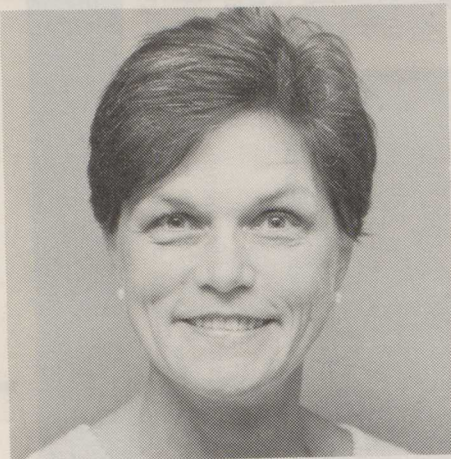


JANUARY
1989



VOLUME 3 NUMBER 1
JANUARY, 1989

spectrum



An interview with Colleen Miller . . .

Spectrum recently interviewed VCC College Board Chairperson Colleen Miller. Here are her comments on the immediate and long term future for VCC — and her personal thoughts on serving the college.

Spectrum — You and Dr. Gallagher recently met with The Honourable Stan Hagen, Minister for Advanced Education and Training, regarding funding and overcrowding. How did it go?

Miller — We received a wonderful reception; total understanding and sympathy from the minister and the ministry. I thought we'd have to do some convincing and coercing, but they were very sympathetic and aware of the situation.

Spectrum — Did he hold out any hope for a solution in this year's upcoming budget?

Miller — The urgency, of course, is a solution for September. We don't want to see our students, staff or the board go through the same kind of difficulties we had last year. He gave us a guarantee of support, but he has to go to the Treasury Board for the funding. We went to him and said 'Mr. minister, you have a problem.' The minister very neatly said, 'No, you have a problem at VCC. You have my support, but you'll have to come back to me with some solutions.'

We are looking for a site for a temporary fourth campus right now. The space is needed for this fall; we can't wait for a permanent site.

Spectrum — What is the board's next step?

Miller — We have a series of things planned to bring the problem to the attention of Treasury Board and others who may be able to help us get the

allotment of funding we need (before the budget is finalized at the end of March). Just what those approaches are, I'm not going to say at this point, but they are at the top of our list of priorities. I'm afraid that to lay out our plan now might take some of the steam out of it.

Spectrum — What was his response to the college board's proposal for a long-term solution, such as new, permanent facilities?

Turn to next page for Paul Gallagher's 'Call to Action'.

Miller — Also, one of support. But we're certainly nowhere near the point where we can think of breaking ground. I'd like to clear up one point: we have made a pitch to the ministry for new educational facilities, but not necessarily for a fourth campus for VCC. We're the ones who bear the brunt of the problems at registration time, particularly at Langara. We have long waiting lists and we have horrible overcrowding problems. Rather than wait for the ministry to recognize the problem, the board decided to do something proactive and spell out the need to Victoria.

Spectrum — Would the board welcome a new facility as a fourth campus for VCC?

Miller — Certainly. We'll do whatever we must to solve the problem. If

that means a fourth campus for VCC, that's fine.

Spectrum — What are the main responsibilities of the board?

Miller — Our primary function is to set policy. We set the direction, often on the recommendation of the administration.

We set the mandate for negotiations and ratify the agreements. We set the policy for how the funding is spent. We're very active and very involved in the budgeting process. And we're involved in everything from leave time to PD time to curriculum.

Spectrum — How do people make their interest in serving known to the minister?

Miller — The incumbents have been quite active in seeking out new board members and making recommendations to the minister when there are vacancies. As well, the MLAs make recommendations and the minister will have his own list of people who are interested. But it has been tough some times to get people who are willing to serve and able to make a valuable contribution. Rarely does anyone actively seek out the job.

Spectrum — How much is your honorarium?

Miller — We get paid a huge honorarium. I get paid an excessive amount as board chairperson . . . \$208.33 per month. Board members get \$167. It works out to about 12 cents per hour.

See Back Page . . .

AN INTERVIEW WITH COLLEEN MILLER

From Page One . . .

Spectrum — Why do you want to serve on the board?

Miller — That's a good question. In the first year, I can't honestly say I enjoyed it. I didn't know, quite frankly, what I was doing. I didn't know anything about the educational system. I kept having these couriers drop off tons of paper at my door and then I would get a phone call about an hour later asking if I had read it all. No, the first year wasn't fun. It was drudgery. I was totally out of my element.

