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spectrum

Seizin Shiki: TO BUILD THE SPIRIT



Seizin Shiki: To Build The Spirit

"Seizin Shiki means a coming of age," Tooru Yokouchi says. "We become responsible for our own statements and our own actions in the world".

Tooru is explaining the significance of the Sheizin Shiki ceremony which was held for six Japanese students of Continuing Education's International Education Takudai program. Tooru was one of the students who took part in the ceremony which was held on January 15 in the City of Vancouver Council Chambers.

Every year, the Takudai program brings students from Tokyo's Takushoku University to spend a year at Vancouver Community College, Langara Campus. This year, 30 students are participating in the program.

According to Ian Andrews, Associate Director of International Education, "We've been arranging the coming-of-age ceremony for the students for the past eight years but this is the first time that we've held it at City Hall."

"We feel that it's important for our Takudai students to be involved in campus activities but we have to do more. We have to get them involved in the life of the community. But, at the same time, we also want to be able to recognize their national and cultural identity while they're here," he added.

(Continued on back page)

College Brief Applauded . . .

The Honourable Elwood Veitch, Minister of State for the Mainland/Southwest Region, commended VCC Board Chairman, Elizabeth Jarvis for the brief she presented on behalf of the College, January 18, 1988.

The minister and his parliamentary secretaries, John Jansen and Norm Jacobsen, held their fifth public meeting at the Hotel Vancouver and heard briefs from the City of Vancouver, The North Shore municipalities, the Vancouver Board of Trade and other area service organizations in addition to VCC.

Among the points raised by the college brief was the "hope that decentralization will not result in regions being pitted one against another. We trust that the decentralization process will not be at the expense of the Vancouver area." Mrs. Jarvis did not note but might have, that this concern is similarly expressed in the College's Educational

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INSIDE

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- VCC Day
- VVI makes a splash
- Alumni news



COMPETITIVE EDGE!

V.V.I. HAS THE COMPETITIVE EDGE!

That's the theme of V.V.I.'s Open House to be held April 14, 1988. Potential students, employers, and the public at large will be invited to get to know the Campus and its programs.

Visitors will be encouraged to take "self-conducted" tours of the departments of their choice. By eliminating the structured tours, it is hoped that the inevitable traffic flow problems will be reduced, and that participants will be able to spend more time in the departments of specific interest to them.

ALL V.C.C. FACULTY AND STAFF ARE INVITED TO JOIN IN THE FESTIVITIES!

(Continued from cover)

Plan 1988-93 in reaction to the Ministry of Advanced Education & Job Training planning assumption, "In an attempt to gradually improve regional equity ... growth will be directed towards colleges where participation rates are low ..."

Another point raised by the VCC brief which created some interest was the College's concern "that the recent initiative of the Minister of Education to establish an independent school in Hong Kong ignores our experience and our expertise, and could indicate the benefits our initiatives have brought to this region." Mrs. Jarvis noted that our international program "brings some \$6 million annually into the economy of this region."

Mr. Veitch said he was very supportive of the College and expressed his appreciation for our willingness to co-operate in the economic and social development of the region. He went on to say, "I think if you were looking for a model for a large metropolitan community college, you couldn't do much better than to look to Vancouver Community College."

Copies of the entire brief may be obtained by contacting the Public Relations Department, 875-1131.

Employee training and upgrading is an ongoing concern in the hospitality industry. The Westin Bayshore Inn recently proved that, not only is it concerned about the need, it is also prepared to address it.

Cierran Kelly, Executive Assistant Manager of the Bayshore, contacted Tony Wood, Acting Chairman of the Hospitality and Tourism Division of VVI, regarding a training program to be offered in-house to forty Westin Bayshore employees ... supervisors as well as those with supervisory potential.

The hotels' specific needs and its employees were evaluated, and industry consultant, Julian Howe was assigned to instruct the American Hotel and Motel Association Supervisory Training III Program.

Although the sessions were held at the hotel, the employees were registered as students of the VVI. They were divided into two groups of twenty, but were allowed the flexibility of attending either the Tuesday or Thursday afternoon sessions, depending upon their work requirements.

