

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM COLLEGE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC CURRENTS

Nanuk out of hibernation

In 2001, the college's Council of Student Executives (CSE) introduced College of the North Atlantic's (CNA) polar bear mascot, Nanuk, to the province. After making several appearances, the mascot went missing.

This year, the Marketing and Communications team, in conjunction with Student Services and the CSE, re-introduced our mascot to Newfoundland and Labrador by having Nanuk attend the opening game of the Herder finals between the Deer Lake Red Wings and the Conception Bay Stars at Mile One Stadium in St. John's.

Leading up to the hockey game, the college held a six-week radio contest on radio stations across the province. During the contest period three prize packages were given away in each area where CNA has a campus.

Concurrently, *Where's Nanuk* contests were held at all campuses with five prize packages being given away to students who were able to find the hidden teddy bear by deciphering clues as to its whereabouts.

At the end of the six weeks Nanuk made his first public appearance in seven years in front of a sell-out crowd at Mile One. More than 70 college staff and students attended the game, all wearing College of the North Atlantic t-shirts with "Nanuk" and a large number 1 on the back. In addition, other staff and students volunteered to work a promotional booth and hand out prizes to hockey fans throughout the game.

"There was a fabulous turn out for the Herder and Nanuk was front row center during the intermissions. The college gave away a lot of prizes during the game including t-shirts, polar bear hats, beach balls, Frisbees, teddy bears, CNA jerseys, and more," says Stephen Lee, manager of Marketing and Communications with CNA.

"Overall the event was a huge success and everyone went crazy for our mascot. Kids were especially taken with him. We also gave out



The college's polar bear mascot, Nanuk, made his first public appearance in seven years at Mile One Stadium in St. John's.

Nanuk posters and post cards with Nanuk's autograph and gave people a chance to have their photo taken with him.

"I want to thank everyone who was involved, and give a special thanks to Neil Moores, student development officer at Prince Philip Drive. We had a great team in place to help plan this event and several of the members ended up being sick. Neil went way above and beyond to ensure the success of this event. I also want to acknowledge the efforts of the members of our CSE, especially Andrea Milley, Katrina Hanlon, and Joel Moores, who didn't get to see a minute of the game, as they were so consumed with helping Nanuk hand out prizes. And I'm told it was a great game!"

Now that Nanuk has been reintroduced, he will be available to attend various functions throughout the province as required (such as the Skills Canada competition held at Prince Philip Drive campus on April 4). More information about booking Nanuk for appearances will be available soon.

See more photos of Nanuk on page 7»

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Celebrating community partnerships

Private citizens, representatives of industry, business, and all levels of government were honoured at campuses of College of the North Atlantic during the second annual Partner Recognition Day celebration on March 6.

Partner Recognition Day is an opportunity for CNA to recognize the valuable contribution of its many partners in the business community: funding agencies, scholarship donors, community organizations and high school counselors and principals.

While activities varied slightly from campus to campus, the main activities of Partner Recognition Day were words of thanks from campus administrators, display booths set up at the campuses, distribution of information packages, an overview of programs and services, and a networking social with refreshments.

"This annual event, a provincial initiative, is a way for us to show our appreciation to our valued partners," says Shirley Woodward, manager of Student Recruitment and Enrollment Services. "Some campuses hosted a breakfast or lunch for their guests, others had tours, displays and presentations followed by refreshments and so on. It was a way for us to acknowledge the valuable contribution of our partners, invite comments from them and inform them further about our college."



Clarenville campus also took part in Partner Recognition Day activities on March 6.



The second annual Partner Recognition Day was held at the 17 campuses across the province on March 6, including Placentia campus shown here.

"Partnering with the community is how CNA works," adds Brent Howell, campus administrator at Corner Brook. "We graduate about 250 students per year here in Corner Brook. Working with community partners is essential if we are to provide our students with relevant training."

CNA works with government to identify which fields have growing labour needs.

In addition, industry and business representatives partner with the college in designing training programs to fulfill their workforce needs.

Howell says many also provide work-term opportunities for students and fund scholarships to reward students' hard work and high

achievement.

"As a result, we can graduate students who are ready to contribute to the economy of the province," continues Howell. "Our campuses in turn, provide a resource of technical knowledge, skills and energy for development projects and business opportunities in the community."

"Partner Recognition Day was a great success again this year," says Woodward. "We had many people turn out to help celebrate the numerous partnerships with CNA. We look forward to hosting this event again next year."

Instructor gives back to community

It's known as the season of giving and that's exactly what one instructor at College of the North Atlantic's Bay St. George campus did over the holiday season – give his time and skills to a local organization.

Eric Hynes has been the instructional assistant at CNA with the Bay St. George campus' Cooking and Baking programs for the past four years. During the Christmas break Hynes volunteered with the Knights of Columbus in Stephenville to prepare a free dinner.

"During Christmas I was honored with

being asked by the local Knights of Columbus, of which I am a member, to prepare the Christmas dinner at the Santa Maria Club. This is an annual event and this is the second year that I have had to the privilege of preparing the food."

Hynes says the meal served approximately 35-40 people from the community.

"It is the Knights' way of opening their doors – the meal was a traditional Christmas turkey dinner with all the trimmings. With this event a fellow co-worker Eric King and I

took two days doing the prep work, cooking and serving of the food. The food was served between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Christmas Day and we did everything from the peeling of the potatoes to the carving of the turkey, which was made easier by the college allowing us to use their kitchen facilities."

Hynes has been a member of the Knights of Columbus in Stephenville for three years and hopes to continue the tradition of helping prepare the Christmas meal for the organization.

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Program first in country to receive accreditation

College of the North Atlantic's Process Operations Engineering Technology program is the first of its kind in the country to receive full accreditation from the Canadian Technology Accreditation Board (CTAB) through the Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists (CCTT).

In May 2007, the national accreditation team visited the Corner Brook campus to evaluate the program and they were impressed with what they found. The program officially received accreditation in January 2008.

"The team was comprised of independent representatives from related industries and institutions," says Elizabeth Chaulk, campus administrator for Corner Brook.

"The team indicated that it was a well-rounded program with components of theory and hands-on applications. They used words such as 'high quality', 'well equipped' and 'comprehensive'. They also noted that the instructors were enthusiastic and showed dedication to the program and referenced the success of the graduates."

According to the CCTT website, national accreditation is an evaluation service for applied science and engineering technology programs offered at educational agencies in Canada.

Accreditation is a voluntary process whereby a program is examined and assessed for the purpose of identifying whether it meets the profession's approved standards and criteria.

The process is a detailed comparison of an educational agency's program measured against a set of outcome requirements. The CTAB uses a two-part process to assess a program ensuring that technology programs

"National accreditation will give our graduates greater recognition in the job market both provincially and nationally."

across Canada keep pace with change and remain relevant to industry.

"The accreditation means that an independent team of experts have thoroughly reviewed the program from all aspects and have concluded that the program meets and/or exceeds national standards set by the CCTT for this particular field," continues Ms. Chaulk.

"It means that no matter where in the country our graduates travel, employers are guaranteed that the training received is of the highest quality – programming, instructor qualifications, equipment and facilities, student support, application, and the list goes

on. This is the first process operations program in Newfoundland and Labrador and the first to receive CTAB national accreditation in the country – it means we are the best!"

