

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

December 2010

President's Report

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

Ancillary Services (Karola Stinson, VP External)

Bookstore:

Students are demanding options to paying for new textbooks. We are considering a number of alternatives to the expensive new textbooks.

Rent a Text

Rental Texts have become a "perfect storm" in the USA. Students are clamoring for rentals. If a student needs a text and can't afford new, or even used, a rented book can be their salvation. They can save up to 50 percent of the cost of new. A pilot project is being planned for September 2011. A few texts will be identified as rentals. Our challenge will be to account, track and administer this task. Once in place we will expand the service and expect it to grow.

Used Book Inventory

We will continue to try to build our used book inventory; increasingly more difficult these days because of all the auxiliary materials (CD's/web codes) that come bundled with the new texts. Used texts can save students 25 percent of retail price. This year the "bundles" in the bookstore affected the sale of used texts as we were down about 15 percent in used text sales.

E-Books

E-Books have been on the immediate horizon for about five to seven years now. Still only available in limited quantities, it is now feasible (kindle and iPad make it easier) to sell them alongside the print texts. Students could save up to 50 percent of the new price. We can now offer a wide variety of titles alongside the paper copy. These E-Texts are "rented" to the student for up to 90 days.

Example of one such offering:

Psychology: Frontiers and Applications with e-text and connect access code:

TEXTBOOK - \$130.95

E text with Access Code - \$69.95

Author Readings in the Bookstore:

October 23/10

Poetry Reading

George McWhirter and Trevor Carolyn

November 24/10

Short Story Reading

Rudy Wiebe

Apple Reseller:

For the first time, students can get discounts on Apple/MacIntosh hardware - iPads, MacBooks, and iMacs. We have been approved as a reseller and will be rolling out the Apple program hopefully before Christmas.

Campus Card:

Current Projects

- Ongoing ITS projects with Bryan Wilkinson, Manager, UFV Instructional Technology and Client Support, and Gidu Goldstein, UFV Systems Analyst
- Creating user manuals
- Establishing financial accounting practices with Nicole Adams, Associate Director, UFV Finance
- Implementing a new distribution system for Baker House cards
- Meeting with A&R, Employee Services, Teacher Education, and Alumni
- Designing space for the new Student Centre Building
- Developing web site

Looking forward to 2011

- Expand card services to employees
- Establish a Campus Card committee made up of key departments such as A&R, Finance, etc.
- Investigate larger projects such as printing/photocopying, online payment gateway, and vending machines (all projects have a high level of ITS involvement and are dependent on existing UFV workloads)
- To set up payment methods within the Campus Card office
- To evaluate other vendor systems compared to Blackboard Transact

Support Requests

- To hire a dedicated IT person, thereby ensuring timely rollouts of projects and ongoing availability for technical support of the program as it expands to the general population and to all campuses.

Food Services:

Our food service provider has begun the fall semester successfully with the 'fresh concept' model completely in place. We have transitioned over the past year or so from a menu model to a food court model that offers no less than twelve fresh concepts daily (Mon-Thu). We have embraced an international theme with ever-increasing offers.

New to the line-up this year was our PHO Vietnamese noodle program and the addition of the full service sushi. The sushi program ran Tuesdays and Thursdays last year and is now offered daily (Mon-Thu). The selection has increased and we now offer sashimi grade sockeye salmon and yellow fin tuna.

Also, new this year is the introduction of fresh baking (scratch) that enabled Sodexo to lower the prices on our baked goods. We now employ a full-time baker and all pastries and baked goods are made in house.

We introduced a new steak program that features four superb cuts; New York, Top Sirloin, Butler Flat-Iron, and Tenderloin. These are value priced at \$7.95 including baked potato and toppings. The most popular station continues to be Mongolian Wok and Noodle Shop. We will be moving the Pasta Frai station to work in combination with the Sizzle Bar to make room for two new concepts - Chinese and Indian. These stations will alternate with each other and will be offered twice a week each.

Faculty of Arts (Jacqueline Nolte, Dean)

Mennonite Studies:

Building on UFV's commitment to develop a Centre for Mennonite Studies, the first event in the Mennonite Studies lecture series took place on October 19. Three guest panelists addressed the topic "*Perceptions: What Constitutes Mennonite Studies?*" to a packed audience. President Mark Evered and Vice-President Academic and Provost Eric Davis welcomed Dr. Royden Loewen, Chair of Mennonite Studies, University of Winnipeg; Dr. Marlene Epp, Conrad Grebel University College; and Dr. Bruce Guenther, Trinity Western University. In welcoming guests, Dr. Davis noted that UFV has recently developed a Certificate in Mennonite Studies.

