

## Real Estate Foundation builds on success with Institute of Urban Ecology

The Douglas College Institute of Urban Ecology (DCIUE) plants its 50,000<sup>th</sup> seedling this year – and a new \$150,000 donation from the Real Estate Foundation of BC will help ensure the work continues.

The latest donation builds on 10 years of support from the Real Estate Foundation, which has donated \$400,000 to the DCIUE since 1994. The total doubles to \$800,000, as Douglas College commits to finding matching funds from other sources for each donation. The Real Estate Foundation's backing plays a major role in maintaining the Institute's day-to-day operations, says DCIUE Executive Director Dr. Valentin Schaefer.

"This new donation from the Real Estate Foundation provides important core funding that enables us to continue to be active in

environmental and land-use projects around the Lower Mainland," says Schaefer. "Having funding for day-to-day operations allows us to secure special-project funding from other sources for the work we do. Once we match the latest donation, total funding for the Institute from all sources will reach \$3 million."

Douglas College faculty and students volunteered on many environmental projects through the 1980s, leading to the formation of the Institute of Urban Ecology in 1994. It's been a busy decade. The Institute has involved over 7,000 volunteers in plantings and watershed cleanups, and presented educational events to almost 20,000 students and community members. The DCIUE also develops major environmental-enhancement projects such as Green Links and works in environmental planning and data

gathering with governments, developers and community agencies.

Real Estate Foundation Chair Ken Henderson says the Institute's record of accomplishments and community teamwork was a deciding factor in the latest donation.

"We were persuaded to offer the endowment funding because of the Institute's on-going success involving many community partners in a range of stewardship projects that deliver education and restoration," says Henderson. "In particular, we are pleased that the Institute has effective working and funding relationships with industries operating in the region."

Looking ahead, the Institute plans to remain active in major new residential developments in the Tri-Cities.

"We are planning to work with developers," says



The Institute of Urban Ecology has involved over 7,000 volunteers in community plantings and watershed cleanups.

Schaefer. "The objective is to find ways to maintain natural habitat beyond the minimum legal requirements."

For more information about the Douglas College Institute of Urban Ecology visit [www.douglas.bc.ca/iue/](http://www.douglas.bc.ca/iue/) or call 604-527-5522.

### VanCity grant funds Burnaby ecology project

Residents of Burnaby's Capitol Hill have a chance to enjoy a greener community, thanks to the Douglas College Institute of Urban Ecology and a recent grant from VanCity.

The VanCity Community Project Grant provides support to projects that contribute to the social justice, economic self-reliance and/or environmental responsibility of the community. The grant was awarded to the Institute of Urban Ecology earlier this year.

The project aims to create a greener Burnaby through community participation. A series of fun and informative workshops were held in January and February.

The workshops will culminate in a celebration of the Capitol Hill Greening Project on March 20 from 2pm at McGill Library (4595 Albert Street).

Volunteers and the community are invited to gather for a community mapping exercise, where everyone can identify places of natural and cultural significance to them and place them on a map. There will also be a question-and-answer session with native plant specialists and free cake.

On March 24 at 6:30pm, there will be an Organic Garden Lecture and slide show at the Coquitlam Library City Centre Branch. Community plantings are also planned for Spring 2004.

Pre-registration is required for the workshops. Call 604-527-5522.

## New floors to be full when they open

Spanking new computer labs, shiny new tiles in the bathroom and the faint smell of fresh paint – the final touches are being put on the new fifth and sixth floors at Douglas College's New Westminster Campus, which will open to students for the Summer Semester.

"We're done on time and on budget," says Facilities Director Terry Leonard, with just a slight note of pride. "The construction is finished and now they've moved on to what they refer to as FFE – Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment. The custom-made furnishings are

mostly installed and they're just finishing off the details."

The 20,000-square feet of new space will be home to four meeting rooms, nine computer labs including space for the Health Information Services Program, which is relocating from the first floor. "They're thrilled about that," says Leonard.

The desks in the new labs are multi-functional – they convert from regular desks to computer desks, so the rooms can be either standard classrooms (most with U-shaped desk formations) or computer

labs. Built to purpose, the rooms have reflective ceilings that deflect sound and an attractive, efficient lighting system. The elevator to the new floors starts at the fourth floor.

