

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM COLLEGE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC CURRENTS

CNA launches e-store

Students and alumni of College of the North Atlantic can show their school pride by purchasing jackets, shirts and loads of other items on the college's new online store, launched on Friday, Sept. 25.

The college has been operating its e-store internally for nearly a year, utilizing that time to ensure there was ample product on the site and to work out any bugs that may have lessened the customer experience.

"We are really excited to finally be able to provide our staff, students, alumni and anyone else interested, with the ability to avail of some really nice college clothing at very competitive prices," said Stephen Lee, manager of marketing and communications at CNA.

Lee said the e-store was a combined result of necessity and opportunity.

"There was an internal need at the college to move toward centralized purchasing for promotional products. The e-store allows this to happen, but for us in marketing, it also provides an opportunity to have better control over our logo and brand, and the ability to make these products available to a much wider audience."

With the introduction of a new college logo last June, Lee said this was an opportune time to unveil the e-store to the public. He also says the college has seen a lot of apparel and other promo items in the past where the logo was not rendered properly. This is something the college needed to address and has worked tirelessly with the e-store vendor to ensure the featured products are of good quality and that the logo and other marks appear in accordance with CNA's standards.

Identifying what articles of clothing would be best suited for such a broad audience was a major undertaking, as was gathering items that would be considered useful for CNA staff, students, alumni and the public.



"We have a fair amount of product on the e-store now, but we are always monitoring the latest in trends and styles and will continually update the e-store with new items to ensure customers can find products they want," explained Lee. "For our internal clients, there is also an advanced search feature that allows access to about 400,000 other items so the list of what's available is quite extensive.

"We know students in particular like to purchase class jackets and hoodies, sometimes using these as fundraisers. We have worked with the e-store vendor to make a selection of items available at a 30% discount by clicking on the Group Purchases link. There, e-store shoppers can find jackets and other items that can be customized to their liking at a fantastic price."

To help create some excitement about the launch and drive people to the e-store site, the college is running a Buy and Win Contest. Every Friday, from now until Oct. 30, anyone making an e-store purchase will be eligible to win one of three weekly \$50 e-store gift certificates. The contest is open to everyone, including staff. The first three winners were Jerome Pike of Stephenville (who works at BSG campus), Josephine Cull from Englee, and Kim Barry of Placentia.

To see CNA's e-store go to our homepage at www.cna.nl.ca or directly to www.cnaestore.com.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 3 CNA Summer Crew
- 4 Is there anything new on CNA library shelves?
- 5 H1N1 Update
- 7 Visiting artist program brings inspiration to the classroom
- 8 Spring Orientation 2009
- 10 CNA graduate promotes Canadian industry
- 13 Building Service Worker program: A great success!
- 16 Grad embraces international experience at CNA-Q
- 17 St. John's campuses introduce wireless service to students
- 21 Shaping communities
- 22 Instructional coordinator turns published author

Youth explore CNA's skilled trades

Sometimes the hardest decision for youth to make is the one that embarks them on their future. Making the right decision, of course, depends on the individual. They first have to decide what to do after high school. Should they move towards college, university or head directly into the workforce? It can be quite difficult and sometimes very stressful, especially if they are unsure of their skills.

College of the North Atlantic has helped that difficult decision and transition with the Youth Exploring Trades course which was launched this past May with 10 participants eager to discover new opportunities.

The 36-week course was put into place, not only to expose students to various trades and employment opportunities, but also to provide the skills necessary to make long term career goals and successfully activate those goals by transitioning into school or work. By effectively supporting youth in career decision making and action planning, participants involved in this course acquire self confidence, gain the skills necessary to make progress in the world of work and become productive members of the community at large.

One of the main components of the course is to assist the youth in discovering the skills they already have to make the career choices that best reflect their abilities. Other components of the course include esteem building, self-confidence building, job interviewing skills, research skills, and resume writing. Students involved have the chance to explore industrial

cooking, electrical, carpentry, bricklaying, welding and heavy equipment operating.

The carpentry component drew a lot of interest at the Carbonear campus offering. The students seemed to grasp the topics quickly and there was plenty of participation. Dennis Davis, carpentry instructor, is confident the course went over very well.

"I was satisfied with the experience they received constructing the project. The females seem to be more aggressive than the males. All in all, a very beneficial training exercise."

The electrical block took place during the week of July 27-31. This portion of the project became very hands on and the instructor, Gerry Sellars, is certain the students have the ability to succeed.

"During the week, we started with a half day introduction to the electrical trade and the liabilities and responsibilities, which anyone who works on anything electrical has to understand. Also, we touched on shop/electrical safety and the apprenticeship program. Within the week of the electrical block, students proceeded to install and connect electrical circuits in a wooden structure that they had built during their exposure to carpentry. I feel comfortable saying that any of these students have the ability to do well."

The course at the Carbonear campus offered individuals the chance to discover a career in skilled trades and determine if they are prepared to pursue that career with further education. Now that they have completed the course,



the students can choose the training that will carry them into the workforce or decide to pursue a different role and feel confident in the path they have chosen.

Those living in the Carbonear and Trinity Conception area who would like to get involved with the course or to learn more about the Youth Exploring Trades course, please contact the Carbonear campus at 709-596-6139.

Implementing profiles for program development

Several members of the college's program development community recently completed a five-day workshop entitled DACUM II - Competency-Based Program Development and Implementation.

The workshop was the second in a series of DACUM (Developing a Curriculum) workshops. The first, held in February 2009, prepared participants to facilitate occupational analysis processes and to create DACUM-based occupational profiles. This second workshop focused on how these profiles can be used for program development, delivery and assessment.

Facilitated by Pierre Morin, Canadian Vocational Association, the workshop prepared participants to facilitate the development of a program profile and corresponding learn-

ing guides, utilizing the Competency-based Learning Model.

"As a college we're accountable for ensuring our programs are of the highest quality and respond to the needs of all stakeholders," noted Chair of Program Development, Kevin Deveau.

"Adopting the DACUM process will allow developers of new programs, or those involved with renewal of existing programs at the college, to follow a consistent and comprehensive approach for documenting the critical knowledge and competencies for each of the program areas. Aligning this information to our curriculum and delivery strategies will ensure our students are receiving a quality education that prepares them for the demands of the labour market."



Members of the college's program development office took part in a five-day DACUM workshop recently in Stephenville. Participants included, front from left to right, Bernard Stratton, Maurice Hynes, Clara McCue, Darlene Oake, Louis MacDonald; back from left to right, Todd Fradsham, Rod French, Pierre Morin (CVA facilitator), John Hanratty, Kevin Deveau, Catherine Moss and Sheldon Brown.

New program at St. Anthony angled towards tourism industry

St. Anthony campus is offering a new program designed for people who love to work in the great outdoors.

The Hunter/Fisher Guide Training program is the culmination of months of work, consultation, and collaboration with the outfitting industry of Newfoundland and Labrador and throughout Canada. Coupled with investments from the Department of Industry, Trades and Rural Development, the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and the college, this unique program will enable small businesses and others within the industry to expand their season and to further professionalize services to clients.

"The program offers benefits for both the college and industry," said St. Anthony Campus Administrator, Fred Russell. "It allows the college to increase its offerings and to build training infrastructure while pursuing training that is both unique and exceptionally well-suited to the vast outdoor wilderness of the St. Anthony region."

From an industry perspective, the program will help alleviate the skills shortage that is currently present in the outfitting sector. By making a pool of specialty employees available, the outfitting sector can further enhance present services to clients while offering new services that can broaden the operating seasons and thus expand business opportunities.

"Students in the program will learn survival skills, camp operations, hunting skills, and fishing skills," noted Russell. "They will learn to apply these skills as a guide for outfitters. Students will also be exposed to backcountry rivers, lakes, and trails, and learn to operate canoes, kayaks, snowmobiles and ATVs, for the purposes of becoming a hunting and fishing guide. Short courses will also be available to industry and hobbyists in any of these subject areas."

Trevor Pilgrim, executive member of the Newfoundland and Labrador Outfitters Association (NLOA), has expressed his pleasure with this announcement.



Photo by Hans Van Klinken

"I am pleased to see that the college has agreed to work with us to assist in bringing our industry to the next level. This is great for my business and for all outfitters across Newfoundland and Labrador and Canada."

CNA Summer Crew

While summer is generally a time to lay back and take it easy before the hustle and bustle of the school year begins, the CNA Summer Crew was busy hitting the road, attending celebrations and festivals across the province.

This new marketing initiative was a joint project between the college's marketing and communications department and the provincial Student Development Officers (SDO) group.

CNA's Manager of Marketing and Communications, Stephen Lee, says recruitment has been a struggle at times over the past few years so they decided to shift their focus.

"With the addition of five SDO regional coordinators, we decided to implement a pilot project that would increase the college's presence in communities across Newfoundland and Labrador," said Lee.

The project's goal was to attend festivals/events and increase public awareness about all the exciting programs offered at the college. Dressed in kiwi green shirts and jackets the

CNA Summer Crew stood out as they manned booths and tables adorned with brochures and pamphlets illustrating the college's hundreds of full time and part time programs at all campuses.



Students were hired as members of the Summer Crews and they travelled in their respective areas with the SDO/recruiter. Often times Nanuk, the college's friendly mascot, accompanied them on these visits and added to

the fun with his exuberance and excitement as children and adults alike huddled in for one of his infamous "bear" hugs. Hundreds of pictures were taken and memories made. On several occasions someone just stopped by to tell about their "good ole days in college".

"VOCM and Steele Radio played an active role in promoting the project with on air interviews, radio ads and displaying the logo on their vans," said Lee. "The marketing department also played a supportive role by providing college clothing, developing a website and providing promotional items for giveaways."

