



CONTACT

Volume 17, No. 11

Fall 2004

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Yves Jodoin

Soon after the last issue of CONTACT was published (Spring 2004), ARUCC held its biennial conference at the Chateau Laurier in Ottawa, where so many pages of our Canadian history have been written. It was a very successful conference and, on behalf of the ARUCC Executive Committee, I would like to congratulate and thank every person involved in the organization and delivery of what we called the "Service Transformation Summit."

I would also like to thank the ARUCC membership for electing the new Executive Committee, which is committed to fulfilling its two-year mandate. The new Executive held its first full meeting in Montreal at the end of October. As I mentioned in June, in my acceptance speech, our primary goal is to give the membership the services they need and deserve. The Executive has, in recent years, served ARUCC's membership well by

undertaking major projects like the National Transcript Guide and the EDI Committee, which were major accomplishments. However, basic services—such as a functional website and an efficient list serve—have eroded over time, due to the fact that ARUCC is a voluntary association with mobile membership and limited resources. We intend to rectify these issues and so, in the next few months, we aim to make major improvements to both to <http://arucc.ryerson.ca> and to ARUCC-L@acs.ryerson.ca.

These tools will become more user-friendly to the membership and sustainable in the face of changing technologies and personnel. Once we solidify these developments and enhancements, the Association will be able to concentrate on the numerous topics that remain to be deliberated upon, including those such as calendar production, credential assessment and screening, enrollment verification policies, and other matters of importance to our allied professions.

Finally, since this issue should arrive on your desk early in the new year, let's make 2005 a very successful year!

MESSAGE DU PRESIDENT

Yves Jodoin

La dernière parution de Contact au printemps 2004 a été suivie de peu, en juin, par la conférence biennale de l'ARUCC au vénérable Château Laurier à Ottawa où tant pages de l'histoire canadienne ont été écrites. La conférence a été un grand succès, et j'aimerais, au nom des membres du comité exécutif de l'ARUCC, féliciter et remercier toutes les personnes impliquées dans l'organisation de cette conférence intitulée « Le Sommet sur la Transformation des services ».

Au nom de toutes les personnes du comité exécutif de l'ARUCC, j'aimerais aussi remercier les membres de l'ARUCC pour leur confiance témoignée envers nous pour ce mandat de deux ans. Le nouvel exécutif a tenu sa première réunion complète à Montréal à la fin du mois d'octobre. Comme j'en avais fait mention lors de mon discours d'acceptation à Ottawa, notre but primordial sera d'assurer aux membres les services dont ils ont besoin et, surtout, qu'ils méritent.

Au cours des dernières années, l'ARUCC a entrepris et réalisé des projets majeurs au bénéfice de ses membres tels le GUIDE DU RELEVÉ DE NOTES et les travaux du comité sur l'ÉDI. Cependant, des services aussi fondamentaux qu'un site web fonctionnel et un forum de discussion efficace se sont dégradés au cours de ces années, dû au fait que l'ARUCC est une association de bénévoles avec des ressources limitées et des carrières changeantes. Nous avons la ferme intention de remédier à ceci, de telle sorte que dans les prochains mois nous apporterons des améliorations significatives à : <http://arucc.ryerson.ca> et à ARUCC-L@acs.ryerson.ca.

Ces services deviendront plus simples à manipuler pour les membres et seront conçus pour s'adapter aux technologies et personnels changeants. Une fois ces changements et

innovations en place, l'ARUCC sera en mesure de se concentrer sur les nombreux sujets qui nous interpellent comme la production d'annuaire électronique, les besoins grandissants de toutes sortes de vérification et de confirmation du statut des étudiants, et d'autres sujets touchant notre profession.

Finalement, faisons de 2005 une année remplie de succès !

2004-2006 ARUCC EXECUTIVE

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EDITOR'S NOTES**David Hinton**

Well, I made it – my first CONTACT out to ARUCC members.

I had hoped to have this issue out by late fall as the header shows, but it took a bit longer to pull the various articles together than I had anticipated. I will go out on a limb and say the upcoming issues of CONTACT will be on schedule. Given the fact that this issue is late, together with the need to update the ARUCC membership list and ARUCC-L, this issue of CONTACT will be available in electronic format only. If there are members of your offices who would be interested in any of the articles in this issue of CONTACT, please do not hesitate to direct them to the ARUCC web site or to provide them with a printed copy of the web issue.

The Spring 2004 issue of CONTACT included a summary of a survey about how CONTACT is received by members. It also sought advice on content and format changes that might be in order. My thanks to Sylvia Franke and Yves Jodoin for undertaking this survey and for the excellent report they prepared. The information in the report will be used to guide the development of CONTACT over the next two years. From time to time, members of ARUCC will be contacted personally to submit special reports to CONTACT, such as a summary of a recent conference presentation or an ARUCC-L survey. Your positive response to such requests will be much appreciated. Members are always encouraged to suggest possible articles for CONTACT and even better, to submit full articles.

As you will have noted, this issue of CONTACT is presented on a revised ARUCC web site. The ARUCC Executive is committed to the enhancement of the ARUCC web site in terms of content and utility. You should expect to see further changes over the next few months and later this year ARUCC members will be requested to respond to a users survey about the site. The ARUCC membership list and the ARUCC-L service are also being redesigned with a view to ensuring that the membership is as current as possible. In the very near future ARUCC member institutions will be asked to review and update their institutional information and members listing on the ARUCC web site.

