

Oct. 26

1995

THE VCC COMMUNITY INTERNAL NEWSLETTER

VANCOUVER
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE



Connections

Vancouver Community College
King Edward Campus - Library
P.O. Box 24620, Station F
Vancouver, B.C. V5N 5T9

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CELEBRATING

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YEARS

Electronics students shine at Teleglobe project

A mutually beneficial project for VCC and Teleglobe Canada leads to the creation of a new bursary for ESL Electronics students

Over the years VCC's Electronics Department and Teleglobe Canada have enjoyed a strong and mutually beneficial relationship. At no time was this more apparent than during a week last April. That's when Electronics instructor Owen Jones and the first class of ESL Combined Skills Electronics Technician students took on the challenge of a major deinstallation project at Teleglobe Canada.

Owen, a former Teleglobe employee, has kept in touch with his old company since joining VCC; in fact, Owen periodically provides training sessions for their new employees. Teleglobe's manager sits on the Electronics Department's program advisory committee, and over the years they have supplied the program with training opportunities and materials.

As the company responsible for coordinating Canada's entire international communications service, Teleglobe has made the transition to a digital system from an analog, as have other telecommunications companies, like BCTel. When Owen was informed of the opportunity for his class to take on the challenge of

"deinstalling" all the old analog equipment, he jumped at the chance. "This was a tremendous opportunity for the class," Owen said. "The analog equipment was more than one third of Teleglobe's operation."

While Teleglobe had no further use for the deinstalled equipment, it was not obsolete. After completion of the project, Owen's group finished with four large construction-type bins full of metal and electronics parts. These were eventually sold at a net profit of \$1,500. This marked the first donation to the bursary fund, which will help students in all Electronics programs. As well, Teleglobe donated test equipment

see Electronics students on page 3

Education Council Update

At the October 3, 1995 meeting Education Council dealt with the following issues:

Offering exam preparation courses

In August, the Educational Administrators Group (EAG) received a proposal to offer a Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) preparatory course. The issue was referred to Council as it raised policy implications e.g. should VCC mount courses that prepare students to pass tests or meet entry criteria as part of the base budget program profile?

Debate focused on the degree to which such courses a) simply prepare students to pass a test, or b) combine test preparation with developing relevant competencies. After considerable discussion, the following motion was passed:

That VCC provide such examination test or entry criteria preparatory courses that are useful to assist students to access education as well as focusing a considerable amount of the content on the development of competency.

Program revisions - Electronics Technician

The Electronics Technician Telecommunications System Specialty Course proposed the addition of courses in local area networks, fibre optics and job search. Changes are designed to maintain program currency and relevance to the employment market. The program revisions were approved by Council and will be submitted to the College Board at their next meeting for information.

Timing of Elections and Terms of Office for Education Council Members

After we approved the Council's Draft Terms of Reference at the September meeting, it had become apparent that our decision to hold elections in October

would be problematic. It was therefore decided that elections be held in January for terms of office from April to March. By-elections for vacant seats will be held in June and October as required. The Chair and Vice Chair of Council will be elected annually at the April meeting.

These changes have now been made to the Draft Terms of Reference and we shall be arranging for copies to be available from department heads, area supervisors, the Executive Office, Student Associations and your Council representatives. Copies will also be available in the campus libraries.

The by-laws will remain a working document until they have been approved by the Ministry. Council decided to delay submitting them to the Ministry until Paul and Hilary have had an opportunity to discuss by-laws at a meeting of College and Institute Education Council Chairs in mid October.

Planning process update

A part of Education Council's mandate is to advise the College Board on policy related to the mission statement and the educational goals, objectives, strategies and priorities of the institution.

By now, you have all received a copy of the planning Green Paper and an outline of the process established for receiving your feedback. If you have not yet had an opportunity to provide input, remember that you can call your Council representative or any other member of Education Council. You can also use the dedicated voicemail box - local 7540. We are counting on you to ensure a fully informed discussion of the Green Paper at the November 7 Council meeting.

VCC Grade Appeal policy

A draft VCC Grade Appeal policy was circulated for Council's review and will be discussed at the November meeting.

Once again, your representatives will be seeking your input to assist our decision making.

Draft policy on course changes:

An ad hoc committee on course/program changes is preparing a draft policy. Once this has been reviewed by EAG and Educational Support areas, it will come forward to Council for discussion and approval. The development of a clear process and policy will ensure a coordinated, effective and efficient approach to implementation course/program changes.

