

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM COLLEGE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC CURRENTS



Gerry Crewe has been turning students into Chefs at the college since 1972 working as a Chef Instructor at the Prince Philip Drive campus. In August he was in Africa using his skills to raise money for charity.

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Crewe helps raise money for hunger relief

It wouldn't be out of the ordinary to see Gerry Crewe cooking with ingredients from halfway around the world. But it would be if he were halfway around the world cooking with them.

In August Crewe was doing just that as one of 150 chefs from 30 different countries participating in the Chefs World Tour for Hunger in Africa.

The Chefs World Tour for Hunger is a fundraiser organized to support two African charities: the African Children's Feeding Scheme and Heartbeat.

"We raised \$2 million dollars for the charities, and I would definitely do it again,"

he says. "It was an eye-opener for me. It's hard to believe in today's world we have such poverty. About 2.5 million children go hungry each day in Africa."

The African Children's Feeding Scheme provides hunger relief to residents of informal settlements. Over 11,000 meals are served each day.

Heartbeat reaches out to over 5,000 orphaned and vulnerable children. A total of 500 volunteers have been recruited to counsel and assist abandoned and orphaned children who are heading up households on their own.

Crewe spent two weeks in South Africa, split between Johannesburg and Cape Town

before returning home August 26.

"The first day we were there, all 150 chefs from the 30 countries paraded with full chefs uniforms and hats through the township of Alexander. We fed about 1,500 kids. They greeted us with huge smiles and thank you's," he says.

"Another day we went to a mission and fed about 300 kids. When we were finished serving the kids, a Roman Catholic Sister gave me a Christmas card and said: 'Thank you for bringing Christmas to the children in August.'"

Crewe has been asked to participate in the Tour again in 2005, this time representing Canada in Peru.

Over \$2,000 raised in ATV ride

Several staff and faculty from Bay St. George campus recently took part in the Ride for Comfort, a fundraiser where people collect pledges and then ride an ATV from Stephenville to Gallants and back.

Marty Madore, Lori Humphries, Michelle Fry and Paul Barron all rode on all terrain vehicles provided by the college through the Small Equipment Repair program. It was a great opportunity to showcase the equipment

and promote the program to the many ATV enthusiasts participating in the event.

Also taking part in the Ride, but using their own personal ATVs, were Gary Elliott, Laura Lee Sampson and Roxanne Pinsent.

A total of \$2,200 was raised for local charities.

To see pictures of the Ride go to: <http://www.geocities.com/rideforcomfort>



College employees taking part in the Ride for Comfort included, from left, Paul Barron, Marty Madore, Gary Elliott, Roxanne Pinsent, Michelle Fry and Lori Humphries. Missing is Laura Lee Sampson.

College well represented at BayBYTES

The BayBYTES Rural Technology Forum took place from September 22 to 24 in Gander this year.

While overall attendance was down this year, the college's presence was quite noticeable. College President Pamela Walsh was the conference chair and Steve Quinton, district administrator at Prince Philip Drive, was the facilitator. Blake Cryderman, chair of community and corporate services, shared the chair duties on the conference's second day.

Besides these, a number of College of the North Atlantic staff helped with the event, and many of the conference's presenters had an affiliation with the college.

In a session entitled Working Towards Better Educational Choices in Rural Communities, John King, Chair of Distributed Learning, Wayne Hann, IT manager, and Lucy Miller, faculty member, demonstrated how the college is using video technology and distance learning to enhance opportunities for students in rural campuses and communities.

In the Rural Business Showcase former college graduate Ron O'Connell, owner of VidCraft Productions, a video and multimedia production company based in Corner Brook, proved that if you have a commitment to quality and are able to take advantage of new technologies, you can be a success in less urban areas.

Day two sessions saw former graduate and owner of Dash5 Design Adam Harnett and current Web Site Administration student Chris



The College's Webmaster Mark Fleming and Audio/Visual Technician Harold Baker were two of many college staff helping out at BayBYTES.

Jackman give an overview of their rural technology-based businesses and spoke about the challenges they faced going forward, and how they plan to continue moving in that direction.

Harnett's company provides design solutions for every medium, including web, print and broadcast. He has received several awards for his entrepreneurial spirit and in October will take part in an economic trade mission to the United States.

Jackman is the owner of Holding-Ground.ca, a business he began as a class project. His idea won first place at the Enterprise Olympics and was nominated for several other awards through the Youth Ventures Program.

