

u p d a t e

SEPTEMBER 20, 1989

# Student mag is magnificent

The first question you'll likely hear about the inaugural issue of VCC's Pacific Rim Magazine is: "This was done by students?"

For the most part, yes! With some assistance from faculty and staff, the student-produced magazine hit the streets--and business places of Vancouver--with a sharp look and the feel of a professional publication.

The magazine was initially developed as a publishing project to expose students to the challenges and complexities of magazine publishing and to showcase the talents of students in writing, photography, marketing and design. But it turned out to be more than just an educational experience.

The first issue takes a thoughtful look at one of the most significant economic and cultural influences affecting B.C. and Canada--the growing presence and contribution of the countries border-



ing the Pacific Ocean and the opportunities and challenges for Canadians in those countries.

Pacific Rim also includes an article on the ancient art of Feng Shui, the Chinese custom of "wind and water." Feng Shui teaches the placement of these elements in homes and offices to maximize harmony and ensure success in business and life. There is an interview with Lieutenant-Governor David Lam and some observations about life in Canada for foreign students, written by a Canadian who was a foreign student in Japan.

For next year's edition, former Langara English Instructor Tom Meikle has agreed to come out of retirement and serve as publisher while Langara English Instructor Richard

Hopkins will function as editor. Anyone interested in participating may contact either of them at Langara, Room A001, phone 324-5430.



# Student vote issue shakes Langara tradition

In a controversial break from tradition, newly-appointed Langara Principal David Cane has proposed that five students with voting rights be included on the Academic Council.

The council, which previously has involved one non-voting student observer, would also be restructured under Cane's proposal to focus more on academic policies and procedures and curriculum matters, rather than administrative items.

"I didn't realize that (student voting rights) would be this controversial," said Cane, who assumed the position of Langara Principal August 1. "It's created a fair amount of discussion, but I'm hopeful that we can resolve the matter to everyone's satisfaction."

Cane said the proposal is part of a general restructuring of committees at Langara and that it's still under review by Management Committee members: Linda Arnold, Don Burbidge, Ted Chen, Gary Frame, Martin Gerson, Linda Holmes, Joan Horsley, Ralph Kerr, Maida Long, Valerie Nielsen, Richard Vedan and Cane.

"It is important to me and the campus deans that students have a significant voice in academic matters," said Cane. "Students are our clients and we want, and need, their assistance. The most effective learning takes place through a partnership between the instructor and the students--it's not a one-way process."

The weightiest function of the Academic Council is to approve new courses and programs and changes to existing ones. The council also develops aca-

demic policies and regulations and is intended to provide a forum for the debate of educational issues.

One of the opponents of Cane's plan, Gary Frame, Division Chairman of English and Modern Languages, agrees with student input, but not a decision-making role on the council.

"The faculty has the obligation to determine what a student needs to learn," said Frame. "I don't think the student is in a position to determine that, nor do I accept the notion that students are clients and that we must somehow provide them with what they think is best."

"I have no problem with students being placed on the Management Committee and giving them voting rights over such items as fees, parking, timetables or other things that are of direct concern to them. But when I made that suggestion to the Management Committee, it was greeted with absolute silence."

Cane said the Langara Student Union has reacted favourably to his proposal "although they have questions regarding the selection process, and so do I."

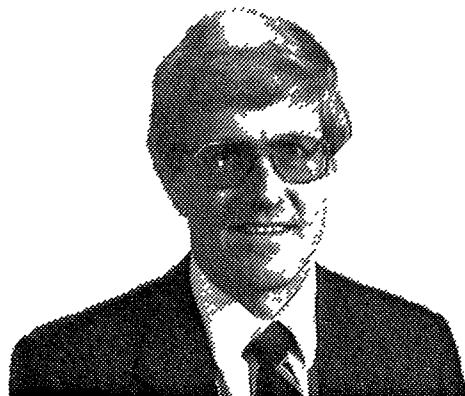
Cane said an election process would have to be designed if enough students expressed their interest in serving on the Academic Council.

"It remains to be seen how many students will come forward," said Cane. "We didn't want to set up an election process if it isn't necessary."

Cane's goal would be to have one student rep on the council from each of the five campus divisions: English and Modern Languages, Mathematics and Science, Humanities and Social Sciences

and two members from the Career Divisions. He also wants to add more faculty and a support staff member to the council. Out of a proposed membership of 17, there would be nine faculty and five student representatives.

None of the other instructional areas of VCC - VVI, KEC and Continuing Education - has students with voting rights on groups which determine curriculum.



