

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM COLLEGE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC CURRENTS

College Awards of Excellence winners announced

Winners of the college's 2002 Awards of Excellence have been selected.

In the Leadership category the winner is John King, manager of the Distributed Learning Centre; the Staff winner is Debbie McCarthy, a laboratory technologist at Ridge Road campus; Teaching is Ben Turpin, Steamfitter/Pipefitter instructor at Clarendville campus; Student is Dawn Hamilton, a Mining and Mineral Processing Technician student at Labrador West campus; and the Program winner is the Occupational Therapist's Assistant/ Physiotherapist's Assistant program at Prince Philip Drive campus.

These five will now go on to represent the college in the Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC) Awards of Excellence competition.

"A company or organization is only as good as its employees, and College of the North Atlantic is fortunate to have a fantastic group of staff, faculty, and administration," says Stephen Lee, the college's communications manager, who coordinated the awards program.

"We had nominees for each category from all five districts in the college system, and the judges had a difficult time trying to choose one for each category from all the excellent nomination packages."

Other nominees included:

District 1 – Program: College University Transfer Year; Leadership: Bob Simms; Staff: Valerie Hart; Teaching: Cynthia Walsh.

District 2 – Program: Journalism;

Leadership: Sylvia Alexander; Staff: Nellie Bragg; Teaching: Marg Lockyer; Student: Margie Lewis.

District 3 – Program: Aircraft Maintenance Engineering Technology; Leadership: Cyril Farrell; Staff: Linus Doyle; Teaching: Cyril Snook; Student: Patricia Clark.

District 4 – Program: Commercial Cooking; Staff: Cavell Saunders; Student: Raphael Soucey.

District 5 – Leadership: Donna Feltham; Teaching: Katie Parnham; and Student: Scott Ivany.

"I've read through all of the nomination packages and do not envy the job of judges on the various selection committees," says Lee. "Any of our candidates would have been strong contenders for the ACCC awards competition. However, the judges could only select one winner in each category and I thank them for the time and effort they devoted to this important process."

Lee also extends his thanks to those who put the nomination packages together at each of the campuses and for the various districts.

"They weren't given a whole lot of time to pull these packages together, but the results were phenomenal," he says.

"I'd also like to say congratulations to all the nominees. They should be very proud of the recognition bestowed upon them by their peers."

The college will learn whether any of its entrants for the ACCC competition were successful by mid-March.

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Santa visits

Santa Claus handed out gifts at the annual children's Christmas party held at Bay St. George campus. People at the party noted "...you never see Santa and Robert Rideout, Director of Administration, in the same place at once." Makes you wonder...



Queen's Golden Jubilee Award winners

Eleven former employees of College of the North Atlantic were recognized for their contributions to the province's public college system at a special medal presentation ceremony held at the college's Prince Philip Drive campus in St. John's on November 28.

The 11 recipients each received Queen's Golden Jubilee Medals – a special medal crafted to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Queen's ascension to the throne, and a certificate. The medals were presented by Senator Ethel Cochrane.

Receiving medals and certificates were: Dorm Chipp, Fintan Costello, Dolorosa Dollard, Kenneth F. Duggan, Doug Fowlow, Fred Green, Donald G. Heale, Newman Kelland, Arend (Art) van Kesteren, Ron Sparkes, and Eric G. Yetman.



Front: Senator Ethel Cochrane, Fred Green, Dolorosa Dollard, Art van Kesteren, Dorm Chipp. Back: Ron Sparkes, Douglas Fowlow, Eric Yetman, Fintan Costello, Kenneth Duggan, and Donald Heale. Missing from photo is Newman Kelland.

An organization of excellence an editorial by Stephen Lee

Like all of you I'm sure, there are times when I feel overwhelmed with work. From one deadline to another, one major project to the next, there's hardly time to take a step back from it all and truly appreciate what we are doing as an organization.

