

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

February 2009

President's Report

We are now deeply involved in the budgeting exercise for 2009-2010. The development framework was presented to the Board Finance and Audit Committee at their last meeting and I am attaching it here. On the 28th and 29th we are having university budget fora to inform and get advice from the university community with respect to the budget process and its challenges. I shall make a short verbal presentation at the Board about the framework and the results of the fora.

Attached please find brief written reports from the Development Office, The Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Professional Studies.

Development Office

- 1) May and John Lockhart have exceeded their pledge of \$110,000 made in April of 2008 with their recent gift of \$5,000. Their pledge has established the Faculty of Trades & Technology Endowment for Sustainable Equipment Renewal which will help offset future equipment costs at the Trades & Technology Centre.
- 2) In the current fiscal year to date, approximately 70 awards have been newly created or had criteria revised because of no signed deed or difficult criteria. This will result in more aid available to students in the case of new awards and less awards not being given out because of problematic criteria in the case of revised historical awards.
- 3) \$150,449 has been collected in the fiscal year to date towards pledges for the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies campaign.
- 4) Lindsay Follett, Director of Development, is now on maternity leave. Ryan Koch has stepped in as the Acting Director of Development during her leave. Lindsay will return in January 2010.
- 5) Call Centre – The call centre will soon be running again and the first solicitation calls will be made to alumni in the coming months. The call centre was established in 2008 and has been used to date to connect with alumni, update address information, etc.
- 6) Notable recent gift commitments (i.e. grant approved and funds yet to come):
 - Chilliwack Foundation, \$13,154 – will increase two current endowments that support awards for students from the Chilliwack area
 - Farm Credit Canada, \$11,000 - Support for Agricultural research
 - Phillips, Hager & North, \$1,500 annual commitment – creation of a bursary

Faculty of Arts

Dr. Irwin Cohen from the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice was the keynote speaker at this year's i2 Inc conference held in Ottawa, December 2-3, 2008. Dr. Cohen's address to over

300 people was on the topic of terrorism. i2 Inc is the leading worldwide provider of visual investigative analysis software for law enforcement, military, and intelligence organizations.

Two Masters students in Criminology and Criminal Justice recently completed internships in England and Australia giving them the opportunity to focus on the criminal justice issues of family violence and female offenders from international perspectives.

English:

The English department welcomes Jaspreet Singh to UFV as Writer in Residence from Feb 6 to April 2009. He is the author of *Chef*, a novel, nominated for the 2008 Hugh MacLennan Prize, and *Seventeen Tomatoes: Tales from Kashmir*, which won the 2004 McAuslan Best First Book Prize. His stories have appeared in *Walrus*, *World Cup Cricket Anthology*, Francis Ford Coppola's *Zoetrope*, and on CBC Radio. He recently finished writing *Speak Oppenheimer*, a play, for Montreal's Infinite Theatre, and is one of the contributors, along with Kiran Desai, Vikram Seth, and Salman Rushdie, to the anthology of essays *Aids Sutra: Untold Stories from India*. Jaspreet was the 2006-07 Markin-Flanagan writer-in-residence at the University of Calgary. He will read from his work at the UFV Bookstore, Baker House, Abbotsford, on Thursday, February 13, 2-4 p.m.

Jaspreet Singh's work at UFV is made possible through sponsorship by the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies and Research, the Office of the President, the Department of English, and the Office of the Dean of Arts.

Indigenous Studies:

Aboriginal Access Services and the Faculty of Arts have organized an *Indigenous Studies Speakers Series*. Speakers include: Taiaiake Alfred, "Being Indigenous: Resurgences against Contemporary Colonialism," (Jan. 15), Michelle Pidgeon, "Indigenizing the University—Moving Forward Indigenous Notions of Accountability and Responsibility," (Jan 22), and, at later dates, Lorna Williams and Rauna Kuokkanen. Professor Alfred's presentation drew an audience of over 120—mainly from the community—to the Chilliwack theatre.

Faculty of Professional Studies

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

In 2007, the Ministry of Children and Family Development's (MCFD) Fraser Region presented the Child and Youth Care degree program with \$80,000. These funds were to develop and implement a research project to support youth in foster care to graduate from high school. A joint report by the Ministry of Health and BC's representative for Children and Youth had listed the appalling statistic that on average only 21 percent of youth in foster care graduate from high school, compared to 79 percent in the general youth population. The life outcomes for people in society who don't have a high school education are extremely poor. Based on parameters given by MCFD, the CYC program decided to run a pilot project to investigate what supports or services would enhance the educational outcomes and graduation rates for youth in foster care. They then shared the opportunity with UFV's Network for Children Youth and Families and in the spirit of collaboration, consulted with many programs and then asked two community agencies and the school district to be partners in this project, along with MCFD. The eight person team decided on a young adult mentoring approach to working with the youth and, to interview

youth who had been in foster care to discover what helped and what hindered them in their education. As of January 2009, there are seven youth and seven mentors actively involved in this project. The foster parents and youth in foster care are pleased and already expressing gratitude for the supports given. The project will continue until Dec 2009 and a full report will be made available to MCFD at that time.

Submitted by:
Skip Bassford

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