

New meaning to Moving with the Times

Thursday morning, May 2, dawned sunny and clear, a beautiful spring day designed to brighten anyone's spirits. For the folks of the college's Health Sciences programs, the day would have seemed perfect even if it had been a blizzard! This was the day that they had all been waiting for, some longer than others! After a 27-year "temporary" stay at the old sanatorium (a.k.a. Topsail Road campus), the Health Sciences programs had officially completed the move into their new home on Prince Philip Drive.

After a busy few weeks of wielding packing tape guns and assembling/disassembling moving boxes, the old building was finally deemed empty of all that would be making the journey across Columbus Drive. The move was coordinated by Tanya Power, P. Eng. and long-time college staff member Dianne Bishop, under the watchful eye of program chair Dr. Donna Henderson. The movers, who were observed to raise an eyebrow or two at some of the more interesting paraphernalia that are stock and trade of the Health Sciences programs, worked hard to maintain the time lines that had been established earlier in the year. Faculty and staff likewise did their best to cull out, box up and be ready to roll when the trucks rolled in on the appointed dates for each program's classroom, lab and office.

Finally, the journey was complete. The last box was delivered to the assigned room, keys to the old building were turned over for the last time, and the staff assembled outside for one last photo before changing addresses for good. Dr. Henderson donned a white foreman's hard hat for the occasion and took the first turn with the chainsaw that saw the temporary Topsail Road campus sign tumble to the ground. She, like several other staff members, had survived the full 27 years the programs were run from the old buildings. Doug Cole and Pat Flynn from the Medical Laboratory program got in on the chain saw detail. Amid shouts and cheers, instructors Wade Wheeler (Respiratory Therapy) and Renee Marks (Ultrasonography), who couldn't contain their glee, performed a little impromptu dance on the flattened sign that gave new meaning to Moving with the Times for the Health Sciences programs.

Famous for their special occasion pot luck lunches, all staff gathered one last time inside the old building to share



Top - Doug Cole gets a little help from his friends in toppling the sign at last. Bottom - We're outta here! Wade Wheeler and Renee Marks can't contain their glee at the prospects of the much-anticipated move into the new facility.



one last meal and memories of old times not soon to be forgotten. As the flags came down for the last time, fond memories of those who had fought hard for this day to finally become a reality were tempered with best wishes for promising days ahead in the new facility.

Programs achieve national accreditation

The two Engineering Technology Programs at the Corner Brook campus have received prestigious national accreditation for the second time in the past decade.

That's the message Austin Sheppard brought to the campus on Friday, May 10, during the presentation of the Accreditation Certificates. Austin Sheppard, registrar for the Association of Engineering Technicians and Technologists of Newfoundland and chair of the provincial accreditation committee, has been involved in this process for many years and advocates the benefits of achieving this milestone.

The accreditation process, which is very thorough, is done every three to five years as a way to ensure that industry endorses the curriculum for the engineering programs and that all the major and minor competencies are met. This process is consistent across Canada and those who graduate from a CTAB accredited program in Newfoundland can gain employment all across the country. In fact, companies like Nav Canada, Celestica, Nortel and others look specifically for this endorsement in order to hire their new employees.

The accreditation process for these particular programs

began back in 1996 when the first round was undertaken. Under the leadership of Don Reid and Randy Rowsell, the team put together a tremendous effort and obtained the full 5-year accreditation on the first try. This was unprecedented in our college system and did much to re-enforce the college's commitment to high quality education for our students. Then in 2000, the Engineering teams took up the torch again to start the process all over for another round. The matching of competency requirements and national standards was a long and grueling process that required many hours of work over and above the normal workday. The comments made by the accreditation inspection team were glowing to say the least. One member who had graduated from one of the programs as a mature student only a decade ago commented positively concerning the advancement of the individual course as compared to when he went through.

Overall this accreditation milestone not only ensures the highest standard of professional quality of the programs, but also ensures industry gets the best and brightest students that Newfoundland and Labrador has to offer. The fact that Celestica, Newfoundland Hydro, and Nav Canada have come directly to the college to recruit graduates is a testimony to the quality of our programs as demonstrated through this accreditation process.