ARUCC 2004 REPORT**Susan Salusbury/Kathleen Massey**

ARUCC 2004 – Ottawa, Ontario, Fairmont Chateau Laurier
Final Report of the 40th anniversary biennial meeting

It was great to see so many of you at the biennial meeting in Ottawa last summer. Wild speculation has it that it was the ARUCC conference with the highest attendance ever, but what mattered most is that it turned out to be a great opportunity to see each other and to re-establish old connections. What fabulous weather, too!

Over 420 delegates attended the June 2004 conference, taking in the three plenary sessions and a host of workshops. Neil Aitchison, self-proclaimed ‘first graduate of Conestoga College’ (by virtue of the first letter of his last name) had us all in fits of laughter, while Stephen Lewis, Special Envoy to the UN on AIDS and HIV in Africa, astounded us with his oratorical prowess and commitment to making this a better world.

We would, once again, like to thank all those who attended the conference as well as the large group of college and university representatives who helped plan it. The local institutions did a fabulous job at dealing with local arrangements and we are grateful. Finally, thank you to the sponsors who were so supportive. The conference was a success because of all of you.

We look forward to seeing you again in Montreal in June 2006!

WESTERN REPORT

Mike Sekulic

WARUCC has registered the domain name of warucc.ca and the WARUCC web site, currently hosted at Athabasca University, can be reached by typing www.warucc.ca.

ARUCC has registered the domain name arucc.ca and arucc.com and the ARUCC web site, currently hosted at Ryerson, can be reached by typing www.arucc.ca or www.arucc.com.

Both web sites are on the move to new “hosts”. Web-based member services and email services are also being “re-vamped”. Stay tuned for information on these exiting improvements!

ALBERTA

ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY

by Teresa Wylie

Assistant Registrar, Admissions

AU has launched a new web portal. This new service is a one-stop, student-oriented web page that personalizes tools and information to the specific needs of each and every student. This service, known as “myAU” is what is known as an intelligent portal – it recognizes who is logged on and then makes sure the information relevant to the user is loaded into “myAU” pages.

It was announced at the March 26, 2004 Governing Council (AUGC) meeting that Dr. **Dominique Abrioux**, President since 1995, would not seek a further term as President of Athabasca University. The search for the sixth President of Athabasca University is now formally underway. **David Burnett**, Chair, Athabasca University Governing Council, expects that the successful candidate will be announced in February, 2005.

Two new doctoral programs are currently in development, Doctor of Distance Education, (DDE), and Doctor of Business Administration, (DBA).

Update from Grant MacEwan College

Stefanie Ivan

Associate Registrar

The Government of Alberta recently approved MacEwan's new mandate, officially recognizing MacEwan as an institution that can offer undergraduate degrees. The next step is an institutional review by the newly formed Campus Alberta Quality Council. After that, the individual degree plans must also be approved by Alberta Learning.

MacEwan currently has three programs under consideration: Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, and Bachelor of Arts in Child and Youth Care.

MacEwan's foray into the offering of undergraduate degrees is meant to complement existing career and university transfer programs.

Stay tuned for more information!

In addition, the Office of the Registrar at Grant MacEwan had a "spooktacular" Halloween. In keeping with the image (but not reality!), **Stefanie Ivan**, Associate Registrar, became "The Registrator" (see pictures). **Cindy** and **Natalie** also demonstrate what it's like to work in the Office of the "Registrator".



Lethbridge Community College

Linda Sprinkle

Coordinator, Student Awards and Financial Aid

Lethbridge Community College is excited to have **Jean Madill** join us as the new Vice President; Enrolment Management. Jean comes to us from Grande Prairie Regional College and brings considerable experience to the post.

As **Jean Valgardson**, the Vice President; Curriculum, leaves us to retire we also welcome **Leslie Vaala** in her place on a part time basis. Leslie has been with LCC for several years until recently so he will be able to jump right in.

As many people know, **Dr. Donna Allan**, our President and CEO, is also retiring next year. When you consider that we are in the midst of implementing a new institution-wide system (Datatel Colleague) it's obvious that there's a whole lot of change going on here!

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

by Marjorie Morris

Assistant Registrar - Communications

U of A Welcomes Augustana Faculty

On July 1, 2004, two of Alberta's founding institutions of higher learning joined forces with the signing of a merger agreement between the University of Alberta and Augustana University College in Camrose.

Augustana University College, founded in 1910 by Norwegian pioneers and affiliated with the Lutheran Church, became the first private college in Alberta accredited to grant baccalaureate degrees. The University of Alberta, established in 1908, is renowned for its excellence in research, teaching, services and athletics.

University of Alberta, Augustana Faculty, will be offering four-year degree programs pending University approval of program and course offerings. It is expected that these programs will be available for entry for Fall Term 2005.

New U of A President announced

Dr. Indira Samarasekera was named as the 12th President of the University of Alberta. She will succeed Dr. Rod Fraser July 1.

"Dr. Samaresekera is a visionary leader who brings to the University of Alberta a balanced passion for research excellence alongside a passion for enhancing the student experience," said Jim Edwards, Chair of the Board of Governors. "She has a proven track record in attracting outstanding academics and research dollars, and also has a commitment to the humanities, social sciences and the arts."

Since May 2000, Dr. Samarasekera has held the position of Vice-President, Research, at the University of British Columbia. A distinguished researcher, she received her BSc honors in mechanical engineering from the University of Ceylon in 1974, an MS in mechanical engineering from the University of California in 1976 as a Hayes Fulbright

Scholar, and a PhD in metallurgical engineering from the University of British Columbia in 1980.