Tony Wood advises that interest in specific employee training programs continues as other hotels inquire about similar sessions for their employees.

Seizin Shiki: TO BUILD THE SPIRIT (Continued from cover)



Sachiko Honda, another of the Takudai students, says that in Japan, the Seizin Shiki ceremony is held at the city or town hall for all those who have reached their twentieth birthday in that year.

"The mayor makes a speech and there is a presentation. You go to the temple and afterwards, you have a family celebration. It's not a big party, just for the family," she says.

In Vancouver, the six students were graciously received by Mayor Gordon Campbell. College faculty and staff, including President Paul Gallagher and Langara Principal Jock Denholm were also present.

"It was a very honourable ceremony," Ms. Honda said. It made me feel very good to be recognized when I'm away from home."

BAYSHORE UPGRADES SUPERVISORY STAFF



Bayshore employees take time out from VVI Supervisory Upgrade course. Tuesday class.

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Spectrum is published 10 times a year by the Public Relations Department of Vancouver Community College for our 1500 part-time and full-time employees. Information for news, features and coming events should be directed to Communication Officers.



**THEY
DID IT
THEIR
WAY!**

Charles Nelson plays the dulcimer "his way", much to the delight of the Gala audience.

The Langara Jazz Ensemble entertains a full house at the 2nd Annual Langara Gala.

Mira Modi demonstrates elements of traditional Indian dance.

"I've never heard the dulcimer played, so I'm going to play it 'my way'."

And so played Charles Nelson of Langara's English Department — first an original composition, then a beautiful rendition of "Ode to Joy" which the audience hummily accompanied.

The occasion was the Second Annual Langara Gala, an evening of variety entertainment performed by faculty and staff to benefit the Langara Education Fund. The program was extensive, featuring a wide range of talent extraordinaire which delighted, without exception, a packed house.

All performers did it "their way", from the harmonious a cappella "do-do-do's" of The Polyesters, to the fantastic Taptastics, who hoofed their way down "42nd Street". The line-up also included the Langara Jazz Ensemble (all of them playing "All of Me"), traditional Indian and Hawaiian dancing, classical and contemporary music performed with vocal cords and a variety of instrumental chords, a tribute to Robbie Burns, and even two talented mystery performers (only those in attendance are privy to their identities.)

The show, which lasted almost three hours, raised almost \$900 for two campus scholarships.



VCC COLLEGE WEEK DINNER ... FIRST CLASS

One of the high points of College Week this past year was a superb dinner served at the VVI in honour of VCC's Program Advisory Committee Chairpersons.

It was a first class evening right from the start as invitees got acquainted at the reception, then followed the head table guests as they were "piped" into JJ's Dining Room to partake of a splendid eight course meal.

VVI's Principal, Hans Rerup, emceed the evening and Elizabeth Jarvis, Chairperson of the VCC Board, extended the opening welcome. After the grace, given by Lawrence Fast, Principal of KEC, the meal was served at a leisurely pace to enhance the enjoyment of each delectable course.

Tom Toulson, Director of Contract Services and International Education, introduced V.C.C. President, Paul Gallagher. Dr. Gallagher praised the P.A.C. Chairpersons for their role in helping the college adapt our over 100 programs and program clusters to reflect the changes in technology, social values, and the working environment evident in today's marketplace. As a result, our programs are significantly different.

"Not only have our programs changed, but so have our students" advised Dr. Gallagher. "Of the 45,000 students educated at V.C.C. in the course of a year, only 6,000 are conventional, "young, full-time" college students. The vast majority are more mature, highly motivated, business-like, part-time students who are working, raising families and preparing for a career change. This is a very different college than five years ago."

V.C.C. is also becoming more and more involved in educating students on an international basis. In addition to the students hosted from 22 nations as part of the Pacific Rim thrust of B.C., V.C.C. also educates students in Japan, China and Europe.

As our educational scope increases, so will the need for the valuable resources available through our Program Advisory Committees. By continuing to work together, we will be more than ready to meet the educational challenges of tomorrow.