Ms. Chaulk says this accreditation allows graduates and students to market themselves knowing that industry across Canada recognizes the high level of training received.

"This feat was the result of a lot of hard work by a lot of people including instructors, students, support staff, administration and of course the CTAB team. This accreditation means that all three of our engineering programs – Electronics, Civil and Process Operations Engineering Technology – at the Corner Brook campus have now been accredited through CTAB," continues Ms. Chaulk.

"We are really, really proud of all our accreditations and celebrate the high quality of graduates leaving our campus."

Greg Chaytor, Dean of Engineering Technology, offered congratulations to everyone at Corner Brook campus and the accreditation office for a job well done.

"National accreditation will give our graduates greater recognition in the job market both provincially and nationally," says Chaytor.

"It will also enable the college to articulate transfer opportunities to degree programs at other colleges and universities."

Artistic expressions in Seal Cove

The Seal Cove campus library recently partnered with Conception Bay South's Queen Elizabeth Regional High School to bring local culture and artwork to the library walls.

Organized by College of the North Atlantic Librarian Andrea Hyde and Queen Elizabeth Art teacher Valerie Tubman, the collaboration has brought over 30 art pieces to the library that offer animation, sophistication and inspiration to the learning space.

The art pieces showcase student talent from Queen Elizabeth's current art classes, and also highlight student work from the past 25 years.

Based on the positive results seen in the library, the Seal Cove campus Adult Basic

Education (ABE) classroom has also recently entered into the project. The ABE room now proudly boasts four original art pieces from Queen Elizabeth's talented students.

This joint venture will soon be recognized at the Seal Cove campus with an art show. The event will celebrate the students' artistic talent, and will provide information on the many arts programs offered through CNA.

The art pieces will be exhibited at the Seal Cove campus for the remainder of the year, and a continued partnership is anticipated to allow for the exchange of art pieces for many years to come.

Students study in the newly decorated library at Seal Cove.



CNA patents success in research & development

Randal Power refers to inventing as “solving problems.”

The Manufacturing Technology Engineer at College of the North Atlantic’s Prince Philip Drive campus in St. John’s is also principle supervisor of the new Innovative Manufacturing Unit in the college’s Office of Applied Research (OAR); he often works with industry and individuals to create solutions for business.

Indeed, one of four new technologies created this year was inspired by a business owner.

“She came to us saying that her protective clothing cleaning business had a problem with drying specialty suits (such as those used for firefighting),” says Power. “They can’t be tumble dried and can’t be overheated in any way, as it compromises the material’s fire resistance and therefore the safety for firefighters.”

He says the company uses regular washers to clean the suits, but they normally have to be air dried, taking about two days – not an efficient turn-around time. There are machines in existence that can dry the suits quicker than that, but they simply are not feasible for this company.

“They found a unit on the market that could be of use to them, but it cost about \$5,000 and only does two full suits at a time... this didn’t match their needs,” Power explains.

“I drove to Catalina to look at the facility and talk to them about their needs and produced a proposal based on a concept to develop a machine for about \$300 for the first unit, with an additional module for \$100; this will increase their capacity two-three times at least.”

In fact, this cost effective forced air drying system is made specifically for protective equipment and is capable of simultaneously drying six four-piece firefighting suits from both the inside and outside; a highly efficient and cost effective solution for that business – and a new innovative technology for CNA.

Sometimes the inspiration comes from within the college. Another new technology developed this year was requested by Raymond Collier, a welding instructor at Prince Philip Drive campus. The Remote Viewing Helmet is a modified welding helmet that allows a welder to view live images of voltage and current being drawn by the machine during the welding process.

“Right now, you can’t see the conventional gauges while you weld. You have an incredibly bright arc in front of you and a very dark lens

mounted in the helmet to block out that light so you can’t read conventional gauges...this is problematic because metal gets brittle and cracks if heated too much.”

The department now has a prototype, created amazingly with... a 3D printer. Power describes it as a sort of a combination between an ink jet printer and a hot glue gun.

“It’s called fused deposition modeling; the computer breaks it down into a series of layers that are 0.01 inches thick, or about twice the thickness of a sheet of paper. The machine then prints layer on top of layer until you have your item,” explains Power.

“We can have anything we want in any shape



in the physical world – overnight. We’ve even printed off our own custom welding helmet.”

CNA’s Office of Applied Research is an essential department of the college that leads the institution’s mission of community prosperity through innovative research and development (R&D). The recent opening of the manufacturing unit within the OAR has permitted the college to develop innovative products and support local industry with new technologies and problem solving strategies, with the potential of global distribution.

These new technologies offer significant market potential to existing and new businesses, says Dr. Mohammad Iqbal, chair of the Office of Applied Research.

“This raises the number of our licensable technologies to seven – a very significant number generated in the short span of this office’s three years of existence. And this is

just the beginning,” says Dr. Iqbal.

“As we grow stronger, we hope to expedite our socially relevant R&D program and generate many more innovations and services useful for the provincial economy and beyond,” he says.

There is a unique relationship at CNA that has sparked yet another invention, a one-of-a-kind training pistol that records an image so it may be determined if the target was hit.

It is a very low-cost alternative to the usual training simulators and tactical game tools that let instructors grade students under more realistic circumstances. It was inspired by Power’s visit to Bay St. George campus, where Canadian military are being trained in various trades.

“The concept came to me when I was at Bay St. George campus. I mentioned my idea to the campus administrator and he liked it,” says Power.

“It works beautifully and you’re not stuck with the same kind of weapon, as it may be fitted to a variety of guns. It replaces the need for bullets,” he says. “I’m quite proud of that one.”

With the recent production of several commercially viable items, it is expected that the college will continue to grow community prosperity by building businesses and technologies in the advanced manufacturing sector within the province.

“The combination of these technologies along, with engineering skill, has produced remarkable results over a very short period of time,” says Power.

“Our unit has demonstrated a unique ability to both develop creative new products using CAD software, and to reengineer and improve on existing designs. Combined with the short turnaround time for items prototyped in the new 3D printer, products may be developed in days instead of months, sometimes with the option of being mass produced using the department’s injection molding machine.”

The Office of Applied Research encourages entrepreneurs across the province to come see its products and explore a whole new world of business potential in commercializing these made-in-Newfoundland items.

For more information on these and other innovations, visit CNA’s website: <http://www.cna.nl.ca/OAR/> or Flintbox: http://www.flintbox.com/searchresults.asp?network=L_CNA&IID=CNA

Access to information

Did you know the Access and Protection of Privacy department at College of the North Atlantic is there to help you?

Any information in custody and control of a public body can be accessed through the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (ATIPPA).

“It could be personal information such as direct mention of your name in an email,” says Donna Leonard, access and privacy coordinator with CNA. “Or it could be general information; such as how much money the college contributes to special events over a specified time period. Of course there are exceptions.”

She says access to information is provided except where release of that information is prohibited by the ATIPPA or its release would cause a specific harm.

While these exceptions are listed in the legislation, a few examples are section 18 involving cabinet confidences, Section 20 involving policy advice or recommendations, section 21 for legal advice and section 22 which involves disclosure harmful to law enforcement.

“These are just a few examples. The list of exceptions can be found when you link to the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act. There is a link off the CNA website,” Leonard continues.

“Anyone is entitled to request the information, however the amount of information that will be disclosed will depend on the nature of the request.”

