

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

October 2009

President's Report

Reports received from academic and service units are included below. An update of the President's activities for the month of September will be presented at the meeting.

Disability Services (Vi Chappell, Director of Student Services)

Disability Services at UFV assists students with disabilities have an equal opportunity at academic success as they go forward on their educational paths at our institution. Students with disabilities are an important and growing sector of the student population. Disability Services assists students that have physical, psychological, and learning disabilities. Currently at UFV, we have 680 students registered with Disability Services.

Equal opportunities for students with disabilities are created through academic accommodations which are designed to offset the ramifications of their disability and create a level playing field. Accommodations will assist the student in meeting the learning objectives of their courses and permits fair evaluation of their performance and knowledge of the course. Disability Services also provides information on funding for students with disabilities and assists in obtaining education-related assistive technology that can be used by the student for their coursework.

Disability Services has seen a dramatic increase in student totals over the past several years. Since 2006, Disability Services has witnessed an increase of 36 percent in total numbers of students registered with our department. There has also been a steep increase in the number of exams we are invigilating for students with disabilities. Beginning with 2006, we have witnessed an increase of 34 percent in Disability Services invigilated exams.

	Students Registered with Disability Services	Accommodated Exam Writings
2006	501	725
2009	680	973

The complexity of disabilities that we are encountering in our students continues to escalate. The increase of accessibility in post-secondary institutions has allowed students with extremely challenging conditions to enter studies. There have been large increases in students with learning disabilities, mental health issues, and physical disabilities. These types of disabilities are so varied in terms of the impact on education that Advisors are often researching the illness and spending considerable amounts of time searching for appropriate accommodations.

Disability Services is involved in community education to assist students with disabilities make smoother transitions into our institution. The Youth Led Mental Health Literacy Project is a shared initiative from the University of the Fraser Valley - Disability Services and the Ministry of Children and Family Development. This Chilliwack-based project springs from a desperate need to provide information to the community on mental health and the services that are available to

help. The Youth Led Mental Health Literacy Project involves the hiring of a UFV student to provide presentations that promote mental health awareness throughout the Grade 10 Planning classes in the Chilliwack School District.

Faculty of Arts (Jacqueline Nolte, Dean)

Economics:

The Economics department is proud to announce that Vladimir Dvoracek recently received his CFA (Chartered Financial Analyst) designation, which is considered the gold standard in the finance and investments industry.

School of Criminology and Criminal Justice:

Faculty member Kim Polowek has been appointed to the British Columbia Review Board, and fellow faculty member Ian Mackenzie has been appointed as a part-time board member with the National Parole Board.

The School currently works with over 100 criminal justice agencies including the Ministry of Health (Investigations Unit), Fraser Health (Risk Management and Emergency Preparedness), the Insurance Corporation of BC (Intelligence Unit), Ministry of Forests (Investigations), Correctional Service of Canada, Probation, Fire Departments, Bylaw Enforcement, and many more - the experience has proven to be a win for our students, a win for our partners, and a win for the School.

The School of Criminology and Criminal Justice started the fifth M.A. cohort in Criminal justice with fourteen MA students who have undergraduate degrees from nine different universities - Simon Fraser University, University of the Fraser Valley, University of British Columbia, Vancouver Island University, Mount Saint Vincent University, Lethbridge University, University of Regina, McMaster University, and Thompson Rivers University.

History:

The History department has created two new student awards named after its two retiring original department members. The Jack Gaston Award is given to a graduating UFV student who has shown a commitment to History as a discipline, achieved a high level of academic performance in the program, which includes a GPA of at least 3.0 in her/his history courses and a consistently high level of academic achievement in historical research and writing. The first winner of the Jack Gaston Award is Grace Rempel, who graduated in June with a stunning 4.02 GPA, the highest achievement of any History graduate in 2008-09.