Graduating students of the Digital Animation program at Bay St. George campus recently held a showcase of their work and invited representatives from industry and the community to attend the viewing. The event was a huge success. Some of the students taking part were, front from left, Christo Stassis, Justin Critch, back, Neil Button, and Cory Sheppard.

Crafts training in Black Tickle

by **Debbie Earle**
Community Relations Officer

Ten women from the community of Black Tickle enrolled in an eight week Dufflework - New Product Development course at College of the North Atlantic on February 18. The students were able to complete this training in their own community through the support of the Labrador Metis Nation.

The instructor for this program was Barb Wood, a Metis Artist, who was hired by the college in the Fall of 2001 to work with the Heritage Crafts program. Over eight weeks, Barb introduced the students to this new craft. The students produced a wide range of small items including: wall hangings, sewing kits, dolls, slippers, ornaments, and purses. At the end of the course the students held an open house for the community and over 90 people attended, including Yvonne Jones, MHA for the area.

As a special project, the class worked on a quilt for the Labrador Metis Nation as a show of their appreciation. It was presented to Todd Russell, President of the Labrador Metis Nation, on

May 9, 2002 at the Happy Valley-Goose Bay campus. The presentation was made by Wood and student Trudy Morris. Trudy has since enrolled in a four-week slipper making course that is being offered at the campus to further



Barb Wood, crafts instructor, Todd Russell, president, Labrador Metis Nation, and Trudy Morris, a craft student from Black Tickle, are seen here holding a quilt wall hanging, which was made by the Craft students in Black Tickle.

her skills as a means of improving her prospects for meaningful employment.

The college and Labrador Metis Nation would like to congratulate all 10 students upon the completion of this training and thank Barb Wood for her contribution to this project.

Crossing new bridges in recruitment

Up until the winter of 2001, the recruitment teams at the Happy Valley-Goose Bay campus have had to travel to the communities along the Labrador Coast by plane. This could take a number of weeks to complete depending upon the weather.

Last winter saw some changes to this strategy when the road between Red Bay and Mary's Harbour was opened. The recruiters were able to access the Mary's Harbour

School from the Straits area for the first time by car.

But it was not easy going. There was so much snow that the "road" was only wide enough for one vehicle to pass. And the walls of snow on either side of the vehicle were up to 20 feet high. On the day Bernice Tracey went to Mary's Harbour to recruit, the road had been opened for the first time in three weeks. It was closed again about an hour after the recruitment team returned to Red Bay.

This winter, with two new bridges in place to connect the communities of Port Hope Simpson and Charlottetown to Mary's Harbour and beyond, the recruitment team will be able to visit three additional schools on the Southeast Coast of Labrador by road.

They still have to travel weather permitting, but hopefully they will not encounter road conditions like last winter.

Qatar Airways announces fare reduction

Qatar campus employees, along with their friends and relatives, received a little good news from Qatar Airways on April 29. The airline announced a new fare structure called Qatar Express, which will allow round-trip travel to or from Newfoundland for roughly one-half the regular cost.

The program, arranged in conjunction with Air Canada, will see an economy class rate of \$1,656 during the low season (Sept. 16 – Dec. 9 and Jan. 9 – June 14). The high season rate will be \$1,786, while a 15% reduction will apply to business class fares throughout. Children's fares will be 75% of the adult price and infant fares will be 10%. Minimum and maximum stays will be seven days to three months and stopovers will be permitted.



Pictured at the launch of Qatar Express at the Hotel Inter Continental Doha are (from left) Norris Eaton, Vice-President (Engineering Technology) and Enid Strickland, Vice-President (Business & Information Technology) for CNA-Qatar; and for Qatar Airways, Janet Rivers, Vice-President (Sales & Marketing – Canada) and Saed Al Hijhzi, District Sales Manager, Qatar (Government & Corporate).

Staff, student win awards

At the recent annual meeting of the Newfoundland Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (NAMRT) held in Corner Brook, the students and faculty of the college won three awards.