The second year, I started to feel a little more comfortable. I'm a business person and I can put the academic work into my notch in the business world and relate to it that way. By the third year, I started to have some pretty strong views about the direction in which we should be going. By the end of my current term, I think I will have made a contribution and then it'll be time to move on.

Spectrum — What attracted you to take a position in the educational system?

Miller — In terms of community activities, education was probably the low man on my totem pole. The only previous experience I had with it was serving on the PTA as my daughter went through school and that was a terribly frustrating process. But Dr. Grant Fisher (Director of Planning and Legislative Branch) came to me and put forward a good case for why I was approached and that they needed people from the business world; that they needed a cross section of viewpoints and background. I think Grant convinced me.

Spectrum — What strengths do you bring to the job?

Miller — I have a lot of business expertise. When I joined the board, I was chief financial officer for MSA. I now own my own businesses and I think I'm a fairly hard-nosed businessperson. We have people who are oriented toward the academic side. I think I provide some balance.

Spectrum — Have there been any surprises for you in the job? (Laughter) Okay, start at the top of the list.

Miller — It's always a surprise when you see a picket sign or a protest. Some of the articles in the Voice and the Gleaner have been surprises. One bad surprise was the nasty phone calls at home 'til 2 a.m.

Spectrum — Anonymous calls?

Miller — That's right. During the current round of negotiations, the VIA gave out board phone numbers and said

'phone your board members'. That's a negotiating ploy, but when you're supposed to be on tap to the negotiating team so you can make decisions, you can't unplug your phone. Finding out how much PD time the faculty gets was also a surprise.

Spectrum — Have there been surprises on the positive side?

Miller — Many. I had no idea we served 40,000 students a year or that we operated in as many as 40 locations. I had no idea we have probably the largest ESL offering in North America or did 80 per cent of the ESL training in the province. Getting involved with the students and their expectations for the system that we cherish...learning about the good reputation we have in the

instances, we pay lip service to the community and go off on our own tangents. We have to be more active in going out into the community and finding out what they want and need.

Spectrum — What is the largest internal problem that you see?

Miller — A unified sense of identity. We tend to struggle along as three or four separate entities. We should be VCC. We're the biggest and the best and we offer all this diversity. We need a cohesive group behind us to do that.

Take a look at IBM. They're the biggest, but they're also the best. Being big doesn't mean you lose the ability to react or you lose the quality. In most cases, it gives you the opportunity to be better than everybody else. We may

COLLEGE BOARD MEMBERS

Member	Occupation	Original Appointment Date	Date for Review
Doug Brandes	Foreign exchange dealer.	June 4/87	Mar. 31/90
Robert Brocklebank	President of engineering firm.	June 8/88	Mar. 31/89
David Camp	Lawyer	June 30/88	Mar. 31/89
John Chapman	Professor of geography.	Feb. 1/84	June 4/90
Brian Ciccozzi	Accountant	June 30/88	Mar. 31/89
Colleen Miller	Accountant/proprietor.	Feb. 2/84	June 4/90
Ruth Preston	Bank asst. account manager.	June 1/87	Mar. 31/90
Hope Rust	President, Social Credit Party	Apr. 17/85	June 4/90
Bob Smith	Vice-President, life insurance company	June 8/88	Mar. 31/89
Barbara Spitz	Travel agent.	Feb. 1/84	June 4/90

community . . . just finding out what a terrific place this is; those are the pleasant surprises.

Spectrum — Can you choose one high point?

Miller — Getting through a year without a fee increase because having to raise tuition is always the low point.

Spectrum — Where would you like to take the college?

Miller — I'd like to see us react more quickly to community needs. We're better than we used to be, but we have a long way to go. I think in some

have better resources, better printing facilities or better libraries. I also think we have better access to the minister and the ministry because of our size.

Spectrum — What can the board do to foster cohesion?

Miller — We are available to the faculty, staff and the students. But I think we also need to increase VCC's profile. VCC is still the best kept secret in Vancouver. We have to improve the college's image and present a united front to the public and the corporate donors. I think that goes back to unity.

VANCOUVER
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE VCC

spectrum

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: Chuck Poulsen, 324-5475; Barbara Cameron, 875-1131 or Gayle Thody, 875-8200.

It's time to speak up for ourselves

College Board Chairperson Colleen Miller and President Paul Gallagher are issuing a challenge to all faculty, staff and students of Vancouver Community College.

The challenge: to join in making the provincial government aware of the necessity to act *now* to preserve and promote the quality of education provided by VCC.

Where We Are Now

VCC has suffered over the course of the past ten years from the effects of government restraint and a failure, over the past years, to redress the inequity our College suffers through the formula that determines funding levels for the B.C. College system.