The CNA Summer Crew also held an online contest to kick off their website launch. Just a click away was the chance of winning a year's free tuition valued at over \$1,400. With over 300 entries, each participant was given equal opportunity with the limit of one entry per person. Deep Cove resident, Ashley Heath, had her name drawn at the end of the promotion. Heath, in her third year at CNA's Ridge Road campus will complete her third year

»Continued on page 5

E-book titles available through the CNA Library Services Catalogue

- Accounting control best practices
- Assessing performance: designing, scoring and validating performance tasks
- Best practices in business technology management
- Careers in marketing
- Credible company: communicating with today's skeptical workforce
- Customer rules: the 14 indispensable, irrefutable, and indisputable qualities of the greatest companies in the world
- Emotion management in the workplace.
- Excel 2007 charts made easy
- Globalization: the irrational fear that someone in China is going to steal your job
- Great jobs for business majors
- Hospitality financial accounting
- Import/export: how to take your business across borders
- Managing talent retention: an ROI approach
- ROI of human capital: measuring the economic value of employee performance
- Social network business plan: 18 strategies that will create great wealth
- Step-by-step guide to sustainability planning
- Twitter power: how to dominate your market one tweet at a time
- Ultimate aptitude tests: assess your potential with aptitude, motivational and personality tests
- Ultimate psychometric tests: over 1000 verbal, numerical, diagrammatic and IQ practice tests
- Women at the top: powerful leaders tell us how to combine work and family
- Workforce wake-up call



Is there anything new on CNA library shelves?

If you stop into the Prince Philip Drive campus library for a look at what's new, you may not find every new resource on the shelves. That's because this year the library has a new collection of electronic books.

These e-books are full editions available in an electronic format and often accessible on the internet.

The PPD library has made their new collection of 21 e-books available to the entire CNA community through the CNA Library Services online catalogue. To access these e-books, search for the titles (see sidebar) in the online catalogue available through the CNA Library Services website at www.cna.nl.ca/library or <http://sirsi1.cna.nl.ca>.

Once you find the title of the e-book, click on the URL within the record. A new internet browser window will open and the entire book will be available to read on your screen in PDF format. For the time being, the e-books are only available from a CNA campus computer.

There are a number of reasons these editions are convenient. They are fully searchable by keyword and there have a table of contents that you can use to click your way through to particular sections of the book. There is also an option to print or download sections of the books, up to 10 pages at a time. Students with disabilities may benefit by finding e-books more accessible because the text can be read easily using adaptive technology available at their campus.

While the collection includes books that may be of particular interest to all CNA faculty and students, the variety of titles may make

the collection of interest to many staff members as well. Titles in the collection cover topics in business, psychology, accounting and the world of work.

At a time when CNA is trying to reduce its environmental footprint, these e-books will help to continue our quest to "go green" by reducing paper consumption. But bibliophiles fret not, it is unlikely that e-books will ever fully replace their paper counterparts we all know and love - e-books are just another way to make information more accessible and available.

For more information on accessing CNA e-books or to suggest titles for purchase, talk to any of your campus library staff.

If you are looking for additional e-book titles, try Project Gutenberg, which has nearly 30,000 free titles available through a searchable catalogue. Project Gutenberg covers mainly titles of classical literature and the books come in a variety of formats and are available for download in many cases. You will find Project Gutenberg at http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Main_Page. Another e-book option is Librivox, a free source of human-read audio books which can be found at <http://librivox.org>. Like Project Gutenberg, the audio books come in a variety of file formats such as MP3, which can be downloaded to your desktop.

Submitted by Roxanne Sutton, campus librarian at Labrador West campus

CNA Summer Crew

»Continued from page 3

in the Petroleum Engineering Technology (Co-op) program free of the stress of paying tuition fees.

In addition to the free tuition grand prize, five other winners, Juanita Jones, La Tabatiere, Quebec; Darrell Barrett, Upper Island Cove; Alice Marche, Stephenville; Beverly Hazelton, St. John's and Maurice Dobbin of Port Saunders, were all awarded CNA gift packages.

While she could not name a favorite event, Marina MacNeil, student development officer - western recruiter, spoke about her experience

at the Mi'kmaq Cultural Powwow held in Flat Bay.

"It was an honour to participate in such a spiritual and positive weekend," she said. "The 2009-2010 academic year promises to be exciting in the area of Aboriginal education with emphasis being placed on academic programming and services needed to recruit and retain Aboriginal learners. I feel the college's presence at the Powwow was positively received."

Although the CNA Summer Crew began as a recruitment plan, it surpassed the expectations

of those who sat around a table brainstorming.

"I'm confident that the promotion and awareness that was generated this summer by the Summer Crew made it an excellent project," said Lee, who said he is already looking forward to next year's crew hitting the road.

As one member of the CNA Summer Crew stated, these experiences did more than recruit and promote the college; it brought the college into people's backyards - it became a kitchen table conversation.

H1N1 Update

The college, in consultation with the Department of Health and Community Services and the Department of Education, has been taking a number of precautions and implementing procedures to minimize the spread of the H1N1 pandemic at any of our 17 campus locations. Below are some facts about H1N1, as well as the college's action process to date.

H1N1 FAST FACTS

- H1N1 Flu Virus (formerly known as the Swine Flu) has been reported around the world and has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO).
- H1N1 is a new strain of virus therefore there is very little natural immunity and a vaccine is still being developed (anticipated vaccination availability in Canada is November 2009).
- The virus is spread the same as the ordinary seasonal flu by germs entering the nose or throat. i.e. by sneezing, coughing, touching surfaces contaminated with H1N1 then transferring the virus, etc.
- Symptoms are common to those of the regular human seasonal flu and can be mild, moderate or severe.
- The virus can be easily spread from person to person.
- The virus can live outside the body on hard surfaces for about 24-48 hours and softer surfaces like cloth and paper for about 8-12 hours.
- Minimizing the spread by practicing

enhanced personal hygiene, sneeze and cough etiquette and self-isolation are considered the best actions in minimizing the spread of H1N1.

- It is predicted that anywhere from 20% to 30% of the population will be infected at any one time therefore, it may not be business as usual during those times.
- Health and Community Services in Newfoundland and Labrador are not testing for H1N1 due to the predicted volume of outbreaks and are encouraging individuals not to seek medical assistance or documentation such as sick notes unless considered high risk (pregnant, aboriginal, asthmatic, and others - refer to CNA Website for further conditions) or increased severity.

ACTIONS TO DATE

- A process has been established to record both employee and learner absenteeism resulting from flu-like symptoms.
- A Communications Plan has been developed
- Consultation with other Provincial Government departments including Health and Community Services and Department of Education.
- Hand sanitizing wall dispensers have been distributed to all campuses and most have been mounted.
- Link to H1N1 information on CNA website is continuously being updated.
- All campus administrators have been asked to form campus-based committees to develop and implement campus specific



With a possible H1N1 influenza outbreak occurring, all campus locations have been requested to perform weekly H1N1 Information Blitz's by the Pandemic Preparedness Committee. These events will be taking place at main entrance ways of the campus and volunteers will be distributing H1N1 information to staff, faculty, students and the public as they enter the building. Health Sciences students at Prince Philip Drive campus volunteered for their first blitz last month.

contingencies and business contingency plans.

- Posters and brochures have been distributed throughout the system to increase aware-

»Continued on page 11

Orientation helps instructors prepare for the classroom

Twenty-five participants from across the province attended the college's annual Introduction to Teaching and Learning Workshop, held August 17-20 in Stephenville. The primary goal of the session was to prepare new faculty for their first day of teaching at CNA. However, in the broader context, the workshop was the first step in their journey towards becoming professional educators.

During the event, participants were introduced to the principles and practices of instructional design, delivery, and assessment. They also examined the learning culture at CNA and the various contexts in which the college facilitates learning across all learning environments. The participants also had the opportunity to interact with members of the college executive and to discuss various college policies and procedures.

The workshop had representation from all schools, and the interaction was rich and diverse. Feedback was extremely positive, and participants left with great anticipation and looking forward to meeting students.



Twenty-five instructors participated in the Introduction to Teaching and Learning Workshop in Stephenville in August.

HVGB hosts International Literacy Day event

The Happy Valley-Goose Bay (HVGB) campus proudly displayed books, provided entertainment, and held a story time session to celebrate International Literacy Day on September 8, 2009.

International Literacy Day is a grassroots event involving people of all ages to promote literacy and life-long learning. The HVGB campus took this opportunity to relay the importance of literacy in our lives with regard to personal and socio-economic development.

Various Newfoundland and Labrador books and authored publications were displayed in the campus gymnasium. The intent of this display was to encourage staff and students to become familiar with local authors, books, and stories. The morning break was extended to 30 minutes and our very own Rodney Roberts, industrial training program development officer and Jennifer Mitchell, a Comprehensive Arts and Science: transfer student, provided musical entertainment. Rodney captured the audience by singing and strumming his guitar and Jennifer awed the crowd with her accordion skills. Their performance was a true highlight of



Children enrolled at the Happy Valley-Goose Bay daycare centre enjoyed a story time session during the campus's International Literacy Day events on September 8.

the day and even got Bernice Tracey and Ranjan Patro up dancing a jig!

Finally, Bernice Tracey, Aboriginal support/coordinator learner services and Valerie Hart, Darrelle Bennett and Heather Austin, Community Studies students, held a story time session with the college daycare children in the new Aboriginal Resource Centre. The children enjoyed several stories while relaxing on the big comfy couch. When the session ended, each child was given a "goodie" bag filled with juice, a treat, a pencil and note paper along with a Nanuk tattoo.

Literacy is vital for everyday life as a parent, a worker, and as a citizen of society. There are many ways each of us can promote literacy in our lives. Literacy Newfoundland and Labrador encourages you to try one of these activities, read with your family, learn a new recipe, update your resume, sign up for a community course or become a volunteer tutor.

The HVGB campus formed a short-term committee comprised of Valerie Hart, Inuit education coordinator, Dana Spurvey, resource facilitator for students with disabilities, Bobbi McLean, Aboriginal resource specialist and Sharon Cochrane, student development officer to plan activities for the event.

It was a very successful event and we encourage everyone to promote literacy in their home and in their community. Take some time to enjoy a good novel or enrol in a course; it is never too late. Challenge your mind and you will be rewarded by your own fulfillment.

Submitted by Valerie Hart, Inuit education coordinator at Happy Valley-Goose Bay campus

Visiting artist program brings inspiration to the classroom

***Muse: source of inspiration, especially a guiding genius**

It's not every day a budding artist gets the opportunity to meet one's muse. For Marlayne Janes, that day came in March when Newfoundland artist Gerry Squires visited her Visual Arts class at her college campus in Stephenville.

Marlayne had always leaned toward the arts. The 39-year-old from St. John's had tried several careers, including retail, graphic design and community work. And no matter the field, she was compelled to include the creative.