I'm not sure if it's all the snow and the Christmas season approaching, or Trent Keough's letter from Qatar in this issue, or the nomination packages I reviewed for our Awards of Excellence – and maybe it's a combination of all three, but lately I'm beginning to feel an even greater sense of pride about this college and our accomplishments.

Let me start with Qatar.

It seems like only a short while ago that our President Pamela Walsh came into my office and told me we needed to put together a proposal to construct a college for a country in the Middle East. I had no idea where to begin, but with her guidance and the enlisted help of several other college employees, we were able to put together a proposal that caught the eye of the Qataris. They visited several of our campuses, toured our facilities and, in the end, awarded us the contract – the largest ever for a Canadian educational institution.

Sometimes, being on this side of the Atlantic, it's difficult to imagine what our co-workers are going through in Qatar. From here it appears all is going well. The campus is up

and running, why, they're just completing their first semester! But those things didn't happen on their own. Our people over there have worked very hard to make this project the success it has been to date, and I – we – would like them to know how much we appreciate their efforts.

“...Lately I'm beginning to feel an even greater sense of pride about this college and our accomplishments.”

Our Awards of Excellence program is one way of showing our appreciation to those, such as our employees in Qatar, who go that extra mile. And judging by the entries we received this year, we have some exceptional people working in this organization.

To read the letters of support that accompanied the nominations was simply inspiring. For instance, there is one from a graduate of the Steamfitter/Pipefitter program in support of Ben Turpin's nomination. This former student, who returned to college after being out of the school system for 26 years,

says he began to feel like the program was too much for him and that he wouldn't be able to complete the course work. Ben thought otherwise and instilled in this student a sense of self-esteem and confidence he didn't know he had. That's quite a compliment.

I'm also amazed at the dedication of our staff and faculty in upgrading their skills. The nomination for Nellie Bragg, a Clerk Typist III at Bay St. George campus, for instance, says she has been completing university courses on a part-time basis and will soon be awarded her Bachelor of Education degree. All of this while providing support to 20 faculty members and the Associate District Administrator. Oh yeah, did I mention she recently became a grandmother?

There are countless examples of this type of professionalism and dedication within our organization. We need to do a better job of sharing these stories. I am asking for your help in doing this. If you know of a staff or faculty member who is doing something extraordinary, drop me a note. I won't be able to do stories on all of them, but I would appreciate the chance to at least write them an email or give them a call and tell them someone thought enough of their efforts to suggest we recognize them.

Happy holiday season everyone!

College to implement new systems software

Since its amalgamation in 1997, one of the major challenges facing College of the North Atlantic has been the integration of its various information management systems.

The systems currently in use by the college – the Human Resources Information System, Student Information System, and finance system (SRB) – are not compatible with each other, or have very limited compatibility. While these systems have served the college well since 1997, technology and college requirements have changed to the point where it is now necessary to replace them.

An Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) project steering committee has been formed, chaired by Robert Rideout, Director of Administration, to select a new college-wide information management system. The project is being lead by Wayne Hann, Manager of Information Technology. A number of functional teams have also been formed with representation from various college divisions and all the campuses.

“The new ERP acquisition will provide students and staff with access to information in a web-based environment,” says Hann.

“With this system, students will be able to register on-line, drop and add courses, view their academic records, and carry out many other functions. Employees will be able to access their financial and human resource information such as payroll, leave utilization, benefits, and other functions. All of this will be provided by a system that is more powerful, yet easy to use.”

The steering committee met with a number of consulting firms last week with the intention of hiring one to help them develop a request for proposals that will go out to industry by February 15.

It is anticipated that the tender for this project will be awarded relatively early in the new fiscal year with the new system being deployed at the college's Qatar campus as early as September 2003. Deployment of the ERP system in Newfoundland and Labrador will likely begin next January.

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College acquires state-of-the-art library system

The college's Student Services division recently completed the acquisition of a state-of-the-art automated library system called SIRSI for its campuses.