The Bob Smith Award is given to a student in the midst of her/his program who has made an obvious contribution to their History classes, demonstrated a curiosity about the past, and a sense of historical imagination and creativity. The Bob Smith Award will be awarded for the first time at the end of the 2009-10 academic year. Both the Jack Gaston and Bob Smith awards include a cash award and a book pertinent to the student's area of professional interest.

The History department is also proud to announce that two of its regular faculty, Alisa Webb and Chris Leach, have completed their PhD this year. Alisa Webb's area of interest is British gender and cultural history, and her dissertation is titled "Harmsworth's Girls: Constructing Identity in

the British Popular Press, 1898-1916.” Chris Leach is working in the field of British military and cultural history; his dissertation is titled, “Scarlet and Khaki, Fire and Steel: Representations of Warfare in British Mass Culture, 1870-1914.”

Visual Arts:

UFV Visual Arts faculty, staff, and students have had a busy summer and look forward to an even busier fall semester.

Graduates from the first Indigenous Arts Certificate: Honouring Our Gifts class had their work on display in the South Gallery of Abbotsford's The Reach Gallery Museum until September 6, 2009 after stops at the UFV Chilliwack North campus, and at the Sto:lo Nation Longhouse in Chilliwack. These works were completed under the instruction of Master Carver Francis Horne Sr. and technician Rocky LaRock. The delivery of this certificate was sponsored by Aboriginal Special Projects funding from the Ministry of Advanced Education & Labour Market Development.

This month saw the official opening of Building C on the Abbotsford campus of UFV by Minister of Advanced Education Moira Stillwell. Visual Arts Department Head Tetsuomi Anzai toured with the Minister and local MLAs around the renovated facilities. This was an excellent opportunity to showcase works from the UFV Permanent Collection and Visual Arts faculty.

UFV student Nam Jae has a solo exhibition in the UFV Gallery (B 136). This show is open for viewing Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM daily with an artist reception held on Monday September 21 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM.

In addition to this show, Jae and UFV alumni (and BFA Program Advisor) Paula Funk (BFA 08) were selected by the Canadian Federation of Artists to exhibit in the recent Painting on the Edge. This open international juried exhibition ran from August 18 to September 6 at the Federation Gallery on Granville Island and featured 50 artists from around the world.

Faculty of Professional Studies (Rosetta Khalideen, Dean)

Applied Business Technology (ABT) Department:

We started the year (2009 - 2010) off with two full sections of ABT Fall 09, including 38 full-time fee paying students, and six full-time Career Technical Centre (CTC) students. Each section of 22 includes 19 fee payers and three CTC students.

During the summer, we ran information sessions and assessment sessions. It was very helpful to have the information sessions posted on the UFV web site. Melissa Bukta, our admissions assistant, has been an invaluable part of our ABT admissions team, enabling the ABT program head to contact students individually during the application, assessment, and registration process.

The Alumni Association will be conducting a survey of ABT alumni this fall. The survey design was completed in the spring of 2009. We are looking forward to having more information available regarding employers, future educational needs, and mode of delivery that our alumni would prefer for any specialty courses and suggestions from the alumni.

We continue to work closely with Abbotsford Collegiate School to facilitate the dual-credit courses. Weekly meetings take place with the CTC students, often attended by Abbotsford Collegiate counselor, Joanne Snow who brings any information to the students on-site at Marshall Road Annex.

Early Childhood Education/Child & Youth Care (ECE/CYC) Department:

Our ECE certificate program has successfully completed its first year of our pilot part-time evening program on the Chilliwack campus, with a great deal of positive feedback coming from students. Students have stated that they prefer the new format because it allows them to work in the field during the day while completing their licensing requirements during the evening classes. From the perspective of meeting student needs this pilot program seems to be headed toward a successful second year. We are starting an Abbotsford cohort of the part-time program in September, 2009.

Christine Slavik has recently gone on sabbatical after completing her second term as department head. She is working toward a doctoral degree at Simon Fraser University and we look forward to seeing her back among our department's teaching ranks in January, 2010. Les Stagg has been selected as the new department head for ECE/CYC.