Sincere thanks to the P.A.C. Dinner Organizational Committee and to the Culinary Arts and Dining Room & Lounge staff for an outstanding evening.



L. to r. Elizabeth Jarvis, Chairperson of VCC Board; Lawrence Fast, Principal, KEC; Hans Rerup, Principal, VVI.



College Week P.A.C. Dinner — Head Table guests l. to r. Jack Denholm, Principal, Langara; Gail Rochester, Acting Director, Continuing Education; Paul Gallagher, President, VCC.

The piper set the 'tone' at the College Week dinner, ushering guests to J.J.'s Dining Room for a magnificent dinner!

VANCOUVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE VCC **spectrum**



Robert Mahe as Count Dracula was 'out for blood' and got it, taking First Prize in the VVI United Way Halloween Costume and Photo Contest.

VVI reorganization

The VVI instructional divisions have recently undergone reorganization. The old divisions of Industrial/Technical, Services, and Business/Health have been restructured to form four new ones: Business, Technical, Health Sciences and Hospitality/Tourism.

This reorganization has largely been in response to program growth and changes as dictated by the ever-changing needs of our students and our marketplace.

For example, prior to this reorganization, the size of the Business/Health Division had grown to encompass 50% of the instructors and FTE's of the VVI, resulting in a disproportionate workload for the division chairmen.

It had also become necessary to divide both the Food Trades and Business/Education departments into four new instructional areas. These changes substantially increased the number of Department Heads and Coordinator II's making the logistics of supervision and management within the old division framework more and more difficult.

At the same time, planning forecast indicators predicted an increased focus in a number of new areas, particularly in the Hospitality/Tourism and Health Sciences fields.



First year Recreation Facilities Management students Sue Boeschoten and Mike Knight learn how not to spoil the broth from VVI's Culinary Arts Dept. Head, Fred Naso.

The creation of these new divisions will accommodate the requirements of the departmental restructuring done to date, as well as the tremendous demands required to develop new programs.

Although the streamlining of the divisions was largely for administrative purposes, it was also done with a view to improving communication between Department Heads and Instructors. "We wanted to increase the 'buying in process' of instructors into their own program's futures," advises Hans Rerup, Principal of VVI, "and early results indicate that this has been a success."

Although some programs don't necessarily fall clearly into any one division, an attempt has been made to match programs within divisions as much as possible for continuity as well as workload considerations.

(Actually the photo is of Robert Mahe as Count Dracula who won first prize in a recent VVI photo contest.)

Alumni News

Since its founding in the Spring of 1987, the Vancouver Community College Alumni Association has planted the seeds for an energetic social network for VCC graduates and former students.

The positive response to combined recreation and pub socials has prompted a decision by the Board of Directors to hold a regular monthly event of this type. From March through June of 1988, recreation socials will be held on the third Monday of the month at Langara Campus. The gymnasium will provide a venue for Volleyball and Badminton, with a Pub to follow, in the Langara Faculty Lounge.

The success of a recent skating event also suggests some possibilities for next winter. One of the advantages of the skating party is that members can include their children if they choose to.

While these social activities do not serve the needs of all of the Alumni members, they do provide a focus for the younger members to get to know one another and to reinforce their bond with VCC.

Other activities planned for upcoming months address a demand from many members for cultural and edu-



cational events. In February, a dinner/theatre night is planned in conjunction with Studio 58. On March 28th, the Alumni Association will sponsor an information forum on the Free Trade Agreement.

The Alumni Forum on Free Trade will be open to VCC staff, faculty, and students who pre-register with the Alumni office.

Faculty are invited to most Alumni events. The members often attend with the hope of renewing acquaintances with faculty.

Currently, the Association has more than 800 members. With the existing enrolment policy in place, the Association is expected to grow by between

1000 and 1500 members annually. The VCC Alumni Association differs from many other Alumni Associations in that enrolment is not automatic upon graduation. All members enrolled have submitted an application for membership.