SIRSI serves more than 8,000 individual libraries of all types and sizes around the world – academic, consortia, corporate, government, public, school, and special libraries. They include everything from large urban public libraries and world-renowned ARL libraries with hundreds of thousands, or even millions, of users to small city, college, government, and corporate libraries serving thousands or only hundreds of users. Although these libraries are diverse and each has needs uniquely their own, they all share a common devotion to their users. SIRSI's academic and research library clients range from small liberal arts colleges, to multi-campus universities and consortia, to specialized graduate-level

institutions such as theological seminaries and medical schools.

In Canada, you will find many academic institutions such as Acadia University, Memorial University, University of Calgary, University of New Brunswick, York University, to list just a few, that are using this library system. Many leading educational institutions in the United States and throughout the world also use this product.

At College of the North Atlantic, the system has been deployed throughout all campuses in the province. The college's collection in all campus libraries can also be accessed from any user on the World Wide Web. The web interface to the library system can be accessed via the URL <http://sirsi1.noratlantic.nf.ca>. Inter-library loans between college campuses and with other libraries around the world are now possible with this product.

The system is deployed on a state-of-the-art SUN UNIX platform at the college's network operations centre at Ridge Road campus where technical management of the resource is provided. The system is deployed throughout the college and on the Internet and is administered by Student Services employees, particularly library staff.

The project was managed by Wayne Hann with technical implementation carried out by Glen Howell and Stewart Hamlyn, and in consultation with college librarians such as Kelly Matheson, John Whelan, Janet Fraser, and Marian Burnett.

“The college is pleased to deploy a significant web-based student-oriented system such as SIRSI. It will certainly improve academic services to the student body,” says Hann.

For more information on this new system contact your local library.

Two years of success for nursing program

by June Fry, Coordinating Instructor, Practical Nursing

Happy Valley-Goose Bay campus has now had two successful years in the delivery of the Practical Nursing program.

The initial delivery of the program began in August 2000, with 15 students. The Health Labrador Corporation had identified a need for trained practical nurses in the Labrador area, resulting in two years of program delivery in consultation with the Centre for Nursing Studies.

Both students and faculty involved in the first offering had a challenging and demanding year ahead of them, as this 12-month program is extremely intense with both theoretical and clinical components. All courses and labs were taught at the local college, and Health Labrador facilities provided clinical placements for students.

The students often indicated that it was a strenuous year, but were all incredibly pleased and contented with their results in the end. All 15 students were successful in the first program. This group of students was to write their National Licensing Exam on September 12, 2001, but due to the events of the

preceding day, the students were informed that their exam would have to be postponed for a few weeks. Eventually the students did write their National Exam – with outstanding results. The students' pass rate was 93 percent, which was above the national average of 88 percent. We were exceptionally pleased and proud of the students. The long and never-ending hours that they had committed over the past year had ultimately paid off. As instructors, we felt that we required some factual information on how we did too, as this was a first for us as well.

The second program began in September 2001 with 16 students. These students faced several of the same challenges as the first group. The program was again one year in length, but with a few new additions, including a health assessment course and intramuscular injections. Fifteen students graduated from the program, with one student transferring in semester III to another CNA campus. This group of students wrote their National Exam on September 11, 2002. Just recently we received the results – 100 percent

pass rate this year. The national pass rate was 91 percent.

I would like to thank all staff associated with the program for their commitment and dedication to the students and for giving extra when the need was there. Also, the program would not have been a success without the assistance of others (too many to name) at Happy Valley-Goose Bay campus. We relied on many individuals, be it for educational material, answering our many questions, or providing support to students when we requested intervention. Thank you to administration for your support and tremendous assistance throughout the two years.

One final comment as a health care professional, I am so delighted to see local people being educated in their hometowns. Many of the students had told us over the past two years, "I've wanted to do this course for so many years, but could not go away due to family commitments."

Gander campus Christmas raffle a HUGE success!

by Julia Evans, Student Council President

On Wednesday, December 4 the students and employees at Gander campus held their annual Christmas Raffle. Businesses and individuals from Gander and the surrounding area donated over 270 items that were raffled off during the day-long event. The event was filled with food, entertainment, fun, and prizes for the students and staff at the campus.