Dr. Samarasekera is an Officer of the Order of Canada, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering and a Fellow of the Canadian Institute of Mining Metallurgy and Petroleum, and is the recipient of numerous other honours.

Associate Vice-President (Communications and Marketing) appointed

Darlene Frampton took on the newly created position within External Relations on April 5, 2004. Most recently, she was Chief Communications Officer and Director of Communications with St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto where she led internal and external communications including the SARS crisis in 2003.

Previously, Ms. Frampton led communications and government relations at Ontario's Trillium Foundation. Her depth in communications and marketing is rounded out by her award-winning work at the University of Toronto and University of Guelph. Early in her career, she also served as a Recruitment Officer for the University of Guelph.

New Appointments in the Office of the Registrar and Student Awards

Welcome back to Joan Fraser

We are pleased to welcome **Ms Joan Fraser** back to the Registrar's Office—this time in the position of Assistant Registrar, Special Registrations.

Joan brings over twenty years of administrative experience within the post-secondary education system in Alberta. Her most recent appointments include the positions of Director, Centre for Learning Accreditation, and Registrar, Athabasca University, Manager, Client Services and Registrar, Olds College, and Registrar Foothills Hospital School of Nursing. Some of us remember Joan from her days on this campus in the Faculty of Science, and in the Registrar's office.

Joan's educational accomplishments include a Master of Education from the University of Calgary, Bachelor of Arts from Laurentian University, and Teaching Certification from the Ontario College of Education.

Assistant Registrar, Student Awards

Mr. Robin Heppner has been appointed to the position of Assistant Registrar, Student Awards. Robin has a Bachelor of Commerce degree, and his background includes six years of experience at the U of A. He has significant expertise in the areas of finance and marketing as well as an existing relationship with processes in Student Awards.

Other R. O. Highlights

The U of A is using Bear Tracks—its secure, web-based service program—to improve services for students:

- T2202A forms – available online by the end of November.
- Available soon online: apply for graduation and view your graduation status, maintain your e-mail address, and view your unofficial transcript.

While these improvements are aimed at students, we anticipate cost savings in paper, printing and distribution as well as in staff data entry requirements.

Enrolment report – As of September, over 8,300 undergraduate and graduate students were admitted. Along with international, graduate, and our newly added Augustana Faculty, this gives us an active student base of more than 35,000 students.

Convocation on the move – With the Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium being upgraded for the Province's centennial celebrations next September, new arrangements had to be made for the U of A convocation ceremonies for Fall 2004 and Spring 2005. This has posed quite a challenge for our Convocation team led by Corinne Callihoo. The Universiade Pavilion (fondly known as the Butterdome on campus) will undergo a transformation courtesy of draping, carpeting, staging, lighting, plants and flowers to reflect the importance and formality of this major university ceremony. Convocation moves back to the refurbished Jubilee in time for Fall Convocation 2005.

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

by Mike Sekulic,

Coordinator, Enrollment Reporting

Veterinary Program Starts in 2006

The government of Alberta is establishing a new leading-edge veterinary medical school at the University of Calgary.

This unique veterinary school will provide research into the detection, containment and eradication of diseases that can spread from species to species and affect humans, and prepare veterinary medical practitioners and researchers focused on food supply safety. The school will also specialize in producing large-animal veterinarians to address shortages of these types of specialists in the province.

The three-year program will be housed at the University of Calgary and will be linked closely with the university's Faculty of Medicine. It will accept its first students in September 2006 and is expected to graduate 30 veterinarians each year.

"The University of Calgary is pleased and honoured to be chosen for this important Alberta initiative," said U of C president **Dr. Harvey Weingarten**. "We are excited by this opportunity to work closely and collaboratively with the veterinarian, agriculture,

wildlife communities and other post secondary institutions in our province and in Saskatchewan. Our program will provide the best training for our students. Our high standard of excellence in human health research will combine with the veterinary program to create a unique and innovative environment for human and animal health education and research."

The Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatoon is currently the only institution in Western Canada that provides veterinary research and teaching services and programs, graduating mainly mixed and small-animal veterinarians. Alberta's new program will complement the existing WCVM program, which accepts 20 Albertans each year. Government will continue to provide funding of \$4.5 million annually to support the WCVM.

Systems Developments & Staff Changes

At the University of Calgary, **Fred Rosmanitz**, Associate Registrar, has been seconded to the Administrative Systems Renewal project as a Team Leader for the Student Administration portion of U of C's exploration of and potential PeopleSoft Student implementation.

If you go to www.emerge.ucalgary.ca you can see Fred and others Actually nobody's sure what they are doing in these pictures ☺

While Fred is chasing shimmering balls of light (see above web page) for the next two years, the U of C is seeking someone to fill his shoes (one TALL order).

On January 9, 2005, Associate Vice-President (Student Affairs), **Dr. Peggy Patterson**, announced the appointment of **Kathleen Massey** to the new position of Assistant Vice-President (Enrolment), effective April 25, 2005. "The Selection Committee and those who met her and advised us were impressed by both her background and her vision for enrolment management and planning at the University of Calgary. We are very pleased that she will be joining us in April", said Dr. Patterson. Kathleen is currently the Executive Director, Strategic Enrolment Management, and Registrar at Centennial College. No stranger to ARUCC, Kathleen is currently serving as past President on the ARUCC Executive.

