

The NEWS and VIEWS Letter about  
people and happenings at  
Vancouver Community College  
December 1983, Edition No. 43

# VANCOUVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## INTERCOM



## On the Run for United Way

By the time you read this Vancouver Community College's United Way campaign 1983 will be over. As of this last campaign week two centres, Vancouver Vocational Institute and Central Administration/CE, are over the top and Langara and KEC aren't far off target. In fact, the college is within reaching distance of its \$22,886 goal.

Spectators cheer the first runners in the Vancouver Community College 24-hour United Way marathon.

A highlight of this year's effort has to be the 24 hour United Way marathon, organized by the VCC No Name Running Club. Some 150 runners, in teams or individually, did 175 miles worth of laps around the China Creek Park running track, starting noon October 27 and going right through the night to end noon October 28. Once pledges were collected, the United Way coffers were \$1,400 richer.

President Tony Manera got the run underway with a ceremonial lap. In this case the starting gun was a

**running started  
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and through the  
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cannon, supplied and manned by Canadian Forces personnel. Headquarters for the run, and the place where late night runners could warm up, was a camper van generously supplied from Impala Camping World. And Domco Food Services supplied a hot tub in which weary runners could soothe their aching muscles.

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# PUBLIC TOUR KEC

On Friday, November 4 the doors of the new King Edward Campus swung open to welcome the community to the campus's first open house. From 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. hundreds of people, from babies in strollers to senior citizens, got a taste of the unique blend of educational programming that is KEC.

In every corner of the campus there were activities to inform, interest, educate and entertain the neighbours, families, teachers, business people and students who came. Through the afternoon the auditorium reverberated to the sounds of music students in concert. First on were the Madrigal singers, followed by the Wind Ensemble, then the big band sounds of Stage Band and finally Sound Wave, the college's own jazz choir. The concerts provided not only pleasant listening, but a chance to rest one's feet after touring about.

In the library resources centre a stained glass window, a last bit of memorabilia from the old campus, was unveiled, along with a miniature model of the old campus, that began its life around the turn of the century as one of the city's first high schools.

Guided tours left from the cafeteria, taking visitors on a circuit of the campus, leaving them to return for a better look at areas that were of particular interest.

Mechanical trades was a popular stopping off point. Students were busy tuning engines, taking dents out of fenders and, in one instance, welding the front ends of two cars together. There was a chance to see auto mechanic's diagnostic road simulator at work, scouting out bugs in a car's mechanical system.

It was a big day for diesel mechanics. Department head Bob Brady and his crew were presented with a diesel engine, valued at more

enges entailed in learning a new language, ELT offered introductory Japanese lessons. In Training and Development adult basic education students constructed a garden shed in the classroom, and visitors to adult special education had an opportunity to see the equipment that helps visually impaired and hearing impaired students cope in mainstream classrooms.

The "Hero" robot was Continuing Education's good will ambassador for the day, travelling to various parts of the campus to meet and greet visitors. CE opened its new computer learning centre for some hands-on workshops for novices. And a sail boat was dry docked in



The "Hero" robot greets KEC librarian Winnifred Ho at open house.

## VCC Updates

Langara Campus's small business development program was featured in a recent issue of the Financial Post. Canada's business newspaper described the program as a "no nonsense training course for budding entrepreneurs, believed to be unique in Canada." The feature went on to point out that, in the program's five year history the 150 graduates have started 48 businesses, only two of which have failed.

Mall development at VVI is taking shape. For the first time in its seven year life, the Chinese cuisine program is on campus and open for lunch service. Services Division Chairman Tony Wood anticipates dinner service won't be far off.

Last month men's and women's hairstyling and skin care moved into new quarters on the mall. While facilities are more streamlined and offer better client comfort, services and prices haven't changed.

The Canada Employment and Immigration Commission has agreed to assist in creating work term placements for Langara Campus data processing co-op students. Between January and April it will invest \$14,000 to developing new co-op positions.

Max Fleming, VCC's bursar, was recently elected to the board of directors of the Canadian Bureau for International Education, an organization that brings together institutions active in this area.