"I began to realize there was a pattern... I kept trying to incorporate more arts and crafts in every job I had," Marlayne says.

It was while working with a seniors' program at a non-profit community centre in 2007 that she could deny it no longer. Part of Marlayne's job was coordinating activities for the seniors, in house and out into the community.

She had arranged a tour through The Rooms, the new cultural space in St. John's which houses the Provincial Museum, the Provincial Art Gallery and the Provincial Archives. She thought it would make a nice evening for them, to see some of the province's artwork in the gallery.



Painting by: Marlayne Janes

One of the featured artists was Gerry Squires. Marlayne was transfixed by his work and the way it made her feel. It was finally clear to her –she had to do that.

"Here I was, almost 40, and it dawned on me that I kept coming back to this... to art," she says. "Looking at Gerry's paintings, I was

inspired and wanted so much to know what they were about."

That was summer of 2007. By the fall, she was enrolled at CNA's Visual Arts program and had packed up her life, along with her two children, and moved to Stephenville. It felt right. It seemed like fate, when just weeks before graduating from the two-year program, she heard that her muse, her inspiration – Gerry Squires – would be visiting her classroom in person.

"I was so excited that Gerry was coming I was awake half the night," laughs Marlayne. "Getting to meet the man and ask him first-hand about the things I wondered, about specific works of his... was amazing."

It is experiences like these that change an artist's life. It is opportunities like the Visiting Artist Series that make these changes possible.

The practical purpose of the guest artist program is to make the students aware of the successes and challenges of artists working in Newfoundland and Labrador and to create links with the cultural industries sector of the province. On another plane, it can have immeasurable value and impact on a growing artist to have that access to a seasoned professional.

As a painter, sculptor, printmaker, art activist and teacher, Squires has found his inspiration in the landscape and culture of his native Newfoundland. He has been a practicing artist for over four decades, first training at the Ontario College of Art and Design, then apprenticing as a stained glass artist, and later working as an editorial artist with the Toronto Telegram. He also was an artist in residence and teacher at Memorial University, is a member of the Order of Canada, and holds an honorary doctorate degree from Memorial University of Newfoundland, among other notable marks of distinction.

He brought his artistic vision and years of experience to the classroom, impressing upon students, like Marlayne, the challenges and rewards of following such a career.

"This... was one of the highlights of the whole program for me," she says. "Like him, oil is my medium and I love drawing, so it was valuable to me that way. And seeing someone who has been doing this his whole life... trying to get a regular job but the art always pulled him back... it's nice to have that connection with somebody who's been down that road. He is one Newfoundland's greatest artists."



Marlayne Janes had the chance to meet her inspiration while attending the Visual Arts program in Bay St. George. Gerry Squires' visit was sponsored by CNA's Visual Arts program, and hosted in conjunction with the artist's participation in Atlantic Canada's largest annual literary festival, the March Hare, which takes place in nearby Corner Brook. Brittany Warren photo.

The experience left Marlayne with a sense of purpose, a conviction that she had made the right choice in coming to CNA to study art.

"My plan is to head back to St. John's; my goal is to have my own studio. Art is definitely something I will do every day. I'm going to talk with people who display and sell art and I'll be selling as much as I possibly can. They say art is something you can't make a living at, but I am really enthused."

Even her children, who found the move difficult at first and didn't quite see the value of it in the beginning, feel it, says Marlayne.

"They're saying, 'now you're a real artist, Mom!'"

**Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*



Spring Orientation



College of the North Atlantic introduced Spring Orientation 2009 day at six campus locations last June, offering prospective students a chance to explore various post-secondary education opportunities.

The agenda varied from campus to campus, however there were common features to the days' activities including; information sessions with opportunities for questions and answers, campus tours, meet and greet sessions with staff and instructors, refreshments and entertainment.

"It was extremely positive," said Kent Aitken, the student development officer for Gander campus.

"Students became better educated about their choice of program and have more time to make an informed decision. It gets them excited about going to college and alleviates some of the anxiety associated with embarking on something new. It also communicates to the student that we value them and look forward to having them as a student."

Aitken also says it was great from a recruitment perspective as the

students involved would spend the summer months talking to their friends about attending the college in September.

That estimation became reality after fall enrollment reports and orientation numbers were crunched. Out of the 256 participants that attended Spring Orientation 2009, 64 of them provided feedback and from that it was determined that 82.8% (53 out of 64) registered during fall registration. Not too shabby for a first time event!

Emma Benoit was one of the orientation participants at the Bay St. George campus. After taking part in the activities, she was certain she had made the right decision to enroll at the college.

"It made me more eager and excited to start school," Emma says, "I knew when I attended the orientation and was introduced to my class and instructor that I would enjoy the atmosphere and looked forward to learning and working with my class. During the tour at Stephenville Crossing campus, I was the only hairstylist student in the orientation, which had made me a little nervous about meeting everyone all alone,



Orientation 2009



but my instructor and classmates were very courteous and gave me a personal tour of the classes and the salon and also gave me a heads up for what to expect come the fall registration time."

Spring Orientation was a huge success at the Happy Valley-Goose Bay (HVGB) campus. Students were excited to learn about various services offered on campus, view pictures of campus activities, meet coordinators and instructors, and go on a tour of the campus. The student council president conducted the presentation with prize draws and lots of interaction with the students. Additional prizes were distributed at the barbeque while students enjoyed a visit by Nanuk and some live entertainment provided by current students.

Campus Administrator, Winnie Montague, thinks the orientation events offered a positive and inviting atmosphere for new students.

"We received positive feedback from students and parents who would love to see this as an annual event," she said. "Students commented that they were pleased this event was casual and inviting rather than a formal

event with speeches. They left excited about their upcoming year at the Happy Valley-Goose Bay campus and were pleased they chose College of the North Atlantic."

From the student's perspective, Spring Orientation 2009 presented an enjoyable setting where they could mingle with new and potential classmates.

"This session was very social and friendly," said Kathy Walsh, a HVGB student. "It made me feel very comfortable in a new environment."

When asked about her experience at orientation, Kendra Jaque, another HVGB student, said, "The presentation was well presented and organized... I enjoyed meeting possible classmates for the fall."

The orientation events ultimately benefited the promotion of the college, reiterated new student's decision to attend CNA and informed potential students about what is available for their post secondary careers.

CNA graduate promotes Canadian industry

Katrina Hanlon is a former College of the North Atlantic student who has been quite busy since her CNA days. In 2008, Katrina decided to get involved with Global Vision's Junior Team Canada and during this past winter, she spent 10 days on a mission to the Americas – Panama and Costa Rica.

Katrina is no stranger to hard work. While completing a Business Management Marketing Diploma she was involved with the student council where she held various positions such as public relations coordinator, vice president (external) and President. Katrina views her interest in this project as an opportunity to broaden her horizons.

"I have always had an interest in the Global Visions Junior Team Canada mission, and the Americas to me have always posed a wonder. They seem so unexplored. I have a great interest in broadening my horizons and strengthening Canadian enterprise," she stated.

Global Vision is a national not-for-profit organization that is igniting young Canadians through education and hands on experience to help create brighter futures for themselves, their communities, country and the global community. The group actively creates partnerships between government, business and higher education to deliver programming that prepares students aged 16-25 to make a meaningful contribution towards a better country.

Junior Team Canada Missions travel to foreign markets, where delegates meet with industry, developmental, government, community and youth leaders to explore pertinent global issues as well as business opportunities on behalf of their partners.

During her time in the Americas, Katrina's itinerary was full of events and meetings. She met some very influential people such as the Canadian Ambassador to Panama, Pat Lagan-



CNA graduate, Katrina Hanlon (second from left), poses with her colleagues at the Panama International Hotel School, in the City of Knowledge, where she did most of her networking about the college. Katrina was a member of the Global Vision Junior Team Canada mission to the Americas last winter.

Torrell, the Canadian Ambassador to Costa Rica, Neil Reeder, and Randy Harwood from Ottawa's Americas office.

While participating in those events and meetings, Katrina and her team accomplished a number of tasks. They worked on the advancement of the Government of Canada's Americas Strategy as outlined by Prime Minister Harper, built capacity and interviewed young entrepreneurs, Aboriginal people, and various government officials with emphasis on Canada's Americas Strategy, and made visits to mining and infrastructure projects in the two countries. As they have to work on behalf of their sponsors, the participants also had their own agenda

while attending these meetings. Katrina's sponsors were College of the North Atlantic and Memorial University so she spent a quantity of her time gathering information about Panama and Costa Rica's educational systems.

"As a follow up to the mission, participants share their experiences with others and work on getting the word out to their fellow Canadians," said Katrina, who says she continues to keep in contact with many of the people she met while on the mission, those in her group and those she met in Panama and Costa Rica.

When asked what benefits she gained from this experience, Katrina humbly replied, "I think the best thing that I obtained from my Junior Team Canada experience was personal growth. I really had the opportunity to put my knowledge and personal skills to the test. You never really realize how much you are capable of until the opportunity arises to showcase your talents."

"Global Vision Junior Team Canada is a great organization to get involved with, you can grow, experience, and actually make a difference to Canadian industry and cultures around the world... it was a great feeling to know that the work I was doing would really benefit my country."

Currently, Katrina is focusing on her academic career by finishing her degree at Memorial University. Her goal is set on becoming a lawyer specializing in real estate law; however, if given the opportunity, she would definitely take part in another international mission with the organization.

To learn more about Global Vision Junior Team Canada organization, visit their website at <http://www.globalvision.ca>.

Big hearts raise big funds

The CNA Relay for Life team from Placentia campus raised almost \$2,000 for cancer research over the summer – with the Placentia area total reaching over \$58,000. Members of the team were, from left, Ann Marie Barry, Fintan Mullaley, Natalie O'Reilly, Dodie Blanche, Cynthia Griffin, Florence Power (holding picture of deceased colleague – Gord Jewer), Morris Lynch, Phyllis Smith, Dan Culleton, Kelly Foote, Linda Reddigan (kneeling) and CNA mascot, Nanuk.