While there is a \$5 application fee, depending on the nature of the records in the search, there may be additional costs involved with the search and retrieval of records.

“You send the request to the Access and

Privacy Coordinator of the public body (a government organization such as CNA) that has custody of the information you are looking for. The form can be found on the ATIPPA link on the CNA website. The form must be completed in order to proceed with the request, meaning a verbal request will not be accepted.”

Once the application has been submitted, the public body has 30 days to respond to the application from the time it is received.

“The 30 day time limit may be extended an additional 30 days if your request is vague and the public body cannot determine which records you are seeking, if there is a large volume of records and the search will interfere with public body operations, or if a third party has to be notified.”

For more information about Access and Privacy a free online course is available.

“The online course, which can be accessed from the CNA ATIPPA page, is free to anyone who would like to have a brief overview about the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act,” says Leonard. “The course normally takes about two hours to complete and I personally would recommend it to anyone who would like to become more knowledgeable about the process.”

Upon receiving your response, if you are not satisfied you can ask the office of the information and privacy commissioner (OIPC) to review the case.

“The OIPC is responsible for reviewing a public body’s decision about an access request. As an independent office of the House of Assembly, the OIPC has the authority to review a decision to deny access or investigate a complaint about fees charged or an extension of the 30 day time limit. Alternatively, you

Protecting Yourself

The ATIPPA Act does more than inform us about the accessibility and accountability of records held within a public body. It pushes us to be more cautious when sharing information with others either through e-mail or on a website.

Many of us are under the impression that our personal email will absolutely only be seen by the intended recipient. The truth of the matter is, when you hit “send”, that information is no longer in your control and could possibly end up elsewhere. Such is not often the case, but better to be safe than sorry.

Along the same lines, when sharing information on a website, keep in mind that this information could potentially be online and shared without your knowledge.

Although most websites do have privacy policies, remember that websites are constantly being upgraded with new information being added. The constant actions and movement on a site could potentially disclose your personal information which would affect your privacy.

can appeal the public body’s decision directly to the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador, Trial Division.”

For more information about applying for Access to Information, log on to the college’s website at www.cna.nl.ca/about/atippa.asp or contact Leonard at donna.leonard@cna.nl.ca.

How to make advertising requests online

The Marketing and Communications department has developed two new e-forms to better serve your needs.

The department has added a new feature to its website to facilitate the requesting of print advertising.

A calendar displaying internal deadlines for ad requests and a form outlining the required information can be found at the Marketing and Communications section of the website at http://www.cna.nl.ca/employees/marketing/ad_request.asp.

The calendar provides the deadline for requests and the publication dates. The form collects personal contact information, ad information and billing account codes.

While this is the first time this type of form has been developed for use within the Marketing and Communications department, a radio ad request form is also being developed.

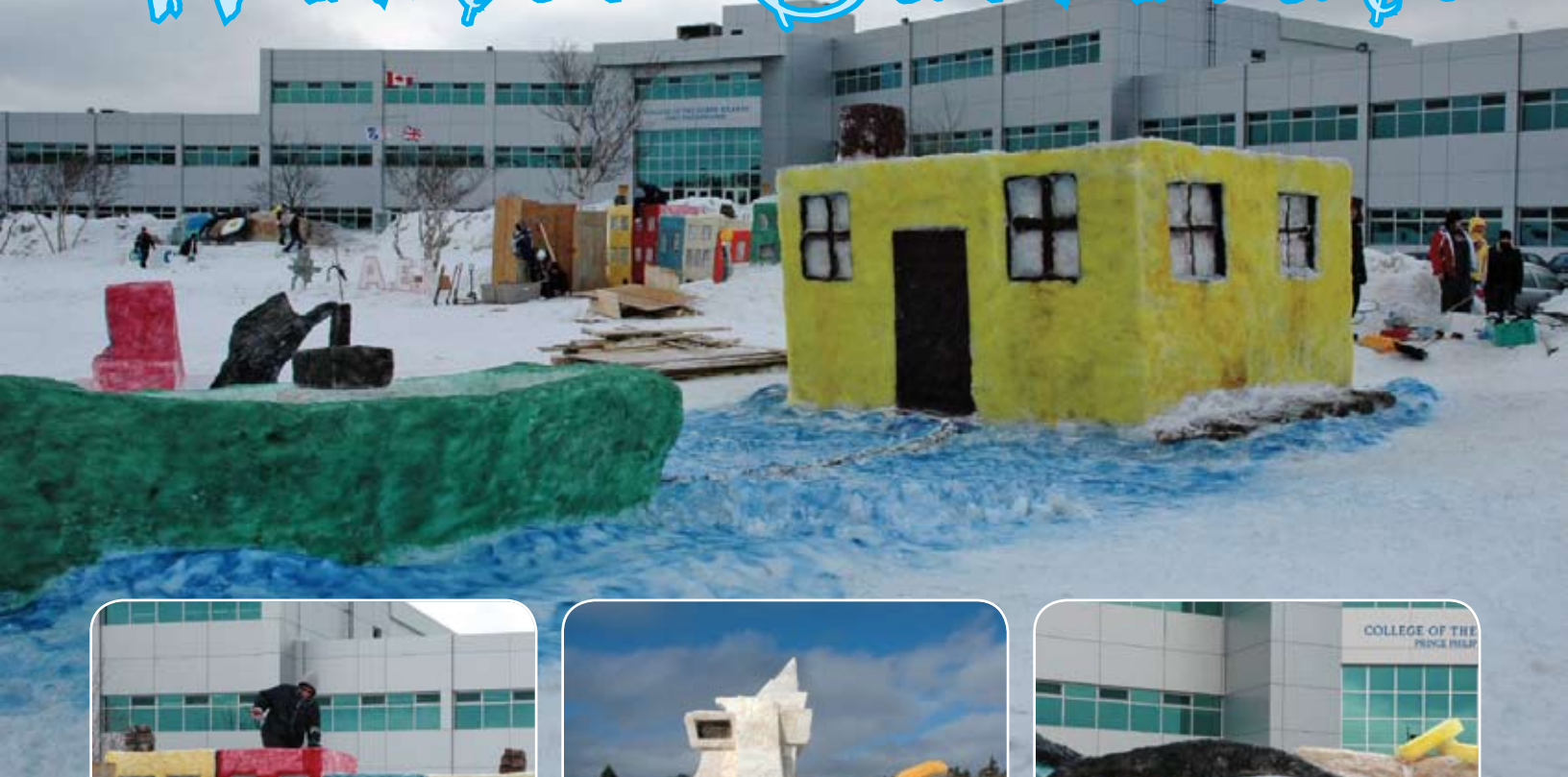
The second form is for the calendar of events section of the website. The provincial calendar of events advertises college-wide events. In addition, each campus has its own

campus calendar of events located on their campus website.

To post events to either the provincial calendar of events or a campus events calendar, fill in the event submission form.

You can access forms from any of the college’s online calendars, or at www.cna.nl.ca/BottomToolBar/calendar/event.asp.

Winter Carnival!



Top of page: Civil II at Prince Philip Drive campus created this unique snow sculpture showing a boat towing a house across the water for Winter Carnival. Above: Architectural Engineering created this row of housing at Prince Philip Drive campus for Winter Carnival in February.