In the conference's final session, Programmer Analyst graduate Darren Marsh of Springdale spoke about how he is using e-business in the operation of his company Marsh Mobile Computer Services.

We're turning 40!

College of the North Atlantic will recognize and celebrate this academic year as the 40th anniversary of the modern era of the province's college system.

Planning is already underway for a number of events and activities to celebrate this significant milestone.

A 40th Anniversary planning committee has been struck at headquarters to organize a provincial event, and act as a liaison with similar committees being formed at the campuses. Many campuses are well underway with planning an event to mark the occasion, while others are still in the process of forming

their committees.

It is important that the campus teams keep the headquarters team updated as to their plans so arrangements can be made to have executive representation at as many events as possible. This kind of coordination is also good for information sharing between campuses and to ensure there isn't too much overlap in terms of event dates.

Planning is still largely in the preliminary stages and more information will be available in the next edition of Currents due out Christmas.

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Marketing and Web Steering committees reconvene

The Headquarters Marketing Team held its first meeting of the new school year to review the strategies identified in the college's first marketing plan and monitor the progress of each.

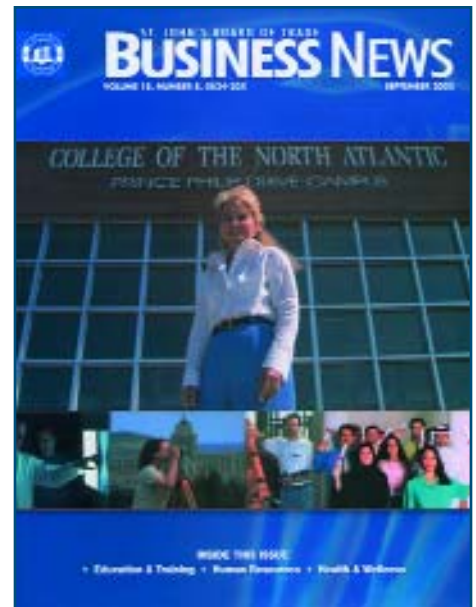
The meeting was the last for Committee Chair Sylvia Alexander, who had stayed on well past her original commitment period (thank you Sylvia). The reins were handed over to new Director of Advancement/College Development Corinne Dunne.

The plan continues to be a living document and during the meeting several of

the strategies were discussed, refined or elaborated on. For the most part, the strategies identified in the plan are being carried out on schedule.

The Web Steering Committee also held its first meeting of the fall. On October 6 the committee met to review its recently developed work plan and determine a time schedule for carrying out the work identified.

Among the exciting initiatives to take place is a Website Design contest with a cash prize being awarded to the winner. Details will be released in the near future.



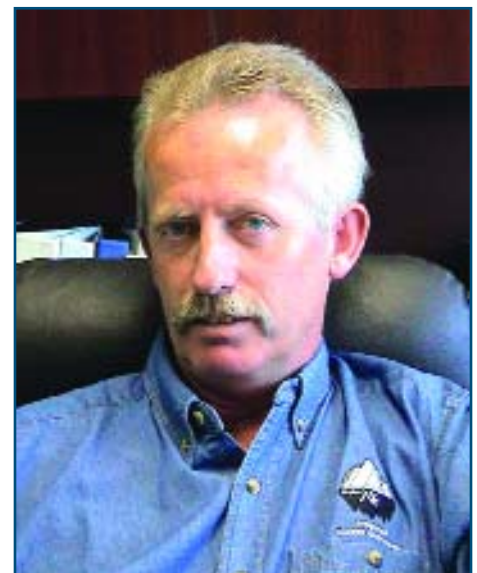
Corinne Dunne, Director of Advancement/College Development and the new Chair of the Marketing Committee was recently showcased on the cover of Business News.

Project ICE flowing along

Implementation of the college's new Enterprise Resource Planning system (Project ICE) is expected to begin as early as November.

Project ICE leader Wayne Hann says a software product and vendor have been

Implementation of the new system will begin simultaneously in Newfoundland and Labrador and Qatar. The work is scheduled to be complete within 12 months of the start date. Discussions are also currently being held to determine the staffing and equipment



Project ICE leader Wayne Hann in his ICE logo denim.

"All student administration, finance, human resources, programs, and technology employees that I have spoken with are excited about the project and are very anxious to get going,"

selected and contract negotiations are currently underway.

