — to the government, to our friends in industry and so on. It's a time of real challenge, but it's also exciting."



Henry Arthur pictured with staff from Medical Services, one of the several departments he now oversees as dean of the Division of Academic Support.

enry Arthur, new dean of the Division of Academic Support, smilingly admits that he hasn't has much occasion to make use of his graduate training while working at BCIT. But he hasn't lost his interest in the psychoanalytical interpretation of James Joyce's novels, the topic of his Master's thesis in English at UBC. He is currently helping a friend struggle through the Irish author's formidable prose.

Arthur, who had worked previously as a surveyor on the Alaska Highway for a number of summers, joined BCIT in 1970 as a faculty member in the English Department. He was working on his Master's degree at

UBC at the time and finished his thesis while teaching here. In 1976 he became department head of English, a position he held until the 1982/83 academic year when he was appointd to a post in the Personnel/ERS Department as employee relations manager dealing with the Staff Society. Then, in April this year he became acting dean of Core, a position which he held during the structural reorganization of the Institute which ultimately resulted in Core being renamed the Division of Academic Support.

In his capacity as dean, Arthur oversees Internal Education, the Chemistry, Math, English and Phys-

ics departments, the Library, Medical Services, Timetabling, and preparatory programs. Dean Arthur's other responsibilities include a post as Institute Liaison Administrator with the Student Association and an ongoing role in labour relations with the Staff Society.

"In a time of increasing demands and diminishing resources, he says, "BCIT is faced with some real challenges — and problems — in trying to maintain good relations with both students and the Staff Society"

Society.''

"The Institute is moving to change the way that it delivers education without affecting the quality of our graduates, and we each have to take our share of that challenge." 'm coming in at a time when we're gearing up for our peak registration of students and our new on-line ISIS system is about to go through its baptism — the big test of registering 4500 full-time and 9000 part-time students in a very short period of time," says Atley Morrow of his appointment as BCIT's new registrar.

Morrow assumed his new position in July after nearly 11 years in Continuing Education. During this time he racked up an impressive record in administration — five years as head and assistant head of Business Continuing Education, one year as associate dean, and one year as acting dean.

Of his new job, Morrow says, "I like it and I like what I see. This is a very good group of people to work with." He points out that the registrar's responsibilities have changed as a result of the Institute reorganization process of the last year.

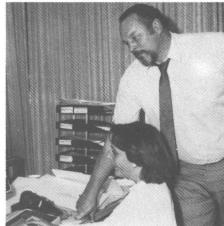
"I'm not only responsible for the usual functions of the registrar. Now, Counselling and Financial Aid, the Downtown Education Centre, and Distance Education report to me as well. I'm also responsible for the evening and off-campus operations of the Institute. None of these were part of the previous registrar's responsibilities," he says.

Gordon Kenyon, who filled in as acting registrar since Elaine Del Gobbo left the Institute about a year ago, continues as associate registrar.

"I am pleased to have Gordon working with me. He will be concerned with the day-to-day operations of the Registrar's Office," says Morrow, who holds B.A./B.Ed. degrees as well as a M.Ed. in Counselling Psychology.

Another recent appointment in the Registrar's Office is that of Carl Chiko, who assumes the post of evening manager. Chiko, formerly coordinator of Administrative Management and Marketing programs in

Business Continuing Education, will be responsible for overall coordination of the Institute's part-time evening and weekend courses. He will also act as liaison with Continuing Education departments in the three schools and the Division of Academic Support. Chiko will be on duty at the Institute from 12 noon to 10 p.m. Monday to Friday and on weekends as needed.



Atley Morrow

PIR hold conference

This past spring BCIT's Personnel and Industrial Relations Program co-sponsored the Computers for Personnel-Labor Relations Exhibition with IRMA, the Industrial Relations Management Association of B.C.

Over 200 personnel and labour relations professionals and business managers from throughout B.C., the prairie provinces and Washington state attended the event held at Robson Square Media Centre April 11 and 12. At the opening ceremonies John Kyle, dean of the School of Management, emphasized the significant role of technology in increasing industrial productivity.

It was the first exhibition of its kind in that it provided industry with direct access to the most recent and innovative computer expertise available for application in personnel and labour relations.

The Personnel and Industrial Relations faculty moderated a number of computer application workshops. The faculty plays a key role in assisting various firms in B.C. plan their future human resource needs through the framework of the Manpower Adjustment Committee, jointly sponsored by BCIT and Canada Employment and Immigration.

- Larry Jones

New Health Staff Appointed

The School of Health Sciences has announced the following appointments:

GEORGE EISLER, department head of Health Engineering. Mr. Eisler comes to BCIT from the Royal Columbian Hospital where he was head of Biomedical Engineering. His office is located in room 418 of the 2N building and he can be reached at local 221.

JANNIE SCRIABIN, department head of Medical Laboratory. As a former faculty member, Mrs. Scriabin has been acting in this capacity for several months. She can be contacted in room 313 of the 1A building or at local 295.

PAT ROGERS, acting department head of Radiological Technical Ser-



George Eisler

vices. Ms. Rogers replaces Dave Martin, department head of Basic Health Sciences, who has been acting head for the past several months. Ms. Rogers can be contacted at local 296.