Over the past two years, the College has been presenting its case for a review of the funding formula. Last year, the Ministry of Advanced Education brought in an outside consultant to review our position. The ensuing report fully supported the College's position. The ministry has accepted the consultant's conclusions and made concrete that backing by including our need for more money in this year's budget request. This request now goes to the government financial decision-making body, Treasury Board.

At the same time, the advanced education system throughout the Lower Mainland suffers from a lack of facilities to meet the demand. VCC has been coping to meet the demand and the effects of the resulting overcrowding we are all too well acquainted with.

Without government support for additional facilities, the situation will only worsen:

- Vancouver has or is in the process of approving 19,000 new housing units.
- Both UBC and SFU are moving to restrict enrolments and raise fees.
- More Vancouver high school graduates directly entering post-secondary education (58% in 1981, 71% in 1986); more students from outside Vancouver; more students from other post-secondary institutions.

The Ministry of Advanced Education has acknowledged the situation and has translated our case into a budget request. This too goes before Treasury Board where the political decision will be made.

The Competitive Factor

While we encourage improved educational facilities throughout the province, right now it is Vancouver that has the greatest unmet need. Yet it is in the other regions of the province where the

call for action is the greatest. Politicians and business leaders in the Okanagan, in the North, and on Vancouver Island have joined together to each make a case for their respective regions.

Where is the voice of Vancouver?

Message from Paul Gallagher

I urge all VCC employees to write to their MLA's in support of excellence in teaching. And get your friends to do the same. Please write today — and certainly before the end of February.

Teachers, staff and students everywhere — in colleges, at universities, in schools, and certainly at VCC — have been undervalued, unsupported, and demoralized for years. It is impossible to have excellence — even with excellent people — under these circumstances.

Instructors, their professional colleagues, and those who support them have been undervalued because most citizens do not realize how complex and sophisticated the art of teaching is. Really good teaching is draining both psychologically and physically. Good teachers live with and work at their jobs all the time. Far more VCC professionals put in 60 hour weeks than 40 hour weeks. All of us have been squeezed in all directions.

Excellent people throughout VCC with excellent qualifications and excellent records have not received support. Some work with obsolete equipment, most work in cramped buildings and classrooms. They want and need to remain current. Most do not have the support to sustain excellence. And this most affects our students.

All this has happened because for years we have not had the resources to value and support our people. We must be in a position to do much better — starting now. And we must all quickly rise to the occasion.

The problem is more than province-wide but it is especially acute in Vancouver and at VCC. The provincial government's decentralization plan makes us particularly vulnerable.

I point no fingers. We can all be part of the solution.

Please speak up. Support your political representatives by demanding resources for excellence. If you don't have the time to put it in words, clip and forward this message with the words "I agree". If you disagree, say that too. But write. Now.

Write to:

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Constituency Offices

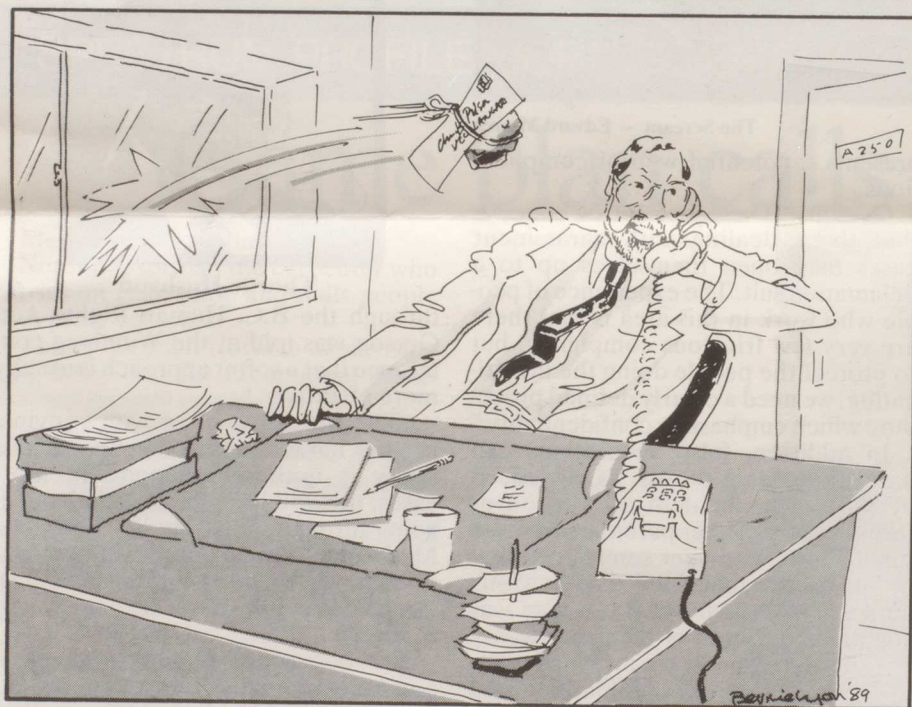
- Burnaby-Edmonds
Dave Mercier MLA
3-7311 Kingsway Bby 522-7899
- Burnaby-North
Barry Jones MLA
31-250 Willingdon Bby 298-8958