Next meeting

November 7 City Centre Campus - room to be assigned. Please remember Council meetings are open to the community and your attendance is welcomed.

Hilary Pearson and Paul Hunt
(Chair and Vice Chair, Education Council)

Support students through your seasons greetings

This holiday season, send your greetings with cards produced by the VCC Alumni Association.

Every penny of each sale goes into an endowment fund to provide financial aid to a deserving student. Cards were printed by our own Printing Production Department and designed by William Stockmann, Continuing Education instructor.

Available through City Centre and King Edward campus bookstores, the cards sell for \$9.95/dozen plus tax.



Electronics students (continued from page 1)

originally worth about \$36,000 as part of the operation, with a sizable portion being equipment for testing digital systems. While the Electronics Department will keep some of this equipment for instruction, they will sell the more specialized items to increase the bursary fund. Fittingly, the bursary is entitled "The First ESL Electronics Class 1995 Bursary," in honour of the students and instructors on the deinstallation project.

To give an impression of the physically demanding work involved with the project: the 10-foot high equipment bays had to be stripped of all equipment, the

wiring disconnected and the actual bays removed. And this, of course, is all taking place while the station is still fully operational. Consequently, Owen and his crew, which also included Electronics instructor Christine Miller and ESL instructor Christine Stechishin, had to be extremely careful not to cause a system shutdown. Besides emptying and removing the equipment bays, they also had to detach the false floor and extract the old wire that lay under the floor. The wire was massed three

feet deep from years of operations. The entire project took six full days. To say thanks for a job well done, Teleglobe Canada took the entire group out for lunch on the final day.

The work that the class members did on this project will look very impressive on

their resumes. In fact, before the deinstallation project began, most of the students did not know the English name for the tools they were using. Nevertheless, being in such a hands-on, cooperative situation meant that they were able to grasp language concepts they hadn't yet. And tired as they were, every student commented later on how much they enjoyed the experience. For Owen, the feeling was mutual: "During this project, my role changed completely, from that of an instructor to one where I'm working *with* the students, though it's in a supervisory capacity. Students who were finding the course tough in class shone when they got to Teleglobe. That new excitement carried on through the two weeks of class time that remained for them."

Dale Rasmussen



Owen Jones, Electronics Instructor, lends a hand to one of his students during the deinstallation project at Teleglobe Canada.

Community College Exchange Program seeks applicants

Vancouver Community College is a member of the Community College Exchange Program (CCEP), an organization which facilitates the exchange of faculty, staff and administrators between colleges across North America. At this time, the CCEP is seeking applications for exchange for the 96/97 academic year from employees of all member institutions.

Further information and application forms/procedures for those employees seriously interested in an exchange are available from Employee Relations. Please call Carol Harrison at local 7142.

Setting the record straight

Please note the following errors and/or omissions in VCC's new telephone directory:

- *Cassandra Huang's* local ought to be 8312.
- *Cecily May's* local ought to be 7178.
- *Lorraine McKillop* was omitted in error, she is the Mailroom Clerk and her local is 7026.
- Under Quick Reference, *Fax - Food Services* ought to be 8485.

Please make these corrections to your copy of the directory.

Christie Wagner

Fall Awards Ceremony correction

The October 12 article on the VCC Fall Awards Ceremony incorrectly stated that the event will be held Friday, November 25. This should have read **Friday, November 24**. All other information provided is correct.

We apologize for any inconvenience or confusion this may have caused.

FOIPOP f-y-i

The most common things I didn't know about Freedom of Information:

- Notes I make in a selection interview (or student interview) cannot be destroyed and *may be seen by the individual they concern*.
- Margin notes on a record cannot be "withheld" if someone asks for and is given access to that record.

What do employers want?

Ninety-two companies, representing all major industries, participated in the recent skills characteristics survey undertaken by the Business Council of B.C. The results reflect what major employers consider important in the development of a competent workforce.

The following are the top 10 personal characteristics B.C. employers seek in hiring:

1. Communications Skills (speaking, reading, writing, listening).
2. Positive Attitude.
3. Flexible and Adaptable (#1 ten years ago; still rated high).
4. Sets High Performance Standards.
5. Good work Ethic.
6. Accepts Responsibility.
7. Productive - Quality and Quantity.
8. Honest and Reliable.
9. Willingness to Keep on Learning.
10. Ability to Analyse and Evaluate (identifying and solving problems).

Other characteristics employers look for include: demonstrated common sense, creativity and innovation, intelligence, education, and high energy.