In total, the Student Council donated \$2,000 to local charities including the VOCM Happy Tree (\$700), the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada (\$700), the Salvation Army (\$400) and the SPCA (\$200).

According to some of the "old-timers" at the school, this year's raffle was one of the best in the history of the campus.

Many thanks to all students and staff who volunteered their time and made this year's raffle the tremendous success that it was!

On behalf of the students and staff at Gander campus I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year!



Top left: Julia Evans, Student Council President, presents a cheque for \$700 to Brad Boland, Crohn's and Colitis Foundation.

Top right: Evans presents a cheque for \$700 to Dean Clark, VOCM Happy Tree.



Left: The Student Council gave \$200 to the SPCA. From left are Sue Dollimount, treasurer, Evans, Brad Boland, vice-president, Devron Harbin, councillor, Denise Russell, SPCA, and of course Jo-Jo.

First Chinese students graduate programs

While in China as part of a provincial delegation on a mission to recruit international students, college President Pamela Walsh and Daniel Wong, ADA for Ridge Road campus and Director of China Projects, took part in the graduation ceremony for more than 50 Chinese students completing programs from College of the North Atlantic.

Forty-two Chinese students studying the college's Electronics (Communications) Engineering Technology program, and 14 studying Electronics (Computers and IT) received their diplomas as part of the regular graduation ceremony at Jilin University.

The college is one of two Canadian post-secondary educational institutions offering curriculum at the Chinese University as part of a joint partnership, the other being Lambton College of Ontario.

Also during the mission Bruce Hollett, Deputy Minister with the Department of Youth Services and Post-Secondary Education, gave a

presentation on educational opportunities in Newfoundland and Labrador to approximately 300 Jilin students. Many expressed a desire to study in the province.

Earlier in the trip, college representatives made a presentation to approximately 300 students at Beijing Union University (BUU) and signed an agreement with that institution to offer the college's Business program there. This is the first time the college's Business program will be offered through a Chinese partner.

Just last week (December 10-12) a five-member delegation from BUU visited the college's Prince Philip Drive campus to study how the Business program is delivered in Newfoundland and Labrador.



Pamela Walsh and Daniel Wong present diplomas to graduating students at Jilin University in China. A total of 56 students completed the college's Electronics and Electronics Engineering Technology programs through the Chinese university.

Thirteen Chinese faculty trained over life of project

Thirteen faculty from Sichuan University of Science and Technology (SUST) in China have been trained at College of the North Atlantic (CNA) and Red River College, Manitoba, as part of a four-year Energy Management Systems project.

The purpose of the Association of Canadian Community College's project was to develop training programs in the integrated field of energy efficient building practices for delivery by SUST and the Sichuan Design Institute.

Faculty from SUST have come to Canada in each of the last four years where they completed course review and development work incorporating new knowledge and skills

in the areas of building environments and building services. During their eight-week stay, faculty members researched and worked on tasks associated with energy consumption in buildings, and gained practical hands-on experience with Hourly Analysis Program software.

As well, each fall a number of SUST administrators traveled to Canada to take part in two-week site visits to CNA and Red River College. The purpose of these visits was to increase project awareness, investigate methods of curriculum development, and assess facility requirements for the delivery of related programs.



We all experience cultural shock to varying degrees but keeping a sense of humor can help in the learning process. The joke isn't always on someone else either. I had the misfortune of head-butting an Indian parishioner at a Catholic mass.

Letters

The first semester of studies at CNA-Qatar is drawing to a close. The full dimensions of CNA's accomplishments are difficult to appreciate without the benefit of physical distance and critical reflection. The past months have seen us pass many milestones associated with our project. We opened the first state-owned, co-educational college in Qatar. This fact is of tremendous significance here in the Muslim world. Imagine the trust we have been given. We took ownership of a new building, our temporary home, before the concrete was dry, and opened it to the public. I wish all of you could have seen our personnel here working to make opening day possible. We have moved from program registration to course-based registration. We have grown from less than 10 to more than 60 personnel. Needless to say, we have learned many things by trial and error. Certainly I have for sure.