Following the speakers' presentations, audience members were invited to participate in a question and answer period, resulting in an engaging and thought-provoking dialogue. The entire event is available for viewing online: <http://stream.ufv.ca/Online/MennoniteStudies/Perceptions.wmv>.

The second of the lecture series took place on November 23. The topic addressed was "*Reflections: Mennonite Literature and Culture*" with guest panelists Rudy Wiebe, Professor Emeritus University of Alberta; Hildi Froese Tiessen, Conrad Grebel University College; and Andreas Schroeder, University of British Columbia. Once again, this event was free of charge, and open to the public.

The lecture series had been organized by Dr. Steven Schroeder, interim coordinator of the UFV Centre for Mennonite Studies, with much assistance from Jo-Anne Morris in the office of the Dean of Arts.

Visual Arts:

World renowned scholar Dr. Ernst van de Wetering visited UFV on October 29 to present a public lecture: "*Rembrandt's Thinking: His Ideas About Light and Shadow*", co-hosted by The Reach Gallery Museum and the Faculty of Arts.

For the past 42 years Dr. van de Wetering has been intensively engaged in the study of Rembrandt. His *Rembrandt: The Painter at Work* is now the standard work on Rembrandt's self portraits and provides insight into a variety of technical, artistic, and esthetic aspects of Rembrandt's work. In speaking to the UFV audience, he noted that his early training as an artist (at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in The Hague) has influenced the way in which he approached his work with the Rembrandt Research Project.

During his lecture, Dr. van de Wetering reviewed his research in the context of several of Rembrandt's works, explaining why certain paintings are among his favourites, and elaborating on some of the factors involved in authenticating works of art. He responded to a number of questions from audience members.

Dr. Van de Wetering has published extensively and lectured in numerous countries on Rembrandt, on historic studio practice, as well as in the field of theory and ethics of conservation and restoration. His next book titled *Rembrandt's Mind* is scheduled for release next year.

Philosophy and Political Science:

What better place than the so-called Bible belt is there to discuss the rise of Christian nationalism in Canadian politics?

With that in mind, UFV's Ron Dart invited award-winning journalist Marci McDonald to the Abbotsford campus to discuss her latest book entitled *The Armageddon Factor: The Rise of Christian Nationalism in Canada*. The public lecture took place on November 1. This was another event that attracted a large number of attendees from off-campus, and engaged audience members in some lively discussion following Ms. McDonald's presentation.

Ms. McDonald has won eight gold national magazine awards, is a recipient of the Canadian Association of Journalists' Investigative feature award and winner of the Atkinson Fellowship in Public Policy. She was former bureau chief for *Maclean's* in Paris and Washington, and she spent five years in the United States as senior writer for *US News and World Report*.

English:

John Carroll, department head, directed a staged reading at The Reach Gallery. *That Time of Year*, written by Rajnish Dhawan, an English department sessional instructor, was performed on October 22. The play dealt with issues of marriage and immigration concerning the Indo-Canadian community. The cast consisted of students, staff, and community members.

'Inter Jam #3' at The Campus Bookstore (October 26) featured a new book launch and reading-seminar celebrating the arrival of *Making Waves: Reading BC and Pacific NW Literature*. Distinguished B.C. poets/essayists George McWhirter (past Poet Laureate, Vancouver) and Judith Copithorne (pioneering west coast feminist in the arts) were joined by Canadian publisher Brian Kaufman of Anvil Press, with whom UFV Press has collaborated on the new book. The trio participated in an informal seminar and question and answer session with students and audience visitors. It proved a terrific learning event for students and faculty interested in writing and publishing opportunities here in B.C. The public was also invited.

On September 27, in conjunction with the Mission Community Life Film Festival (Elena Edwards, director), UFV screened the new documentary *The Practice of the Wild* about Pacific Northwest-raised poet and global Eco-sage, Gary Snyder.

Among current students in the new Literary Journalism program, Paul Falardeau and Chelsea Thornton are both publishing regularly as staff writers with *The Cascade*, UFV's student campus newspaper. They are joined in this by Ali Siemens and Brittany Weisner. Class member Miriam Huxley is also on the editorial board of the UFV literary journal, *Louden Singletree*. Creative Writing student Jenny Ahuja has been invited by Satwinder Bains to write for *Punjabi Patrika*.