Sadly, Dr. Patterson advised that she will not be seeking a third term as Associate Vice-President (Student Affairs). Dr. Patterson's current term ends on June 30, 2005, and after taking an administrative leave she will join the Faculty of Education as a tenured professor.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

*by Mike Sekulic,
Western Regional Representative*

On the West Coast, **Fred Jacklin** has replaced **Greg Link** as Registrar at Malaspina University-College. Greg is working on a new initiative in BC known as "BCcampus". Some additional goings on from BC include the formation of "Sea to Sky" University by Uof S's former Dean of Science. Backed by **David Strenway**, former UBC President, the new university (the name "Sea to Sky" may change) which has ambitions of being "Canada's Harvard" plans its first intake for 2006. Recently UBC president **Martha Piper** announced the takeover of the "university" portion of Okanaogan University College -- wags have started calling it "Martha's Vineyard".

Greetings From British Columbia!

*by Jody Gordon, Registrar
Kwantlen University College
WARUCC MAL, British Columbia*

Advanced Education Minister **Shirley Bond** conceived BCcampus during the provincial New Era initiative. She created BCcampus as a way to address access concerns by connecting students and educators to programs and services among BC institutions. Now responsible for PASBC (the provincial application service) BCcampus has been working with 4 pilot institutions on the creation of an online registration facilitation service. Camosun College, Kwantlen University College, the University College of the Fraser Valley and the College of the Rockies will begin using the system in the Spring. The service will enable students to enroll in online courses at 3 of the pilot institutions (Kwantlen will be a sending institution for now) without the need to fill out forms or request transcripts. The system has been designed to collect, translate and transmit the visiting students' record from the home institution to the teaching institution, where the new student record is automatically created. BCcampus Manager of Enrolment **Greg Link** says; "The registrars and systems people from the 4 pilot schools analyzed the admission and registration processes that are commonly used for visiting students and boiled it down to 12 transactions. In the system being developed these transactions will occur via the BCcampus portal. For this function BCcampus is essentially a conduit for the student and course information to flow between institutions." In addition to the student services that will be facilitated by BCcampus, it also administers a fund to assist faculty to develop more online curriculum.

The Ministry of Advanced Education announced a new program to encourage more B.C. youth to register in industry training programs while still enrolled in secondary school. The new program, called ACE IT, will promote trades as an excellent career option for youth. ACE IT stands for Accelerated Credit Enrolment in Industry Training. This

program is modeled on successful pilot projects between secondary schools and several post-secondary institutions. The Surrey school district is among those that offered successful pilot projects on which ACE IT is modeled. In partnership with Kwantlen University College, the district developed a program for students in grades 11 and 12 who earned both high school graduation credits and an equivalent to a Level 1 certification in carpentry.

An additional 5,500 new spaces for post-secondary students will be added in the Okanagan by 2010 by establishing two new institutions in the region: a new University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus, and Okanagan College that will expand university transfer, trades and other applied training options. Over in Kamloops the University College of the Cariboo will assume responsibility for the Open University and Open College to form a new special purpose university that will increase student spaces in the region by 3,000 and expand a variety of applied learning programs. Following this announcement, UCC changed their name to Thompson Rivers University. The Ministry has also announced additional student spaces across the province at a number of other post secondary institutions.

SASKATCHEWAN

Saskatchewan On-line Transfer Guide Project

Alison Pickrell, Registrar

Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science & Technology

Post-secondary institutions within Saskatchewan are working together and with Saskatchewan Learning to improve public access to information about credit transfer within the Province of Saskatchewan. A vendor has been selected to build a provincial transfer guide that will allow the public to easily access information in an online format. The guide should be operational in Spring 2005. A Saskatchewan Council for Admissions and Transfer (SaskCAT) has been formed with the mandate to build a province-wide culture of transfer. **Robin Fisher**, Dean of Arts, University of Regina has been elected SaskCAT chair.

On The Move

by Mike Sekulic,

Western Regional Representative

Staff changes include **Lynn Freistadt's** departure as Assistant to the Dean, St. Thomas More College. **Janet Denford**, Registrar, University of Regina, announced that she will be retiring in the Fall of 2004. The U of R is currently looking for someone to fill Janet's shoes. Major changes also took place at the U of S, where **Asa Kachan** has left the position of Registrar to take up the post of Registrar, Dalhousie University. **Kelly McInnes** will become the new Registrar at U of S.. **Laurie Pushor**, formerly of St. Francis Xavier University, becomes Director of Enrollment Services at the U of S. The summer also saw the recent labour dispute at the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology settled.

MANITOBA

by Mike Sekulic,

Western Regional Representative

Manitoba is hosting the WARUCC Conference Sunday, June 26 to Wednesday June 29 2005, at the Elkhorn Resort, Hotel and Conference Centre, in Clear Lake, Manitoba. For more information, go to <http://www.rrc.mb.ca/warucc/program.htm> or to www.warucc.ca and follow the “conferences” link.

Keewatin community college was “subsumed” in the operation of the new University College of the North. UCN will take over some of responsibilities currently filled by the southern universities. University of Manitoba is expanding the scope of its SCT Banner installation. The three Manitoba universities, Manitoba, Winnipeg and Brandon report 4.3% – 5% enrollment increases. At the same time, the provincial “Tuition Freeze” continues into its 5th year. While the provincial government increases grants “in lieu” of allowing tuition increases, institutions are falling behind in their ability to keep up with ever rising costs. In order to cope, it has been one year of cuts after another. At the University of Winnipeg **Lloyd Axworthy** was installed as President & Vice-Chancellor on June 6, 2004.

Assiniboine Community College

Enrolment on the Rise

Ms. Wanda Kurchaba,

Communications Officer

Assiniboine Community College has seen a 6% increase in enrolment from last year. More than 1240 students will be attending the Brandon Campus this fall.