Nothing would have been possible without the commitment and contribution of many people, especially personnel here in Qatar. These are the people who are living the

project. Simple congratulations are not words enough to recognize their efforts. An incredible job has been done. Newfoundland and Labrador has been paid a wonderful compliment by the Qatari recognition of this work and our personnel's energies.

We can not neglect to mention the support team back at CNA-NL; your many efforts are greatly appreciated here. We would also include the extended families, spouses and children of people living alone here. This project touches more than just college employees. We are impacting on the social fabric of our province, and nation. Our institutional views of the world and of globalization will dramatically change. We are looking forward to our first exchange students from home.

Presently we are off for the Eid Fitr holidays and the conclusion of Ramadan. Exams start in but a few days, and typical nervous tension fills the air. In many ways, it's the student responses to normal college activities that ground us in the familiar landscape of teaching and learning. Many

other parts of our working and social lives are rife with incongruities and peculiarities that can amaze and frustrate and embarrass. Everyone is willing to share their cultural experiences, give directions to neat alley-way souqs, point to the best buys for gold, clothing and tailors, share information on incredible travel packages, and all are committed to sharing our funny stories.

Leaving all familiar things and people is not easy. You must travel here for the right personal reasons and have thought about your commitment and your personal expectations and goals. You have to be an adventurer of sorts, a pioneer of sorts, and a frontiersperson. None of these attributes will be enough to sustain you. These are then to be balanced with being a professional, a non-home owner, an expatriate guest worker with alien expectations pertaining to quality services, an absent parent or spouse, a lonely person cut off from conventional social supports, and the list can go on. There's often a stark reality check between what one imagines and what the reality of the



L to R: Children cool off during a day trip to the Sea Line Resort in Doha; Camels are a common site in Qatar; Tropical view from the Sheraton Hotel; Opposite page: People buy their everyday items in the Doha markets called Souqs.

from Qatar

experience will be when living here. Thankfully, we have a supportive group here and we are growing in knowledge of how to comfort and inform each other. This work is difficult.

We all experience cultural shock to varying degrees but keeping a sense of humor can help in the learning process. The joke isn't always on someone else either. I had the misfortune of head-butting an Indian parishioner at a Catholic mass. My intention was to offer a sign of peace! The unfortunate man was the victim of mixed cultural signals and my conventional expectations. At the appropriate time in the mass, I turned to the left and offered a handshake but instead he clasped his hands together and politely bowed his head. Not wanting to disrespect him, I quickly did the same and bowed, unfortunately planting my forehead squarely into his rising scull. The woman on the right wasn't bowing or shaking after seeing that spectacle. She smiled knowingly and simply nodded her head speaking the word, Peace.

There is a definite sense of many

communities here in Qatar. Many cultures mix and mingle but it isn't always easy to get connected. Fortunately, we are an outgoing lot, we Newfoundlanders and Labradorians, and there is a widening of our circle of acquaintances. Many typically say that we are not like the rest of the Canadians they have met. I simply respond that that's a common response from other Canadians as well! Interestingly, many of our Arab colleagues pay the compliment of stating that our values reflect and resemble some of the most cherished of their own.

We have experienced our first Ramadan in Qatar and the malls and shops are now selling Christmas trees and decorations; there's caroling, too. Not what some might expect given the stereotype projected on the Middle East. Our staff are an integral part of Doha's singing and acting communities. Kerry Suek and Monique Rideout are two noted ambassador performers on the local arts scene. Many others are participants as well. Monique can hit the high notes, let me tell you, and Kerry, well, he's patented a form of

slap-stick that now requires the wearing of hose. Our children have raised the profile of hockey at the local mall rink, and Yvonne Sacrey is likely to become hockey mom of the year!