Contract Training & Continuing Education Update

LMA/STTF funded programs at CNA

The Department of Education, through the Labour Market Agreement (LMA) and the Strategic Training and Transition Fund (STTF), are providing over \$3.3 Million in funding for expanded and new program offerings starting in the fall at many college campuses across the province. In total, 17 programs in 11 campuses are being made available to help individuals gain valuable skills training. The programs range in length from 1.5 weeks to one year, and are a direct response to the skills gaps for high demand occupations, displaced workers and strategic growth sectors. Certificate and diploma programs are offered, while at the same time, shorter outreach programs such as Skills4Discovery and Youth Exploring Trades allow individuals the opportunity to explore a career in skilled trades and determine if they want further post-secondary education.

Maintenance and Engineering Projects Supervisor (MEPS) – Department of Transportation and Works

CTCE has been providing training to up skill Department of Transportation and Works' maintenance, engineering projects supervisors and operations supervisors. The program, entitled Maintenance and Engineering Project Supervisors (MEPS) is a customized training program consisting of five one-week modules. The training sessions started on February 23, 2009 and concluded on October 2, 2009, with a certificate ceremony. The curriculum was developed by College of North Atlantic in consultation with the Department of Transportation and Works, and included significant customization to meet student needs through the integration of Workplace Essential Skills.

"Principals" of Accounting – Eastern School District (ESD)

For the past several months, CTCE has been working with the Eastern School District to design and develop a comprehensive training program that would address training needs for administrators and others employed with the ESD. This training will provide participants with basic concepts related to activities involved

with the collection, disbursement and recording of fundraising money. Financial reporting by these organizations is important and should reflect policies to control the actions of those entrusted with public resources. The pilot offering of this training initiative, which will commence in October, is expected to be the first of several offerings throughout the eastern region of the province. Within the 122 schools in the Eastern School District, there are office administrators and management personnel who require a basic understanding of accounting principles as it relates to school functions.

Firearms Safety /Hunter Education (FS/HE) Award

The Department of Environment and Conservation recognized the college's contribution to the provincial Firearms Safety/Hunter Education (FS/HE) program this past August. Chris Baldwin presented CTCE Business Development Coordinator, Sharon McLennon, with a print called "Hanging Out" by Stephenville artist Odell Archibald at the 2009 provincial Firearms Safety/Hunter Education

»Continued on page 13

H1N1 Update

»Continued from page 5

ness of H1N1 and promote the three "C's": Clean, Cover and Contain!

- Individual bottles of hand sanitizers have been delivered to campuses and will be available to all building occupants from the general office or public area of the building.
- Employees who are experiencing flu like symptoms such as fever, fatigue, sore throat, cough, etc. are advised to stay home and if there are any questions or concerns regarding sick time they should be directed to either their campus administrator or their respective HR manager.
- Deans and chairs are meeting to devise an academic contingency plan. If questions arise regarding student funding, please advise your students to check with their respective funding agency.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP MINIMIZE THE SPREAD OF THE VIRUS?

- PRACTICE GOOD HAND HYGIENE by washing your hands with soap and water, especially

after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based cleaners are also effective.

- PRACTICE SNEEZE & COUGH ETIQUETTE by covering your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow or shoulder, not into your hands.
- AVOID TOUCHING YOUR EYES, MOUTH OR NOSE OR CHEWING ON THE END OF YOUR PENCIL OR PENS as germs are easily spread this way.
- KNOW THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF THE FLU such as fever (temperature greater than 38 degrees Celsius may be accompanied by chills, feel very warm, have flushed appearance, or are sweating or shivering), plus other symptoms such as fatigue, sore throat, or cough.
- STAY HOME OR SELF-ISOLATE if you are experiencing flu like symptoms (should be determined without the use of fever-reducing medications such as acetaminophen).
- RETURN TO CLASS IF YOU'VE BEEN ABSENT DUE TO FLU-LIKE SYMPTOMS only when

you've been symptom free for 24 hours without medication.

- IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT ABSENTEEISM please discuss these concerns with your instructors. CNA is attempting to capture information on students absent due to flu-like symptoms therefore, contacting the campus when you are absent is critical and indicating if non-attendance is due to flu-like symptoms may be a factor in future academic decisions.
- IF YOU ARE A FUNDED STUDENT please check with your respective funding agency on their policy regarding absenteeism and any H1N1 protocols.

Please visit the college website, www.cna.nl.ca, for additional information regarding H1N1.

Shorter program for AME students

College of the North Atlantic has received the final documentation from Transport Canada approving and accrediting the new Aircraft Maintenance Engineering (AME) Technician program and the revised Aircraft Structural Repair (ASR) program.

Frank Slaney, coordinator of aviation programs at Gander campus, says the revision to the Aircraft Maintenance Engineering (AME) program has eliminated the First Year Engineering Technology which shortens the program by two semesters.

"Even though we have shortened the Aircraft Maintenance Engineering program it will have the same Transport Canada approval and accreditation as the previous Aircraft Maintenance Engineering program," says Slaney.

The shortened program will be very beneficial to the students in a number of ways as they won't have to pay for books, tuition, and boarding costs for that period, and can work an extra year making money rather than going further in debt. This could mean an extra \$40-50,000 in students' pockets.

"The program revision has been a very long process that began in March 2006," continues Slaney.

"After months of hard work and consultation with AME faculty, previous AME students, AME Advisory Committee, and industry experts, a proposal was submitted to the college review board for approval. Once approved by the college review board the AME instructors had to revamp every course, cross reference each objective from the Transport Canada curriculum to the CNA curriculum and submit it to Transport Canada for review and approval."

He says the revision to the ASR program was to align course objectives and put them into common courses so students can receive credit for a course that they had already completed.

"This means that a student will receive an exemption of 460 hours once they graduate from either program if they want to return to college and complete the other program. There is no change in the duration, approval, or the accreditation time for the revised ASR program. Transport Canada audited both our programs in March of this year and as of May 6, we received

our approval and accreditation for both programs."

The first group of students from the revised AME and ASR programs will graduate in June 2009 and will meet all of the same requirements as the previously accredited programs.

"The AME faculty and everyone else involved must be recognized for their hard work and dedication to this process. Together we have made a huge accomplishment and are now looking forward to moving upward and onward from here. Ultimately, the students will be the greatest benefactors."

"I think this accreditation is fantastic," says Bob Dwyer, Gander campus administrator. "It's the way we should have gone years ago. The program didn't really fit very well in the

"This program is unique because it combines two programs – maintenance and avionics – something other colleges are offering as two separate two-year programs." Bob Dwyer

technology stream. Switching to the Industrial Trades stream allowed us to reduce the academic component."

Dwyer says this program is unique because it combines two programs – maintenance and avionics – something other colleges are offering as two separate two-year programs.

"Maintenance of the aircraft as a whole is one trade and as well we have added the avionics trade, something which all other colleges in Canada treat as two separate programs."

In addition, Dwyer points out that if students stay for an extra semester, they can walk away with an additional diploma for ASR.

"Taking that even one step further, we have a transfer agreement with the Institute of Technology in Carlow, Ireland. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed recently, and under this graduates from our AME program can be granted credit for the first two years of a three-year Bachelor's degree in Aircraft Systems Engineering."

Graduates from CNA's AME program currently qualify to receive credit towards their Transport Canada Aircraft Maintenance Engineer's license. Under the MOU, those who choose to continue on to Ireland will also qualify to receive credit

towards their European Aircraft Maintenance license, qualifying them to work in any country belonging to the European Union.

"So now, in addition to offering students a nationally accredited program and the option of receiving a second diploma with just one extra semester, graduates of our program can receive a degree in just two semesters. When you factor in the costs of training in this manner, what a fantastic bargain it is."

Dwyer says there is currently no wait list for the AME program.

"Some people think there is a huge wait list. If people applied now they would probably be in for the September start. The flipside is that we can't graduate enough people to fill the demand. Even in today's economy, we don't

graduate enough people to fill that demand," Dwyer continues.

"The salary varies widely based on the company and the area of the country that you find work in. In major centres the salaries are high. In Newfoundland for example you might

start off at \$30-40,000 a year but in Toronto the starting salary is around \$45,000. After completing the apprenticeship, an established person in this career should be making between \$80-90,000 a year."

According to Dwyer, they are pleased with the accreditation of the AME and ASR programs. However, he points out that it wouldn't have been possible without the hard work from the amazing staff at CNA.

"It has been a multi-year project to get to this stage and has required a great effort by many people within the college, however I would like to single out Frank Slaney, the coordinator of aircraft programs, and the entire faculty involved with these programs for recognition. They have truly blazed a new trail in the training of AME graduates, one that positions us at the very front of our field."

Building Service Worker program: A great success!

Community partners like the Salvation Army and College of the North Atlantic are working together to make a difference in the lives of individuals in downtown St. John's. This is a great example of community capacity building and giving a "hand up," not a "hand out".

College of the North Atlantic and the Salvation Army has partnered to offer a 12-week Building Service Worker program, with funding from the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment. The target population for this program consists of low income persons with barriers to employment in the downtown core area, including the unemployed, under-employed and in particular those in receipt of income support.

Completion of program will provide individuals with employment skills in the area of building maintenance and enhance their employability options within the community with cleaning

service companies, hotels, public buildings, schools, hospitals and government buildings. It will be an opportunity for individuals to access employment and earn an income rather than obtain income support.

The program is broken into three sections: a three-week personal development concentration, which includes a highly interactive process utilizing facilitated workshops, group dynamics, internet search techniques and presentations; six weeks of Building Service Worker training based on community consultation and research into existing programs – it includes First Aid and WHMIS and other certified training and provides daily hands-on practicum of cleaning techniques and equipment usage at this location and other locations in the community. The third component is the three-week Work Exposure and Job Development, which is secured by an employment coordinator/counsellor and includes resume and cover letter writing to prepare for job search.

For the first component of the program, each participant is matched with a work practicum site and supervisor. Work practicum sites are



A graduation luncheon took place on May 4, 2009 where the eight participants received not only their Building Service Worker certificates, but also their WHMIS and First Aid certificates. A hot turkey dinner was supplied and prepared by the staff at the New Hope Community Centre. For some of the participants, this was their first graduation from any education/training program.

»Continued on page 15

Contract Training & Continuing Education Update

»Continued from page 11

Instructor Conference in Corner Brook in recognition of her dedication to the program. Sharon is the lead on this initiative within the provincial CTCE business development team. Since 1994, the college has delivered the Firearms Safety and Hunter Education courses to over 70,000 individuals from campus locations and

in communities throughout the province in partnership with the Department of Environment & Conservation and the federal Canadian Firearms Agency using a roster which currently includes over 70 instructors.