Civil III at Prince Philip Drive campus created this snow sculpture of a Coast Guard vessel.



The Cooking class at Prince Philip Drive campus created a snow sculpture that looked good enough to eat.



Bay St. George campus held the first ever IMAGE Award ceremony on Feb. 18 as part of Frost Week activities. The Hospitality Tourism Management program received the top honor for the Program IMAGE Award. Students did an impeccable job of portraying their program as the best at Bay St. George. CNA Hospitality Tourism Management instructors Donna Pippy and June Hynes accept the award.



The closing ceremony for the IMAGE Awards on Feb. 18 included entertainment at the Bay St. George campuses Baker-Lee Dining Hall.



As part of the winter carnival activities at Burin, Campus Administrator Michael Graham had his hair shaved off. Approximately 200 students watched on while Student Council President Goldie Baird wielded the razor. The shave happened on February 14 in the student lounge on campus. "Shave the Principal Day" replaced Burin's Cream the Teacher event. \$350 was raised in aid of Daffodil Place.



Nanuk 🐾



CNA gears up for prosperous industry, future

CNA hosted its second Oil and Gas Stakeholder Forum and Strategy Session in St. John's on Feb. 6 with the continued theme: Training for the Future.

The college again brought together senior executives and management personnel from industry and federal and provincial governments.



Brian Tobin, Chair of Oil & Gas Steering Committee, speaking at the stakeholder forum.

"We continued the discussion around education and training priorities and strategic directions of these stakeholders in order to enhance and strengthen the college's program capabilities, facilities and resources to better serve the human resource needs of the oil and gas sector," says CNA's Senior Vice-President of Academic and Student Services Brian Tobin, also chair of the Oil & Gas Steering Committee.

"Over the past year, we have been addressing most of the recommended strategies and action items as identified by industry stakeholders during the first oil and gas forum," says Tobin.

This time around there was a discussion panel which focused on human resource challenges, employment and training needs for the upcoming large scale resource development projects.

"The timing is right for the college to explore new training areas in preparing citizens of the province for the future needs of industry," says Tobin.

Derek Normore, President of Schlumberger Canada, was a luncheon guest speaker at the

forum. He spoke about the company, a leading supplier of technology, project management, and information solutions to the global oil and gas industry, and the importance of recruiting highly skilled people trained in trades and technology.

Currently, Schlumberger Canada has three major areas of operations – the East Coast, Western Canada, and the Arctic. They employ over 2,100 people of which over 90 per cent are Canadians; additionally, they have over 600 Canadians working internationally. Normore says the company recruits heavily from local schools, colleges and universities.

"A tremendous amount of our energy is spent ensuring we have the people we need to supply quality services and to enable growth," explains Normore.

"Today, the critical limiter on growth for most companies is not opportunity, but their ability to attract and retain employees."

Changing technology is playing a large part in allowing the company to increase development of existing reserves, create better recovery methods, find new sources of hydrocarbon energy, and find more oil and gas reservoirs.

"This technology will require skilled people to develop and operate, which is where the college will contribute."

Craig Cole, production services coordinator for North Atlantic Refining, who facilitated the forum strategy sessions, couldn't agree more about companies connecting with the training grounds for their future and current cache of employees. Companies like his are taking advantage of the valuable resources provided by CNA, including the series of Oil and Gas forums.

"I would like to see this proactive forum continue for the next couple of years," says Cole.

"It allows industry to see what the college is doing for our requirements and provides a great networking opportunity. Being a small community as well as isolated, sometimes we tend to forget the industry and education resources that we have here on the Island."

Cole says that continuing to meet and work together in such a venue can help focus on some of the training needs for students and help them prepare for future employment. It also helps businesses to keep their employees' skills current.

"I have been working with CNA on program development and review during the past year and I believe they are heading in the right

direction; they are very proactive in providing a great opportunity for our youth and their development for the future here at home," says Cole.

"Also, we (CNA and North Atlantic Refining) have been working together to develop our current workforce in providing skills training to our employees. I would encourage all employers to take advantage of this valuable opportunity."

With funding support from the provincial government, CNA has increased first year industrial trades enrollment by 32 per cent since September 2006. In addition, the college has increased enrollment in the Petroleum Engineering Technology program by 100 per cent in the last two years. These increases in capacity reflect the college's commitment in response to the high demand for technical professionals and highly skilled workers for the new projects in this province and across the country.

One of many recommendations stemming from the first forum (since incorporated by CNA) is the recent completion of the program development process for a new three-year Chemical Process Engineering Technology (CPET) program to meet future petroleum industry processing and refining needs. CPET is designed as a co-op program with eight academic semesters and two work-terms for students to gain industrial experience in the refining and processing sectors. This program will prepare students to be eligible to write the third and fourth class national Power Engineering certification examinations administered by the Department of Education.

Whereas the first forum session was very much focused on identifying new strategies and directions from industry stakeholders, the second served an additional purpose, says Arthur Leung, manager of Special Projects for the Oil and Gas Technology Initiatives.

"This most recent forum was to present the college's report card on what we have achieved today in response to most of the recommendations from the first forum," says Leung, "and our plan to continue working with industry stakeholders to accomplish the remaining goals and objectives."

"Based on discussions with participants from the second forum, there is an indication that a third forum is necessary. The college will conduct a short online survey with stakeholders soon to determine the format and focus of the third forum."



Instructors from around the province and Qatar recently participated in the School of Business and Information Technology workshop held in Corner Brook.

Business faculty meet and discuss learning outcomes

The School of Business and Information Technology held a workshop in Corner Brook entitled *Alignment for Learning: A Learning Outcomes Approach to Designing, Facilitating, and Assessing Learning*.

The workshop brought together 24 faculty members that make up the school's curriculum teams for the Business Administration and Business Management programs.

The workshop was facilitated by Sheldon Brown, coordinator of the learning and teach-

ing initiative, and Tom Hutchings, program developer.

formal or informal, helps faculty evaluate their curriculum, plan improvements, and evaluate the effects of any changes.

"The workshop provided an opportunity for faculty members to give input into the development of an Outcomes Assessment Plan for the School," says Mary Vaughan, dean of Business and Information Technology, "and discuss how this links with the requirements for accreditation and the program review process."

Paul Tilley, an instructional coordinator

"The workshop provided an opportunity for faculty members to give input into the development of an Outcome Assessment Plan for the School..."

at the Clarenville campus, indicated that the workshop provided an excellent opportunity to learn from each other towards establishing best practices for teaching and learning in the Business program. The idea for the workshop came through this process.

Brown says the purpose of the workshop was to engage participants in the process of aligning learning outcomes, learning strategies and learning assessment in their programs and courses.

In 2006, the Business program at the Clarenville, Corner Brook, Prince Philip Drive and Qatar campuses received conditional accreditation from the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP).

The purpose of the ACBSP accreditation process is to maintain and improve the quality standards of the programs. ACBSP promotes an outcomes assessment process that examines the quality and effectiveness of academic programs through examination of student learning. Assessment of student learning, whether

"In addition to the gaining insight," adds Lynda Burt, instructor at Bay St. George campus, "as a new instructor, I also valued the opportunity to meet and interact with other instructors across the province and discuss our various programs and courses."

Dion Durdle, chair of Business at the Qatar campus, said it was energizing to see the business faculty collectively define a vision for programs.