Faculty of Science (Ora Steyn, Dean)

The Faculty of Science is working collaboratively with the Chilliwack School District and Science World to offer the award-winning *Super Science Club* after-school program at Chilliwack Central Community School. Five UFV students are working at the school every Friday afternoon until the end of next semester. This is an exciting pilot project that is being observed by the Ministry of Education for future implementation in other areas.

Biology:

Faculty members Gregory Schmaltz and Debbie Wheeler went to Ecuador in August to increase internationalization of the Biology department. They made contacts with three universities in Quito and five research stations across the country, investigating possibilities for student exchanges and research projects. Talks are currently ongoing for reciprocity agreements (memoranda of understanding between universities), as well as a two-week trip to Ecuador as part of a tropical field ecology course with third and fourth year students.

In October, Sharon Gillies, Biology department head and Steven Marsh, geography instructor, along with two biology and two geography undergraduate students were invited to Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute for a three-day workshop. The workshop was inspirational and involved three intense days of information sharing and learning from a group of 28 scientists hailing from Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute and Woods Hole Research Center, as well as collaborating scientists from Canada, Russia, France, Sweden, Switzerland, Congo and India. During breaks in the workshop, one biology student designed her entire honours research project based on a Fraser River sampling and utilized the expertise present by discussing techniques and experimental design with several scientists. It was an informative experience for the students who also learned about summer fellowships, internships and visiting students programs at the two institutions. Three of the students are planning to apply for these positions commencing summer 2011.

Kinesiology and Physical Education:

The University of the Fraser Valley Cascades men's golf coach and faculty member, Chris Bertram, was named 2010 BC Colleges Athletics Award (BCCAA) *Coach of the Year*. In the 2010 BCCAA regular season he coached the Cascades men's golf program to a silver medal. In August, he was also asked to coach Team BC, Canada's sole representative at the Taiwan National Championship. The Cascade Golf program was further honoured when fourth year UFV student, Mitch Lock, was named *BCCAA Player of the Year*.

Science Advice Centre:

On November 9, 2010, the Science Advice Centre along with the collaboration of the science student associations held a combined level *Science Social*. Previously, a separate social was held for upper and lower level students. The combined social allowed for greater opportunities for mentorship and interdisciplinary discussions, as well as increased interaction between fellow students and instructors. The turn-out was impressive as many science students from all years of study came to enjoy refreshments, meet the dean and instructors, and find out more about the different science associations and upcoming science events. CIVL radio livened up the atmosphere by providing music and door prizes were raffled off. Plans are already in the works to make next year's social even more successful.

Mathematics and Statistics:

High school mathematics curriculum changes and UFV's response

The Mathematics and Statistics department has been working over the past year-and-a-half to advise UFV departments and programs about the upcoming high school mathematics curriculum changes, and the need for revisions to UFV program requirements and course prerequisites. Information sessions have been held for the department heads and information has been distributed about the new curriculum. In summer 2010, in consultation with the Provost, the department began a project designed to marshal departments and programs into getting the decisions made, gathering information and publishing results. Below is an edited version of the initiating document, as sent to department heads and program coordinators from the provost:

WNCP (Western and Northern Canadian Protocol) Project

The B.C. high school mathematics curriculum has undergone major revisions as part of the WNCP, and the requirements of many of our programs and courses need to be adjusted.¹ While the first students graduating from this new curriculum will not enter UFV until the fall of 2013, it is in the winter of 2011 that they need to make critical decisions about which high school mathematics courses to take, so that they may enter their programs of choice at university. It is vital that UFV provide these students with the information they need.

So by fall 2011 all departments and programs will need to have made at least provisional decisions, in time so that the information may be assembled into one coherent and easy-to-understand document UFV can publicize. The Mathematics and Statistics department has offered to help collate the information and provide advice to any department that wishes.

Procedure and timeline

- (1) By September 1, all departments and program committees should submit (to Mathematics and Statistics) a list of:
 - a. all of their courses which have either a high school mathematics course or a first-year UFV mathematics course as a prerequisite, and
 - b. all of their programs which have either a high school mathematics course as an entrance requirement, or a first-year UFV mathematics courses as a program requirement.
- (2) The Mathematics department will review the requirements, and make some recommendations about which of the courses in the new curriculum might serve. That response was to be returned to the individual departments by September 21.
- (3) All relevant departments and programs should have made decisions about their revised requirements, and submitted those decisions back to the Mathematics department by November, 15. That information will then be collated, and with the help of MarCom, communicated to the high schools and placed on our website before January 1, 2011. Most of these decisions may not have received formal approval (via the usual course revision approval process) by that time; the document will indicate that the changes are advisory only.