New database system adopted by Library

In January 1984, the Institute gave approval to the Library for purchase of DOBIS, the Dortmund Library System. DOBIS, an acronym for Dordmunder Bibliothekssystem, is an on-line interactive system that integrates all major library functions into one database. In addition to the

implementation of cataloguing and circulation in the first year of operation, the system will provide for an on-line public access catalogue (OPAC). Users will be able to search the database from a terminal instead of using the microfiche catalogue.

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BCIT will be the first library in British Columbia, if not Canada, to have an entire catalogue on-line available to students and faculty. As part of the implementation, the designers of this system, which operates all over Europe, will be visiting BCIT on September 20. Caryl and Stratton McAllister, who work for IBM in Stuttgart, Germany, are visiting a number of Canadian installations of DOBIS. More details of the DOBIS project will be given in the next issue of the Messenger.

— Paula Pick

Co-op Coordinators

As most people at the Institute are aware, Electrical/Electronics, in conjunction with the HITRAC system and the modularization of courses, is introducing a co-operative education program this fall. A report on the progress of the program will be included in a later issue of The Messenger but in this issue we would like to introduce you to the people who are making co-op education a reality at BCIT.

E & E's three co-op coordinators — Audrey Tucker and Kerry Jothen, who began their full-time jobs last April, and Ernst Wilmink, who started half-time in July — report to Electrical head Ed Warkentin and continue on contract until the end of the year.

Audrey Tucker comes to BCIT from the private sector. Tucker hired co-op students while she was employed at Bell Northern and Microtel Pacific, so she understands an employer's perspective on co-op education. Immediately prior to coming here, she was a consultant for Microtel's Personnel Department. Previous to that, she spent three years at Bell Northern Research in Edmonton, where she acted as Executive Assistant to the Director and Human Resources Coordinator. She has also worked in management at the TransCanada Telephone System and at Bell Canada International.

Besides her years of experience, Audrey brings a human — and often humorous — touch to her new role. She is quite willing to draw on her experience as a parent to deal with the students whom she fondly calls, "the boys" (except for the two young women who are currently co-op students). She sometimes appeals to parental feelings when marketing the program to would-be employers.

"As a parent myself, I often approach a contact from the point of view of kids these days having a hard time. I talk about how the work term will help them get a resume together, get work experience, learn about the realitites of the work world and, especially, understand the importance of communication and teamwork — something lots of students aren't aware of."

Of her position at BCIT, Tucker says, "I've found working here a very interesting learning experience. For the first time in my working life I find I have to set my own goals. It's very different from being in private industry."

Kerry Jothen had 11 months left on the most recent of a series of one-year contracts he has had with the Ministry of Education when he came here last April.

"From a personal perspective, I enjoy the challenge of being pioneers setting up a new program, of having input into procedures and basic policy. It's exciting to be directly involved in setting up something new and dynamic," he says.

Jothen is enthusiastic about the concept of co-operative education, seeing it as a bridge between the two worlds of school and work. He and his colleagues have found that the great majority of employers share that enthusiasm. 'It's almost a given fact that it's a good idea. It's hard to argue with co-op education from a common-sense point of view. But convincing employers to actually participate is part of the challenge of our job," Jothen says.

Jothen, who has a B.A. in Psychology/Criminology from Simon Fraser University, worked for seven years in industry liaison roles with the Ministries of Education and Labour. His duties involved identifying private employers' training needs, developing programs, and administering funding programs for training, job creation and employment. His extensive field work brought him in contact with over 2500 companies, and those contacts have proved useful in the employer liaison/marketing aspects of the co-op coordinator's job.

"Unemployment, education, training, skills shortages, the effects of

technology on the workplace — these are all crucial issues. They are all interrelated, very important and directly related to co-op education. For all these reasons, co-op education is a thing of the present and the future," says Jothen.

Ernst Wilmink, since July the third member of the co-op coordinators' team, has been a half-time instructor in Recreation Facilities Management on an ongoing basis for the last four years. He has also, from time to time, taught Organizational Behaviour in Business Management, Broadcast, Financial Management and Operations Management.

Before coming to BCIT, Wilmink was the Deputy Director of Leisure Services in the Corporation of the Township of Richmond for 10 years. In that capacity, he looked after staffing and programming at Richmond's recreational facilities — ice rinks, swimming pools, pitch 'n' putt, tennis courts, and community centres. The 'people skills' he acquired there serve him well in his new position.

"Working in a municipality, one has to relate to Council, School Board, Parks and Recreation — any number of organizations. I was able to build up skills in identifying people's needs and interests, translating those into objectives, and formulating the procedures necessary to get the job done."

"This position in co-op offers to me personally an opportunity to become involved in industry. Teaching is interesting and important but I have missed the active, dynamic interaction with industry. Combining the two is what interests me most," says Wilmink.

Wilmink performs the same functions as Tucker and Jothen, but he has been informally assigned as coordinator for all of British Columbia outside of the Lower Mainland. That involves a certain amount of travel and he describes a recent three-day blitz of all major points on Vancouver Island as, "very intense."

Judy Lien, as half-time secretary for the project, is indispensible, say the co-op coordinators. An employee at BCIT for the past three years, her job includes a certain amount of administration and a great deal of public relations.

"Judy is our anchor," says Wilmink.

— Ann Schaefer