Vancouver Community College Douglas College and Capilano College

have agreed to pool their resources in the area of non-credit educational television courses. This Lower Mainland Consortium for Educational Television, to be administered from VCC, will handle all advertising, registrations, text books distribution and tutorial service for non-credit offerings.

"Working" — a musical adapted from the book by that chronicler of the common man, Studs Terkel, and adapted by Stephen Schwartz — is Studio 58's December bill, running from the sixth through the seventeenth. The play uses excerpts from Terkel's original material — gained when he travelled across North America interviewing men and women about what they do for a living and how they feel about what they do. There is music by Micki Grant, Mary Rogers, Susan Birkenhead and James Taylor. This is an evening that celebrates the workaday world. For reservations or ticket information call 324-5227.

## VANCOUVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

International Education Services



### PACIFIC RIM PROGRAM

1983-84

## Pacific Rim Launched

"These are difficult times for education in British Columbia and in other jurisdictions throughout North America. It is not easy to find new initiatives, yet new initiatives are needed more than ever if we are to be participants in future economic growth, rather than mere spectators."

With these words Vancouver Community College President Tony Manera officially launched Langara Campus's new Pacific Rim program at a reception November 17.

The two year program, Manera pointed out, is intended to prepare graduates for entry level jobs in businesses and industries with trade links to the Pacific Rim. Students have the option of taking a one year transfer program that prepares them to continue in this area of study at UBC. For people already working in the area of Pacific Rim trade, a series of Continuing Education courses enable them to update their knowledge and broaden their understanding of this sphere.

"It is significant to note that from 1975 to 1980 two-way trade between Canada and the Association of South East Asian Nations more than tripled, from \$350 million to over \$1 billion," the president told the 85 consular representatives, business people, instructors and students at the reception.

He went on to point out that Vancouver Community College was uniquely appropriate to meet the need for education in this increasingly more prominent sphere. The college has had a broad range of experience in the areas of international education, he said. This in combination with the commitment of those Langara Campus instructors instrumental in the program — John Howard-Gibbon, Gordon Jones, Brian Pendleton and Glen Witter — and the enthusiastic guidance of advisory committee members such as Bill McQuaid, who are actively involved in Pacific Rim trade, ensures the program can work effectively with the private sector to provide the trained personnel it needs.



A highlight of open house was the presentation of a diesel engine, valued at more than \$20,000, to the diesel mechanics department. From left to right are: department head Bob Brady; VCC President Tony Manera; Bob Cullen, head of Cullen Detroit Diesel Allison Ltd., the firm providing the engine; Harry Pankratz, KEC principal; Al McFadden, services manager for the firm; and Bob Yamaoka, customer services manager. Detroit Diesel is the diesel division of General Motors.

Bursar Max Fleming and board members Sheila Veitch and Elizabeth Jarvis pay a visit to Howie Olsen's auto mechanics department during KEC open house.



KEC Principal Harry Pankratz presides at the unveiling of a stained glass window at the library resources centre during open house.

than \$20,000, from Cullen Detroit Diesel Ltd., regional distributor for General Motors diesel division. On hand for the presentation were Bob Cullen, services manager Al McFadden and customer services manager Bob Yamaoka.

GM had surveyed schools all across North America before donating equipment, Brady explained. "Our program here was in the top three across the continent," he said.

In the science department of College Foundations there was a chemistry magic show, some fun with physics and a chance to peer through a microscope and see some tiny creatures fished out of False Creek. In the homemaker program guests were treated to coffee and home baked cookies.

English language training is one of the largest components at King Edward Campus. To give visitors an idea of the chal-

the courtyard to promote CE sailing courses.

President Tony Manera held a late afternoon reception for special guests from the business community, where two former board members who had served the college for several years, Mel Scott and Barry Sleigh, were honoured.

Consensus seemed to be that the day was a successful first, due in large part to the efforts of an organizing committee headed by Robert Cunningham, KEC's dean of instruction. Their experience will prove valuable when KEC invited the public once again in 1986.