The Challenge

In Paul Gallagher's accompanying message, he encourages you to write your MLA to take action now on behalf of the people of Vancouver who deserve excellence in education.

- Burnaby-Willingdon
Elwood N Veitch MLA
5365 Kingsway Bby 430-4099
- Coquitlam-Maillardville
John Cashore MLA
102 - 1108 Austin Ave Coq 937-3516
- Coquitlam-Port Moody
Mark W Rose MLA
2567 Shaughnessy St Pt Coq 941-4001
- Dewdney
Norman Jacobsen MLA
33135 N Railway Mission 826-2134
- F C Austin Pelton MLA
22373-119th Ave Mpl Ridge 463-7944
- Langley
Carol Gran MLA
5718B Glover Rd 534-0100
- Dan Peterson MLA
5718B Glover Rd 534-0100
- New Westminster
Anita Hagen MLA
722-12th St N West 521-8111
- North Vancouver-Capilano
Angus Ree MLA
1412 Lonsdale Ave N Van 986-6010
- North Vancouver-Seymour
Jack Davis MLA
308 Harbour Ave N Van 988-7212
- Richmond
Nick Loenen MLA
203-8171 Park Rd Rmd 278-2353
- William N VanderZalm MLA
203-8171 Park Rd Rmd 278-2353
- Surrey-Guildford-Whalley
Joan Smallwood MLA
13652-108th Ave Sry 581-2797
- Surrey-Newton
Rita M Johnston MLA
6926 King George VI Hwy Sry 590-1441
- Surrey-White Rock-Cloverdale
Bill Reid MLA
1550 Foster W Rock 536-8588
- Vancouver Centre
Emery O Barnes MLA
749 E Broadway 874-8602
- Michael Harcourt MLA
749 E Broadway 874-8602
- Vancouver East
Glen Clark MLA
2649 E Hastings 253-5522
- Bob Williams MLA
2649 E Hastings 253-5522
- Vancouver-Little Mountain
Grace M McCarthy MLA
101-1687 W Broadway 736-3348
- Douglas L Mowat MLA
101-1687 W Broadway 736-3348
- Vancouver-Point Grey
Darlene Marzari MLA
3606 W Broadway 732-8683
- Vancouver South
Russell G Fraser MLA
320-6330 Fraser St 327-8365
- C Stephen Rogers MLA
320-6330 Fraser St 327-8365
- West Vancouver-Howe Sound
John Reynolds MLA
112-2419 Bellevue Ave W Van 922-6722

EDITOR'S NOTE



Poulsen receives his first Letter to the Editor.

Readers will set the course

As the new editor of Spectrum, I wanted to tell you what my immediate editorial policy will be for the paper:

After this article is finished, I plan to be quiet and listen.

I am new at VCC and have much to learn. More importantly — Spectrum is YOUR paper and it will be a success only if it meets your needs.

So where do we start? I think by restating a policy that is the foundation for any credible publication:

Spectrum has, and will continue, to provide a balanced airing of all the issues that affect VCC employees or its students, including publication of letters to the editor. We will edit for length, good taste and libel — but we will not censor opinion, fair comment or insight. Letters must be clearly signed and include a phone number. Letters will not be published anonymously.

That's the meat of it, but there's more possibilities on the menu, recognizing that Spectrum operates as does everything else at VCC — within a budget.

For starters, we are thinking of emphasizing:

- Profiles of VCC people who have achieved excellence, both on and off the job.

- Straight answers from the experts to questions for which you may not previously have been able to get answers.

- Stories about the changes and innovations at VCC, and the traditions that may have gone unnoticed.

- We will include cartoons — political and otherwise — a column to recognize both new and long term employees, college related articles from across Canada and around the world, a redesign of the format to make Spectrum as visually vibrant as its content, and the occasional reader survey to make sure we're meeting your needs.