"The Request for Proposals was developed with the assistance of Fujitsu Consulting and responses were reviewed by the ERP steering committee and the evaluation team," says Hann.

"A preferred product and implementation firm were identified and recommended to the college executive and board of governors and now negotiations have begun with the vendor."

requirements for the project.

"All student administration, finance, human resources, programs, and technology employees that I have spoken with are excited about the project and are very anxious to get going," says Hann.

"They realize the work will be challenging, complex, and time-consuming, but are eager to experience the improvement in service this change will bring to college operations. The ERP planning team anticipates work to begin very early in this current academic semester."



Joins in Motion

The sight of Pat O'Toole jogging through the streets of Carbonear is becoming quite common these days.

That's because the IT/Communications instructor at the college's Carbonear campus is preparing to run more than 26 miles in an effort to raise money for the Arthritis Foundation.

O'Toole is participating in a fund raising effort known as Joins in Motion. People in the program have to raise a specified amount of money to support arthritis research and at the completion of their fund-raising goal, are

invited to participate in a marathon or a hiking trip.

Most people in the program have never run a marathon, so the foundation provides coaches and a 20-week training schedule to help the participants prepare.

O'Toole will run in the Bermuda International Marathon on January 18, 2004.

For more information on Joins in Motion, visit O'Toole's participants' website at: http://www.arthritis.ca/joints/nfld_labrador/PatOToole

IT staff gather in St. John's

Information technology staff from all across the province gathered in St. John's in August for what is being touted as the first annual college IT staff conference.

Co-chaired by IT managers Gary Comeau and Wayne Hann, the IT information and discussion sessions took place on August 14 and 15 at the Holiday Inn. A total of 43 college support staff and management took part in the two-day event, with only six staff unable to attend due to prior commitments.

Presentations over the two days included the IT Audit Report and an update on the college's ERP project – Project ICE – delivered

by Director of Administration Robert Rideout. Hann gave an overview of the IT disaster recovery plan and of the provincial network operations. Glenn Howell, a computer programmer analyst at Grand Falls-Windsor campus, detailed the college's Access for Success strategy. Comeau spoke about the new provincial Help Desk system being implemented by the IT staff, as well as the PC inventory replacement and provincial software licensing issues. Finally, the Local Area Network administrators were given an opportunity to discuss district and campus issues related to IT.

But it wasn't all work as the staff took some time on the evening of the 14th to partake in a round of golf and later chat informally at a social.

"This is the first time the majority of our IT staff had met face to face and all expressed the opinion that these two days of meetings were of great value," says Comeau.

While the IT group is hoping to make this an annual event, they are already working on improving the lines of communication between campuses by discussing arising district and provincial IT issues via videoconferencing.



Paramedicine goes hi-tech at CNA-Qatar

The two-year Primary Care Paramedicine program at College of the North Atlantic-Qatar is using world class, first of its kind equipment in the training of its students.

The new equipment, called the Laerdal SimMan, is a life-size replica of a human man that can reproduce a number of critical situations to challenge the primary care skills of any paramedic.

The SimMan machine can reproduce trauma

scenarios, such as heart attacks and diabetes reactions, giving students an opportunity to try to address a simulated emergency in real time. This offers very intensive and practical paramedicine training. Along with this new equipment, CNA-Q's students are receiving their training by experienced certified Canadian paramedics.

"I'm very proud of our program and I know that Qatar will benefit greatly from having

this training," says Jane Gamberg, Director of Health Science programs at CNA-Q. "We have brought with us from Canada more than 50 years of knowledge and experience. The paramedic profession has come a long way here in Qatar and we hope to take it to the next level by producing experts in the field of emergency medicine."



Students in the Primary Care Paramedicine program in Qatar are training on the new SimMan.

Programmer Analyst (Business) co-op program receives CIPS Accreditation

The IT faculty was pleased to recently receive the final accreditation report from the Canadian Information Processing Society (CIPS). CIPS represents more than 8,000 Information Technology professionals in major cities across Canada. Final accreditation was granted for the Programmer/Analyst (Business) Co-op program at the Prince Philip Drive campus.

The Information Systems Accreditation Council (ISTAC) of CIPS has provided the program full retroactive accreditation status. A commemorative plaque will now be prepared and shipped to the CIPS Viking section.

In their announcement, Gina van Dalen, CAE - Manager Professional Standards of CIPS, stated that she would like to thank the Department staff for the support and

hospitality that was provided to the CIPS accreditation team while they were visiting the PPD campus this past April.