The CYC degree program has completed a three-year-long curriculum review in conjunction with the Child and Youth Care Educators' Consortium that brings together several post-secondary institutions that share ideas and common field competency definitions. Part of our response to the curriculum review has been the recent creation and UPAC approval of three new core program courses that include curriculum in Mental Health and Substance Abuse Issues, Aboriginal Perspectives in CYC Practice, and Community Building and Collaboration.

Health Sciences:

The Minister of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development (ALMD), Moira Stilwell, along with ALMD director, Dawn Minty and MLAs Barry Penner, John Les, John van Dongen, and Marc Dalton, visited the School of Health Sciences on September 9 to announce the ministry funding for 24 additional nursing seats for the BSN program. The new nursing seats are dedicated to a three-year fast-track program option and are in addition to the 64 students enrolled annually for the four-year BSN. The 24 new seats for fast-track students will include 16 generic students and 8 LPN Access students; the 16 generic students will complete the program in three calendar years while the LPN Access will complete in two years (LPN Access students receive credit for the first year of the curriculum). The fast-track students will complete the same four-year curriculum but scheduled in three calendar years. The fast-track program option will require students to continue with their studies throughout the summer semesters; there are two 6-7 week breaks scheduled for the fast-track program during the middle of the program.

The BSN faculty are excited about this new program option for nursing students. Currently UFV is the only BSN program in BC that is offering both a four-year and three-year option for nursing students. The three-year fast-track option will be best suited for students not requiring the summer months for employment opportunities or other obligations such as family commitments, etc. Enrolment in the new nursing seats began this September with the fast-track students scheduled to complete their first summer semester in 2010.

The School of Health Sciences was also delighted to showcase the opening of our new Health Sciences Simulation Lab during the Minister's visit. The new simulation lab was a renovation

project that occurred over the summer resulting in an additional six bed nursing lab. The lab will provide students with the opportunity to work with simulator mannequins equipped with software that produces “real-life” patient responses such as a pulse, blood pressure, lung sounds, bowels sounds etc. This level of educational technology fosters nursing students’ theory application, critical thinking skills, and psychomotor skills resulting in enhanced preparation for their nursing practicum experiences and overall competencies as a nursing graduate.

Library Information Technology (LIBIT):

It is with great sadness that we report the loss of our program founder, Pat Sifton, this past July. Her dedication to developing the LIBIT program has left a tremendous legacy. The hundreds of graduates that are spread throughout both BC and Canada are a testimonial to her careful planning and foresight. The LIBIT department’s Information Technology Endowment Leadership Award will be renamed in memory of Pat Sifton.

It has been another busy semester for LIBIT, as the program experiences continued growth in the number of applicants and enrolled students. In conjunction with Continuing Studies, the LIBIT program launched its first continuing studies course for library technicians. With a significant waitlist for the next offering, it is readily apparent that this endeavor is greatly needed in the professional community. Plans are underway to expand course offerings in upcoming terms as well as develop a type B post-diploma certificate.

Things are shaping up nicely for the department’s 30th reunion October 2, 2010 as Alumni Services is working closely with LIBIT to complete arrangements for this weekend-long event. The department is very excited to bring its community of alumni together by offering a reception, professional development activities, a dinner, and a pancake breakfast.

The department has also been active in bringing about “Intellectual Property Rights Awareness” by hosting a number of speakers and movie screenings that will increase student, faculty and staff awareness of the issues around this subject. Other departments on campus will be joining in, offering a range of perspectives. Be on the lookout for activities and information for this year-long activity.