The Medical Radiography II class won for the student project award for their “Knees up Mother Brown” poster display of radiological images of the knee. They won \$150.

The student paper award, also \$150, was won by Crystal Walsh, Medical Radiography II for her “Up in Smoke” paper on the radioactive carcinogens in tobacco smoke.

Finally, instructor Irene O'Brien won \$200 for her tech-

nical paper on the use of distance learning titled: Distance Education for Medical Laboratory Technologists - A Solution to Professional Development.



Top, Irene O'Brien accepts her \$200 award for her technical paper on using distance education for professional development. Left, the Knees Up Mother Brown display created by the Medical Radiography students.



The Arts on Campus

By Wade Pinhorn

From Dec. 7-9, 2001, I was fortunate enough to attend a round-table conference in Montreal entitled “Colleges and the Cultural Sector: Building Productive Partnerships.” The conference was a joint effort by the ACCC (Association of Canadian Community Colleges) and the CHRC (Cultural Human Resources Council). The bottom line focus of this conference was to compare notes among Canadian community colleges and universities regarding the ways in which we are preparing our graduates for employment in the cultural industries.

The conference was attended by educators and administrators from a wide representation of Canadian colleges and universities, as well as representatives from HRDC (Human Resources Development Canada). There were presentations of “best practices” as well as much discussion regarding programs and their content. There were several key points that came through loud and clear during this conference.

First, entrepreneurial skills are a must for anyone seeking a career in the cultural sector. Artists are notorious for their lack of business skills and often view training in these skill areas as detrimental to their artistic creation. This view could not be further from the truth. Artists are actually the iron-clad version of the entrepreneur: they literally play (dance, write, sing, sculpt, paint...) for their supper! The on-going battle between the creative process and the real

world of making a living is being addressed by colleges and universities and it appears that College of the North Atlantic is on the leading edge of this. Our own best practices rival those presented by any college or university in the country.

Second, competency is at the core of all programs. In order for our graduates to survive in an increasingly competitive industry, we must be assured that we are giving them the proper skill set and that this skill set is made up of a balance between the artistic and the practical. Hands-on experience is as important as theory. Job placement is a difficult concept in the cultural industries as most artists work on a freelance or contractual basis, so students need as much real-life experience as we can afford them. Again, it appears that College of the North Atlantic is on a par with, if not ahead of, the best institutions in Canada in this area.

Finally, in order to affect a change in attitude among our graduates regarding the balance between art creation and working for a living, we must first affect a change in attitude among the instructional staff. If we do not believe in the concepts cited here, how can we expect our graduates to believe them? The ACCED (Atlantic Colleges Committee on Entrepreneurial Development) is focusing on doing just that in partnership with College of the North Atlantic staff - and it seems to be working. The “Entrepreneurializing the Learning Environment” series of training sessions for instructors

addresses this issue on a college-wide level. Dozens of instructors have been trained to “entrepreneurialize” the classroom. When I brought this up at the round-table discussions, one of the founding members of ACCC spoke up and said, “There, my friend is the perfect solution!”

Subsequent meetings with reps from HRDC and ACI (Association of Cultural Industries, of which I am a Board member) have planted the seed for the possibility of a Career Forum in East, Central and Western Newfoundland and in Labrador. This forum will present students with a wide range of career opportunities in the Cultural Sector, some of which are not obvious choices at the outset, in order to assist them in making educated choices in both training and careers.

In all, the conference reaffirmed the fact that College of the North Atlantic is right on track regarding the issues brought to the table and that we are doing an excellent job of preparing our graduates for employment in the cultural industries. Whether the field is music, visual arts, animation, tourism, journalism or any other cultural-related program, we are definitely “Moving With the Times!”

Engineering Technology programs accredited

On Monday, April 8, the Ridge Road campus received Accreditation certificates for five of its Engineering Technology programs from the Association of Engineering Technologists and Technicians (AETTN), in conjunction with the Canadian Technology Accreditation Board (CTAB). Certificates were presented for Electronics Engineering Technology: Biomedical, Computers & Information Technology, and Communications, Electrical Engineering Technology (Power & Controls), and Industrial Engineering Technology.