4th Class Power Engineering Award

A graduate of the Corner Brook campus' 2009 4th Class Power Engineering Class, Michael Small, was recognized as the winner of the national 2008-2009 Fourth Class Student Award. The award was presented at the 2009 Interprovincial Power Engineering Curriculum Committee (IPECC) Conference in Montreal last May. The award was sponsored by PanGlobal, a national publisher of training materials specific to the power engineering occupation, recognizes excellence in achievement and is highly sought after by almost 40 colleges across Canada which submit student names for nomination. The first place winner is chosen by combining in-school marks with the student's results in the national standardized examinations. Michael had a combined average of 89.5

per cent – the highest in the country. The award consists of a \$1,000 cash prize, participation in the award presentation, and a book contribution in Michael's name made to the college's reference library. Instructor Russell Hatcher and Dean of Industrial Trades, Norris Eaton, accompanied Michael to the Montreal conference.



Sharon McLennon, CTCE business development coordinator for CNA, was presented with a painting by Chris Baldwin of the Department of Environment and Conservation for her contribution to the FS/HE program.



Michael Small, a graduate of the 4th Class Power Engineering Class at Corner Brook campus, accepts his 2008-2009 Fourth Class Student Award at the IPECC conference in Montreal.

Early childhood education program now available online

Students across the province can now complete the college's Early Childhood Education (ECE) program online with the help of an \$800,000 investment by the Provincial Government.

The web-based program was launched June 10 at the college's Bay St. George campus. The Honourable Joan Burke, Minister of Child, Youth and Family Services, and the Honourable Darin King, Minister of Education, attended the event hosted by Cyril Organ, vice president - academic and learner services and Terry Styles, chair, CNA board of governors.

The online program model has been introduced in phases over the last two years. Previously, the distance program was available only in correspondence format. Now, students can complete courses towards the Diploma of Applied Arts in Early Childhood Education almost entirely online through the software capabilities of Desire2Learn, the college's e-learning management system. However, students are still required to complete practical field placements at approved child care programs.

"This gives people who are interested in a career in early childhood education and who are living in more rural areas the option to pursue their goal," said Minister Burke. "It also allows professionals to upgrade their qualifications while continuing to work in the field."

The online ECE program will cover the same curriculum as the campus-based programs at the Corner Brook, St. John's and Happy Valley-Goose Bay locations. Like their campus counterparts, students will be eligible to apply

for various certification levels through the Association of Early Childhood Educators of Newfoundland and Labrador as they progress through the program. The web-based program is self-paced so students can fit in courses around work or life commitments.

The announcement reflects the Provincial Government's commitment in its \$90 million White Paper on Public Post-Secondary Education to ensure education is more affordable and accessible for all. Under the White Paper, \$500,000 has been provided annually to College of the North Atlantic and Memorial University to expand distance education programming to rural communities.

"One of the goals of our government is to ensure students are given every opportunity to pursue a higher education and access relevant programs," said Minister King. "Considerable investments have been made in recent years to support advances in technology and distance learning. This not only supports the growth of individuals, but the sustained economic growth of the province overall."

Online courses have many advantages over more traditional correspondence courses. Students are less isolated as they can discuss and learn online with their classmates as well as with the instructor. Course content is easily updated and information is presented in a number of formats, such as visuals, interactive graphics and video clips, to support a variety of learning styles.

"The goal of the web-based program is to make early education courses more accessible

to a wide range of students and to ultimately boost enrolment and interest in the field," said Organ.

"Early childhood education is a rewarding career for students looking to make a significant difference in the lives of children and their families," he said. "This program is essential, not only for reasons relating to children's overall development and well-being but because it also serves as an important economic development function for the province's labour market."

Graduates of the full-time ECE Program who have provincial student loans and agree to work in licensed child care centres for two years upon graduation are eligible to have their provincial student loan forgiven through the Department of Education's Student Financial Services Division.

The Provincial Government also provides \$1,200 bursaries to assist students attending summer field placements at CNA child care centres. Graduates who remain in the province as early childhood educators are eligible to receive up to \$6,660 per year through income supplement grants.

"Our government is committed to attracting and retaining early childhood educators in this province," said Minister Burke. "After all, research shows that children's experiences in the first five years of life have a life-long effect on health and overall success."

Race to the Sea

Glen Dolomount shows off his manliness.



Todd White finishing up his leg of the race.



Staff members from CNA Headquarters and the Bay St. George campus took part in the annual Race to the Sea event in Port aux Basques on August 8. Team Crusin' N' Amusin' placed 9th overall with a time of 11:37:10. Members of the team included, front from left, Michelle O'Quinn, Madonna Warren, Glen Dolomount, Rhonda Collier, Deidre Dunne; back from left, Anthony Sutton, Jeff Boardman, Todd White, Kevin Deveau, Mary Vaughn and Deborah Jennings.

Building Service Worker program: A great success!

»Continued from page 13

varied and include private cleaning firms to non-profit organizations such as the YMCA and local churches. While on the work placement, the participants are treated as employees and are expected to perform the duties/tasks required of the host organization. Host organizations also set the hours of work and duration of the shifts. Most participants are paired with an existing employee to work alongside. The work practicum not only gives participants the opportunity to practice and refine their new

skills, but also to develop the opportunity for future employment. This can happen should the host organizations have vacant positions or to provide a work performance reference for participants who are applying to other positions.

The program started on February 9, 2009 and eight participants graduated on May 1, 2009. To date, six of the participants have obtained employment. The employment coordinator/counsellor is working with the other two participants to find employment and provide

continued support to all the participants.

Funding has been approved for another offering of this program, starting in September 2009.

*Submitted by: Brian Hicks,
business development officer, CT&CE*

Leadership Appointments

TRUDY BARNES

Trudy Barnes has accepted the position of campus administrator at Prince Philip Drive campus. Most recently Trudy was associate campus administrator at Prince Philip Drive campus. She is dedicated to the students on Prince Philip Drive and has always put learners first in her priorities. Over her many years with the college Trudy has served as an instructor, cooperative education supervisor and instructional coordinator at Prince Philip Drive. She moved to program development with CNA and then to Qatar to build the program development department at the Qatar campus. She completed her time in Qatar as a member of the leadership team in the position of chair of programs, responsible for staff in program development, accreditation, professional certificates, and work term placements.

GERARD MORRIS

Gerard Morris has been an employee with the college system for over twenty-five years. During that time he has worked at campuses in St. Anthony, Gander, Grand Falls-Windsor and Prince Philip Drive. He is a graduate of the college leadership program and has served as coordinating instructor at Grand Falls-Windsor and Prince Philip Drive campuses. Prior to joining the college, Gerard worked as an accountant in the oil and gas industry in Alberta.

Gerard has been an active member in his community serving on the board of the Community Youth Network, MacMorran Community Centre, school council, as well as coaching and managing minor soccer and hockey teams. In addition, he served as fac-

ulty advisor to SIFE (formerly ACE-Cabot), was a facilitator for Junior Achievement and was a founding member of the Atlantic Colleges Centre for Entrepreneurship Development.

Gerard completed his Bachelor of Commerce at St. Francis Xavier University and furthered his studies through the Society of Management Accountants of Canada, as well as the Canadian Association of Petroleum Accountants. Gerard, along with his wife Wendy and son Derek reside in Paradise.

CATHY FAVRE

Cathy Favre has accepted the position of associate campus administrator at Prince Philip Drive campus. Cathy recently returned to the college and has served as an instructor, campus administrator and training consultant with continuing education and contract training working across programs and campuses throughout the region.

Favre brings with her over 20 years experience in technology, adult education and training, entrepreneurship, and eLearning across many sectors locally, nationally and internationally. She has held leadership roles in numerous organizations in Canada and the US. Most recently, she worked with the Newfoundland and Labrador Angel Network utilizing her background to train, coach and mentor innovative local companies in angel financing to help them to the next stage of commercialization.

CHRIS PATEY

Chris Patey began his employment with College of the North Atlantic as a student development officer at the Labrador West campus in

2001 and joined the Seal Cove campus in 2004. Chris has devoted much of his time to learner services and student success. He has been an active member of the campus leadership team, local marketing team, provincial recruitment team, and career fair committee. He was provincial coordinator of the Virtual Job Fair. This unique project was offered in partnership with Memorial University and successfully connected students and alumni throughout the province with employers from across the country.

Before joining the college, Chris completed a Bachelor of Business Administration from Acadia University. He was employed at Grenfell Regional Health Services as a part of the human resources management team in medical services. He also worked for Human Resources Skills Development Canada and was the Youth Ventures program coordinator in St. Anthony. During his time at the college Chris has completed a Master's of Business Administration Degree at Memorial University along with courses in adult education, by doing evening and distance courses after work.

Chris enjoys outdoor activities such as snowmobiling, hunting and going for walks with his wife Kelly and dog Riley. He also holds a private pilot license and enjoys spending time in the clouds whenever possible. He is excited to note that he is expecting twins during the winter of 2010! He is pleased to begin his new role and looks forward to working with the faculty and staff at the Seal Cove campus.

Grad embraces international experience at CNA-Q

My name is Jennifer Hunt and I am from Conception Bay South, Newfoundland and Labrador. I have recently graduated from College of the North Atlantic's (CNA) Ridge Road campus with a diploma in Petroleum Engineering Technology and am now working with Imperial Oil Resources in Cold Lake, Alberta as a subsurface technologist. During my three years at CNA I learned quite a bit. Not just regarding the oil industry and academics but about myself as a person, what I want to achieve with my life and how I should go about achieving it.

I became social coordinator for the student council in my second year of college and enjoyed the leadership role, and I loved all the new people I met because of it. As a result of this I decided to run for Student Council president in my final year. I did and won. As I was performing my duties as president I attended a meeting with all of the other CNA Student Council presidents across Newfoundland and Labrador. This group is called the Council of Student Executives (CSE). During this meeting we were informed we were also an official council and therefore we would need a president, vice-president, etc. I was nominated and



While visiting CNA's campus in the Middle East, Jennifer was treated to a tour of Doha, which included a sampling of local fare, sand duning in the desert and camel riding.

got the position of President of the CSE.