- And of utmost importance, we're going to have some fun and be entertaining along the way.

If you have any thoughts on what you'd like to see in Spectrum — in general or specific stories — please give me a call at 324-5475 (Langara room 250A).

And please start those cards and letters coming.

Chuck Poulsen
Communications Officer

CAM AVERY MOVES ON

Time to look up and out

Public relations director Cam Avery has left VCC, but not before leaving a few thoughts behind.

Cam has taken the position of director of corporate communications for B.C. Gas, a new company formed when Inland Natural Gas purchased the gas division of B.C. Hydro.

He said the high point of his 13 years at VCC was "getting to the point where senior management and the board believed that public relations is an important and essential function in institutions today."

Said Cam: "I hope that recognition will expand to the point where some of the more determined faculty members believe community and government relations are an increasingly integral part of the operation of educational institutions."

"We have come through a difficult period of financial restraint with people focusing on the minutiae. I think it's time to look up and out, and grasp the idea of what a major player VCC is and can be in the community."

"I'd like to see the college and all of its employees tell people who hold pub-



Cam Avery

lic office that we're worthy of their support. I'd like to see every VCC employee and the students take five minutes to write to their MLA or phone the constituency office. Politicians will pay attention if they see tremors developing in the political landscape.

"VCC is a good place. It's worth standing up for and bragging about."

Best of luck in your new job, Cam.

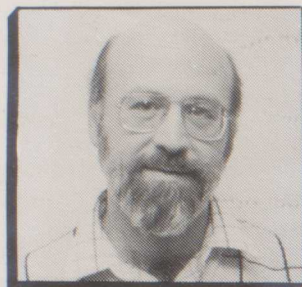
HARASSMENT—Out of the closet

Harassment at VCC is coming out of the closet.

Harassment policy committee members from all three campuses have begun gauging the problem and developing a college-wide strategy to deal with the issue.

How serious is the problem?

"If it happens at all, it's serious" — harassment committee member Martin Gerson.



Martin Gerson

Incident: Henry (not his real name) had taught at VCC for over 15 years. His fondness for fondling students was well known among the faculty. A group of students finally brought their concerns to the administration and the instructor was confronted with the accusations. Henry has been well behaved ever since.

"People have begun to realize that they just don't have to put with that kind of behaviour" — committee member Thorne Husband.

Incident: Shirley (not her real name) was born in the Mid East. Her VCC



Linda Holmes

instructor continually referred to her as "one of those terrorists" and often cut her off short when she was making a presentation. The student struggled through completion of the course.

"It's a horrendously difficult issue to deal with" — Linda Holmes, committee member.

Incident: Helen (again, a fictitious name) had a crush on her teacher at VCC. She also had a drinking problem. One night she showed up at the teacher's door, garrulously drunk. She slid pornographic pictures of herself under the door and cursed loudly when she wasn't let in. The police led her away.

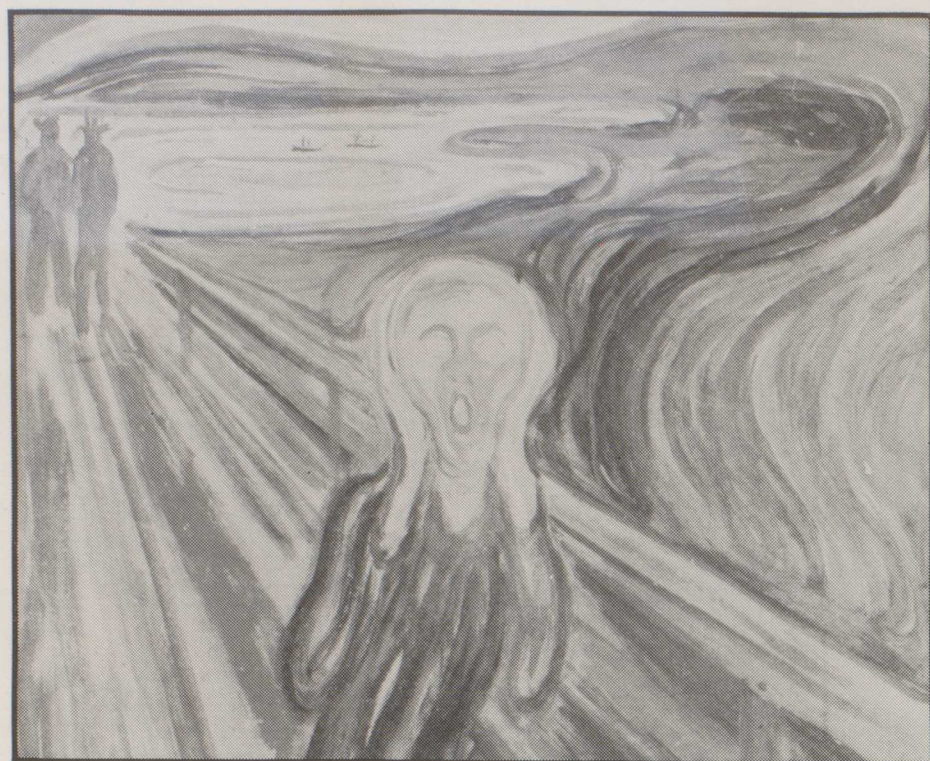
Harassment has been defined as any unwelcome action, verbal or physical, that humiliates, insults or degrades. Both provincial and federal human rights legislation require that if there is any other recourse available — for instance a collective agreement or harassment policy — this resource should first be tried before a human rights complaint is filed.