More than 2300 students will be educated by Assiniboine Community College at training centres throughout the province including the Brandon Campus, Parkland Campus, Winnipeg site and numerous regional training sites. This includes a large number of distance education students.

Two new programs are beginning this September at the Brandon Campus. They are the *Business Administration Advanced Diploma – Accounting & Finance* and *Power Engineering*. *Carpentry and Woodworking* is a new offering at the Parkland Campus in Dauphin and the Brandon Adult Learning Centre is now taking students for the *Integrated Health Care Aide* Program.

Assiniboine Community College offers 27 full-time diploma & certificate programs and 8 apprenticeship programs. Classes at ACC begin today

ACC Attracts Award Winning Students

*Ms. Wanda Kurchaba,
Communications Officer*

Assiniboine Community College is pleased to announce that two new Assiniboine students are winners of major national awards.

Erin Lambert of Portage la Prairie is enrolled in the two-year Hospitality Administration diploma program. Lambert is the only national winner from Manitoba of the Garfield Weston Merit Scholarship for Colleges (GWMSC). This is Canada's premier leadership scholarship for college students and a first for Assiniboine Community College students. The scholarship is valued at \$20,000 over two years. Lambert recently graduated from Arthur Meighen High School in Portage la Prairie.

Ashley Larson of Erickson is another award winning student who is attending ACC this year. Larson was recently recognized by various media outlets for her role in raising awareness for western Canadian beef farmers regarding the BSE crisis.

ONTARIO REPORT

Alex Goody

Review of the Design and Funding of Postsecondary Education in Ontario

Bob Rae, a former premier of Ontario, has been asked to lead a comprehensive review of the design and funding of postsecondary education in Ontario. Its purpose is to ensure that postsecondary education in the province is "of high quality, accessible and affordable for today's students and future generations, and at the forefront of innovation" according to the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU).

Rae, along with a seven-member advisory panel appointed by the minister, has been charged with developing a strategic, fiscally sustainable long-term plan for postsecondary education. MTCU has asked that the plan include recommendations on design and funding, as well as the role of international students and of marketing Ontario's postsecondary education internationally.

Over the course of the Review, Rae will consult with postsecondary education institutions, students, faculty and staff, business leaders, broader public sector, and innovators and experts from Ontario and abroad.

Ontario Universities' Fair

Since 1997 the Ontario Universities' Fair has been helping high school students from Toronto and the surrounding area gather information about universities in Ontario. This

one-stop event gives students access to representatives from each institution who can help answer questions about their programs, finances, campus life etc. The fair continues to grow in popularity. There were a record number of visitors this past September with an estimated 75,000 in attendance. This compares to 64,700 in 2003 and even surpasses the attendance in the double-cohort year of 70,000. Additional information is available at: www.ouf.ca.

Ontario Colleges' Information Fair

The Ontario Colleges' Information Fair took place on October 18 at the Metro Convention Centre in Toronto. Over twenty-two colleges were represented and the attendance was estimated at over 8,000. The fair provides prospective students with an opportunity to learn about program options across Ontario. Additional information is available at: www.collegefair.ca.

College Integrating Immigrants to Employment Project

Colleges, in concert with the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) are working to identify postsecondary (college) barriers experienced by internationally trained and educated new immigrants. Such things as clear information about appropriate educational opportunities, accurate international credential evaluation, credit transfer, PLAR, career advising, and ultimately, employment are being addressed. The objective is to develop policies and procedures that remove those barriers. This major initiative is resulting in pilot projects within the colleges that will, it is anticipated, result in much improved service to this group and thus result in swifter access to meaningful employment.

Ontario University Registrars' Association Annual Conference

OURA's annual conference will take place February 13 -16, 2005

QUÉBEC REPORT

(English follows)

Au trimestre d'automne 2004, 165 306 étudiantes et étudiants se sont inscrits à temps plein dans les universités québécoises, et 86 834 à temps partiel, pour un total de 252 140 inscriptions. Après une hausse de 4,2 % en 2003, cela représente cette année une augmentation de 1,8 % du nombre total des inscriptions. Pour une septième année d'affilée, la clientèle étudiante inscrite à temps plein est en hausse (2,2 %), et ce, à chacun des niveaux d'études (1,7 % au 1er cycle, 2,3 % au 2e cycle et 9,6 % au 3e cycle). Les inscriptions des nouvelles personnes à temps plein au 1er cycle augmentent quant à elles, de 1,2 %.

Les travaux de réexamen des conditions touchant la qualité et le financement de l'enseignement se poursuivent en commission parlementaire au Québec.

Le volume énorme de documents liés à l'obtention de la résidence au Québec occasionne des frais importants aux universités. Le gouvernement nous autorise maintenant à photocopier la carte d'assurance-maladie qui servira de preuve de résidence dans certains cas, ce qui améliorera le service aux étudiants.

La cote R a récemment fait l'objet de changements et les échecs obtenus au cours des premières sessions suivies au cégep compteront pour une moins grande part dans le calcul de la cote R. Un groupe de travail réévalue actuellement la façon de traiter les programmes de baccalauréat international en fonction de la cote R. La réévaluation vise à remplacer la prime de 0,5 point accordée actuellement aux étudiants du BI par un système qui traduit mieux la réussite individuelle de l'étudiant inscrit à ces programmes.

Notes sur certaines universités :

À la suite de la retraite du registraire adjoint, une restructuration du bureau du registraire se déroule actuellement à McGill. Le bureau concentre actuellement ses énergies sur le contrôle de la qualité et sur l'évaluation de la qualité du service aux étudiants, sur l'adoption d'un nouveau logiciel de gestion des candidats au recrutement ainsi que sur l'implantation d'un système EDI adapté à la réception et à l'envoi des relevés de notes.