David Cane (above) and plan opponent Gary Frame

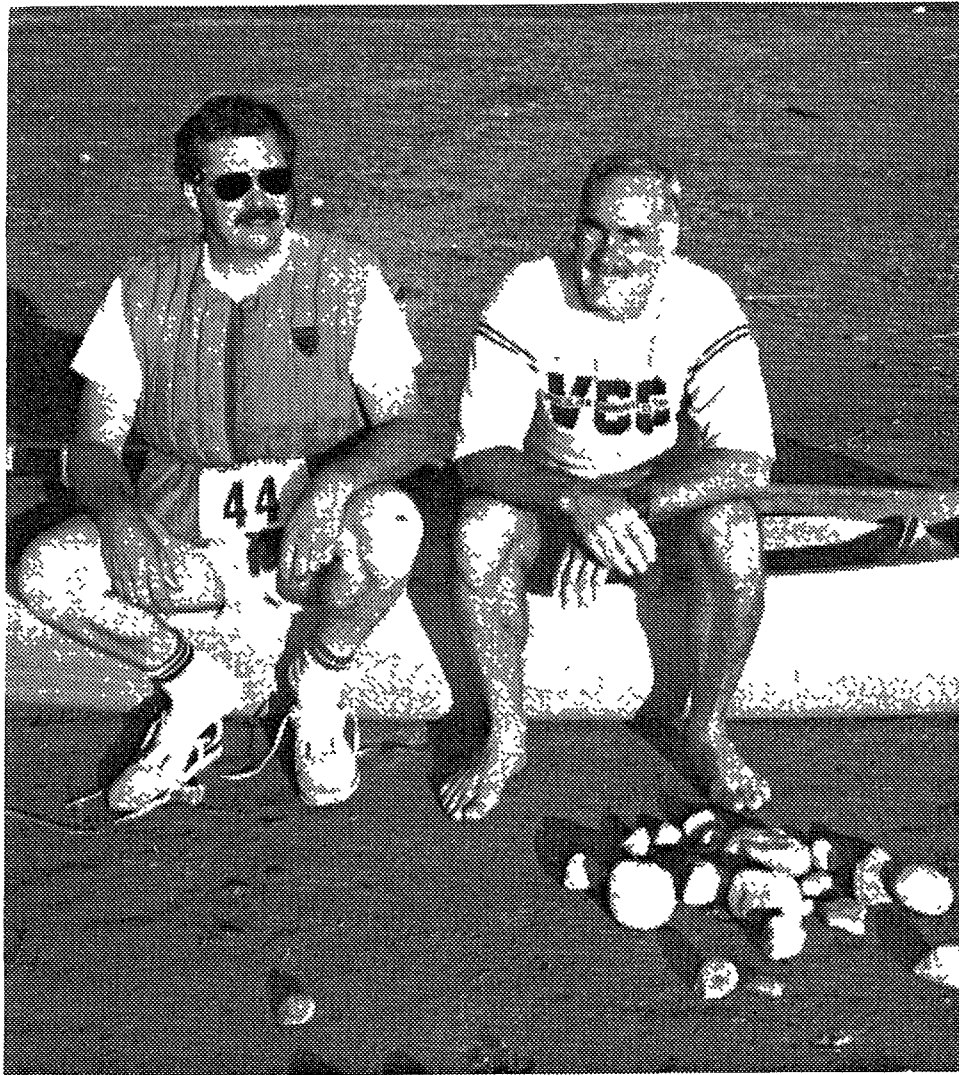
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## New International Ed. Director for CE

Rorri McBlane joins the college's Continuing Education Division this week in the position of Program Director, International Education. McBlane served from 1980 to the present as Executive Director, International House, at UBC.

Concurrently, he was Director of International House Briefing Centre, an organization that provides training in the area of cross/intercultural communication. Prior to that, he served from 1975-1977 as advisor, International Student Office at the University of Alberta, Edmonton.

From 1969 to 1980, McBlane was a teacher working in Alberta, New Guinea and Ghana. He is active in several international education organizations including CIDA and the Hong Kong Project and is the author of numerous publications.



Malcolm Cant (right) was under the watchful eye of KEC's Jim Humble, who managed the canoe. (No, Humble was not the one who whacked Cant in the head with a paddle).

## Cant conquers Skaha

If you drive east toward the Okanagan on Highway 3a, you'll run into Skaha Lake at its midpoint between Penticton and Okanagan Falls.

For most people, it's pretty. For Malcolm Cant, it was pretty scary.

"We were coming down the hill to where you can see only half of the lake and I said to the others: 'what the hell have I gotten myself into,'" said Cant, a KEC Instructor in the Individualized Education Program for Adults.