On hand for the presentation were members of the faculty, staff and administration members of the industrial/electronics advisory committees, and representatives from AETTN. Greg Chaytor, Chair of the School of Engineering and Information Technology, addressed the group and complimented all those involved on a job well done.

The national accreditation process provides an auditing mechanism that is independent of the educational system, assures the educational community and the general public that a program has clearly defined the appropriate objectives and is meeting them, ensures that a program reflects current technical practices and educational methodologies, promotes portability of qualifications through the provision of nationally and provincially accredited educational programs, maintains a registry of accredited programs,

and stimulates curriculum development.

The college is proud to be a part of this very important process and looks forward to working with CTAB as we continue with the accreditation and reaccreditation of our programs.

Top photo
Austin Sheppard (left), AscT AETTN, and Registrar/Accreditation Co-Chair, presents the certificate to Chris Furlong, instructor, Electronics Engineering Technology (Communications)



Second photo
Sheppard presents the certificate to Gary Tulk, coordinator/instructor, Electronics Engineering Technology (Computers and Information Technology)



Third photo
Sheppard presents the certificate to Adrian Johnson, instructor, Electronics Engineering Technology (Biomedical)



Fourth photo
From left, Lorne Browne and Tony Scott, CTAB team members, present the certificate to Roger Angel, coordinator/instructor, Industrial Engineering Technology



Bottom photo
Browne presents the certificate to Paul Reckling, instructor, Electrical Engineering Technology (Power & Controls)



Good Samaritan 1100 - A new college course offered at Gander campus

Leonard Oldford, a second-year Automotive Service Technician (AST) student at the Gander campus, recently combined the knowledge of his trade with his genuine human kindness to help two stranded MUN students who were recently broken down on the Trans Canada Highway.

Leonard was on his way home to Gambo from the college late one evening when he noticed two girls on the side of the TCH about 20 kms east of Gander. He immediately pulled over to see if he could be of assistance. The girls had just finished their exams and were heading to Deer Lake to spend some time with a friend. They told Leonard that they had been stranded there for about an hour and a half and approximately 50 cars had passed by without stopping. Leonard popped the hood, turned the ignition and quickly recognized the problem - the timing belt was gone. Since all the garages were closed, he used his cell phone to call a friend in Gambo and they towed the car back to the Gander campus for the night while the girls stayed with a friend at the Albatross Hotel. The next morning when the college opened, Leonard and his classmates replaced the timing belt for the girls and they were back on the road to Deer Lake.

Scotty McCallum, instructor for the AST program, said it cost

the girls about \$80 to get the work done. In a garage the same repair would have cost them

between \$300-\$400 - a lot of money for any student!

Excellent training with generous personalities - a priceless

combination available at the College of the North Atlantic, Gander campus!



Good Samaritan Leonard Oldford and Automotive Service Technician instructor Scotty McCallum.



\$3,000 scholarships

Darrin Martin (left), a first year student in the Music Industry and Performance program, is the winner of a \$3,000 Steele Communications Entrance Level Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to a student in the Music Industry and Performance program who has attained the highest overall average after the first semester. Chris Crewe is winner of the Steele Communications Entrance Level Scholarship for the first year of Recording Arts. Lorne King is Associate District Administrator for the Bay St. George campus.

College celebrates Volunteer Week

With the week of April 21, 2002, being Volunteer Week, the Happy Valley-Goose Bay campus and the North West River Learning Centre decided to recognize and celebrate the work of a North West River citizen.

Isobel Watts has dedicated many years of volunteer service to her community. For the past 14 years, she has coordinated the North West River Volunteer Library, which is located in the Learning Centre in the community. This provides a valuable service not only to the public, but also to college students who attend ABE/ATC and other programs at the centre.

On April 25, the community celebrated the launch of the first official CAP site in Labrador, located in the library. Valerie Andersen, Inuit Education Coordinator, took the opportunity to profile Mrs. Watts at this important event. The following is an excerpt from the presentation:

“In 1988 the Senior Dormitory Building became a Learning Centre of the Labrador



Valerie Andersen (left), Inuit Education Co-ordinator, presenting Isobel Watts, Volunteer Library Co-ordinator, with flowers in appreciation of her dedicated years of volunteer service with the North West River Library.