VCC has harassment wording in its three collective agreements, but other than a somewhat vague and limited

11.4 per cent said they have personally experienced harassment.

"We have seen surveys from SFU that indicate that close to 50 per cent of the students have experienced sexual harassment," said Gerson. VCC's representative to the National Conference of Sexual Harassment Advisors in Winnipeg last November. "We don't have enough hard data yet, but even if the figure at VCC is five per cent, that's a reason for concern."

Dealing with harassment complaints



The Scream — Edvard Munch

student grievance policy, there is nothing in place to deal with all the complexities of harassment. And while most other college or university policies are geared only to sexual harassment, VCC has expanded its study to include race, national origin, colour, religion, age, marital status, family status, disability or conviction of a criminal offence.

Although the extent to which harassment occurs at the college is not yet clear — and in fact, may have nothing to do with drafting the policy, recent surveys at KEC and Langara opened some eyes.

At KEC, 37 per cent of those questioned agreed that harassment was a problem on the campus; 40 per cent said they knew of incidents of harassment. In a survey of Langara students, almost 27 per cent of those questioned agreed that harassment is a problem;

presents a potential web of complications.

Gerson: "There is a lot of concern that those dealing with harassment cases may open themselves up to a defamation suit. The experience of people who work in this area is that there are very few frivolous complaints, but to protect the people doing the investigating, we need a clearly defined procedure which emphasizes confidentiality."

In addition, false accusations can have devastating results, as evidenced by the recent incident on Vancouver Island where a foster parent committed suicide after his foster son alleged that he had been sexually molested. It wasn't until after his death that the man was completely cleared of the charges.

"The procedure we're looking for has to be delicate and confidential," said Holmes. "We have to be on the watch

for someone who just has a general dislike for another person and decides to use the procedure to get even.

"We also have to decide whether the accusations go into people's files and who has access to those files."

It is hoped that a formal policy will encourage legitimate complainants to come forward.

"Students feel they lack power and are often reluctant to challenge the

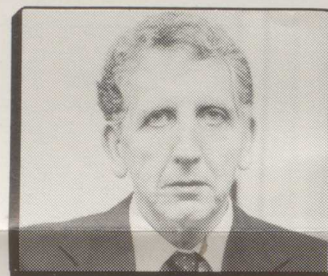


Donna Barreca

authority of the teacher or even to challenge a fellow student who might be harassing them," said committee member Donna Barreca. "An employee being harassed by a supervisor may also fear repercussions if he or she makes the problem known."

"It may be that we need a part time person who is skilled in this area to deal with the complaints. The victim then would have someone to go to immediately and that person could take the complaint to the person being accused."

Although there are legal remedies



Thorne Husband

through the B.C. Human Rights Act. Gerson was told at the Winnipeg conference that a softer approach is usually more effective.

"The thrust has to be with convincing the harassers that their behaviour really is bothering people. In most cases, this will bring better results than going through a quasi-judicial process. Most often, the person being harassed doesn't want punishment for the harasser, he or she just wants the harassment to stop."

The committee is now reviewing a number of models from other institutions on which to base VCC's policy.

Wide smiles over 5-year approval

It's wide smiles all around at VCC's dental hygiene program following a five-year accreditation from the Canadian Dental Association.