À l'Université Bishop's, Ann Montgomery prendra sa retraite à la fin de l'année.

L'Université Laval a soumis une demande de proposition concernant un nouveau système d'information sur les étudiants.

Dans le cadre d'un Plan vert, l'Université de Sherbrooke a instauré un programme permettant aux étudiants d'utiliser leur carte d'identité pour prendre gratuitement les autobus de la Ville. Ce programme a nécessité l'apport de changements administratifs (nouvelle carte d'identité pour chaque étudiant).

Quant à l'UQAM, elle est engagée dans de nouveaux projets immobiliers, notamment l'achat d'anciens bâtiments du voisinage. Un important changement visant en partie l'intégration du système de TELUQ sera apporté au système de technologie de l'information de l'UQAM.

English :

Early registration statistics indicate for Fall 2004, 165 306 students are enrolled full-time in Quebec universities, and 86 834 part-time, for a total 252 140 students. After an increase of 4.2 % in 2003, this represents an increase of 1.8 % in 2004 in total enrolments. For the 7th year in a row, the full-time enrolment has increased (2.2%), at every level (1.7 % for undergraduate, 2.3 % for master's et 9.6 % for doctoral studies). New full-time registrations at the undergraduate level increased by 1.2 %.

There continues to be work at the level of a parliamentary commission on revisiting the conditions for the quality and funding of education in the province.

Documentation burden for establishing Quebec residency has been onerous for universities. The government will now allow us to take a photocopy of the Health Card, as proof of residency for some cases - this will improve student service.

There are recent changes being made to the Cote R (R-Score) so that failing grades in early terms of CEGEP attendance will be weighted less in the calculation of the R-Score. A work group is currently re-assessing how International Baccalaureate programs should be handled in relation to the R-score. The intention is to replace the bonus of .5 currently afforded to IB students, with a system that is more reflective of individual student performance in those programs.

Some institutional notes:

At McGill, there is a restructuring of the registrar's office in light of the retirement of Associate Registrar. The current focus of the office is quality control and monitoring of our service levels to students, the adoption of new prospect management software for recruiting, and the implementation of EDI for receiving and sending university transcripts.

At Bishop's, Ann Montgomery will be retiring at the end of the year.

Laval has issued a Request for Proposal for a new Student Information System.

Sherbrooke has implemented a program, as part of a Green Plan, for students to use their student ID card to take the bus for free. It has involved some administrative changes (new ID card for every student).

UQAM has been building new building, and buying older buildings in the neighbourhood. There will be a significant change to UQAM's information technology system, in part to integrate TELUQ's system.

ATLANTIC REPORT

Sylvia Poirier

Enrollment Updates

The Association of Atlantic Universities (AAU) published its annual October 1st enrollment statistics for universities in the region. *Undergraduate enrollments overall* were fairly static, with only 1.1% growth in the Maritime institutions. *First-year class enrollments* for the AAU were down 7.4% overall, with Maritime institutions seeing a 10.3% drop (MUN grew by 7.4%).

Association of Atlantic Registrars and Admission Officers (AARAO)

The Executive Committee of the Association of Atlantic Registrars and Admission Officers (AARAO) comprises the following members for 2004-2005:

- Sue Ellis-Loparco, President
- Janet Stark, Past President
- Greg Ferguson, Vice President
- Bill O'Brien (Liaison Officer, UCCB), 2nd Vice President
- Sylvia Poirier (Registrar, Holland College), Secretary
- Phyllis McCann (Graduation Director, MUN), Treasurer
- Karen Smythe, the Atlantic Region Representative on the ARUCC Executive

In August, 2004, the AARAO Executive appointed Jane Cayford, recently retired from Acadia University and now an Honorary Lifetime Member of the Association of Registrars of Universities and Colleges in Canada (ARUCC), to conduct a consultative study on the state of/potential for Electronic Document Interchange (EDI) systems in the Atlantic region. The project will investigate issues surrounding high-school to postsecondary document transfers, as well as inter-postsecondary document sharing. Her preliminary report was received by the Executive at the end of October and a meeting to plan next steps was held December 9th. [See report on AARAO EDI Meeting elsewhere in CONTACT.]

AARAO Biennial Conference

The dates for the biennial AARAO conference, to be co-hosted by the University of Prince Edward Island and Holland College, were tentatively set for Thursday, June 2 to Saturday, June 4th, in order to provide for the possibility of guidance counselors attending a special session on Friday.

Institutional Updates

St. Francis Xavier University

- Jana Luker has been appointed the new Vice President, Student Services, and will oversee a number of StFX departments including athletics and recreation, the Dean of Students Office, and the health and counselling centres. Jana previously held the position of the Dean of Students and Director of Ancillary Services at the University of Toronto.
- the new \$23.5 million Physical Sciences Centre has been officially opened. The centre was designed to support the contribution that researchers—both new and accomplished, both undergraduate and graduate—are making to scientific discovery in Canada.

Acadia:

- the 14th President of Acadia U—Dr. Gail Dinter-Gottlieb— was installed on the 2nd of Oct 2004, which was marked by a special convocation ceremony and a symposium entitled “Engaged Learning.”
- plans have been announce for the development of a Learning Commons for Acadia students. This will consist of a math centre, a writing centre, a centre for

civic engagement, and a centre for internationalization. Funds to help renovate existing space for the Commons have been generously donated by the Acadia Associated Alumni.