This role brought on even more responsibilities but I loved every minute of it, especially having the opportunity to be a part of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) and learning about all the great things they do. I travelled around the province for meetings and travelled to Ottawa a couple of times with the CFS but I had no idea I would be invited to go to Qatar at the end of my semester. I was invited to attend CNA-Qatar's graduation and gladly accepted to go on behalf of the students from Newfoundland and Labrador. It is such a privilege to have one of our campuses in such a beautiful country.

It took approximately 30 hours to fly to Doha, Qatar – the longest journey I have ever been on. I travelled from St. John's to Halifax, where I met up with some others travelling from CNA's Headquarters in Stephenville; we all had such a great time together! We flew from Halifax to Heathrow International Airport in London, England, then from London to Doha. The minute we stepped onto our flight to Doha on Qatari Airways, we were treated like royalty and it only got better when we landed. The people were amazing from the beginning. They did everything in their power to make us feel comfortable and to make sure we enjoyed our time there to the maximum.

The city and its people are gorgeous and the architecture is just so intriguing. We stayed in a five-star hotel called the Sheraton Hotel and Resort. The view from my room was breathtaking and the building itself was astonishing. I have never seen anything like it before and I have vacationed in many places. The food was great and the service was fantastic. Our first full day there we had a tour of the country as we headed to the desert in Land Cruisers. I caught a quick glimpse of the gas refinery they have there. I found that very interesting since it is in my field of work.

There were three Land Cruisers, with myself, Libby Chaulk, associate VP of learner services

at CNA, Brad Jenniex, a welding instructor from CNA's Corner Brook campus, and Gayle Holmes, who recently moved to Doha to work with the



Jennifer Hunt, CNA graduate and Council of Student Executives president, was invited to attend the CNA-Q graduation in Doha. She had the opportunity to meet with the two CNA-Q valedictorians. From left, Hunt; Karim Bakhsh, Engineering Technology graduate; and Aisha Ghani, Health Sciences graduate.

college as the new HR manager there. In the other two Land Cruisers were other members of the Newfoundland and Labrador delegation, including the Minister of Education, Darin King and his assistant Derick Reid.

When we went to the desert a few of us had the opportunity to ride camels. I was extremely excited because it was my first time seeing a camel, so I was the first to jump at the opportunity to ride one. Being the first also means you are the guinea pig. Those things are not very gentle, falling to their knees when it's time to get off so hold on tight! It was so much fun. I am happy to tell you Minister King rode one too.

After the camel ride the drivers let some air out of their tires to create better traction in the sand, and off we were to find sand dunes to drive over. And did we ever! I had the time of my life cruising up and down the dunes. Libby held on for dear life and closed her eyes but Brad and I thoroughly enjoyed the rollercoaster-like ride. After a long day of zipping around and stopping for pictures with Saudi Arabia in the background, we were brought to a part of the desert where there was a little camp made for us. The people there had set up tents with a dining area and had cooked us a fabulous meal.

»Continued on page 18

St. John's campuses introduce wireless service to students

Students looking to pass time between classes, or even do research for a class assignment; will now be able to do so via wireless internet at three College of the North Atlantic campuses.

The Prince Philip Drive, Ridge Road and Seal Cove campuses in St. John's had their internet capabilities upgraded recently so that individuals can jump online from various hot spots throughout the buildings.

Gary Comeau, manager of information technology infrastructure, and the project manager for the Student Wireless Project, contacted other government educational organizations throughout Atlantic Canada as part of a feasibility study that led to the creation of a final three-phase project plan for wireless services.

"The objective of the plan is to deploy a centrally managed, feature rich student wireless network at all campus locations throughout the province in an effort to provide CNA's students with a more flexible and rewarding learning environment," explained Comeau.

The wireless capability has been under discussion within the senior management and IT groups of the college for a number of years; however with the recent addition of various technical requirements it has begun to take life.

CNA Systems Analysts Lee Pederson and

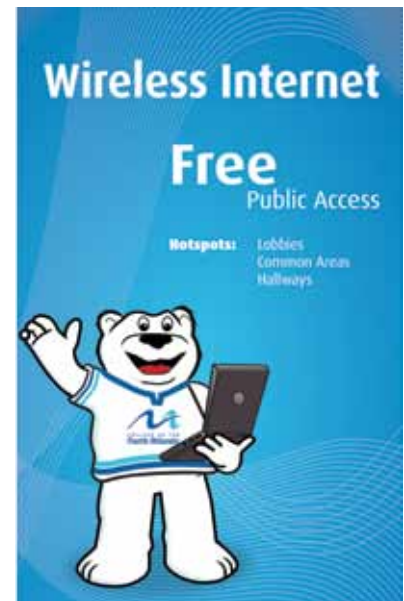
Stewart Hamlyn have completed the initial deployment of the wireless system at the St. John's campuses of the college, which went live on September 30. Both analysts are confident that the system will be available as per the project plan timelines for phase one.

Phase one will see wireless network access to the public with internet being made available in campus libraries, cafeterias, lounges and common gathering areas at all campuses of the college by early 2010. This service will also be accessible to the public who can benefit by having access to resources found on the public internet.

"Basically, this is the deployment of a cyber café within all college campuses where individuals who wish to use their own personal portable computing devices capable of accessing the network may do so at their own discretion," stated Comeau.

Phase two of the plan will see a security environment and governance strategy deployed to allow students and approved college partners access to internal services found on the college's provincial wide area network. This phase of the project will start up in the fall of 2010.

"Phase 3 is planned to see us deliver virtualised applications images that will



allow the student to work on their course of studies at home, in class, or on the grassy knoll outside," explained Comeau. "Using the personal technology they are familiar with in their private lives, we could, for instance, deliver the college SharePoint portal to their iPhone or Blackberry, supply voice over internet protocol (i.e. SKYPE) type services for DL or learner to learner communications."

Office Administration Curriculum Team holds two-day workshop

The Office Administration Curriculum Team held a workshop at the Capital Hotel in St. John's on June 9-10 to discuss issues within the OA programs and to share best practices.

The workshop, the second annual face-to-face event for the team, included sessions on program review, outcomes-based teaching and learning, outcomes assessment, best practices and Desire2Learn. The participants also heard presentations from Judy Kendall, coordinator of disability services at Prince Philip Drive campus, and Mary French, past-president of the Eastern Canada division of the International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP).



Members of the Office Administration Curriculum Team gathered in St. John's last June to discuss a variety of program areas. Information from the workshop will be used to improve the OA programs and prepare for program review, which will start in the fall of 2010.

Information from the workshop will be used to improve the OA programs and prepare for program review, which will start in the fall of 2010. This team is one of five in the School of Business & Information Technology and consists of representation from the 12 CNA campuses that offer OA programs (including Qatar), plus representation from DLS.

Eighteen members, all instructors in the Office Administration program, attended the workshop which was facilitated with support from the program development office.

Grad embraces international experience at CNA-Q

»Continued from page 16

I really enjoyed trying different food in Qatar. The setup was on the beach by the Arabian Gulf. I could tell everyone just wanted to jump into the water but no one would go all the way, so I thought I would start the trend. It was nice and refreshing after all day in the desert.

The next day we relaxed by the pool in the hotel for a little while and then went and did lots of shopping. My favorite part! The shopping there is incredible. During our stay we had a day to go to the CNA-Q campus. It is absolutely amazing! There is no way for me to describe it. Descriptions and pictures will never justify the beauty of this campus. It is like a five-star resort times 100. I cannot imagine ever being stressed out while attending that college campus. It is just mind blowing. And the facilities they have are the top of the line. These students have everything and more when it comes to learning tools.

My jaw dropping experience on the CNA-Q campus tour continued into the graduation ceremony for the students of 2009. Their graduation was as if everything was covered with

gold. The room was decorated to perfection and the students were praised and highly recognized for their hard work. I felt so proud of them, especially for the Qatari women. Seeing a female walk across the stage and accept her diploma was great. Just a few years ago education for a woman wasn't commonplace, along with many other things; but it is a cultural difference and I enjoyed learning about it. I have a lot of respect for Qatari people after seeing and learning their culture.

I could go on forever telling you more and more about Qatar and what I learned, what I bought in the gorgeous malls, and how much I loved being there. But this can only be so long, so to clue up my experience in Qatar I will say that I greatly appreciate having that experience and thank CNA for the amazing opportunity. I would go back in a heartbeat for a vacation, for work, or to live.

If I could express anything to current and future students of CNA and of other institutes, I would encourage you to be involved with your campus. Be a part of your student council, be a

part of the CFS and if you have the chance to apply for student exchange opportunities, do it! My experience with CNA as a whole was absolutely amazing. I learned a lot, achieved a lot and the opportunity for me to go to another country such as Qatar topped my college experience off to an extreme I never expected. Post-secondary years are the best years of your life; enjoy them to the fullest and travel, not only to learn about other people and their cultures but it will also help you learn about yourself and what you want to achieve in life. It has made me a better person by knowing what else is out there and how others live their life.

I want to thank College of the North Atlantic once again and I hope every CNA student enjoys the experience there as much as I did.

League for Innovation in the Community College

The college recently renewed its membership in the League for Innovation in the Community College. The college's membership in the League Alliance provides access to innovative ideas in learning, assessment, technology, leadership, workforce development, diversity, sustainability and fundraising from the best and the brightest in the community college world.

Membership benefits also include the opportunity to connect with a wide range of community college professionals and corporate leaders who have experience in programs, practices, policies, and other areas that can help this institution achieve its goals.

The League's clearinghouse of relevant resources for all employees in the college community can be accessed through iStream, the

League's electronic database. This tool provides unlimited access to all League books, monographs, and publications in digital format. It also contains a wealth of video-streamed conference keynotes and special sessions.

CNA's membership in the League includes a

The college's membership in the League Alliance provides access to innovative ideas in learning, assessment, technology, leadership, workforce development, diversity, sustainability and fundraising from the best and the brightest in the community college world.

subscription to iStream for all college personnel. To take advantage of this resource for continuous learning, please visit the League website at www.league.org, click on the iStream link, and then click on Create Your iStream Account, and follow the directions from there.

The League posts links to new develop-

ments, resources and best practices on a monthly basis. College personnel are invited to visit the site often, and engage colleagues in dialogue on what's happening in community colleges around the world.

More than 900 institutions and their campuses from 11 different countries and territories make up the League for Innovation. The League partners with more than 160 corporations and works with a host of other organizations, foundations, and government agencies to bring ground-breaking ideas to all of the League Alliance members.