College (now named College of the North Atlantic). The volunteer library committee was offered space in this building as a service to the community. It

provided more space for the library and became a resource for the college. Thus began a partnership which has proven to be beneficial to all concerned. Approximately 400 people use the library, borrowing over 5,000 books and magazines per year. All services provided are for both North West River and Sheshatshiu. During the summer, activities are available for children and a year-round story-time has been held once a week for the past 10 years. It now has been 14 years since the library has been utilizing space in the College of the North Atlantic building. This is a public service.”

Isobel and other volunteers continued to staff the library for 15 years, except for during two months each summer when students took over. Volunteers also staffed the CAP-site which opened in 1996. The committee had applied for funding for this Community Internet Access site in partnership with the college. This is another public service to North West River and Sheshatshiu run by the same volunteers. It is a popular site used by over 100 people in the community, as well as several college students who use educational software.

After 18 years, Isobel is still chairperson/volunteer, and the library/college partnership continues to be a strong influence in the community. It is an example of the good things that can happen when people work together, sharing common goals.

LeDrew scores highest

While attending a conference in Milwaukee in October of 2001 for the Refrigeration Service Engineer Society (RSES), Randy LeDrew, instructor of the Refrigeration & Air Conditioning program at the Ridge Road campus, was successful in achieving the highest Certificate Mark Specialist in Canada for the Commercial

Refrigeration Specialist Examination.

Mr. LeDrew was to be awarded this year's Heating Refrigeration Air Conditioning Institute (HRAI) Certificate at a luncheon on April 18 in Winnipeg at the RSES Annual Canada Educational Conference, however he was unable to attend due to student commitments.

Growing the Distance - leadership online

The college is committed to supporting leadership development for all employees. To this end, we have identified an interactive, online leadership development course entitled "Growing the Distance Online." This self-directed, self-paced course provides an opportunity to develop a personal leadership perspective, as well as to learn strategies that can be applied at work and in a variety of other settings.

The course has been developed by the Clemmer Group, a Canadian pioneer in leadership skills and organizational devel-

opment. This blended learning course uses a combination of textbook, CD-ROM and WebCT, as well as the opportunity to join discussion groups and access other on-line resources. The course generally takes about 20 hours to complete; however, because it is self-paced, each individual can define his/her own learning pace and schedule. Upon completion of the course, participants receive a Certificate of Completion from the Clemmer Group.

As part of its commitment to professional development and leadership skill development (as

well as providing employees with the opportunity to experience online learning!), the college has supported registration for 130 employees to participate in this course. A decision for future involvement will be made upon receipt of feedback from the current participants.

You can find out more about the course at:

www.clemmer.net/gtd/gtdol.shtml

If you have any questions, please contact a college Professional Development Coordinator.

Wayne Eastman attends second consecutive World Forum

For the second consecutive year, Dr. Wayne Eastman of Corner Brook campus was asked to present a paper at the World Forum on Early Childhood Care and Education. Under the theme A World of Ideas on Caring for the Children of the World, the Forum took place in Auckland, New Zealand from April 9-12. This is the fourth World Forum, with previous ones held in Hawaii, Singapore, and Greece.

The goal of the Forum is to promote the improved delivery of quality services for children by bringing together early childhood administrators, trainers, NGO leaders, advocates,



researchers, and public officials from six continents to foster the hallmark of quality. Over 600 attendees from 80 nations gathered in Auckland with more than 100 early childhood leaders and practitioners making presentations. The three prevalent themes that were threaded throughout World Forum 2002 were: Violence and Peace; Meeting Young Children's Needs in a Turbulent World; Child Health and Early Childhood Education; and The Role of Women in Early Childhood Education.