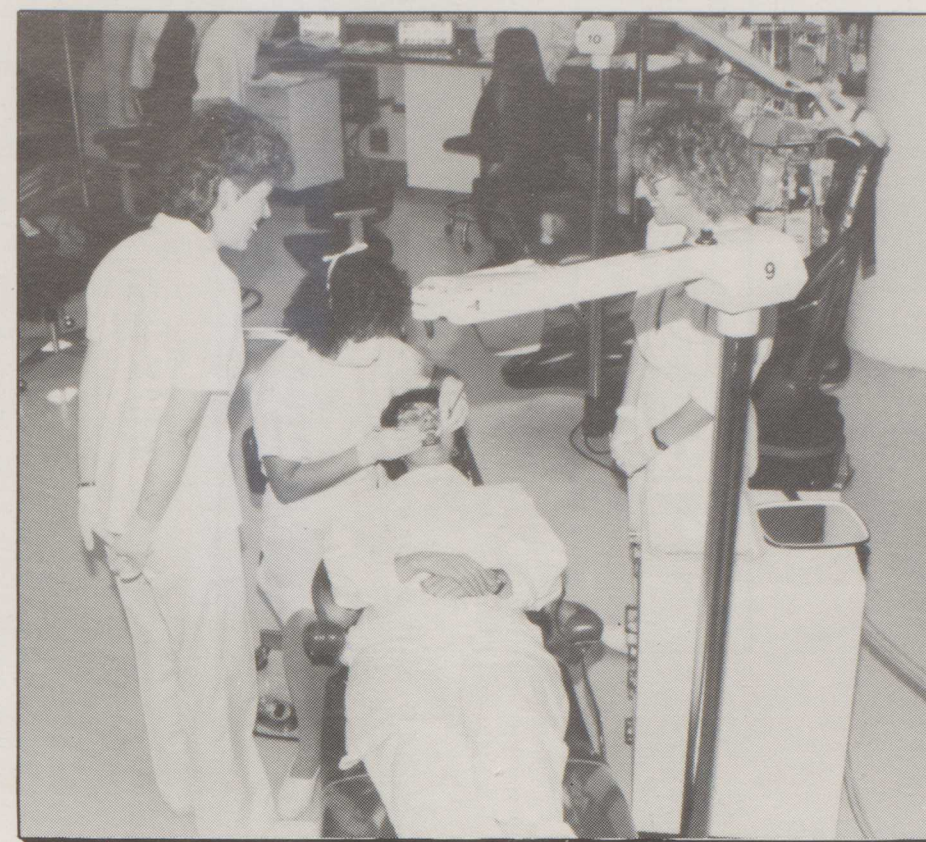
"Receiving accreditation for that length of time isn't unprecedented, but it is an admirable achievement for such a young program," said department head Susanne Sunnell. "When the dental program was transferred from UBC to VVI in 1986, many people in the dental community were concerned about the continued quality of the program. The accreditation — along with the success of our first graduating class last year — is a real vote of confidence for our achievements."

(Last year's class averaged a score of 96 percentile on the National American Dental Hygiene Board Examination; the average for the 4,000 dental hygienists from Canada and the U.S. taking the exam was 85 percentile.)

The recognition from the dental association was the result of much more than excellence in the quality of instruction — students are also reaching out to the community with preventative dental services.

Said Susanne: "We've tried to be creative in ways to develop the program and the profession of dental hygiene. Our faculty members and students have generated ideas from brainstorming sessions."

The innovations include:
• Students participate in the Vancouver Public Health Department's



Susanne Sunnell demonstrates a dental hygiene technique on clinical supervisor Jan Jenkins.

dental clinics and provide preventative dental services to expectant mothers. These services also include counselling

on infant dental care. Susanne: "This was a difficult externship to establish due to the legal considerations related

to the provision of dental hygiene care. The protocol which has been established will be used as a model for other health care programs to become involved in the health care system."

• The second year students are also involved in externships to Children's Hospital and the UBC Hospital for an opportunity to practice dental hygiene in a hospital setting. 20 per cent of graduates work outside private practices and, says Susanne, "we want to expose them to alternate practice situations so they will feel more comfortable in applying for and developing these positions."

It will surprise most people, even many of those at VCC, to know that while the prerequisite for the dental hygiene program is completion of first year science, a quarter of the students have earned baccalaureate degrees.

The future of the program involves continuing challenges. One of the most critical of these is the promotion of a degree completion year at UBC.

Says Susanne: "Our students already have their first year equivalent when they enter the program, and two more years of education by the time they graduate. If we can arrange transferability of credits, then we might be able to promote a degree completion program — perhaps in areas such as public health administration, clinical research, advanced clinical skills, or education — that would result in a dental hygiene degree program."