"It was also interesting to approach assessment from a macro level and give faculty an idea for how their individual courses and roles might fit into the overall big picture."

Clarenville campus takes brain title

The Clarenville campus student council sponsored a team for the Clarenville and Area Crime Prevention Association fundraiser, Battle of the Brains trivia contest.

Clarenville campus has entered a team seven of the 11 years the Crime Prevention Association has been hosting the contest. On Feb. 22 the team consisting of Business students Shannier Norman, Lori Barrett, Bob Hyslop, Holly Morris, Stephen Parsons, and Allan Loder took home first place, marking the third time the team has taken first place in the past seven years of attending. In previous years the team has taken second and third place wins. For the next year, this group will be known as "The Brains of Clarenville".

The trophy will be on display at the campus for the next year and a plaque, to go along with the other Battle of the Brains trophies, will be displayed in the staff room.



The School is in the process of planning a second workshop for the members of the Office Administration Curriculum Team. The plan is to bring the results of both workshops together to develop an Outcome Assessment Plan.

Finally, Vaughan feels these workshops are an essential first step in developing an outcome assessment plan that meets the needs of the School and meets the requirements for accreditation.

Participants at the workshop included faculty from Bay St. George, Burin, Carbonear, Clarenville, Corner Brook, Grand Falls-Windsor, Prince Philip Drive, Port aux Basques, St. Anthony and Qatar.

PeopleSoft upgrade has begun

In March 2007, College of the North Atlantic began the process of planning to upgrade its PeopleSoft system from Version 8.3 to Version 9.0 in both Newfoundland and Labrador and in Qatar.

Although the initial implementation of the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) solution was still not fully completed and the software still not fully functional, it became evident that an upgrade had to take place as technical support on the earlier version was expiring.

A committee of internal stakeholders, including representatives from executive, information technology, finance, payroll, human resources, student services, campus administration, and internal audit, was formed to deal with the upgrade issue.

The committee arranged presentations from three consultants, and used these to assess the scope of the project, including timelines, budget, and resource needs, as well as the general capabilities of the vendors.

A consulting firm was selected to evaluate the college's existing ERP deployment and identify benefit analysis, risks, and a related roadmap for upgrading existing functionality. The consultant was also responsible for drafting, issuing and assisting in evaluating a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the upgrade.

Based on information obtained from the potential vendors, the college reserved a budget of \$1.8 million for the 2007-08 fiscal year, with anticipation of an additional \$600,000 for the 2008-2009 fiscal year for a total of \$2.4 million.

The RFP was developed and issued in October 2007. Proposals were received from Deloitte Inc. and Aliant. An evaluation team was established to review the proposals and recommend a vendor.

During the analysis process the following two issues became evident. One, the cost of the consulting proposals far exceeded the college's budget for the upgrade, ranging between \$4.7 - 5.6 million. These costs include not only the consulting bids, but an estimate of the cost of committing college resources necessary to complete the upgrade. And two, each firm had exhibited strengths in different components of the proposal, but no one firm was able to provide the full suite of services required.

Given the budget and evaluation issues, the RFP could not be awarded as bid. In order to accomplish the upgrade, a new approach had to be taken. Discussions were held with

both vendors to determine whether they were willing to provide consulting at the quoted rates if the consulting portion of the engagement were to be scaled down. Both agreed and offered to adjust their proposal to meet the needs of the college.

Project team members were then tasked with re-evaluating the involvement of the college and the vendors in the project with the goal of reducing the consultant's role. This strategy was discussed with both vendors as well as other colleges that had recently gone through PeopleSoft upgrades. It was agreed that it was a sound strategy consistent with successful upgrade projects carried out at other colleges.

CNA would work with the vendor to determine the consulting that was necessary to complete the project. The work would also be awarded as two separate pieces of business. The Financial upgrade would be awarded first, and the Student Services/Human Resources upgrade would commence once the financial upgrade was complete. The projects could be awarded to the same or different vendors depending on the assessment. Oracle certified training required to ensure project success would be purchased directly from Oracle University. In order to reduce travel and accommodation costs the project staff would reside in St. John's and subject matter experts would travel there for short periods during the project.

Financial Services Upgrade

The Finance upgrade commenced the last week of March 2008 with a schedule covering five months, ending in August.

During the quality assurance process related to the initial PeopleSoft implementation, several issues that negatively impacted the project were identified. Addressing these issues during the upgrade will be necessary to ensure project success.

The first issue involved staff training. It was determined that staff did not receive adequate training throughout the initial project. The upgrade budget includes Oracle certified training for project staff. Technical and functional staff will be engaged in design, implementation and operational phases of the upgrade. Staff devoted to designing and delivering training will be part of the project team. Training materials, modules and sessions for end users are also included in the project plan.

Second, inadequate human resources were

devoted to the initial project and staff had to perform dual roles which included working on the project as well as continuing with their existing positions. The upgrade project has resources available to backfill positions while employees work on the upgrade.

Third, project management was inadequate. For the upgrade, the consultant will have a full-time project manager assigned. The college will assign a full-time project manager as well as a project coordinator.

Fourth, there was inadequate knowledge transfer to the college. The upgrade project is designed for full knowledge transfer with college staff able to implement new PeopleSoft modules with minimal consultant support. Redundancy in training and position development will ensure a lasting project legacy and more independence from consultants.

And finally, during the initial implementation of PeopleSoft, the college was reluctant to adjust some of its existing business practices, therefore creating the need for customization within the software. As part of the fit gap analysis, the existing business practices will be reviewed with an objective of reducing customization. Fewer customizations should reduce the time and cost necessary to implement and maintain the system. There are improvements within Version 9.0 that will eliminate some of the earlier customization issues.

Student Services/Human Resources Upgrade

A similar review of the Student Services/Human Resources upgrade project is underway. That portion of the upgrade will commence in August with a completion date of March 2009.

Qatar Upgrade and New Module Implementation

The RFP for the Qatar upgrade to PeopleSoft Version 9.0 was developed using the same template and also issued in October 2007. The Qatar upgrade project started in January 2008. Both the finance and student services upgrade are being carried out simultaneously with a completion scheduled for mid-June. This project is progressing well and on schedule.

Recent Appointments

Clara McCue has been appointed to the position of Product Resource Coordinator at Prince Philip Drive campus.

McCue has been occupying the role of Provincial Business Development Officer for several years and has worked closely with many sites regarding the coordination of multi-site provincial contracts.

She started her career with the college's Contract Training and Continuing Education department eight years ago when she accepted the Business Development Officer position at Carbonear campus. In 2001, she transferred to the Prince Philip Drive campus and in 2003 was assigned responsibility for coordinating the delivery of provincial contracts.

Before coming to the college, McCue honed her project development skills while working with a number of community based training and economic development organizations in Newfoundland and Ontario. Her final piece of work before returning to St. John's included researching and providing curriculum content for 12 training modules in the area of Community Economic Development and Entrepreneurship. These training modules were designed for youth at risk, the native community, people living on low incomes and rural development organizations.

Her facilitation and training expertise in the areas of Strategic Planning, Community Development and Proposal Writing has been sought by a wide range of government and community-based organizations throughout the province. McCue is a graduate of the Faculty of Arts (English) and the Centre for Management Development's Public Sector Leadership Development Program at Memorial University. She also attended St. Anne's University in Nova Scotia where she received her Advanced Level III French Immersion Certification.