A recent survey of Alumni members uncovered a high level of interest in the Association and in VCC. A substantial number of members have indicated a desire to be actively involved. It remains for the Volunteer Board and staff of the Association to channel this enthusiasm into viable activities that serve the needs of the members and of VCC.

VCC Educational Foundation

N. Lam is proud of himself. After two and a half years, he has reached Level 4 of the Basic Training Skills Development English program at KEC. "I've reached my first goal," he shyly says.

He hopes to be able to complete his requirements for a grade 12 diploma. His goal is to pursue a career in computers, a goal that a few years ago seemed unrealistic.

Mr. Lam uses a wheelchair to get around and to get to school. A HandiDart Van is needed to take him and his wheelchair to and from KEC. Mr. Lam almost didn't make it to school because he and his family could not afford the cost of the HandiDart service. Since arriving from Vietnam five years ago, finding enough money to pay for the necessities of food and rent has been difficult.

Without the money for the HandiDart, Mr. Lam would not be able to pursue his educational and career goals. Fortunately, help was available.

The VCC Educational Foundation, in conjunction with the KEC Financial Aid Office was able to provide the money to pay for Mr. Lam's transportation.

The VCC Educational Foundation was incorporated in July of 1983 as a private society governed by a Board of Directors. Its purpose is to raise money from corporations and individuals to help the College Financial Aid Program. The funds raised provide for bursaries and scholarships. The funds special and innovative program development and special capital requirements beyond that provided for in the annual college budget.

Donations come from many sources on campus, throughout Vancouver, and from across Canada. The reasons people and corporations give are many.

According to Solveig Sargent, Community Relations Supervisor of BC Tel, "the reason that we donate to the VCC Educational Foundation is that we not only have a firm commitment to educating our own employees, but also to assisting the education of future employees."

B.C. Tel has been supporting scholarships and bursaries at VCC since the mid-1970's. Their latest donation, in January 1988, was for \$2000 that went to the Job Readiness and Assessment program at VVI for the computers, adaptive technical aid and expanded keyboards for the mentally and physically handicapped.

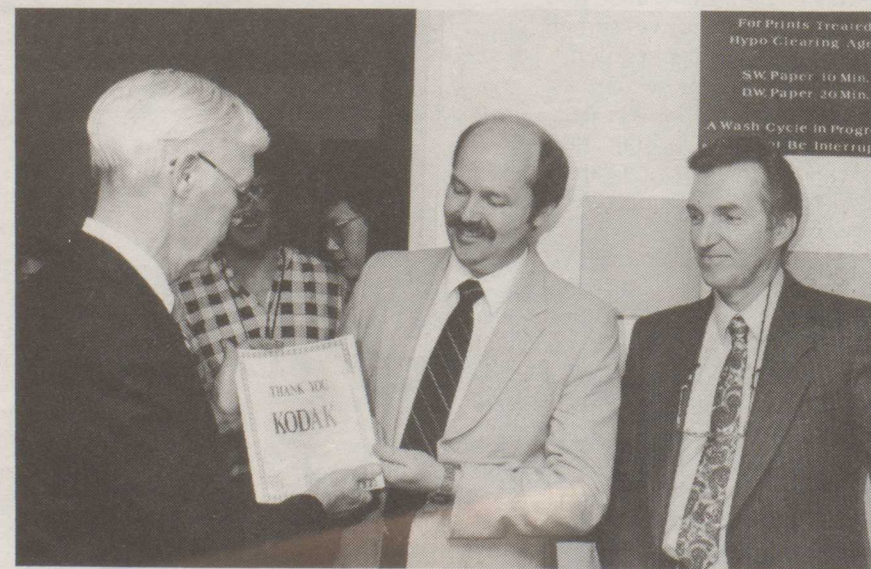
Walter F. Light of Northern Telecom Ltd. has noted that maintaining Canadian competitiveness is an important factor in his firm's donation policy.

"Unless we are prepared to invest in higher education at levels comparable to or higher than such investments being made in other countries we run almost the certain risk of precluding any real long term productivity improvement in Canada," Mr. Light said.