Many of our personnel are prepared to travel home for the holidays. They will have a much deserved break and will be welcomed additions to their families. Another group will remain here in Qatar and spend their first Christmas away from home. I'm sure some of you remember this feeling. Don't forget them during the holidays, please. Some 20 of us are off to Egypt for a Christmas tour.

I offer you all the Peace of Christ this joyous season.

Sincerely,

Trent

Trent Keough is president of CNA-Qatar. We wish happy holidays to him, all his staff, and their families.

Applied Research & Innovation Network Project



Dr. Jack Botsford, former president and CEO of Operation Online Inc.

A well-managed applied research and innovation strategy has the potential to generate new enterprise, and hence new employment, around clusters of innovation.

College of the North Atlantic is examining its approach to applied research and innovation in a project that is focused on the development of a comprehensive, long-term strategy.

The study is timely, given a national atmosphere that is increasingly supportive of applied research in the college system. From a provincial economic standpoint, a well-managed applied research and innovation strategy has the potential to generate new enterprise, and hence new employment, around clusters of innovation.

Phase I of the project has just concluded, and involved consultations within the college, drawing upon the experience of administrative staff and faculty in every district. Engaged in this work is Dr. Jack Botsford, (formerly President and CEO of Operation ONLINE Inc.), whose interest in applied research in the college system began more than a decade ago with the Provincial Science and Technology Advisory Council. Other aspects of the project have included discussion and research with potential partners and an examination of governance approaches and best practices in applied research elsewhere in the country. An important asset in this regard is the work of the Association of Canadian Community Colleges which focuses on applied research in the college system on a national level, as outlined in the national meeting held in St. John's in May of 2002.

Preliminary results indicate several areas of strength within the college and numerous faculty and staff committed to the development of an applied research agenda. The need to tie applied research to program development has been underscored, and the challenging aspects of funding and managing an ongoing research agenda have been detailed. Many concepts involve enhanced collaboration within the college, using the college's broadband network, hence the term: Applied Research and Innovation Network. The assets that the college can bring to bear, and the national and international opportunities underscore the need for a comprehensive strategy as a foundation for further work.

Phase I culminated in a consultative roundtable meeting around preliminary results and recommendations. The meeting, held in November, involved selected college personnel and appropriate partners. Given ongoing interest and support, subsequent phases will include steps such as: the implementation of an appropriate governance scheme (the key to effective R & D is effective management); the establishment, within the college, of priorities and strengths to undertake R & D; the matching of these priorities to external needs and opportunities; the development and possible formalizing of partnering relationships; the pursuit of funding opportunities; and the initiation of projects.



Carving a name for themselves

Adventure Tourism students have been busy completing their major projects these past two weeks. The first year class participated in an overnight survival exercise in shelters they constructed, and the second year class participated in two interpretative sessions in the Codroy Valley, where student Harry Skinner presented a session on wildlife carving. Each student had an opportunity to help decorate an owl Skinner carved. Here Travis Maher from Mount Pearl adds his touch to the carving.

Inuit receive training on heavy equipment

by Valerie Hart, Inuit Education Coordinator, NorthWest River Learning Centre/North Coast

Happy Valley-Goose Bay campus recently offered a six-week Heavy Equipment Operator training program for Inuit in Labrador. This short-term training initiative resulted from the combined efforts of the Labrador Inuit Development Corporation (LIDC), Inuit Pathways, and the campus. The purpose of this training was to prepare students for the apprenticeship program, for employment within the community of Rigolet and surrounding communities, and for the Voisey's Bay Project. In this training (Phase I), students were exposed to the safe and effective operation and maintenance of heavy duty earth moving equipment, specifically, a John Deere 892 Excavator, a CAT D6 Bulldozer, a Mack 600 Tandem Dump Truck, and a 330 John Deere Excavator.