Tremblett named HR clerk for District #3

Debbie Tremblett has been named human resources clerk for District 3. Debbie brings with her an extensive background in payroll, having worked previously with the Department of Human Resources and Employment, and was most recently employed with Health and Community Services, Central Region. She replaces Margie King, who was recently appointed as OBA in District 3.

Co-op programs receive six-year accreditation

College of the North Atlantic received highest recognition once again from a national co-operative education council. Re-accreditation was granted to the Geomatics Engineering Technology, Industrial Engineering Technology and Programmer Analyst (Business) Co-operative Education programs by the Accreditation Council of the Canadian Association for Co-operative Education (CAFCE).

CAFCE awarded the highest re-accreditation standard of six years to the college's co-operative education programs on April 8, 2002. The Accreditation Team highly commended the college "on very thorough and well laid out applications" and

noted that all three programs met, and in some cases exceeded, all CAFCE requirements for full re-accreditation.

CAFCE's independent Accreditation Council ensures that only the highest standards exist to accredit their members. This accreditation provides an assurance of quality to employers when hiring co-op students and graduates nationally. For many employers this accreditation is a requirement to participating in co-operative education programs.

Since 1973, CAFCE has been active in promoting co-operative education in Canada. Its members include representatives from colleges, universities, government and business sectors

with an interest in co-op at a post-secondary level. In Canada alone there are 118 post-secondary institutions offering co-operative education programs with approximately 72,000 students enrolled.

The college has been involved in co-operative education since 1990 and has grown to offer seven co-op programs province-wide. Statistics show the students graduating from co-op programs have some of the highest rates of post-graduate employability.

Congratulations are extended to the college co-op education staff, faculty, employers and students for contributing to the national success of these long standing quality programs.

Children's Centre wins snow sculpture contest

In conjunction with the Corner Brook Winter Carnival held in February, the children at the Fisher Children's Centre entered the Winter Carnival Snow Sculpture Contest. These enthusiastic children, ranging in age from 3-6 years, worked very hard to build a snow sculpture. Gathering lots of snow, the children decided to create a snake for their sculpture. Within a week, their long bodied creature was formed. Each evening before going indoors to play, the children used squirt bottles filled with water to spray their creation, allowing Mr. Snake a chance to freeze overnight. The big day was definitely decorating day when bottle after bottle



of colored water was gleefully squirted over Mr. Snake, finally bringing him to life complete with eyes and a nose!

The efforts of these young children were rewarded when the judging committee announced they were the winners of the contest and the recipients of a \$50 prize! The prize money has been used to

purchase much needed equipment for the daycare centre. In recognition of their achievement, the Corner Brook campus treated the children of our centre to a pizza party. Let's not forget: kudos to our great daycare staff whose guidance and support is vital in making these 'adventures' so successful for our young people!

Halleran receives volunteer award

Recently our colleague Paul Halleran received notice that he had been selected by the Board of Canadian Registered Safety Professionals (BCRSP) to be the 2002 recipient of its Volunteer of the Year Award.

This is a national recognition award and Paul is the second such recipient.

The award recognizes outstanding volunteer service in support of the activities and interests of the BCRSP in the advancement of safety.

Those of you who know and work with Paul will already know of his interest and tireless energy in this field. He is a credit to the safety profession and to this college.

Paul was presented with the award at a meeting of the governing board of the BCRSP in Halifax on May 11-12.



More scholarship winners

Edward Hynes (from left), a second year Computer Science student, and Adam Pippy, a first year student, are both winners of the Atlantic Accord Career Development Award of \$2,000 for students doing full-time studies in diploma-level programs related to the exploration, development or production of oil or gas, and who have achieved the highest weighted average. With them is Lorne King, Associate District Administrator for the Bay St. George campus.

Students win 24 medals at Skills Canada

Students from College of the North Atlantic swept the 5th Annual Provincial Skills Canada Skilled Trade and Technology Competition held recently in St. John's winning 26 medals.

Three students from the Gander campus competed in the event. They included Trudy Nofle (left photo), Hairstyling, James Gidge (top), Computer Support Specialist, bronze medal winner, and Trent Ings, (far right) Aircraft Maintenance Engineering, gold medal winner.