**President's Report:
Meetings, Functions and Talks, September, 2009**

Meetings with Government Representatives, Community Leaders, Donors

- Hosted day-long visit with ALMD Ministry and MLAs: Minister Moira Stillwell; Director Dawn Minty ; MLAs: Randy Hawes, Abbotsford-Mission; Mike deJong, Abbotsford-Mt. Lehman; John van Dongen, Abbotsford South; Marc Dalton, Maple Ridge-Mission; John Les, Chilliwack. Meetings (updates, funding and other UFV issues) and tours of Abbotsford and Chilliwack Campuses. Official announcements: renovated Building C, three-year Nursing program
- Meeting of the Trades Training Consortium of BC and Annual General Meeting: updates and planning.
- Annual General Meeting of the Post-Secondary Employers' Association of BC; elected to Board of Directors.
- Abbotsford Mayor, George Peary and Dr. Dave Williams, Medical Director, Abbotsford Regional Hospital: common concerns and areas of collaboration.
- Provincial celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the People's Republic of China, hosted by the Consul General
- Debbie Lehmann, Abbotsford Hospice: introductory meeting
- Tom Mauthe, President of the Abbotsford Heat: introductory meeting and collaboration discussions
- Simon Gibson, Abbotsford City Councilor: introductory meeting
- Arno Neuman, community developer: introductory meeting
- Rick Rake (former editor, Abbotsford News) and Dr. John Morrow (Abbotsford News, photographer), advisory committee members for the UFV Communications program: introductory meeting

Partner Educational Institutions

- Superintendent, Abbotsford School District, Julie MacRae: introductory meeting on joint issues, student transitions and educational collaborations.
- General Director (Principal) and other delegates, Colegio Canadiense School, Columbia: partnership development
- Russian Academy of Entrepreneurship, signing of Memorandum of Understanding
- New Universities Group of BC, Presidents and HR personnel, hosted by UFV
- School Principals Delegation from India: speaker
- Rick Hansen Secondary School, Collaboration Day at UFV: speaker

Community Functions

- Rotary Club of Chilliwack, guest speaker
- Chilliwack Chamber of Commerce, guest speaker

- Mission Chamber of Commerce, guest speaker
- Abbotsford Executive Association weekly meetings
- United Way Campaign leaders, planning meeting on UFV's campaign
- Soni Cultural Society of BC, "Day After September 11" event: guest speaker Mr. Arun Gandhi
- Abbotsford Community Services Open House
- AbbyFest Multicultural Festival – Celebrating Our Diversity: VIP participant
- Exhibit Opening at The Reach (A Common Thread) and 1st year anniversary celebration: speaker
- Princess Urmilla Devi of India: Social hosted by Andy Sidhu (Patrika)

UFV Meetings, Functions, and Tours

- Student Welcome Back Bar-B-Qs: Abbotsford, Chilliwack North Campus, Chilliwack TTC – South Campus, and Mission
- Orientation events for new students – Abbotsford and Chilliwack: speaker
- Party on the Green – Abbotsford Campus: welcome
- UFV Foundation Bar-B-Q
- UFV Awards Night and Celebration: speaker
- Welcome lunch, new cohort of students in the MA program in Criminal Justice: speaker
- Faculty of Art's Department Heads meeting: speaker
- Faculty and Staff Association Executive meeting: speaker
- UFV Global Development Institute: speaker
- UFV Academic Leaders meeting: speaker
- Aboriginal Community Council Sub-Committee: speaker
- Campus and Facilities Planning Committee meeting
- Strategic Enrolment Initiatives Committee: speaker
- UFV Foundation Board: speaker
- UFV Senate: chair
- UFV Board of Governors' Finance and Audit Committee meeting
- UFV Board of Governors Governance Committee
- Science Undergraduate Research event: speaker
- UFV Dinner for Consul General of India, Mr. Ashok Das
- UFV Professional Studies Faculty Council: speaker
- UFV Teaching and Learning Advisory Committee: speaker
- Academic All Canadians Athletes celebration at Envision Centre: speaker

Media Interviews

- Grant Ulliyot, West Coast Farmer newspaper: media interview
- Paul Brammer, Cascade Newspaper: media interview