The trainees acquired their practical hours on this equipment by assisting LIDC in building a road from Rigolet to Muliak. This access road is being constructed to develop a quarry site for low grade labradorite and to provide a source of various aggregates. Students also studied the theory of operation and preventative maintenance for these pieces of equipment. They completed the following courses:

HE1100 - Equipment Operation Safety,
HE1200 - Equipment Maintenance,
HE1300 - Regulations & Emergency Procedures,
HE1500 - Bulldozers,
HE1540 - Tandem Trucks,
HE1560 - Excavators, Power Line Hazards,

First Aid, WHMIS, Flag Persons, and Confined Spaces.

Students will be given an opportunity to participate in Phase II of the training later this winter when the construction season has ended. Phase II, with a time-frame of eight weeks, will include these seven academic courses:

MR1220 - Customer Service,
MC1050 - Introduction to Computers,
CM2150 - Workplace Correspondence,
SD1700 - Workplace Skills,
SP2330 - Quality Assurance,
SD1710 - Job Search Techniques, and
SD1720 - Entrepreneurial Awareness.

The first phase was a tremendous success, with nine of the ten participants completing the training. The one person that left the program did so as a result of back problems. A regular day encompassed 10 hours, six days a week. The hard work and dedication of both instructor and students (no one missed any time) is evident and our congratulations go out to them. Steve Gosse and the students are to be commended for their dedication to this program and for their efforts which have made it such a success.

Gosse is currently teaching this same program to a group of 12 students in Postville. All the best, but we are sure that both the instructor and the students will do just fine.



The purpose of this training was to prepare students for the apprenticeship program, for employment within the community of Rigolet and surrounding communities, and for the Voisey's Bay Project.



Fall Leaves, Spring Flowers

Thirty-three first-year Natural Resources students at Corner Brook campus took part in the third annual "Fall Leaves, Spring Flowers" leaf composting project on Saturday, November 16. Newfoundland Power and the college provided transportation and a lunch. The City of Corner Brook provided equipment to compost the leaves. Other partners included the Conservation Corps of Newfoundland and Labrador, Blow-Me-Down Cross Country Ski Park, and the Corner Brook Recycling Committee. Over 1,500 bags of leaves were diverted from the Waste Disposal Site, with a weight of approximately 20 tonnes. The compost will be available to the community once the leaves have been composted.

Learners Teach!

The course is HN3110 - Current Topics in Human Resource Management. Booring! Right? Well, not when Melissa Healey and Lisa Kelly decide to do it up right. HN3110 is a third year Business Management course for those students specializing in Human Resource Management. Lisa and Melissa are doing the course at Prince Philip Drive campus.

One of the tasks the learners are assigned is to write a journal article, present it to the class, and help fellow learners. . . well, learn new stuff. Lisa and Melissa took on the topic

Empowered learners
can dance rings
around us old fogies.
Learners teach. . .
now there's a novel
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done?

of "Virtual Teams." They wrote a fine article, packed with useful information and tips for managers. They also delivered the article with panache, and left an impression the learners will not soon forget.

To deliver their article to fellow learners, they enlisted the help of Harold Baker and



Melissa Healey (left) and Lisa Kelly recently delivered a presentation using video technology.

Mark Fleming, who provide technical support for learning technology in District 5. Melissa and Lisa, with the able technical assistance of Harold and Mark, stood in front of a camera in a room at Ridge Road campus. Their fellow learners were in a room at Prince Philip Drive. Delivering a paper via the web is probably a first for learners in the college.

This use of technology really impressed learners in the course. It impressed the instructor so much that all he could says was: "Wow!"

Empowered learners can dance rings around us old fogies. Learners teach. . . now

there's a novel thought. How many of our instructional staff even knew it could be done?

Empower your learners. Learn from them.

A copy of Lisa and Melissa's article is available to the regular readers of the HR Learners' Journal. Limited supplies are available.

Appointments

Mervyn McIntyre has been appointed as a Business Development Manager with Community, Corporate, and International. In his new position, Merv will be responsible for the development, coordination, and management of international and domestic business contracts, including opportunity identification, partnership development, and financial and personnel management.