Summary of results

- A basic foundation in math, science and language skills is still critical in virtually every occupation;
- To deal with some complex and abstract tasks, employers demand higher education and skills levels in new employees;
- Basic computer literacy (word processing, manipulating data, accessing networks) is essential;
- An entrepreneurial personality is essential in the new job market, even for those looking for work in established companies. Economists forecast that most job growth will be in self-employment, contract work and work in small companies, which means that most

workers will need some business management and marketing skills; For today's economy, employees require a balance of broad, transferable skills along with job-specific skills.

Reprinted with permission from the AECBC Bulletin

A glimpse of jobs in the future

Your Department Head will now have available to view a copy of the booklet entitled *Job Outlook 2005*, published by Human Resources Development Canada. The publication examines the different growth rates for ten major occupational groups, as well as reasons for growth in each group and future projections. Only one copy is available for each department, but additional copies can be ordered from HRD.

New KESA board elected

- **President** and ESL-English Language Skills Rep. **Euclides Garrigo**
- **VP Internal** and BEST/Institutional Aide Rep. **June Blais**
- **VP Finance** and College and Career Access Rep. **Paul Hoeberigs**
- **VP Education** and Business and Computer Rep. **Angela Flores**
- **VP External** and Basic Education Rep. **Randy Dowell**
- **VP Activities** and Disabled Students' Commissioner **Cassandra Crooks**

Student poetry

To the Teacher

That woman who sings, sings
she is not a singer
The woman who speaks, speaks
she is not a speaker
That woman who dances, dances
she is not a dancer
That woman who makes gestures
she is not a comic
That woman who explains, explains
she is not a philosopher
That woman who laughs, laughs
she shows me her white teeth
This is the teacher
she loves me very much
With her singing,
and her speaking,
and her dancing,
and her blackboard
She gives me her wisdom
with her gestures
and her laughs
She teaches me to write,
to read, and speak
She looks like she is doing theatre
With her chalk and her ruler
and her intelligence, she gives me
all her understanding.

*By Rafael Alvarado
Published in the TESOL Magazine, New York*

United Way campaign takes off



This year's VCC United Way Campaign covers both campuses at once and emphasizes the wisdom of "Giving—an educated choice."

Monday, October 30

50/50 Jackpot draw (Oct. 30-Nov. 2), both campuses.

Tuesday, October 31

International Education Carved Pumpkin Sale (KEC) Staff Cafeteria. Award winning pumpkins for sale.

Halloween Costume Day - both campuses! Dress up, join the fun!

Wednesday, November 1

Pancake Breakfast: 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at both City Centre and King Edward. Free for staff and faculty with United Way ticket. Your United Way Committee's way of saying thank-you for your support. Look for your ticket attached to your pledge card. Good time to get those late pledges in! Come chow down with your favorite flippin' administrators. \$2.75 for students and the general public.

Thursday, November 2

Airplane Toss - both campuses; 50/50 Jackpot finishes.

Campaign Ends; Wrap-up draw for both campuses. Last day to get those pledges in and still have a chance at a prize.

This year, don't let the President off Scot free.

As an incentive to increase everyone's participation in this year's United Way Campaign, John Cruickshank has volunteered to spend an entire day in full Scottish regalia, kilt and all, if VCC's United Way pledges returned reach 315. So, help make your President a Scot for a day—get those pledges in!

Bavarian Night at City Centre set to raise funds for students entering the culinary field

Join the British Columbia Chef's Association and VCC's Tourism and Hospitality Centre for a Bavarian Night "Tanz und Schlemmer" Party, Friday, November 3, 1995 at City Centre. This event to raise funds for the B.C. Chef's Association's scholarship fund, will feature a no host bar at 6:30 p.m., dinner at 7:00 and dancing until 1:00 a.m. Treat your taste buds to a tempting array of kalte vorspeisen (appetizers) such as Baltic Sprats, Bismarck Herring and Liverwurst Terrine; kalte plate (cold sugges-

tions) like Bavarian potato salad, sausages and salads; warme speisen (hot food) including Roast Pork Alpine Style, Swiss Schulbling, Dumpling in the Napkin and many, many more dishes, including dessert. Tickets are \$25 per person and are available from **Settimio Sicoli, 443-8396**. Associate Members of the British Columbia Chef's Association have donated all the food, which will be prepared and served by students of VCC's Tourism and Hospitality Centre.

Important Security Notice

Between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight, Security staff are available to escort any student, staff or faculty to their vehicles.

To use this service:

1. Go to the Security office on level 2 and press the button on the wall outside the office. Inform the officers on duty that you require an escort to your vehicle.
2. Stay at this location until the officer arrives.