The driving force behind the success of the CIPS accreditation was Amanda Day, IT Program Coordinator. Day's effort and dedication to the program was evident as she did a tremendous job managing the CIPS accreditation process with relative ease.

In receiving the impressive news, Day was the first to mention the contribution of the entire IT Faculty team.

"I want to thank the many individuals who made the process so successful. Everyone on faculty has made the Programmer Analyst program the great program that it is. We have knowledge, we have skill, but the program would not survive if we did not have heart and

this is where we excel. It is my pleasure to work with each and every one of you," she said.

Day also offered high praise to the following groups who participated in the CIPS Accreditation process: the Student Services Team, the IT Department, the Library Team, the Co-op Office and the college's administration. Further, Day provided special mention to Barbara Gibbons who is "an amazing worker and makes my job so much easier."

Bruce Baker, Associate District Administrator for the School of Applied Arts and Information Technology, was equally pleased.

"This is indeed a commendable achievement worthy of celebration," he said.

Congratulations to all on a job well done!

Professional Development for Library Staff

By Lynn Cuff

From June 24 to 26, the Bay St. George campus hosted 22 library staff in a professional development session. During the two days, staff members were presented with reports, updates on the SIRSI library system and instructional activities. It was not all work though, as time was found for socializing and an evening trip to the historic community of Sandy Point.

Working sessions began with an overview of our provincial library webpage that is currently under development. This webpage will provide links to various aspects of our libraries including our on-line catalogue and databases available, along with links to individual libraries within the college and links to various other web pages of interest.

No professional development within the

college would be complete without a session on the importance of lifelong learning for our students and staff. We looked at how we, within the library services, have a need to be involved with our students and staff to ensure that we are all lifelong learners.

Another session dealt with the idea of consortia purchasing of electronic resources, the sharing of public service resources such as program guides, information literacy workshops, and collaboration on staff professional development within the Atlantic community college network. More discussion will be held about this at a later date.

This was the first time in a number of years that so many of our library staff could come together as a group to discuss how our library is evolving. We are hoping that this will become a yearly occurrence, as the importance of library services cannot be

underestimated.

Keep looking on our college homepage to see when our provincial library webpage becomes active. Any feedback about this website will be greatly appreciated.



During their PD sessions in Stephenville, the library staff members were treated to a meal at Cobham's restaurant located in the Bay St. George campus.

LIBRARY STAFF CHANGES

Bay St. George

Theresa Hynes is now working as Library Technician at the Stephenville Crossing building. Cathy Ash is now working as Library Technician at the L.A. Bown building. Lynn Cuff, Librarian, and Barb King, Library Technician, remain at the D.S.B. Fowlow building.

Corner Brook

Bridget Kerrivan, Library Technician at Corner Brook campus for 10 years, retired in July. Congratulations to Bridget on her retirement and thanks to her for her years of dedicated service. Her position has not yet been filled.

Gander

Ron Knowling is now the Librarian in Gander.

Grand Falls-Windsor

Andy Barker has been recalled to full-time status as the Library Technician. Susan Hamilton remains on medical leave from her position as Library Technician. Glenda Hiscock, who had been working on a six-month contract as a Library Clerk, finished work on October 3. John L. Whelan, Librarian, is the acting Provincial Coordinator/Team Leader for Library Services.

Happy Valley-Goose Bay

Joanne Deluney is the new Librarian.

Prince Philip Drive

Janet Fraser has resigned her position as District Librarian to become Information Access Librarian at the University of New Brunswick, Saint John campus. Janet was also the provincial coordinator/team leader for Library Services, an accomplished poet, and an active member of the Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador. We congratulate her on her new position and thank her for her years of dedicated service to the college, first at the Seal Cove campus and later at Prince Philip Drive.

Susan Prior is the new District Librarian at PPD.

Seal Cove

Bonnie Morgan has returned from maternity leave to her position as Librarian.

St. Anthony

Ruby Peyton has been temporarily transferred from the Library to the main office. Nina Woodward has been temporarily recalled as the Library Clerk.

College sponsored baseball team dominates provincial play

A team of midget-aged baseball players (18 and under) from Placentia is grabbing headlines across the province for their dominating play in two provincial competitions.