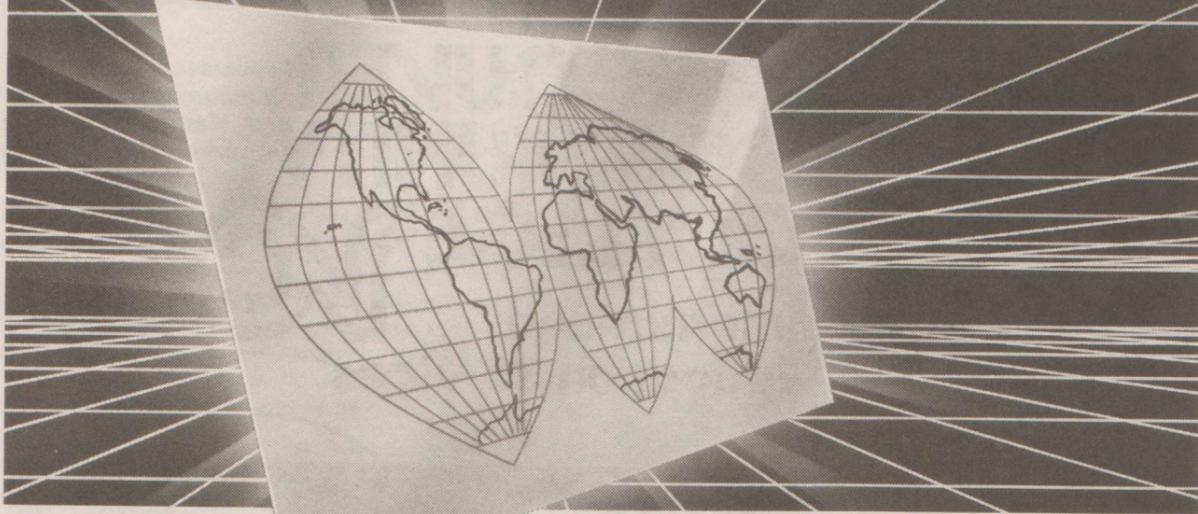
## Focus of the Future

As many of you already know, planning for the joint Canadian Vocational Association and Association of Canadian Community Colleges is forging ahead under the chairmanship of VCC President Tony Manera.

The conference, that is slated for Vancouver in May, is focussed on the future. Speakers and workshops will look at not only technological advances, but at the impact and implications of these advances on people.

If you would like more information on the conference call conference co-ordinator Jack Hundley at 875-1131, local 350.

# East Meets West at VCC



**They'd studied English literature, read Time Magazine and seen Hollywood movies. But coming from the ancient city of Chengdu, in the Sichuan province of the People's Republic of China, to North America took some adjustment.**

"Politically, geographically and culturally, of course, we know a great deal about your country," Qian Jin says, "certainly much more than most Chinese."

He and his colleagues Zhao Yasheng and Chen Wei-Zheng are at King Edward Campus for a specially tailored program in business and management English. Already fluent in the language, Qian and Zhao were English language instructors at the institute for foreign languages in Chungking and Chen was a translator for English speaking lecturers at a state medical college.

**When they've been fully tutored in language of the North American business world, they return to become translators for North American instructors at the newly created Chengdu Management Centre.**

The centre is a co-operative effort between the State Economic Commission of China and the Canadian International Development Agency. The Chinese government has realigned economic priorities to stress development in light industry and agriculture. Sichuan, with its economic base founded on iron and steel, aviation, electronics, food processing and handicrafts, is in a good position to meet these goals.

**"China is moving increasingly into the sphere of international trade," Zhao explains. "But our techniques of doing business are old fashioned. We need managers and supervisors educated in North American management techniques. This is what the Chengdu Centre will do."**

The first instructors at the centre will come from North America to teach managers in small and mid-sized industrial concerns the management techniques pioneered on this continent. These men will act as translators for them. At the same time, instructors from China will come to Canadian colleges for training in business administration, so they can then go back and take over full operation of the Chengdu Management Centre by 1987.