*Bill Miller
Building Services Mgr.*

PS: This service is also available outside these times by request.



HAPPY HALLOWEEN

announcements

Financial Aid news

Reminder to all VCC - KEC Instructors: Once again the enthusiastic staff in Financial Aid are available to give mini-talks to students. If you would like to book one for your class please call local 7046.

ABESAP applications are available starting November 1st for January - April 1996. Please remind students to apply early!!!

Bursary applications are now available. Students can pick one up either from Financial Aid Office (Room 4029) or Counselling Department (Room 3002). **Deadline: Tuesday October 31 at 4:00 p.m. (Happy Halloween)**

Upcoming seminar

The following seminar is coming to Vancouver in the near future: **How to Supervise People**, Vancouver, December 12, 1995, Landmark Hotel and Conference Centre, 1400 Robson Street. If you would like further information, please contact Corinna Luk at local 7004.

Name change

From Vicky Monroy to Vicky Gabriel... officially, that is. "Gabriel" is my birth certificate surname and I have decided to reclaim it following the loss of my driver's license along with a treasured wallet. Sometimes... that's all it takes!

KEC Book Club meeting

The KEC Book Club meets again on Friday November 3, 1995 at 12:00 noon at Not Just Desserts. We will discuss Sacred Stories, edited by Charles Simpkinson and Anne Simpkinson. New members welcome. Please confirm attendance by calling Carol at local 7257.

Upcoming Budget Advisory Group meeting

The next meeting of the Budget Advisory Group will be held on Wednesday, November 8, 1995 in Room 5025 (the Boardroom) from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., KEC.

Take an HRD course for professional and personal development. Some upcoming courses:

E-mail demonstration

Tuesday, November 7 at KEC

Internet

Friday, November 17 at KEC

Intermediate Windows

Thursday, November 23 at Oakridge Computer Centre

Customer Service

Wednesday, November 29 at KEC

New materials in City Centre Library

Videos:

- Buying a New Computer
- Cruisin' the Internet
- Israel
- Low-Fat Cooking
- Meat Retailing
- Pentium PCs
- Pincurl Techniques
- Sexual Harassment on Campus

Books:

- Administrative Medical Assisting
- After a Fashion: How to Reproduce, Restore and Wear Vintage Styles
- Allergies A-Z
- Classic Chinese Cuisine
- Complete Shortwave Listener's Handbook
- Cook it Right!
- Designing Instruction for Adult Learners
- Internet Guide for New Users
- JobShift: How to Prosper in a Workplace Without Jobs
- Leadership Training: a Sourcebook of Activities
- Maintain and Repair Your Notebook, Palmtop or Pen Computer
- Making Printed Circuit Boards
- McGraw-Hill Electronic Testing Handbook
- Myra Street Classic Fish Dishes
- Napoleon Hill's Keys to Success

- Netscape Quick Tour
- Reader's Digest Legal Program Solver

Women supporting women in the former Yugoslavia

Come to a benefit for *Women Survivors of the War*, Friday, November 17, 1995 at Heritage Hall, 3102 Main Street, Vancouver. Admission is \$30 and includes a chance to win two nights at a Saltspring Island B&B. The evening will include a video presentation, speakers from Bosnia and Canada, Bosnian Snacks and entertainment. Please call Donna Barreca at local 7207 for tickets.



Remembrance Day holiday

As Remembrance Day falls on a Saturday this year, both City Centre Campus and King Edward Campus will be closed on November 11, 12 and 13, 1995.

Asia Pacific/Mexico Awards and grants deadlines fast approaching

If you would like more information, please contact Cecily May at 871-7178.

Only in case of emergency

Just a friendly reminder that the telephone emergency number, **4444** is to be used for emergency purposes only. For non-emergency enquiries, please contact Switchboard at 7000 or 8300.

Orientation for new employees

The next *orientation for new employees* is scheduled for Tuesday, October 31!

Many new (or relatively new) employees have been invited to attend the Orientation Day session from across the College. The purpose of the Orientation is not to duplicate departmental orientation, but to provide a better understanding of the College and its organization as a whole.

Participants have an opportunity to put faces to the names of College officials and colleagues, and to learn a little about the different divisions and departments within VCC. The day is split between the two campuses, and included are tours of KEC

and an exciting scavenger hunt at City Centre.

The Orientation Committee is grateful to the many people and departments who have contributed toward making this upcoming session a great experience. We look forward to welcoming VCC's new employees to our College community on October 31st!