He had gotten himself into the Skaha Lake Ultra Swim; at 11.8 kilometres, the longest open water swim in North America and also the longest of Cant's life. He started with a bang.

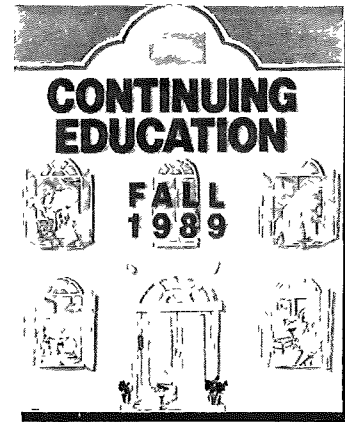
"About 10 yards out, someone hit me in the head with an errant paddle," said Cant. "I had to stop for awhile and make sure I was okay."

"The first time you try something, you always have a fear of the unknown. I found that I swam the first two miles too slowly. Next time it should go better."

If those sound like excuses, they're not. His race went swimmingly...a third place finish in the Masters' (over 40) class.

Cant has competed in numerous marathons, triathlons and biathlons. He's eyeing an ultra ironman event proposed for B.C. next year. The ultra ironman includes: a five mile swim, 150 mile bike ride and 50 mile run, all in succession.

Makes you tired just thinking about it.



## CE expands accessibility for employees

Employees enrolling in most Continuing Education courses will no longer face the uncertainty of being bumped by fee paying students.

Continuing Education Director Gail Rochester said that a spot will be available for eligible employees who meet the entrance requirements for a course, with the exception of certain courses in the general interest category where the fee includes supplies (such as Wine Appreciation), rentals (Learn to Print Textiles is an example) or transportation (Travel Tours).

Each course will still have to have the minimum number of fee payers required to run the course. "Previously, as classes filled, the employee was given the choice of paying the fee or being displaced by a fee-paying student," said Rochester. "Now we are trying to make a larger number of courses more accessible to our own people."

Eligible employees are those eligible to receive College benefits. Employees requesting a fee waiver should send their request stating name, Social Insurance Number, department, phone local and name, number and start date of the course to:

VVI--John Vandenakker.

KEC--Karen Kelly.

Langara--Linda Holmes.

College Resources--Ross Carter.

Continuing Education--Bob Lajoie.

International Education--Jindra Repa.

All other employees should send their request to their department director.

## **Film series focuses on women's experiences**

Here are the details for the film series, Visions: Women of the World, scheduled for Langara.

Vivid contrasts and sharp similarities appear in four films on women's experiences of family life, love, work, immigration and discrimination. After each showing, a panel of respondents will comment on the film and lead a discussion. Open to the public, the series is also offered in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Women's Studies Diploma.

Thursday, Oct. 12 - Doctor, Lawyer, Indian Chief - Native Indian women in Canada tell of their struggles and achievements.

Thursday, Oct. 19 - Displaced View - Strong subtle feelings link three generations of Japanese-Canadian women.

Thursday, Oct. 26 - Creating Bridges - Latin American women make theatre their successful route into life in Canada.

Thursday, Nov. 2 - Asian Heart - Interviews document the reality of "mail order" brides.

All showings are 12:30 - 2:30, Room A327 at Langara (third floor, opposite the elevators). For further information, call Ingrid Laue, Coordinator, 324-5379. successful route into life in Can-

## **Peace-Conflict series starts October 16th**

A previous edition of Update announced the new Peace and Conflict Program at Langara. Here are the details of the public lecture series:

### **"COMMON SECURITY IN THE NUCLEAR AGE"**

October 16 - "The Concept of Common Security: Peace, Environment, and the Development of a Sustainable Future" Dr. Fred Knelman, Former Director of Science and Humanities, Concordia University.

October 23 - "Nuclear Weapons: Are They Legal?" Dr. Edward McWhinney, Department of International Law and Relations, SFU.

November 6 - "Science and Ethics in the Nuclear Age" Dr. Tony Arrott, National President of Science for Peace, Professor of Physics, SFU.

November 27 - "Strategic Dilemmas in a Realigning World: Is the Cold War Over?" Dr. Douglas Ross, Director of the Centre for International Studies SFU.

Mondays, 15:30 - 17:00, Room A122, Langara Campus, Everyone Welcome.

For further information, call Cathy Sosnowsky, Coordinator, Peace and Conflict Studies 324-5511.

Co-sponsored by Educators for Nuclear Disarmament.

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a story you would like to  
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