*Submitted by: Sheldon Brown,
professional development coordinator*

The link between privacy and information management

Access to Information and Protection of Privacy has become an integral part of our everyday lives – so much so that September 28 is recognized internationally as “Right to Know Day”.

A public body or organization is expected to be accountable and transparent; and while modern technology has simplified some aspects in our lives and our environment, it has also led to a greater need to protect the information that is in the control of a particular organization.

Governments and other public bodies, as well as private businesses and other organizations, subject to personal information protection statutes, are obliged to maintain records that enable the public to obtain information. The

ability to locate, retrieve and disclose records within timelines set out in governing legislation depends on the public body or private organization having effective records management practices in place.

An excellent place to begin would be for the public body or private organization to estab-

“Implementing comprehensive records management practices and procedures for the maintenance, retrieval, use, disclosure, accessibility and transmission of these records is a key factor in complying with access and privacy legislation.”

lish clear and comprehensive Records and Information Management Principles to be used as a guide for complying with the governing Information Access and Privacy legislation.

A systematic method used to manage records or documentation within an organiza-

tion is paramount in ensuring the proper creation, receipt, use, storage, short and long-term retention and disposal, protection and maintenance of records during and after their use in an operational setting.

Technology is constantly changing, yet following the technology-neutral standards set out in ISO 27001/27002 and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) guidelines is a sure-fire way to address and protect information

privacy and security.

A beneficial retention and disposal schedule is needed for the information throughout its entire lifecycle, starting from the creation of a record through to its disposal. The “leg work” required to gather the necessary information

»Continued on page 20

CNA-Q welcomes staff and students for 2009-2010

College of the North Atlantic-Qatar (CNA-Q) has welcomed new and returning staff and students for the 2009-2010 academic year.

The arrival of new instructors and support staff is directly related to an increased student enrollment over previous years, with 1,800 students currently registered for full-time courses for the fall 2009 semester. CNA-Q will hold a second registration period in January for students enrolled in the winter 2010 semester.

Both students and staff participated in orientation sessions which included tours of the campus, question and answer periods with current students, and information sessions. Throughout both orientations there was one common theme – the uniqueness of the CNA-Q experience for employees and students.

Interim President Enid Strickland said, “One of the special benefits of studying at CNA-Q is the students’ interaction with other students in a learning community and the opportunity to

study in an international learning environment at home in Qatar.”

Strickland has been with the campus since its inception in 2002 and has seen CNA-Q grow from a small organization with less than 200 students and 50 staff members to the second largest post secondary school in the State with 1,500 graduates to date.

One of the many exciting services available to students is the international education office, which provides information on continuing education in North America and Europe. CNA-Q has many articulation agreements with universities that allow graduates to pursue graduate and post-graduate degrees. In addition, the office also coordinates the many educational excursions taken by CNA-Q students each year. In 2008-2009, students were able to participate in conferences and competitions in countries including Ireland, Turkey, Canada, the United States and Finland.



New staff and faculty members at CNA-Q gathered for the annual fall orientation in August to mark the start of the 2009-2010 academic year.

Violence prevention courses offered at Prince Philip Drive

Prince Philip Drive campus will be offering a course this month that focuses on factors which contribute to violent behavior and how individuals can proactively build self-awareness.

The Violence Prevention course is an 18-hour professional development program for child and youth care workers, educators, social workers and others who work with youth or who have an interest in violence-prevention. The course focuses on proactive strategies and methods for helping youth develop non-aggressive ways of relating, improve communication skills and form healthy relationships.

The instructor of Violence Prevention, Andrew Safer, is co-developer and lead writer of *Healthy Relationships: A Violence-Prevention Curriculum*, a 54-session program for adolescents that has been implemented internationally in both community-based and school settings. As a youth program developer, workshop facilitator, communications consultant and writer, Andrew developed and directed the Youth in Care Newsletter Project, a program for adolescents in the child welfare system in Halifax, before moving to St. John's in 2008.

Throughout the 18-hour course, Andrew will help participants explore key themes such as the roots of violence, overcoming gender stereotypes, problem solving, developing emotional intelligence, dealing with difficult emotions, and communicating assertively. Ashley Crocker, with the Association for New Canadians, found the course to be a platform for learning.

"The Violence Prevention course has proven to be an excellent experience for both professional and personal development," she stated. "Andrew has facilitated an environment where people from a variety of different career paths and organizations have been able to come together to learn about the roots of violence and engage in meaningful discussions, as a platform for learning. This course has truly been a positive, enlightening experience and has helped me to both further existing knowledge and develop new skills for working with my client group."

The Violence Prevention course can be beneficial for any type of individual, those already involved with youth or those that are consid-

ering a career change aimed towards helping youth. Sylvia Goobie did just that when she enrolled in the program.

"I have decided to change fields from a business background to work with the children and youth in our province... I thought that the information would be a great start toward my new journey," she said.

"We cover many very important topics that relate to most people in our society such as power and control in relationships, gender stereotypes, and violence prevention, just to name a few. It has been very enlightening because it is an indication that more and more people are becoming educated in areas that are otherwise never talked about or dealt with. Programs such as this one should start in our primary school system so that the children of the future are educated from a very young age what violence/abuse is, how it's recognized, and how it's dealt with as they grow into adults and shape our country, 'when you know better you do better.'"

The program will be offered from October 13-27 on Tuesdays from 9 am-4:30 pm. Course registration is \$260 + tax and texts are included.

The link between privacy and information management

»Continued from page 19

and follow the retention schedule enables the organization to properly organize and care for its records, and thereby comply with legislation. Then, an organization would be certain to feel confident that it is providing proper care for its records.

Delete doesn't and restore won't

Although legislation requires that records be kept only as long as necessary for the purpose for which the information was originally collected, it is not uncommon for an organization to keep records for as long as possible "in case they're needed".

As Enron and, more recently, the British Columbia government discovered that practice weighs heavily against the organization – and can both result in and complicate lawsuits. That is why it is so important to have a standard set of principles to follow when dealing with the retention of records.

The words "retention" and "disposal" carry a lot of weight. Each public body or private organization that is responsible for the access to and protection of records should have in place a clear and unambiguous retention and disposal schedule – an important tool that provides for the timely and orderly disposal of records and the appropriate preservation of archival records.

The process of managing an organization's records is both good business and a fundamental aspect of complying with privacy and access legislation. To manage records properly, a public body or private organization must realize that information has a life cycle and that not all records and information must be retained.

Meeting these responsibilities is not a simple task

By adhering to privacy protection requirements and following guidelines developed to assist in the implementation of Information

Access and Protection of Privacy, a records manager or analyst could feel very secure in knowing that the information within an organization is being properly handled from creation to archiving or disposal. The public would also feel very confident that the information held within an organization is being properly maintained. After all, it is our information... our right.

This article was written by Tola Hulan, records analyst with CNA's Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Office, for The Winston Report. The report is the quarterly newsletter for the Canadian Association of Professional Access and Privacy Administrators.

Shaping communities

Global Design Students helping others around the world

By definition, service learning is a method of teaching, learning and reflecting that combines academic classroom curriculum with meaningful service, frequently youth service, throughout the community. To that effect, Global Design Students (GDS) has made an impression on communities worldwide that will last for generations.

Global Design Students is an educational program-based, student driven and community focused organization comprised of students from various post-secondary institutions around the world. The organization was formed in 2004 by Jan Cowan of Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) and Cluny Way of College of the North Atlantic. The group was structured as a platform for international service-learning projects.

Over the past five years projects have ranged from assisting residents and businesses affected by the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, to renovating and revitalizing a canal market in Thailand that had fallen into disuse.

Cowan, who is the current director and associate professor of the Architectural Technology program at IUPUI, says project management has been fundamental in organizing projects as broad in scope and as widespread in geographic distance as the ones they have encountered.

"The management of projects varies with the type and source of the project," says Cowan. "When a project comes through IUPUI then our school tends to take the role of the manager of that particular project. If it originates in Thailand, for example, then the Thai colleagues would tend to perform most of the management of the project."

"At IUPUI we take the projects first to our student group: Global Design Students, which is an IUPUI registered student organization. Then, an executive body of GDS students, along with

faculty mentors, determines how the project will be managed."

A recent project that GDS has been involved in, in conjunction with the college's Ridge Road body of GDS, is the movement to utilize shipping containers as homes, businesses, shelters and homeless reprieves in the State of Hawaii and the City of Indianapolis. Craig Greene, instructor of architectural engineering, and two architectural engineering students, Allison



CNA has been actively involved in the multi-institution Global Design Students organization since its inception in 2004. Craig Greene, instructor of architectural engineering, and architectural engineering students, Daniel Bridger and Allison Vivian assisted with turning shipping containers into homes, businesses, shelters and homeless reprieves in Hawaii last June.

Vivian and Daniel Bridger, joined the IUPUI group in Hawaii last spring. Twenty students in total were on hand for the project, including 18 from IUPUI with Vivian and Bridger from CNA.

"A core value for Jan and me in founding this organization is that as much control and credit as possible for GDS projects go to the students themselves, in their work with real clients and other students throughout the world," says Way, architectural engineering technology instructor.

"Instructors serve mainly as advisors, mentors, and facilitators. This serves to build stronger networks for our students which they take with them upon graduation. Plus it gives them a true sense of personal accomplishment resulting in greater confidence as they enter a new career in the global economy."

"In addition to the container project, which

CNA third year students will be conducting studies on beginning in January for their application to Newfoundland; the college is also hoping to soon conclude its agreement with Habitat for Humanity here in Newfoundland," added Way.

"Many of our (GDS) projects have provided students with hands on experience as we work with the process of design and build," explains Cowan. "Students have had the opportunity to design interiors, build walls and structures, renovate houses, redesign communities, develop videos, promotional posters, present at international conferences...the GDS experience is truly experiential because it focuses on real-life situations."

Cowan goes on to explain that the international component of GDS is significant in that it brings together expertise and sets of experiences that students would not normally be exposed to. It has opened up many opportunities for students to travel all over the world, work on international projects and experience other cultures. It also exposes the students to the quality of other student work, their methods of working, the software they are using and the types of projects they are exposed to.

Despite its numerous successes, GDS continues to suffer growing pains as many newly formed organizations do.