Carol Harrison
Chair, Orientation Committee

P.S. If you should come across one of the tour groups on October 31, please extend a greeting to our new colleagues, and show off your department!

Temporary Library downtime Oct. 23-Nov. 4

The good news is that by early November, library users will notice quicker response times when using our automated catalogue. But like all accomplishments, there is plenty of hard work going on behind the scenes to switch our catalogue to the new Unix computer and to install an enhanced version of our library software.

Enough already. So what does it mean for me?

Our system will be in partial limbo between October 23 and November 4. During that time we will be doing most things manually. You will notice:

- There will be longer lineups.
- We won't be able to verify much information by computer.
- We can't place holds and intercampus loans or do some of the fancy stuff we're used to.

How can I help?

- Please bring, and remind your students to bring, their library card to complete transactions. Without cards, we will be unable to check out materials.
- If you physically borrow materials from another campus, please return them there.
- Please alert your students to these conditions.

We thank all our users for their patience and look forward to our "new dawn" in November.

Aphrodite Harris, for VCC Library

ABE Intermediate Program for Youth on the move

Effective November 1, 1995

the *ABE Intermediate Program - Youth* program is moving from Britannia Community Centre to:



- Kiwassa Neighbourhood House
2425 Oxford Street
Vancouver, B.C. V5K 1M7
- Phone: 254-5401 and ask for the "Youth Program"
Fax: 254-7673
- Program hours: 8:30 to 3:00 Monday to Friday
- Coordinator: Russell Porter

The ABE Youth program offers grade 10 English, Math, Science and Social Science to 15 to 17 year olds. The program operates September through June on a self-paced, continuous entry basis.

Truck Lottery sells out

For the first time in its six year history, the VCC Educational Foundation's Truck Lottery has completely sold out.

What makes this even more exciting is the fact that this year 2,500 tickets were available, up from last year's 2,000.

The draw takes place Friday, October 27 and the winner will be announced in the November 9 issue of Connections.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

- Published Thursdays
- Bi-weekly January-May and September-November
- Monthly June, July, August and December

Produced by the College Advancement Department,
Vancouver Community College

VANCOUVER
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CITY CENTRE CAMPUS
250 West Pender Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 1S9

classifieds

JOB POSTINGS

Permanent Full-Time Instructional Assistant (c). ESL Communications/English Communications, Learning Centre, King Edward Campus and City Centre Campus. Closing date: October 27, 1995.

Financial Aid Clerk, City Centre. Closing date: November 1, 1995.



**For information on these
and other job postings,
contact the Employee
Relations Department**

FOR SALE

• Casio B.O.S.S., SF8000 (64K) Hand held Business Organizer Scheduling System. Optional PC link up. Includes user manual. Functions: Memo, schedule keeper, phone directory, business cards, calendar, alarm, local and world time. Like new and easy to use. Sacrifice for \$90.00.

• Portable T.V. 9" B&W. Citizen. AC or batteries. Colour: white. Includes adapter. \$65.00. Rarely used.

• Stereo cabinet,, very nice. 21 1/2" L x 16" W x 41 1/2" H. Glass doors for bottom third. Casters. Asking \$85.00.

• JVC record turntable. \$40.00.

Call Loren, eves, 538-8761.



If you have something that you'd like to sell or give away or you're looking for a hard-to-find item, advertise it in VCC Connections classifieds. It's free, and it works. Just provide us with your ad on the Thursday of the week prior to publication. Your ad will run for one issue, unless you request otherwise.

HOUSING

Apartment wanted for November 1: bright, clean one or two bedroom upstairs apartment reasonably close to VCC. I am a quiet living, single, professional woman

and will guarantee long term tenancy and excellent housekeeping in return for reasonable rent. Outstanding references. Phone 871-7491 and leave a message for **Lorraine Marigold**.

Available for sublet: February and March 1996; one bedroom apt., 1 block from English Bay and Stanley Park. \$600.00 (negotiable). Phone Eloise at 669-2029.

Connections Deadline

Please note on your calendar that the next issue of Connections will be published Thursday, November 9.

The deadline for submissions for the next issue is the end of the working day, Thursday, November 2.

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Produced by the College Advancement Department
Lilli Milder, Executive Director

1995 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

September 14 and 28
October 12 and 26
November 9 and 23
December 14

Please provide your submission in a word-processed format on a PC-compatible disk, along with a hardcopy. We reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity and length. Deadline for submissions is Thursday of the week prior to publication.

Please recycle this newsletter