

NEWS

Vancouver Community College • Volume 1, Number 28 - November 3, 1993

Planners prepare for Futures Conference; air their doubts about the process

***For
daily
news
updates
phone
7099
after
2:30 pm***

The VCC Planning Team has agreed to a process for student participation which is classroom-based, employing a kit of materials that will be used by either instructors or trained student facilitators. The student associations will be responsible for collating and summarizing the information.

The Planning Team also worked during its Friday meeting on the procedures which they want to use leading up to and including the January 14-15 Futures Conference.

These procedures focused on ways in which conference representatives will, on the one hand, be able to bring the issues from the department level to the conference and how the various scenarios developed at the conference will then be brought back to these smaller groups for consideration.

Team members also continued to express scepticism about their chances for success. A memo from team member Aphrodite Harris, which summarized discussions she had with employees in the student services area at KEC, included two concerns which appear to epitomize employee uncertainty with the current process:

* Employees question the legitimacy of the planning process because "many plans in the past have not come to fruition."

* Employees wonder how they can make plans for the long-term future of VCC when there are still so many unknowns in the present, including separation issues and the possibility of further economic cutbacks.

Angela Julien, who represents the College Board on the Planning Team, responded to comments that it will be "extremely difficult" to plan anything under these circumstances. Said Julien: "Difficult, but not impossible."

Julien reiterated that while the Planning Team will not be involved in issues of separation, interim decisions made during separation will be open to review by the Board as long as long-term planning proceeds.

And the winners are...

Ten people, mostly from Langara CE, are the big winners in the VCC Educational Foundation Truck Lottery.

The group includes: Rosie Anslow, Don Birosh, Sylvana Carr, Geda Chud, Helena Hensley, Cynthia Howman, Jane Legate, Joe Jhutti, Jean Shuen, and Bev Stevens.

The group will likely sell the truck and split the proceeds of approximately \$100,000.

Architects chosen for Langara expansion

Langara has named the architects for its \$15 million construction program. Two firms--Francel Lamoureux Incorporated and Waisman, Dewar, Grout and Carter Inc.--will serve jointly as architects for the two new buildings, which include a classroom and office block and an administration and student services block.

The buildings will increase the size of the campus by almost one-third. Although it's not final, they will probably be located south of the current structures on the soccer pitch.

Construction will begin about September 1, 1994, with completion scheduled for March of 1996. There will also be a \$2 million expenditure on renovations to existing space.

Two further items of interest: first, the firm of Waisman, Dewar, Grout and Carter



designed the Applied Science Building at SFU and the original Fraser Valley College as well as the expansion of the college when it became the University College of the Fraser Valley.

And secondly, Bill Hill, VCC's recently retired Director of Buildings and Grounds, will bring his many years of experience to the project as a consultant to Langara.

Adderson nominated for literary award

Congratulations go to ESL Instructor Caroline Adderson who has been nominated for the prestigious Governor-General's Literary Award. Carol was nominated in the English-language fiction category for her first book, a short story collection entitled *Bad Imaginings*.

Her book has just hit the market...check the closest book store to see if they have it yet. If they don't, you can get a copy at the Granville Book Company, 850 Granville.

Sheilah Grant leaving VCC

It is with very mixed feelings that I advise you that Sheilah Grant has tendered her resignation from the position of President of the VCC Educational Foundation.

In early December, Sheilah will assume the position of Director of Development at the Lions Gate Hospital Foundation. Sheilah joined VCC's Educational Foundation at a time when it required a new sense of purpose and direction. She has carried out her duties admirably and leaves the Foundation inestimably richer for having known her. I know that you join me in wishing her every success in her new position.

More than ever, next year will be a year of change for the Foundation. We will enter the year with a new president and a college significantly changed from what we have known. These circumstances offer exciting opportunities for the future of the Foundation.

With the assistance of the College, we are now beginning a search for Sheilah's successor. In the next few days I will be contacting the executive committee of the Foundation Board to lay out a schedule for this process. You will be kept fully informed of our progress.

--Barry Irvine, Chairman
VCC Educational Foundation

Support staff reduction workshops planned

Within the next day or two, members of the VMREU will receive an invitation to attend a mini-workshop and counselling session on dealing with the support staff lay offs.

These sessions will be conducted by Murray Axsmith Pacific Limited, a group of counsellors who are skilled in assisting employees with the effects of down-sizing. Their program will be tailored very specifically to the situation which College people are going through.

Said John Cruickshank. "We're sending the invitations to support staff--whether they've received a layoff notice or not--because the nature of the bumping process can leave virtually every employee feeling vulnerable and afraid.

"One of the key concepts in the sessions will be coping with the whole range of negative emotions that go along with the reduction process...emotions of anger, resentment and uncertainty. But beyond that struggle, the coun-

If you have any
comments or questions,
please send them to
Chuck Poulsen, Manager
of The Exchange, in care
of College Administrative
Services.



sellors will also prepare people to rebuild, whether that means coping with a new job or developing relationships with your new co-workers."

He added that the application information will also go out to all supervisors and "I urge each of them to keep a watchful eye for anyone in their department who is feeling stressed and in need of this professional support."

The College is also offering a financial and re-employment seminar on November 10 for those faculty and support staff members who have been laid off and will be leaving the College.

Instructors, Counsellor show off VCC

Three VCC instructors and a counsellor went into sales recently.

Actually, they were promoting the College at the B.C. high school Technical Educators' Association trade fair in Victoria.

Eric Adler, Pat Sproston and Ray Oksanen of the KEC trades departments set up their display of photos and informational material promoting automotive, diesel and auto body refinishing. Counsellor Dave Greenall accompanied them on this trip so he could answer a broader range of questions about all of the programs at City Centre and KEC.