"Perhaps the most difficult part of GDS is finding the extra time to manage the projects," explains Cowan. "At IUPUI the projects are often included within the classroom as so many of our students work full-time. This has required a lot of planning and coordination. As well, there is a lot of trust put in the remote institutions and clients. The people we work with across the globe must be committed to the planning and organization."

Funding these ventures also takes time, seeking out grants, writing proposals, as well as filling out the enormous amount of paperwork required to travel safely. Miscommunication has

»Continued on page 24

Instructional coordinator turns published author

Susan Fowlow is not your average woman. First of all, she's a mother and a very proud one at that, an accomplished instructional coordinator at College of the North Atlantic, a feminist activist, a community developer and last but not least, a very talented academic writer.

Susan recently published her first book, *Women and Motherwork: Raising families and communities*. While conducting research for her thesis, Susan discovered the Newfoundland women who participated in the development and sustainability of communities within this province, were absent from our history. Susan found that women's contributions to the society was often behind the scenes and rarely documented. Once discovering this, she made a goal to, as stated in her book, "...tell the story of my efforts to examine the vital role that women play in developing and nurturing communities."

With that in mind, further research was required. She gathered information through focus groups aimed at women ranging between the ages of 50 to 88. The women were from various backgrounds and were raising their families during the years of 1940-1970. Her objective was to seek their views on what they personally added to the social and economic development of their communities.

Most women of that era didn't view themselves as community developers, just mothers. They were responsible for raising their children, taking care of their husbands and running the house. Generally, those women were greatly involved in their churches, making sure families in need were feed and that fundraising for the needy was underway. Susan realized what those women were really doing, was not just mothering, but raising future politicians, teachers, clergy - all of which would contribute to the growth of our province, socially and economi-

cally. The actual future of Newfoundland and Labrador was in those women's hands. This had to be documented for future Newfoundland and Labrador woman to learn and be inspired by.

Susan's book was picked up by a publishing company in Germany, VDM Publishing House, which publishes academic research worldwide. They annually publish more than 10,000 new titles and are one of the leading publishing houses of academic research, specializing in publishing theses, dissertations and research projects.

Susan didn't have trouble getting her book published; she actually wasn't looking to publish it until VDM contacted her, and of course she jumped at the opportunity. The company markets the book for her and has made it available at www.amazon.com, but she ultimately would like to see it in the educational system, used as a text or incorporated as a great reference to students enrolled in women's studies.

When asked about what she wanted to accomplish with this book, she stated it was about the message itself.

"For me, one of the things that is significant is that the women of our history became invisible. I didn't want those women to be forgotten. It was troubling that junior high school girls, for instance, weren't learning about the history of women in this province and what they contributed to their communities."

Susan was grateful for the opportunity to learn more about herself while researching the history of women in this province.

"I learned more about my own family, and as well as the history movement in Newfoundland. I have become much more informed," she states. "I discovered that I'm actually academic, I never really placed myself



into that category before. I hope to continue writing in the future and would like to work on a PhD program."

Now, with her first book published and out there for everyone to enjoy, and study with, Susan has found her calling. Her flair for education resides in the knowledge of a combination of community development, women's history and the province of Newfoundland and Labrador. She has brought the "behind the scenes" role of Newfoundland women in community development forward for all to acknowledge.

However, at the end of the day, a great accomplishment will be knowing her daughter can grow up in a place where women were involved in the development, growth, and sustainability of their communities.

To purchase a copy of Susan's book, visit www.amazon.com. For more information about academic publishing, visit www.vdm-publishing.com.

Landlubber's galley!

CNA's Grand Falls-Windsor campus participated in the Lewisporte Boat Show which took place June 18 - 21. The Boat Show showcased the Newfoundland and Labrador Boat Building industry to local, national and international consumers. Gander campus student development officer, Kent Aitken and GF-W's business development officer, Derek Hicks, were on hand to help showcase the Marine Cooking program. They were joined on June 21 as Marine Cooking students along with their

instructor, Elizabeth Moss, were at the booth preparing and serving hors d'oeuvres and a selection of sweet treats to the public. They attracted plenty of attention and we were by far the most popular booth at the show.

Marine Cooking students joined CNA staff members at the Lewisporte Boat Show to feed the masses and raise awareness for their Contract Training and Continuing Education program. From left to right, Frank Dyke, Vicki Howell, Deanna Burry, Brandon Mercer, David Boyle, Elizabeth Moss (instructor) and Wanda Oram Canning.



Ride for Sight revved up by CNA support

In 2004, having participated in a couple of Annual Ride for Sight NL events, I noticed that the majority of riders and passengers were of a specific demographic, about the age where their children would be making decisions about post-secondary education. A quick phone call to the NL Ride organizers and I found out that approximately 1,500 riders and their passengers participate annually.

I had a promotional idea in mind, CNA bandanas! Riders wear them under their helmets and around their necks for warmth (and to keep the helmet from itching) and they tie them to their bikes to wipe off wet seats. So I pitched an idea to Brian Tobin, we could market CNA to this particular target group by providing a CNA promotional item to Ride for Sight participants. Brian bought the idea, and we were off!

According to the Ride for Sight website, it is Canada's largest motorcycle charity fundraiser. Funds raised are used for much-needed research into the causes, treatments and ultimately the cure for all retinal diseases.

Newfoundland and Labrador Ride for Sight is organized by a dedicated volunteer committee representing many different motorcycle organizations within the province. They are a group of riders and friends who volunteer their time, and talents, year-round to develop a first-class celebration that everyone is welcome to participate in and enjoy.

The promotional idea was a hit! So much so that in 2005, Brian Tobin contacted me, and said

"Let's do this again." So another load of CNA logo-covered bandanas were delivered to the Community Centre in Gander in time for Ride 2005.

I knew we couldn't keep using bandanas, so in 2007, I pitched the idea of kickstand pads,



The provincial Ride for Sight committee presented CNA with a plaque at this summer's event in appreciation of the college's support over the past five years. Accepting is Sheila Robinson of the Grand Falls-Windsor campus.

small hard plastic disks that motorcyclists can use under their kickstand when parking on gravel, grass, or new pavement. By now, the marketing department at headquarters was getting excited about the idea, and a flurry of design ideas were pitched until they had something they were happy with. Not just the CNA logo this time, but flames as well. Very cool...I suspect there are a few bikers in the marketing department.

Somewhere along the way, I brought the idea to the provincial recruitment team, and

asked that this be added to their annual work plan.

In June of 2008, when I delivered the wallet-sized First-Aid kits to ride coordinators Gary and Pauling Horwood, they told me that the items the college had provided over the past three years had been very well received by the participating riders, and they were looking forward to our delivery this year.

The 2009 promotional item came from the marketing department, who were clearly on board with the idea, a keychain-sized tire pressure gauge. This year, when I delivered my sponsorship money (I have continued to participate in Ride for Sight as a rider every year) organizers Keith and Gail Clancy asked me to return on Sunday, as they wanted to present an award of appreciation to the college for our support.

On a personal note, the best part has been meeting new students as they register for programs and recognizing them as the children of Ride for Sight participants.

More information about Ride for Sight can be found on their website at www.rideforsight.com/nfld.php.

Submitted by Sheila Robinson, an avid biker and instructor at the Grand Falls-Windsor campus

New IT capabilities prepare CNA for worst case scenarios

College of the North Atlantic and Dell Canada recently completed a partnership that will ensure the college's information technology capabilities remain in place in the event of a natural or man-made disaster.

The partnership, featured on the Dell Canada Case Study website, was developed to meet an existing challenge at the college. The Dell ProConsult Services team worked with the college in developing a solution to protecting data

and keeping the organization running in the event of a disaster, while also accommodating the expansion of IT services by designing and deploying a flexible and scalable in-house disaster recovery solution.

The project was successful on a number of fronts, including coming in more than \$25,000 under budget and forecasting a savings to the college of more than \$300,000 over the next four years. These savings will be in the form of

reduced costs for hardware, maintenance, support, power and cooling of IT infrastructure.

"Provincial analysts Guy Fillatre, Peter Gullage and Stew Hamlyn utilized their technical skills and abilities to think outside of the box in integrating multiple cutting edge technologies crucial in the success of the project," said Gary Comeau, manager of IT infrastructure. "Whether it was in the concept war rooming exercise; the wide area network redesign and

»Continued on page 24

Shaping communities

»Continued from page 21

also been a problem as one encounters differences in cultures and native languages.

The long term hope is that GDS becomes more multi-disciplinary and reaches out to students who normally would not get these opportunities. The group has recently formed two components: the student group: Global Design Students and the professional body: Global Design Enterprise. The intention is to continue to develop and promote projects that are student based.

"But we also want to provide a professional organization where students can intern and also work after graduation," continues Cowan. "In five years I hope that we have both of this soundly in place with a group of individuals working full-time on the management of these projects."

Cowan looks at the organization continuing to reach out to those in need of their varied expertise. He also sees them as an example of how to sensitively steward the use of the earth's resources, explore new technologies to do so, and continue to offer up educational experiences that are truly transformative and will give the students of the future a richer comprehension of the world and their place in it.

And if they are able to reach those goals, where will they go from there?

"In ten years I hope that we have our students and graduates running these organizations on their own and that we can pass the torch on to the next generation of GDS participants."

New IT capabilities prepare CNA for worst case scenarios

»Continued from page 23

configuration; the virtualization of the network operations center, or the design, mapping and documentation of the required data structures, these individuals worked shoulder to shoulder with industry leading consultants. Their skills and work ethic is something I and everyone can take pride in."

On multiple occasions the CNA team provided technical design solutions for issues that the varying consultants viewed as 'show stoppers'. By the time the project was complete Dell Canada requested a debriefing of the college team to assist in the formulation of a technical play book for a new Dell business unit planned to supply similar solutions to their clients.

"The relationship between Dell and College of the North Atlantic is mutually beneficial and

covers all areas with Information Technology," said Kyle Schilke, Service Solutions Executive at Dell. "Dell aims to provide customers with pillars of efficiency in procurement, services and standardization. "

"The college was engaged with Dell in all areas and our recent success in the virtualization project clearly demonstrates a solution involving software, hardware and services procured under a single provider (Dell) with single point of accountability."

The case study can be viewed at www.cna.nl.ca/news/pdfs/Dell_CNA.pdf.

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. Let us know how we can make CURRENTS a better newsletter for you.

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