Holland College:

- the Holland College Act has been changed by the Provincial Legislature, thereby giving HC the authority to grant applied degrees. The first such degree program is under development under the auspices of the Atlantic Tourism and Hospitality Institute.

University of New Brunswick—Saint John:

- Mr. Tom Buckley has been appointed as the new Registrar at UNB's Saint John campus. Tom came to UNBSJ from private industry and brings invaluable expertise in the fields of customer service, systems and process design, and professional development to the Registrar's Office team. He has taught at StFX, where he also managed software development projects including the Teaching Innovation Program for Student Interns, and strategies to integrate technology more fully into teaching.

UPEI:

- a new on-line service for submitting applications for admission to undergraduate programs is about to be launched at www.upei.ca.
- a new document, the *Guide to UPEI's e-Calendar, 2004-2005*, was produced in-house to supplement the PDF-based e-Calendar (which was launched in early July). The guide is an abbreviated version of the e-Calendar, and includes URLs for detailed course descriptions and departmental websites [NOTE: The "case study" for this project will be submitted to the ARUCC Executive's Sub-committee on e-Calendars, which is chaired by Alex Goody. The sub-committee will be meeting next on January 30th, 2005, in Calgary. ARUCC members are invited to submit questions, ideas, or any relevant items of interest to Alex at agoody@uoguelph.ca]
- the Department of Education is working with Registrars and VPs at UPEI and Holland College to develop a provincial Transfer Credit Guide. Degree-completion policies and procedures have been developed for improved learner access and mobility, and new specific program articulations are also under discussion.
- a new graduate program, the Master in Applied Health Services Research, was approved by MPHEC and launched at UPEI this fall. UPEI joins Dalhousie, Memorial, and UNB as a partner in this multi-institutional, distance-delivered program.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND IMMIGRATION (ACISI)

Yves Jodoin attended the ACISI meeting of November 8, 2004 in Ottawa and provided the following highlights :

Update on Pilot Projects

The Federal Government wants to attract potential future immigrants outside the traditional MTV corridor (Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver).

To date, three provinces-- New Brunswick, Manitoba, and Quebec-- have now signed agreements with the Federal Government to permit off-campus work for full-time foreign students in good standing. In the case of Quebec, the agreement is to allow these students to work outside the census metropolitan areas of Quebec City and Montreal.

Also, four provinces-- Alberta, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia--now have agreements with the Federal Government for a one-year extension of the post-graduation employment policy for foreign students (bringing their post-graduateion work-permit period to a total of two years maximum).

Alberta signed on October 16th 2004 an agreement for "priority processing" (less than 28 days) of complete and straightforward study-permit applications for students applying from Beijing, New Delhi, and Ho Chi Minh, who are destined to study at designated education institutions in Alberta.

For more information, visit the Citizenship and Immigration Canada web site at : www.cic.gc.ca/english/study/info-students.html

COMITÉ CONSULTATIF SUR LES ÉTUDIANTS ET L'IMMIGRATION (CCEII)

Faits saillants de la réunion du 8 novembre 2004 à Ottawa, Ontario

Mise-à-jour sur les projets pilotes

Le gouvernement fédéral veut attirer des futurs immigrants potentiels en dehors du traditionnel corridor MTV (Montréal, Toronto et Vancouver).

- Trois provinces ont signé jusqu'à présent une entente avec le gouvernement fédéral permettant le travail hors-campus aux étudiants étrangers inscrits à temps plein : Nouveau Brunswick, Manitoba et Québec. Au Québec, le permis permet de travailler à l'extérieur des territoires de recensement des villes de Québec et de Montréal

- Quatre provinces ont maintenant des accords avec le gouvernement fédéral pour prolonger d'une année (pour un total de deux ans) la validité d'un permis de travail pour diplômé

- L'Alberta a signé le 16 octobre 2004 une entente pour le traitement prioritaire (moins de 28 jours) des demandes de permis d'études simples et complètes présentées à Beijing, New Delhi et Ho Chi Minh par des étudiants qui se destinent à des établissements d'enseignements désignés en Alberta.

Pour plus d'information, consulter le site web de Citoyenneté et Immigration Canada : www.cic.gc.ca/francais/etudier/info-etudiants.html

SPEEDE COMMITTEE REPORT

Doug Holmes

Since my update to the Executive in November 2003, the SPEEDE Committee has met three times:

- ANSI X12 February trimester meeting in Seattle, WA, January 31 - February 3, 2004
- AACRAO Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, NV, April 19 - 22, 2004
- 1st Annual PESC Technology Summit in Arlington, VA, May 1 - 5, 2004

At the February meeting, SPEEDE spent much of it's time reviewing X12's direction with XML standards setting, and continued reviewing the committee's own work with PESC on the XML schema for the College Transcript. After the meeting, AACRAO decided they would not renew their membership in X12, deciding to focus efforts on the PESC XML development instead. SPEEDE will definitely continue promoting and educating on the use of X12 EDI transactions, but will no longer have an "official" seat at the X12 standards setting table. SPEEDE will also update current EDI implementation