Mark Roberts recently joined the college's Human Resources team and will be working from the Clarendville campus.

Roberts has completed an Undergraduate Degree, BA in Recreational and Physical Education from Acadia University, significant experience with grass roots community development, and over 12 years human resources experience in the area of training and development, competency management, apprenticeship, mentoring, succession planning, customer service, safety and recruitment.

Roberts has a strong belief in lifelong learning and has completed a certificate in Adult Education at St. Francis Xavier University,

the Turf Grass Management Program from Nova Scotia Community College and the DACUM Competency Facilitation program from the Canadian Vocational Association. Most recently he completed a Masters in Employment Relations from Memorial.

Roberts believes in active living and regularly participates in a number of healthy activities including hockey, downhill and cross-country skiing, weightlifting, golf, running and hiking.

Darren Swyers has been appointment to the position of Peoplesoft Team Lead.

Swyers has completed a three-year diploma in Computer Science Technology and has worked with the college for the past 16 years in various information technology positions, including computer support specialist, computer programmer analyst, LAN administrator and computer systems analyst.

Swyers has worked at the Bay St. George campus/Headquarters for 14 years and moved to the Ridge Road campus two years ago as a member of the Peoplesoft support team.

He commenced his new position Jan. 14.

Boland retires after 32 years

Retirement has been a busy time for Allison Boland.

Although only retired since Jan. 1, 2008, she says she is just as busy now as when she worked at College of the North Atlantic (CNA).

"Since I retired I have gone to visit my daughter, grandson and son-in-law, I went to visit my sister and I've been fishing," says Boland. "Right now I'm doing very little of anything with this weather, but I plan on doing more traveling and that should take up a good bit of time."

While the weather has slowed her down a little, she's busily making plans on how to spend her free time for the coming summer months.

"This summer I will be spending my time at the cabin where I'll be doing some fishing. Then in the fall I'll be doing some hunting. We'll see what happens from there," she says. "I've been back to the college to visit, and some of my co-workers have stopped in to see me. I have also been visiting my old friends

from the college who have retired. I'm keeping in touch with everyone."

She says the one thing that hasn't changed with retirement is how busy she is.

"I still don't have enough hours in the day to do everything and I really don't know how I found enough time in the day to even work. The time is just going by, but it's so nice."

On Dec. 19, 2007 Bay St. George campus held a retirement party for Boland.

"I wasn't expecting any of it," says Boland. "It was like two hours before the party that Elizabeth Brown (food and facilities manager) told me they were having a little get-together for me."

Boland says she was somewhat surprised since there had previously been a small party with the regular staff from the kitchen in attendance.

"Elizabeth said she had invited everyone but me so she gave me enough time to go home and get changed," recalls Boland with a chuckle. "But I wasn't expecting so many peo-



ple. I just figured it was going to be our own staff from the dining hall. I was very surprised when there was this big retirement party."

Approximately 75 people were in attendance for Allison's send off.

"Eric King and his cooking students did a wonderful job with all the food. I certainly wasn't expecting so many people to show up, but it was a nice pleasant surprise and I really appreciated it. Everyone did a great job. It was a really, really nice surprise."

"She was a devoted, long serving employee who is respected by staff and students alike," says Campus Administrator Cyril Organ. "Everyone extends best wishes to Allison for a long and happy retirement."

Sky the limit for students with disabilities

Students with disabilities at College of the North Atlantic can accomplish anything with the right support system – that was the message Dan Goodyear brought to the 2007 Atlantic Educators' Conference held in Charlottetown, PEI, October 25-27.

Organized to attract faculty and administrators from colleges and universities, the conference was host to approximately 150 people. While the purpose of this year's conference was to share ideas about diversity in Canadian Education Communities, it also focused on the need for all institutions to become more inclusive and be both welcoming and supportive of all learners.

"My presentation focused on the accomplishments of one student who has autism. This student is maintaining a 4.0 grade average but needs program

accommodation to enable him to meet his full potential," says Goodyear, the former coordinator of services for students with disabilities at CNA.

"The presentation was delivered by both Power Point and the use of a video that we made to accurately illustrate this student and his program and success at the college."

The video featured college personnel – with an introduction by CNA President Jean Madill. In addition, instructors were interviewed, the students' resource facilitator was featured, and Goodyear gave his opinions of the disabilities program.

The video featured the story of "Michael", a student enrolled in the Office Administration – Records Management program at CNA.

"Michael is a young man who has been diagnosed with autism. He had a desire to attend college and further his education. He enrolled in the Office Administration program and completed his first courses through distance learning," continues Goodyear.

"Michael could be perceived as having challenging needs and many would assume he would not successfully complete a college program. Given his disability, and more so his ability, I felt it was necessary to highlight his incredible successes. He is very competent, capable and enthusiastic about his studies."

Goodyear says it is important to dispel the

"We need to welcome diverse learners and provide the necessary human and technical supports to enable them to reach their full potential."

myth that people with disabilities cannot succeed in college.

"Michael has diverse needs but with the proper educational supports he can succeed and excel."

In September 2006, Michael began his journey to post-secondary education by enrolling in courses on site at CNA's Prince Philip Drive campus.

"He adjusted well to the learning environment and with the assistance of a resource facilitator and very basic program accommodations, he has done extremely well. He is at the top of his class and recently won a \$500 scholarship. He enjoys his time at the college and has given tremendously – both personally and academically – over the past three years.

He is a model student."

Goodyear says the goal of the video was to illustrate the need for post secondary educational institutions to become more inclusive learning environments.

"We need to welcome diverse learners and provide the necessary human and technical supports to enable them to reach their full potential. This video clearly illustrates the need to provide inclusive learning opportunities," continues Goodyear.

"It is one small step in promoting inclusive learning environments. Our greatest challenge is the attitudes that are still grounded in

'old school' theory and practice. Administrators need to be trained in inclusive education and close their folders on the 1970s style of leadership that has been a barrier, not only to providing

inclusive learning environments, but to ensuring institutions are founded on respect and dignity for all. Hopefully, the video illustrated our need to move forward."

Goodyear says he has received a great deal of feedback from the video - all of it positive.

"It illustrates that we need to give everyone a chance to succeed. It dispels myths, highlights all people involved and offers a broad based perspective," he concludes.

For more information about Disability Services offered at CNA log on to the website at <http://www.cna.nl.ca/StudentServices/disabilityservices.asp>.

Goodyear is currently the director of student support services with the Department of Education.

Chocolate break held for staff and students

Placentia campus held a special Valentine's Day event in February. All faculty and staff participated in a potluck featuring chocolate treats. At break time the campus invited all students to the lobby for the "Chocolate Break - Our Treat" initiative. This activity was a huge success and the campus plans on making it an annual event.



Promotion key for international recruitment

Promotion of College of the North Atlantic to international students is easier than ever with newly designed promotional materials.

International Services recently commissioned a new brochure to be designed and produced for recruitment. Now a new brochure is available in Portuguese to compliment existing materials.

"This brochure will support our international marketing and promotional activities in Latin America," says Tiona Corcoran, international business development officer at CNA. "Currently, the international brochure is available in Spanish and English. The Spanish brochure has served as an effective tool for communicating with potential students and their parents in Mexico, Guatemala and other Latin American countries.