¹ WNCP: Western and Northern Canadian Protocol. Information on these changes has already been circulated by the Mathematics department, and is re-distributed below.

Faculty of Professional Studies (Rosetta Khalideen, Dean)

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

The ECE/CYC department continues to be busy as it delivers its four programs to students. As the weeks and months go by, the faculty members are always pleased at how students grow in their professional development in working with children, youth, and families.

The department continues to work on its self-study document as part of its department review in this academic year. That document grows as the faculty members add more details to it and spend much time in introspection. All faculty members are contributing greatly to this process and are pleased with our progress.

The Bachelor of Early Childhood Education (BECE) proposal has gone through the approval process in the Faculty of Professional Studies Faculty Council. The department looks forward to having Dean Rosetta Khalideen take the proposal to Senate. Although there is currently a provincial moratorium on new degree program development, the department felt it should take this degree through all internal UFV approvals so that when the moratorium is lifted the proposal will be ready to proceed to DQAB and other external approval stages. The planned starting date for this program is September 2011.

The BladeRunners Family Child Care partnership program continues to progress through its curriculum. The BladeRunners students are responding well to the learning experience, and the support they receive continues to allow them to make the best of the opportunity.

School of Health Sciences:

On October 13 and 14, the School of Health Sciences hosted two site visitors from the CRNBC (College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia), as part of the scheduled full review of UFV's BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) program. The site visitors had received instructions from CRNBC's EPRC (Education Program Review Committee) as to which aspects of the program they were to gather information about. The site visitors spent an intensive two days meeting with a large number of people including students, faculty, program coordinators graduates, representatives of clinical facility partners, and UFV administrators. Meetings were held in person and by phone, with individuals and groups. The site visitors also toured some of the clinical areas at Abbotsford Regional Hospital and Cancer Centre where UFV BSN students attend clinical placements. The program received a positive report from the site visitors and, subsequently, from the EPRC. The final decision on the status of the program will be made by the Board of the CRNBC and will be communicated to UFV early in 2011.

Faculty members in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program are working with the Alumni Relations office to organize the first UFV Nursing Reunion. The reunion is expected to take place in the fall of 2011.

Katherine MacLaren has joined the School of Health Sciences as Administrative Assistant to the Director. Katherine's previous employment was in UFV's Information Technology Services department. She replaces recent retiree Christine Sawatzky.

UFV is participating in a provincial Steering Committee of Deans of Health programs in British Columbia, and on the Project Working Group, to make changes to the provincial curriculum for the Practical Nursing program. The (then) Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market

Development announced in October that it will fund the first two phases of this project. By the end of the second phase of the project, the Practical Nursing program curriculum will have been redesigned to ensure that it addresses the 2009 Competencies for Licensed Practical Nurses, as specified by the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of British Columbia and recently approved by the Ministry. Once the provincial curriculum has been amended, there will be a decision on whether the Practical Nursing program should be a certificate program, as it currently is, or a diploma. Individual post-secondary institutions in B.C. will be responsible for ensuring that their programs match the new provincial curriculum, so that graduates of their respective programs can be successful in writing the national exams which are a requirement for licensure. Ensuring that graduates are prepared for these exams may require the length of the Practical Nursing program to be extended.

School of Social Work and Human Services:

The School of Social Work and Human Services launched its Master of Social Work Program on Thursday, October 21, 2010. This event was attended by faculty, students and a number of community partners. Speakers at this event included President Mark Evered and Vice-Chair of Senate, Gerry Palmer.

Teacher Education Program:

A new Department Head has been hired. She is Awneet Sivia and she is currently working at Simon Fraser University. Awneet will begin her employment with UFV in the 2011 winter semester.

Adult Education Program:

The Adult Education Program hosted a one-day BC Adult Education Articulation Committee meeting. In attendance were program representatives from a number of institutions across the province, and the new Associate Director of BCCAT (BC Council on Admissions and Transfer), John Fitzgibbon. The focus of the meeting was re-vitalizing the committee and planning for future directions.

Also, worthy of note is that the Adult Education Program is re-visiting its current model of program delivery. A Dean's Committee, comprised of both internal and external members, is meeting on a regular basis to determine a new program structure that would facilitate access to students while being cost efficient and academically sound.