Qian, Zhao and Chen, who arrived here September 26 and return to China in May of next year, spend their mornings in class with KEC English language training instructor Elizabeth Atkins. In the afternoon they go different directions attending courses that give them not

only an understanding of the language, but of the concepts of management. Qian takes business courses at BCIT, Zhao takes economics and marketing at Langara Campus and Chen goes to courses on organizational behaviour at UBC.

**Education in Canada is quite different from that in China. "Here the course is planned in detail and you use a great number of technological aids," Qian explains. "We use audio-visual equipment too, but not nearly so much.**

"At the institute where I taught, the students' experience in the classroom depended on the interests and abilities of the instructor. My course may be different from that of another English instructor. We do not go so much by lesson plans."

In China, the three explain, there is no equivalent to the community college. "In China," Chen says, "a college is a place for specialized study, for instance, a medical college. A university is more comprehensive with a wide variety of subjects in arts and sciences."

A college or university in China is a real community. "Students live together, take classes together, share their meals together," Zhao explains. "Each class has a committee to oversee recreation, studies, sports. They take the students thoughts and concerns to the college administration and carry the administration's message back to the students.

"Here there seems to be more a sense of isolation or loneliness. People turn up for class, then they seem to disappear. The students I see in my marketing class are not the same ones I see in my economics class. In China you study with the same people through four or five years, so the students are a very close community."

"Actually this has been rather a disappointment to us" Qian notes. "Of course we would like to have more chance to talk with other students, to practice our English."

Canadian classroom style is more free-wheeling than in China, Chen says. "Here students stand up and ask questions all the time."

In China, Zhao explains, students take active part in discussions too, but the approach is somewhat more reserved. "In our country many students would be shy about asking questions in the middle of a large class.

"Chinese students are more concerned than Canadians seem to be about world affairs and politics," Zhao says. "Here students are worried about getting jobs."

Though all three were familiar with the North American way of life before they came here, the move into another culture has taken some adjustment.

"We are just now getting used to the food here," Zhao says, "It is not so spicy as that in Sichuan."

"And you eat more raw vegetables here," Chen adds. "We have many vegetables in our diet too but they are cooked more."

Qian and Zhao live with a Canadian family. "Actually they are an international family," Qian explains. "The husband is German. The wife is Japanese and the two children are Canadian. And then there are the two of us."

Again, the men find Canadian family life more isolated than that in China. There are fewer ties with the community and with friends. "It seems that television is the family's link to the outside world," Zhao observes.

In China, they explain, television programming is only during the evenings and on weekends and much of it is educational.

"Here there are too many commercials," Qian says. "They ruin a good movie." All three have closely followed the documentary series of the history of war and on the war in Vietnam.

"This is very good," Chen says. "I am impressed."

While the three are all anxious to return home to their wives and children, all express admiration for the enthusiasm and concern of their teachers here in Canada.



KEC English instructor Elizabeth Atkins works with Chinese translators (left to right) Zhao Yasheng, Chen Wei-Zheng, and Qian Jin.



Ross Carter, director of college resources and United Way co-ordinator for central administration and Continuing Education, and Harry Pankratz, KEC principal, accepted golden sneaker awards from President Tonay Manera Nov. 4 for their constituencies' United Way fund raising activities.

Even those who didn't don track shoes got into the act at the Thursday evening beer garden and Friday morning pancake breakfast. These activities brought in another \$400.

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## INTERCOM

InterCom is produced by the Public Relations and Advertising Services Department of Vancouver Community College. Your comments are welcome. Please call 688-1111, local 230.

"Apart from bringing in money to the United Way, the run really brought us all together," commented organizer Dave Greenall. "People at all levels of the college and from all different sectors got involved. The community co-operated, so did the students and nearby businesses. It was a great experience."

Greenall, who with organizers Bob Hamaura, Gordon Pawelchak, Peter Hopkinson and Jim Humble, brought the run off, says the marathon will become an annual United Way fund raiser.