"Every year International Services participates in a series of seminars and fairs in Mexico, and as a result we have seen an increase in the number of Mexican students studying at CNA for either short-term English as a Second Language training or for our diploma and certificate programs."

Corcoran says this new promotional material is crucial to recruitment.

"On the past mission to Mexico, International Services expanded to explore the potential for recruitment and other international endeavors in Guatemala. When pursuing these markets we have found it is crucial to have promotional material available in the local language."

The new Portuguese brochure was produced to coordinate with a recruitment mission to Brazil.

"International Services previously completed two missions to Brazil over the past year and determined that there is potential for international student recruitment, contract training and joint partnerships. Brazil is a leading market for study abroad, with the fourth largest student population in the world. Last year alone over 70,000 Brazilians left the country

for study abroad opportunities."

Additionally, she says Canada is the most popular destination for Brazilians as it ranks as the number one choice amongst Brazilian students choosing to study abroad.

"Although English is wide spread and many Brazilians are proficient in English, it is important to have the material available in Portuguese, their first language. The decision to study abroad is an important decision for students and in collectivist cultures such as Latin America, it is a decision that students make in close consultation with their parents," she continues.

"For this reason it is important that the information is clear and easy to understand. By providing the information in the local language

we are able to increase our reach by not limiting promotion to English speakers in the target market."

In addition to changes in the language, the brochure was also modified to include images that appeal to students in the country.

"In the Spanish brochure we have included more images of Mexican and Colombian students; moreover the images tend to be of younger students,

as our target market in these countries tends to be students directly from high school," says Corcoran.

"In Brazil, by contrast, the images have been modified to show a more mature student. Brazilian students who elect to study abroad have usually completed a degree in Brazil and are looking for language training or additional certification, therefore, the target market tends to be older."

According to Corcoran, the new brochures are a step by international services to increase CNA's international reach and accessibility.

"In the past year, we have modified the international section of the website to make the information more clear and concise. As well, the international section of the website has been updated to include information in five additional languages."

For more information about the services provided by the international office, check out the college's website at www.cna.nl.ca.



Qatar Update

The 2007-08 academic year has been an exciting one at College of the North Atlantic-Qatar (CNA-Q). So far this year a number of popular and well received events have taken place.

In September the annual Garanga'oh festivities were a big hit with employees, friends and family members who flocked to the night of traditional dress and customs. For employees new to Qatar, this was a great way to get to know the Qatari culture and interact with the student body.

Just last month the third annual Global Village was held and played host to some special guests over the four-day event. Music Industry Association of Newfoundland and Labrador Entertainers of the Year, Shanneyganock, were on hand to perform for the hundreds of transplanted Newfoundlanders and Labradorians... and to the members of the participating 14 countries. Their three-night performance was made possible through the overwhelming generosity of Qatar Petroleum's QR\$250,000 donation towards the event.

CNA-Q was one of 60 universities and educational institutions that took part in the Qatar International College Fair, hosted by the Higher Education Institute. The fair provided opportunities for students to learn more about different programs of study for undergraduate and post graduate study, admissions requirements, the application process, and required tests.

The past few months have been just as busy as a number of international events lead the campus into the summer holidays. *Ta'aleem 2008: Qatar International Exhibition for Education, Training and Development*, took place in March. CNA-Q representatives gave upcoming high school graduates a clear insight into the college's unique program areas in technical education. The CNA-Q Career Fair took place March 17-19, with both open house and high school schedules for prospective students to look at post-secondary training opportunities.

This year's graduation is scheduled to take place on June 19, when College of the North Atlantic President, Jean Madill, will be on hand to take part in her first CNA-Q graduation ceremonies.

Current agreements with China:

Jilin University-Lambton College:

- Software Engineering Technology
- Electronics Engineering Technology (Computers & IT)
- Telecommunications

Jiangnan University (formerly Southern Yangtze University):

- Software Engineering Technology
- Electronics Engineering Technology (Instrumentation & Controls)
- Telecommunications

Tai Yuan Institute of Technology (formerly North University of China, Fenxiao):

- Business Management Accounting
- Electronics Engineering Technology (Instrumentation)
- Mechanical Engineering Technology (Manufacturing)

Huangshi Institute of Technology

- Mechanical Engineering Technology (Manufacturing)
- Electrical Engineering Technology (Industrial Controls)
- Business Management Marketing
- Business Management Accounting

Yancheng Textile College

- Mechanical Engineering Technology (Manufacturing)
- Business Management programs

East China Institute of Technology

- Transfer agreement signed for a number of engineering programs

Shandong Institute of Light Industry SDIIT

- Mechanical Engineering Technology (Manufacturing)

Changjiang Professional College:

- E-Commerce

Guangdong Peizheng College:

- Business Management Marketing



Students at Yancheng Textile Vocational Technology College are studying CNA's Manufacturing Technology and Business Management programs at their college. They proudly don the shirts Wong provided from their partner institute, College of the North Atlantic.

Strengthening ties with China

Dr. Danny Wong, director for China Projects, College of the North Atlantic, made a substantial tour throughout China this fall, to over a dozen colleges and universities in that country.

Dr. Wong joined delegations from North America, including educational partners – Michigan's Northwood University and Memorial University (MU) – and Ontario's Lambton College, in a tour of some of China's most prestigious post-secondary education institutions.

The intention for the Director of CNA's China Project was to touch base with current educational partners such as Jilin University Lambton College, Jiangnan University Lambton College, Guangdong Peizheng College, Changjiang Professional College, Huangshi Institute of Technology, Taiyuan Institute of Technology, Shandong Institute of Light Industry and Yancheng Textile Vocational College, to review the CNA courses and programs offered there, to relay information about CNA to students and parents, and to forge new partnerships with additional institutions.

The relationship with Jilin University Lambton College was CNA's first with China. The college held its first graduation ceremony outside the province in China in September 2002.

Fifty-six students at Jilin University in Changchun received CNA diplomas in Electronics Engineering Technology. Another first experience in 2001 was six Chinese students from Jilin University-Lambton College

enrolled in the Electronics Engineering Technology (Telecommunications, Computer & Information Technology) program at CNA's Ridge Road campus in St. John's. Today, over 1,000 Chinese students are enrolled in CNA programs in China.

Dr. Wong also had an opportunity to liaise with MU's president and other MU delegates to discuss further synergy between the two provincial institutions in facilitating transfer of CNA's China students (both in China and those attending in Newfoundland and Labrador) to MU for completion of their degrees.

"We identified a need for Chinese students to upgrade their English at CNA before they transfer to MU," explains Dr. Wong.

The ESL program at College of the North Atlantic has been in existence since 1979 and is flexible and tailored to students' needs. Some international students take ESL while concurrently enrolled in full-time programs at CNA.

New ties were formed with other institutions such as the Eastern China Institute of Technology, which is interested in a transfer agreement for technology programs at CNA; the Taiyuan Institute of Technology, at which Dr. Wong spoke to students about work visas and what to expect when studying in Canada; at Guangdong Peizheng College, where he reviewed course portfolios; and with the Huangshi Institute of Technology, where CNA is enjoying a newly formed partnership.

"CNA is offering four programs at this institute, namely Manufacturing Engineering

Technology, Electrical Engineering Technology (Industrial Controls), and both Business Management (Marketing and Accounting) programs," says Dr. Wong.