Business was brisk once the four of them discovered a neat gimmick for attracting interest. It seems that most people were walking by the display without asking any questions when the VCC people noticed that everyone at the trade fair was wearing a name tag.

"What we did," said Oksanen, "was call people by their first name just like we knew them. Pretty soon everyone was stopping by to talk."

In fact, Greenall said they handed out almost 200 KEC and City Centre calendars to those who were showing an interest.

We asked you...

Turn the page over for the Exchange Line and Exchange Newsletter listener/reader survey. Many of the respondents expressed their thoughts about the service and commented on ways in which communications can be improved. This produced an additional four-page document of diverse opinion. Because the Exchange often hears complaints that the College produces too much paper, the written listener/reader opinions are not attached. However, if you wish a copy of the comments, phone Chuck Poulsen, 7151.

If you have any comments or questions, please send them to Chuck Poulsen, Manager of The Exchange, in care of College Administrative Services.

XCHANGE SURVEY

How often do you read the weekly Exchange newsletter?

	Overall		Faculty		Staff		Admin	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Most of the Time	76	74.5%	34	77.3%	29	69.0%	8	80.0%
Often	12	11.8%	3	6.8%	6	14.3%	2	20.0%
Seldom	10	9.8%	3	6.8%	7	16.7%	0	0.0%
Never	4	3.9%	4	9.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%



How often do you phone into the Exchange Line?

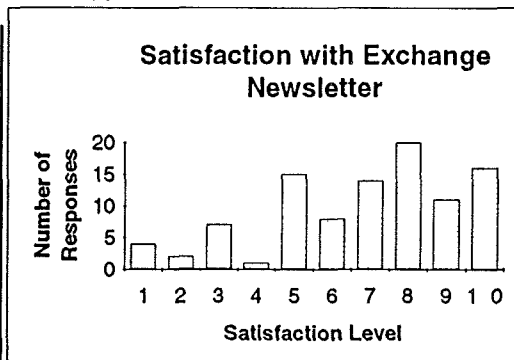
Times/Wk	Overall		Faculty		Staff		Admin	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0	28	28.3%	17	41.5%	9	21.4%	1	10.0%
1	17	17.2%	6	14.6%	8	19.0%	3	30.0%
2	11	11.1%	3	7.3%	4	9.5%	3	30.0%
3	22	22.2%	7	17.1%	13	31.0%	1	10.0%
4	9	9.1%	3	7.3%	3	7.1%	1	10.0%
5	12	12.1%	5	12.2%	5	11.9%	1	10.0%
MEAN	2.00		1.71		2.19		2.10	

Of the Exchange newsletter and Exchange Line, which do you find most useful?

	Overall		Faculty		Staff		Admin	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Exchange Newsletter	45	44.1%	19	43.2%	19	45.2%	5	50.0%
Exchange Line	14	13.7%	3	6.8%	8	19.0%	3	30.0%
Equally useful	40	39.2%	20	45.5%	14	33.3%	2	20.0%
Neither are useful	3	2.9%	2	4.5%	1	2.4%	0	0.0%

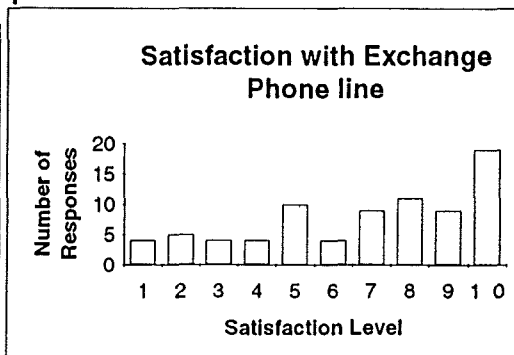
Generally, how high is your level of satisfaction with the Exchange newsletter?

Satisfaction Level	Overall		Faculty		Staff		Admin	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
1	4	4.1%	3	7.3%	1	2.4%	0	0.0%
2	2	2.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.4%	1	10.0%
3	7	7.1%	2	4.9%	5	12.2%	0	0.0%
4	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.4%	0	0.0%
5	15	15.3%	5	12.2%	7	17.1%	3	30.0%
6	8	8.2%	3	7.3%	4	9.8%	0	0.0%
7	14	14.3%	7	17.1%	6	14.6%	0	0.0%
8	20	20.4%	9	22.0%	6	14.6%	4	40.0%
9	11	11.2%	8	19.5%	3	7.3%	0	0.0%
10	16	16.3%	4	9.8%	7	17.1%	2	20.0%
Mean	6.9		7		6.5		6.9	
Median	7		7		6.5		6.9	



Generally, how high is your level of satisfaction with the Exchange telephone line?

Satisfaction Level	Overall		Faculty		Staff		Admin	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
1	4	5.1%	1	3.4%	3	8.3%	0	0.0%
2	5	6.3%	0	0.0%	4	11.1%	1	12.5%
3	4	5.1%	2	6.9%	1	2.8%	1	12.5%
4	4	5.1%	0	0.0%	2	5.6%	2	25.0%
5	10	12.7%	5	17.2%	3	8.3%	0	0.0%
6	4	5.1%	1	3.4%	3	8.3%	0	0.0%
7	9	11.4%	2	6.9%	4	11.1%	1	12.5%
8	11	13.9%	6	20.7%	5	13.9%	0	0.0%
9	9	11.4%	5	17.2%	2	5.6%	2	25.0%
10	19	24.1%	7	24.1%	9	25.0%	1	12.5%
Mean	6.8		7.4		6.4		6	
Median	7		7		6.4		6	



You are:

	N	%
Faculty Member	45	44.6%
Staff Member	42	41.6%
Administrator	10	9.9%
Other	4	4.0%

Institutional Research Services/VCC