guides to comply with the latest standards version (5010). Any future data maintenance items will be directed through other Sub-Committees of X12, as PESC is also likely not to renew their membership in X12, which will result in the closing of Sub-Committee A, Education Administration. SPEEDE members presented numerous EDI and XML-related sessions at both the AACRAO Annual meeting and the PESC Technology Summit, as well as meeting throughout the initial weekend of each to work through agenda items laid out by Chair Jacqueline Nottingham, of Virginia Tech. As previously mentioned, work continued on the XML schema for the College transcript. The final detailed changes were made to the architecture and documentation of the schema, it was voted on and approved by PESC membership in late April, and it will be posted on the PESC web site (www.pesc.org) within days. At least one major SIS vendor has a project underway with a state school system in the U.S. to implement the newly approved XML Transcript. SPEEDE met with a representative of the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) at the May meeting to discuss NSC's work on XML schemas for both the Request For Transcript and the Response to the Request. Their work is progressing well, and will be channeled through PESC for member approval similar to the transcript. Upon completion, this will facilitate schools, students and alumni requesting transcripts using XML-based systems, as they can currently in the X12 EDI world. In follow up to my November report, the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC) has forwarded several hundred production transcripts from three B.C. colleges (Douglas, Kwantlen and Malaspina) to the Ontario universities using the X12 EDI formats. The OUAC continues to encourage the use of this new infrastructure with the other EDI-enabled B.C. postsecondary institutions in hopes of increasing trading between the provinces. The Ontario College Application Services (OCAS) also launched their EDI trading hub for the colleges of Ontario shortly after my last report. The OUAC and OCAS have now successfully traded thousands of transcript requests and transcripts between the university and college sectors. All colleges and universities are involved in the system, with four fully EDI-enabled CAAT's adding to the existing 14 fully or partially EDI-enabled universities doing electronic exchange. Next steps for the SPEEDE committee are:

- developing a crosswalk between the XML College Transcript and the X12 EDI Transcript to allow future trading between XML-enabled and EDI-enabled institutions
- meeting and presenting at the AACRAO 2004 Technology Conference in Newport Beach, CA, October 3-5, 2004

Lastly, I wanted to inform the Executive that I have decided to rotate off of the SPEEDE Committee at the end of my current term, ending April 2005. I have thoroughly enjoyed all aspects of the past six plus years on the SPEEDE Committee – it's been a truly exceptional group to work with. I would like to thank the Executive for the great opportunity to serve the Canadian universities and colleges in this role. I would be happy to communicate a summary of information about the role to the person that is chosen as my replacement.

AARAO EDI REPORT**Jane Cayford**

Twenty-seven representatives from 13 institutions/departments attended an all-day workshop sponsored by the Atlantic Association of Registrars and Admissions Officers in Truro in early December, 2004

Doug Holmes, from the Ontario Universities Application Centre (OUAC), gave an overview of electronic data interchange (EDI), its past, its use, and recent developments. He described how OUAC worked, elaborated the differences between traditional EDI and the recent developments of EDI using XML, and outlined the cost implications of doing or not doing EDI.

Following Doug's presentation, Janet Stark, Registrar at Saint Francis Xavier University, led a discussion by the attendees.

ISSUES**Four possible EDI applications were identified:**

1. Transmission of grades from high schools to post-secondary institutions (PSI)
2. Exchange of transcripts among PSIs
3. Reporting of transcript data to provincial student aid offices
4. Transmission of transcripts to teacher certification authorities

EDI in Atlantic Canada

Dalhousie is receiving high school grades electronically through an agreement with the Ontario Universities Application Centre. The government of Newfoundland also transfers high school grades to MUN and CONA. UCCB and the Cape Breton School Board are in discussion concerning the electronic transfer of grades.

The provinces have not developed their systems evenly:

In Nova Scotia, there is no uniformity of student information systems; but there is the plan to have a common system in the schools within four years. There are significant cost implications for high schools in the NS system (\$2.5 million). In New Brunswick and in PEI, all high schools have a common system. PEI is currently collecting transcript data from their schools. In Newfoundland and Labrador, high school grades are transmitted from the NL Department of Education to Memorial University.

Inclusion of all stakeholders:

It is necessary to have all stakeholders aware of the issues. Specifically the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Council (MPHEC), the Atlantic Association of Universities (AAU), the Council of Nova Scotia University Presidents (CONSUP) and its counterparts in other provinces, and the Atlantic Provinces Council of Community Colleges (APCCC) need to be aware of the desirability and efficiency of EDI.

Where do we start? What is step one?

There was a desire by the PSIs present and others who could not attend that specific advances towards implementing EDI be initiated. The scope of the initiative was discussed – should the concentration be on the transmission of high school grades to the PSIs or should the whole picture be examined?

It was agreed that all interested parties should select a representative to serve on a steering committee to examine how the Atlantic provinces could work toward the implementation of EDI. As such a committee would be quite large, it would be expected that a number of subcommittees would be formed to deal with the various elements involved in EDI implementation.

Also to be determined is the level of commitment by the Atlantic institutions to realize this goal.

It would be expected that the project would be phased in, and that a schedule would be developed for such a progression.

One of the tasks of the steering committee would be to determine how EDI ready the institutions are at this point. At the PSI level, SCT Banner, Datatel, Peoplesoft, and home-grown systems are in use. Many have EDI components built in, but they vary in sophistication.

This committee will need to examine the state of EDI nationally and beyond.

A number of participants raised concerns about privacy issues. It is necessary for systems to keep up with legislation and legislation to respond to technological advances. It would be wise to learn from other jurisdictions.

Recommendations/Action plan

It is the goal of the assembled group, representing high schools, post-secondary institutions, and provincial education authorities to institute the conveyance of transcript information by EDI where possible within a given period of time to be defined in Atlantic Canada.

A steering committee will be formed to formulate a strategy for the implementation of EDI.

This committee will be formed with representatives from all constituents interested in implementing EDI in Atlantic Canada

Karl Turner of Mount Saint Vincent University will call the first meeting of the committee.