Howard Naphtali, Executive Director of the Foundation, noted that there is a desperate need for more donations. "Last year, 1300 of our students borrowed \$3.7 million to stay in school. Over one thousand students applied for financial aid in the form of bursaries. We were able to help only half of those and even then, the aid was nominal," he said.

Mr. Naphtali also pointed out that donations received by the Foundation for the Student Aid Endowment Fund before the end of 1988 are matched by a provincial grant. "So right now, every dollar donated is equal to 2 dollars," he said.

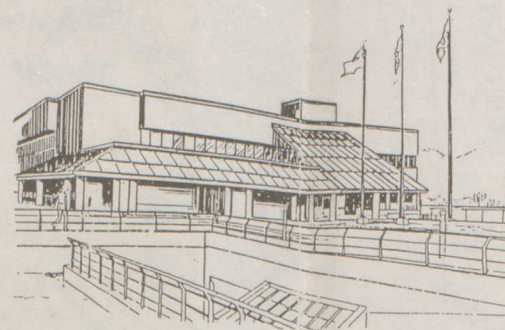
A most important group of potential donors are the faculty and staff of VCC. As part of a campaign to encourage campus donations, the Foundation has launched the weekly Win*A*Grand Lottery.



Staff and students of Langara's Photography Technician Program recently hosted an Open House. More than 150 people attended and were treated to a display of assignments, tours of the facilities and a presentation of recently-acquired state-of-the-art processing equipment. Pictured here (left to right) are Ralph Kerr, Dean of Instruction - Career Programs, Graham Pask from Kodak, and Lyle Larrigan, Co-ordinator - Photography Program, following the inaugural demonstration of the new Kodak Dektomatic Model 65 Black & White Paper Processor.

Photo Program Open House

KEC State of the Campus Meeting



One day after Ronald Reagan delivered his final State of the Union Address as President of the United States, K.E.C. Principal, Lawrence Fast made his bid for the mantle of "the Great Communicator".

All King Edward employees were asked to meet in the auditorium for the second "State of the Campus" meeting since Fast assumed the principal's chair.

His address to employees covered five major areas: the campus budget; working conditions; improving the atmosphere on campus and the appearance of the campus; improved communications; and 'what is going on underground?'

Fast contrasted this year's budget situation where "division and departments are on target in the achievement of FTE's and in the pattern of expenditures" with last year at the same time when the campus was headed for a projected quarter-million dollar deficit. He said this year's situation seemed like "a budgetary heaven."

He also took the opportunity to announce a new \$70,000 curriculum development fund and a \$15,000 allotment for "faculty and staff for approved travel and

conferences." Both funds will have committees to determine allocations.

For working conditions, Fast stated that a norm has been established for appointments in departments of 80% permanent and 20% temporary. He also announced he would be willing to work with representatives of the VIA to explore ways of easing faculty workload while meeting Ministry requirements. He noted that the Dean had earlier circulated a draft proposal for faculty evaluation and that it is still being discussed in the departments.

Commenting on campus atmosphere and appearance, Fast reviewed a number of items promised in his September 10 address as accomplished or underway. He stated the theme of King Edward Day this year "will be related to the student-centred college, and ways in which we can celebrate and improve our service to students and student learning."

In closing, Fast cautioned "building up a campus is challenging work. There will be difficult times, we will not always agree, even in the implementation of good, new and deserved changes. To continue to improve our Campus, it is essential that we work together and that we trust each other, that we are open with each other and help each other."

He then announced that he had prepared a vision statement for the campus for the years 1988 to 1993 which will be "the nucleus of an Educational Plan to shape our future."

The vision statement was distributed to all employees as they left the auditorium for refreshments and discussion in the faculty dining area.

The performance appeared to be well received and Fast was warmly applauded by those present in the auditorium.

Copies of his "Vision for King Edward Campus" are available from the Principal's Office.

A Day and a Reason to Celebrate



On Monday, April 25, 1988, the community that is Vancouver Community College will come together to celebrate.

We'll be celebrating VCC Day. On this day, all full-time and part-time, permanent and temporary employees of the College will head to the B.C. Enterprise Centre (on the former Expo site). All day and most evening classes will be cancelled.