"This institute was recommended to CNA by the Department of Education, Province Government of Hubei."

The Chinese government has placed priority on developing education, putting forward the strategy of revitalizing the country through science and education, making constant efforts to deepen the reform of the educational system. (www.China.org.cn)

College of the North Atlantic continues to expand its international reach, providing programming and opportunities for faculty and staff in Qatar, India, Vietnam, and more.

"It is our wish to seek more educational partners in China and to open the world of study in Canada to Chinese students," concludes Dr. Wong.



Danny Wong, CNA's Director of China Projects, attended a ceremony at Jilin University-Lambton College – a long time educational partner of CNA – while on tour of China this past fall.

International students covered under MCP

International students attending College of the North Atlantic now have access to this province's Medical Care Plan (MCP).

An MCP card for international students is part of a plan put in place by the government of Newfoundland and Labrador, and has been available to international students in this province since June 2007.

Chris Turpin, International Business Development Manager with CNA, says nearly

it to the local MCP office along with a copy of the current study permit and a letter from the institute stating that they are currently enrolled as a full-time student in a specific program for a period of at least 12 months."

Once approved, international students have access to everything covered by the province's MCP program, the same as permanent residents of the province.

"Whatever MCP covers for a resident of

"There are approximately 1,000 international students studying in the province annually each contributing between \$18,000 and \$25,000 to the provincial economy each year," says the Honourable Ross Wiseman, Minister of Health and Community Services.

"Providing health care coverage for these individuals will give them peace of mind in knowing that they will not have to pay for their health care services, which further enhances our province's ability to recruit international students."

Under the plan, dependents of the student will also be covered under MCP, provided they are living in the province and have relevant documentation to support their application.

The coverage becomes effective for eligible students on the date of arrival in the province or the effective date of the study permit, whichever is later. Coverage terminates upon expiry of the study permit or the date of departure from Newfoundland and Labrador, whichever is earlier.

"International students represent a large pool of highly-skilled, talented and creative potential immigrants to our province," says the Honourable Shawn Skinner, Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment. "The extension of MCP coverage to international students supports two key goals under the immigration strategy, including increasing the enrolment of international students to our post-secondary institutions and the retention of these students upon graduation."

"...The MCP program available to international students is a great marketing tool for the college."

all international students studying at the college this academic year are eligible – there are approximately 46 international students from CNA currently covered under MCP.

"Before MCP was put in place, we had health insurance coverage for international students from Student Guard and this insurance policy had to be purchased by the students – unlike MCP which is free of charge," explains Turpin.

"However, every international student still needs to purchase additional health insurance from Student Guard for other benefits even though they have an MCP card."

Turpin adds that the process for international students to access the MCP program is simple.

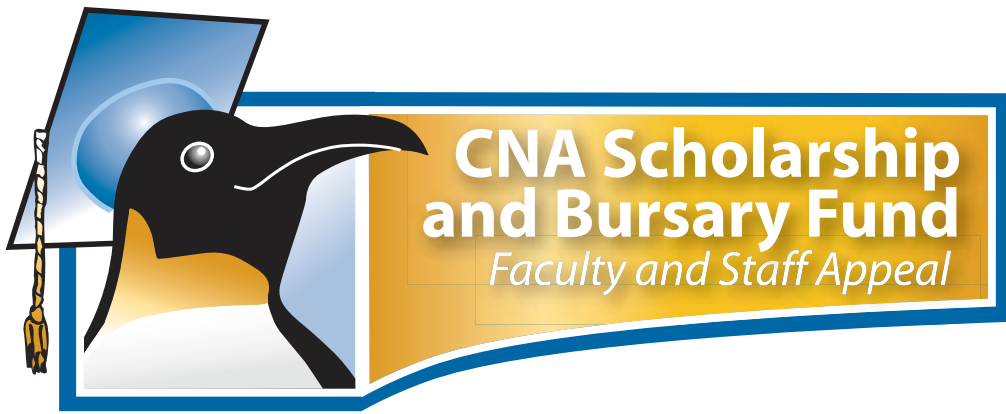
"They complete an application and submit

Canada, it also covers for an international student who has an MCP card," continues Turpin. "This program does not include dental or coverage for prescription drugs, however supplementary insurance is available at an additional cost."

Turpin says having the MCP program available to international students is a great marketing tool for the college.

"MCP is a benefit that can be marketed to international students, and enhances the college's ability to recruit international students."

International students will be eligible for coverage while visiting outside the province during the periods specified on their study permit provided the authorization remains valid through Citizenship and Immigration Canada.



The penguins are back

With more than 70 faculty and staff participating annually, the CNA Scholarship and Bursary Fund has grown to almost \$20,000.

Faculty and staff from 15 out of the 17 campuses are participating and this year organizers hope to reach a goal of 100 per cent campus participation and increase the number of donors by 20 per cent.

A sincere thank you goes out to all donors for your kind on-going contributions. And for those who have not yet participated - we hope you will consider making a contribution.

Your participation in the 2008 Faculty and Staff Appeal for the CNA Scholarship and Bursary Fund will help to increase the number of awards CNA can offer students.

"Your support will make a real difference

and I hope you will consider making a pledge," says Corinne Dunne, vice-president of development and college advancement. "The amount of your donation is not important - it's your participation that counts.

Donating is easy and confidential through payroll deduction and all donations are tax deductible.

In the coming days please watch your e-mail inbox for an information package, including a pledge card. And in the meantime, if you have any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch with Dunne or Tara Pearce, the manager of alumni and advancement, at tara.pearce@cna.nl.ca or visit the college website 'employee section' to find out more details about the CNA Scholarship and Bursary Fund.

Instructor gives back (continued)

« *Continued from page 2*

"This was my second year preparing the meal and I hope to continue helping with this great event. Last year the numbers were closer to 70 and this year there were only about 35-40 people. At first the lower numbers sound bad but when you think of the reason we're doing this dinner I felt that it was a good thing. Lower numbers just mean there are less people alone on Christmas Day, which in my eyes is terrific. The day that no one shows up will be a wonderful day."

He recalls being asked to help out the first year - something he jumped at.

"After being approached by the Knights to see if I would be willing to provide the skills necessary to cook the meal, I thought about it before I accepted the offer. After very little consideration I said yes because Christmas is supposed to be a time of giving and not the

commercialized Christmas we all see in the media today. I felt that if I could make only one person happy on Christmas Day with a meal then it would make my Christmas just a little happier."

It is for this reason that he volunteers his service.

"This dinner, in my mind, was a total and complete success. To see the people smile and be happy and to spend a little time with others on Christmas Day is something that I will remember for a long time," continues Hynes.

"I hope that this coming Christmas I will once again be permitted to have the opportunity to cook for these people. Everyone that I spoke to who organized, participated, and ate the dinner was extremely happy with the outcome and very appreciative of the work and effort."

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

Marketing and Communications
College of the North Atlantic, Headquarters
432 Massachusetts Drive
P.O. Box 5400
Stephenville, NL, A2N 2Z6, Canada

709 643.7928
tanya.alexander@cna.nl.ca

Editor: Tanya Alexander

Contributing Writer: Glenda McCarthy

Design: Paul O'Keefe

Publisher: Department of Marketing and Communications