SPECTRUM PROFILE: JOHN NORMAN

Game plan calls for humour, heart

Meet the other John Norman. Not John Norman the carpenter who carries an easy smile and nails people with practical jokes.

This is the John Norman of slavishly long hours and the exceptional things that can happen on a playing field when you care more in your heart than your pocketbook about what you're doing.

John has coached soccer since bad knees put him on the sideline in his early 20s. When the UBC varsity girls' soccer coach left, John and friend Brian Thompson were asked to take on the job. They were promised ridiculously long hours, and not a penny more.

"It was a challenge and I like challenges," said John. "Most coaches at the university level are paid. Brian and I do it because we love it."

The two wasted no time in taking the team to the top. In a cross-Canada competition involving 32 university teams, the UBC girls grabbed the national championship.

"The championship was held at McGill and that was the first time we'd played on artificial turf. I was really impressed with the way they handled it. And I was especially pleased because four of the girls came up through the Langara physical education program. (Nancy Sutherland, Coleen Koch, Wendy Brown and Amanda Slade).



John Norman . . . hard work brings out the best in others.

John isn't looking for either praise or sympathy over the long hours; but suf-

fice to say that as carpenter and coach he has completely run out of spare

time. He believes the effort rubs off on the players.

"They know how many hours we put in without pay," says John. "They know that when we come out for practice at 6 p.m., we've already put in a day's work and that makes them work hard too. I'm a great believer in the work ethic and I think that's caught on with the players."

This is a rebuilding year for the team — many players from the championship squad have graduated. But still, the UBC girls finished second in the recent 12-team, Far West Soccer Classic in Tacoma.

If John sounds like all work and no play, well,

"He's terrible, he just drives me crazy with his jokes," says KEC assistant cafeteria manager Nora Hall.

"One morning I came in early and just as I was going around the corner, I saw an arm lying on the floor. He scared the living daylight out of me."

"Another morning when I came in I was convinced he was drunk, hammered out of his mind. We'd get him in a chair and try to feed him coffee, but he'd keep falling out of the chair. When it came time to start work, he jumped up and went to work. I can't remember all the awful things he's done . . . but he really is an exceptionally nice man."

higher costs than might have been initially projected. For instance, we could save up to \$10,000 by having it printed on a web (continuous) press compared with a sheet-fed press. But the web would leave 60 to 70 per cent of VVI's print production students out of the picture so we're going with the sheet-fed.

"But we are also committed to being fiscally responsible. We will recover a large percentage of the costs — as much as \$50,000 — through advertising revenue and sales. The average turnaround for a new magazine to break even is three years of consecutive publication. We expect to reach that point in three years and perhaps even make a small profit."

ALL THAT JAZZ



VCC's vocal jazz ensemble SOUNDWAVE is making waves across international boundaries. The group has just returned from an acclaimed appearance at the National Association of Jazz Educators conference in San Diego. The 8 member group, directed by Peter Taylor, was the only Canadian college group invited to perform at the international meeting, January 12-15th.

"We're thrilled about the trip", says Peter. "The association only invites the very best in North America, and that's recognition of our group's ability and stature."

THE MUSIC MAN



Winning the piano was easy — now Roger (All thumbs) Ofield has to learn to play it. Roger, KEC sign language communicator, held the winning ticket for the \$10,000 grand piano that was donated by Tom Lee Music and Yamaha Canada.

Playing a mean chopsticks just isn't good enough for this instrument. Consequently, Roger plans on taking lessons. The piano was presented to Roger by David Holmes of Tom Lee Music.

Pacific Rim Magazine college-wide endeavour

The first college-wide project ever undertaken by VCC students will provide hands-on experience in publishing for up to 80 novice designers, writers, photographers, printers and circulation managers.

Under the direction of faculty from all three campuses and CED, Pacific Rim Magazine will focus on topics of cultural, social and economic exchange in the region. The production will be 64 pages or more, printed in full colour on a white, gloss stock. Readership is expected to include students, educators, travelers and business people.

"Involvement in this project will provide students with first-hand experience working as a team toward a pub-

lishing deadline," said Alban Goulden, Langara English instructor and project head. "The magazine's main genesis was the feeling that VCC has the resources to produce a first-class magazine — and that Pacific Rim Magazine will be dynamic and germane for both readers and advertiser."

He said that the proposed budget for the publication will be finalized in mid February and will likely be in the range of \$60,000.

He said that a recently-published report in The Voice regarding the budget "totally missed the point."

"The Voice doesn't seem to — or want to — understand that the number one priority of this magazine is to be an educational venture. That often means