We'll be celebrating who we are. The purpose of the day is to provide an opportunity for instructors and staff to meet one another. In the normal course of work, most VCC employees don't get to meet people from other campuses. VCC Day is an attempt to bring us together.

We'll be celebrating what we do. VCC Day has been designed to explore, through speakers and a panel discussion, some issues of interest to the College body as a whole. The theme for the day: *Education, Passion, and the Real World.*

VCC Day has been put together by a volunteer committee chaired by Continuing Education Senior Program Coordinator, Jill Tyndale.

"A number of us from the three campuses had worked together on a think-tank group that developed from the Institutional Evaluation. We found that meeting like that, we learned a lot from each other, and about each other," Ms. Tyndale explained.

"Afterwards, we thought that it would be valuable if the whole college could meet in the same way," she added.

Others on the Committee are Dalton Kramer and Sandra Jones from VVI, Martin Gerson and Bob Worcester from Langara, Sam Lewindon from KEC, Paul Sinnott from Continuing Education, Human Resources/Jean Blake, and Alumni Association Executive Director Colleen Smith.

Ms. Tyndale emphasized that, "money for the day comes from the B.C. Excellence in Management Fund and not from the College operating budget."

Contributions, to pay for the lunch that will be served, were received from the Langara Faculty Association, Vocational Instructors Association, and Continuing Education.

VCC Day will start at 8:30 a.m. with coffee and rolls and a cross-campus trivia contest. Prizes will be awarded.

Noted jurist and lawyer, Tom Berger, is the keynote speaker. The closing address will be by author/historian, Peter C. Newman. In between will be lunch (free) and a panel discussion with CBC's Lucie McNeill as moderator. To end the day, entertainment will be provided by the campuses and a wine and cheese wrap-up.

Over the next month, VCC employees will find a VCC Day registration form attached to their pay slips and in campus newspapers. It is needed to make sure that there's lunch enough for everybody. Please hand your registration form in as soon as possible to your campus Continuing Education office.

Let's come together for *Education, Passion, and the Real World*. VCC Day is for all of us.

United Way at VVI makes Big Splash!



VV United Way 'Cream the Administrator' Event.

ON YOUR MARK...



GET SET...



FIRE!!!!

Continuing Ed. Benefits VCC Employees

Jay Strachan is an employee of Vancouver Community College. He is now also a graduate of Continuing Education's Business Administration Certificate Program.

As Operations Supervisor with Central Administration's Facilities Department, Jay's responsibilities include the supervision of all construction, renovations and maintenance carried out at V.C.C.'s three campuses. But to get to his current position, he was encouraged to take more training.

"Just prior to my reclassification, four or five years ago, my boss, Bill Hill, said I would benefit from taking courses in accounting and contract law. That's what got me started," he said.

Another influencing factor in his decision to take courses through C.E. was the College's policy of providing tuition or course fee waivers for College employees. This policy applies to both Campus-offered and Continuing Education courses. (Full details on tuition waivers is available from department supervisors or the Personnel Department.)

"I really enjoyed taking those first two courses," Jay said. "And after the second course, a survey was done in which we were asked if we were going to be

taking further courses or working towards a certificate. So I said to myself, 'Sure, why not? There's only another six courses'."

"The Certificate gave me a goal, a reward at the end," Mr. Strachan said.

"Another thing that's helpful about taking the program through C.E. is that you don't have to take a course every term. During a couple of semesters, I was very busy with my job so I didn't take any courses" he added.

Jay received his Certificate at a recent Continuing Education's graduation ceremony.

"When I took my Technology diploma at N.A.I.T. (Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in Edmonton) I didn't graduate with the rest of the class, because I still had one course left to take, so I didn't have a graduation photo taken."

"This time, I was first in line. It's for my parents," Mr. Strachan said.

(V.C.C. employees interested in taking Business Administration Certificate courses can register or obtain further information from the Langara C.E. office or by calling Joanne Bydal 324-5214. Courses for the winter term begin January 15, 1988.)