John King has been appointed Chair of Distributed Learning and Manager of the Distributed Learning Centre. John has managed the Distributed Learning Centre in Clarendville since its inception in 1999. In that time, the centre has been recognized as one

of only six certified WebCT Institutes in Canada and received the Canadian Association of Distance Education (CADE) Excellence in Partnership award. John has led the centre in its development of over 200 online courses, various private sector contracts, and international initiatives.

Brenda Tobin has been appointed as the new Chair of Academic, General, and Transfer Studies. This position will be of significant importance as we address issues related to ABE curriculum, college-university transfer arrangements, the development of an ESL/EFL response to the growth of international opportunities, and many other related

program issues. Brenda has been with the college for the past 15 years. During that time she has been an instructor, an instructional coordinator and most recently, Associate District Administrator at Grand Falls-Windsor campus.

Paul Janes has been appointed to the position of Budget Officer at Headquarters. Paul will be replacing Jennifer Langdon who has recently accepted the position of Senior Internal Auditor. Paul has worked with the college at Corner Brook campus for the past five years in the Business/Office Administration programs.

Marketing plan nearing completion

Several months ago the college seconded one of its business faculty, Sylvia Alexander, to help develop a college-wide marketing plan.

A marketing plan committee was formed consisting of Alexander, college President Pamela Walsh; Brian Tobin, Director of Student Services; Cyril Farrell, Director of Programs; Kevin Baker, Legal Counsel; Donna Hobbs, Advertising and Promotions Coordinator; Cyril Organ, ADA Bay St. George campus; Stephen Lee, Communications Manager; Blake Cryderman, Chair of Community, Corporate and

International; and resource person Melanie Foote.

"As this is the first time the college has gone through this exercise, the first plan will be a reactive one," says Lee.

"We are planning to track the progress of this plan over the course of the coming fiscal year and use the data we collect to build our next marketing plan. We hope the next one will be more proactive and of a longer duration."

Details of the plan will be articulated to the wider college community through face to

face visits by various members of the marketing committee beginning early in the new year.

The plan calls for each campus to activate its own marketing team (most campuses already have them in place) and for those teams to offer input to the marketing plan committee.

It is anticipated this plan will bring a more focused approach to the college's marketing efforts and result in better utilization of the college's marketing resources.

CNA student wins national scholarship

Robin Drodge, a first-year Business Administration student at the Clarendville campus, is the winner of the Freedom Scientific Technology Scholarship, valued at \$3000.

Freedom Scientific, which manufactures and markets hardware and software for the visually impaired, established a Technology Scholarship Award Program in June 2001, in honour of its commitment to students who are visually impaired. The awards are presented each year to eligible students planning to study at the post-secondary level. The past year saw 10 recipients awarded across Canada, with Robin as the only recipient from Newfoundland and Labrador.

Criteria for the scholarship include academic excellence, community service, and

financial need. In addition, the applicant must exhibit superior leadership qualities and high communications skills.

"Being a visually impaired student makes the scholarship especially meaningful," says Robin.

Through the scholarship, Robin has purchased educational technology made specifically to allow visually impaired people to read printed material via a scanner and voice synthesizer. He has received a laptop computer, printer, and Voice-Mate organizer for the blind.

"Having this new technology for school will help my career in Business Administration," he says.

Robin is having a successful first year and plans to specialize in the Marketing option.



College President visits St. Anthony campus

College President Pamela Walsh recently visited St. Anthony campus and checked in on students while there. Shown here with Walsh are Vivian Woodward, first year engineering student, and Rick Randell, a full-time ABE student who is also completing several general studies courses. Photo by Allan Bock/Northern Pen.



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Do you have a college story to tell? Do you know a student, faculty, or staff member that should be recognized for their achievements? CURRENTS is looking for a few good stories about our public college and the people who make it such a success. Send us your photos, announcements, and alumni updates. If you have any ideas, suggestions, or criticisms, please drop us a line. Please let us know how we can make CURRENTS a better newsletter for you.

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