The team, called the Placentia College of the North Atlantic and sponsored by the Placentia campus, went undefeated in the Provincial Midget B Baseball Championships recently held at St. Pats Ballpark in St. John's, defeating the Pasadena Pirates 12-2 in the championship game.

The boys went through the round robin portion of the tournament with an unblemished 4-0 record to earn their spot in the finals.

In their first game the Placentia team defeated the St. John's Capitals 5-3. Game two saw Placentia defeat Pasadena 15-2. The team's third game was easily the most exciting of the tournament as Placentia rallied from an 8-2 deficit to score eight runs in the final two innings to defeat Northwest Avalon 10-9. The final round robin game saw Placentia defeat the Mount Pearl Blazers 11-0.

The boys, who play in the Mount Pearl Junior League (where they finished the season with a record of 12 wins and four losses), then went on to play in the All Newfoundland Junior tournament. They dominated play again going 6-1 in the tournament and capturing their second gold medal in as many championships.

With players in that tournament being scouted by the pros (the junior division is for players 24 years old and younger), the group of Placentia teenagers wasn't expected to provide a strong showing. But to everyone's surprise – especially that of the other teams, the college-sponsored team made the finals and defeated Conception Bay South in two straight games, 12-2 and 10-0, to claim the title.

Their earlier win in the provincial Midget championship earned Placentia the right to represent Newfoundland and Labrador in the Atlantic Canadian Midget Baseball Championships held in St. John's during the Labor Day weekend.



The college-sponsored Midget baseball team from Placentia surprised many this year by winning not only the provincial Midget B championship, but also the Junior championship where they competed against players as old as 24 years. The team includes, front from left, Evan Picco, Steve Pittman, Brad Norman, Kirk Healey. Back Coach Fred Mills, Coach Jim Traverse, Joseph Traverse, Freddie Mills, Peter Traverse, Ryan Collins, and Eugene Browne.

“We sponsored the team the last two years and had the college logo put on the uniforms. The boys have sported these uniforms proudly these past two summers and have travelled across Atlantic Canada and proven themselves to be great ambassadors for their province and for the college.”

The competition was excellent in this tournament and the Placentia team finished with a 3-2 record and won the silver medal. The team from New Brunswick won gold.

“We sponsored the team the last two years and had the college logo put on the uniforms,” says college staffer Marie Traverse. “The boys have sported these uniforms proudly these past two summers and have travelled across Atlantic Canada and proven themselves to be great ambassadors for their province and for the college.”

“Many of the players on the Placentia team are attending College of the North Atlantic this Year. I know wearing the uniform isn't totally responsible for this, but it did add credibility to their choice and put the college foremost in their minds.”

The boys finished their season earlier this month winning their league championship by defeating the Mount Pearl Storms in a best three out of five series.

Harnessing the power of the sea

We have known for a long time that there was tremendous energy potential in the wind and the sea. The problem has always been how to harness this power at an economical cost.

Dr. Michael Graham, an instructor at the Burin campus, will be leading a project to explore the potential of a wave-powered seawater pumping system that can be used for, among other things, onshore aquaculture operations.

The proposal for the project was recently submitted to the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency. The agency approved \$400,000 of the estimated \$504,000 total project cost.

Dr. Graham, a biophysicist, agricultural meteorologist, and Certified Engineering Technologist, says the objective of the project will be to develop a seawater pumping system that will be cost-effective to build, set up and maintain.

Part of the project calls for the team to construct a small-scale pilot facility to test the operations of the pumping system and gather operating data that can be used by shore-based aquaculture operators to determine the viability of such a system for their operations.

Also during the project, the feasibility of hydroelectric generation from the pumped water flow will also be examined.

The project will be carried out over a three-year period.

Besides Dr. Graham, the project team includes: Dr. Aaruun Aarunchalam, Tony Calderon, Leon Fiander, Keith Howse, and Marvin Anstey.



Members of the Wave Powered Seawater Pump project team gave a presentation to Burin campus staff and celebrated approval of their project by cutting a cake. From left are Keith Howse, Tony Calderon, Mike Graham, Aaruun Arunachalam, and Dennis Walsh, ADA. Missing is Leon Fiander.



Do you have a college story to tell? Do you know a student, faculty, or staff member that should be recognized for their achievements? CURRENTS is looking for a few good stories about our public college and the people who make it such a success. Send us your photos, announcements, and alumni updates. If you have any ideas, suggestions, or criticisms, please drop us a line. Please let us know how we can make CURRENTS a better newsletter for you.

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