Leonard points out that the new floors are livelier than the rest of the floors at the New Westminster Campus: "Because there was more structural steel used in the construction than concrete, the floor could give a perception of having more of a bounce to it when there's a lot of people about."

Right now, the floors are empty, but there will

definitely be a lot of people about since the new floors will be full to capacity when they open. For a sneak preview, attend the Educational Services Vice-Presidential Selection Forum on March 8 and 9 (see page 2

for details).

*Below: Right now this new computer lab on the fifth and sixth floor is empty, but come the Summer Semester, the new computer labs will be fully occupied.*



### Quote of the Month

*"I've learned more in the last month than I ever imagined. I would not have wanted to graduate without this experience."*

Computer Information Systems student Cindi Louis on her experience in Douglas College's Co-operative Education Program (see page 2).

# Events Calendar

All events take place at the New Westminster Campus unless otherwise noted.

**Until Friday, April 2**  
The Amelia Douglas Gallery presents *Illumination* by Sibeal Foyle  
For gallery times, call 604-527-5495

**Monday, March 1 to Friday, March 5**  
The Douglas College Foundation and the Alumni Association host *Double Your Fun Week* Events in the Concourse at New Westminster

Campus and the Atrium at David Lam Campus.  
Watch for the flyer  
**Monday, March 1 to Friday, March 6**  
Writer-in-Residence

reading series: acclaimed Canadian poet and writer Rhea Tregebov leads a series of public readings. For events visit [registrar.douglas.bc.ca/calendar/event.php](http://registrar.douglas.bc.ca/calendar/event.php)

**Wednesday, March 10**  
*Emotional Intelligence and Critical Thinking* with the Philosophy Department's Leonard Angel

## Co-op Program provides a window of opportunity for students and employers

John Blackwell couldn't believe his eyes. The Computer Information Systems Program instructor was visiting two of his students on their Co-operative Education placements at Starline Windows, a Langley-based window manufacturer.

"I got so excited when I looked around and saw so many of my former students," says Blackwell.

Starline's Information Systems Manager Terry Vipond has hired 12 Co-op students from Douglas College in the past eight years. Six have stayed on as permanent employees.

"We have a history of students who stay on at their company as permanent employees when their Co-op term ends," says Paula Renning, Co-operative Education Program Coordinator at Douglas College. "For the employer, it's a chance to try out a new employee with no strings attached. Often employers are very happy with the calibre of our students and continue to hire new Co-op students each semester."

The Co-operative Education Program at Douglas College provides students a chance to gain paid, full-time work experience related to their program of study. The office also provides free services to employers who want to hire Co-op students, including job postings, resume screening and interview scheduling for business, arts and science and students.

Starline Windows currently has two Co-op students from the Computer Information Systems Program at Douglas College, Cindi Louis and Yi-Ted Tai.

"One of my instructors, Ray Yu, hunted me down in the hallway and said, 'Cindi, you've got to apply for this Co-op position,'" says Louis, who lives in Port Coquitlam. "I've learned more in the last month than I ever imagined. I would not have wanted to graduate without this experience. The instruction at Douglas College is fabulous, but there's nothing like real-life application in the work world."

Louis also recognizes that Co-op gives her a chance

to explore career options. "There are so many different areas in information technology. The Computer Information Systems Program trained me in networking, programming, Web development and more. Co-op is a great opportunity to test-drive a career."

Richmond resident Sonny Wong started at Starline Windows as a Douglas College Co-op student three-and-a-half years ago, and now he is the company's Software Developer. "I'd recommend Co-op to anyone. It's very practical. You take what you learn in College and apply it in the workplace. You get a chance to meet people in industry. And if you're lucky, you get a job. After my Co-op term ended, they asked me to stay."

Co-operative Education students at Douglas College are looking for summer placements now. For more information about the Co-operative Education Program at Douglas College, please call 604-527-5100 or visit the Web site at [www.douglas.bc.ca/coop](http://www.douglas.bc.ca/coop).



The Douglas College contingent at Starline Windows: Information Systems Manager Terry Vipond (right) keeps hiring Co-op students from the College. He says there's no need to go anywhere else.

### TV producers come out for Diversity Week

TV producers from the Shaw Multicultural Channel will lead presentations and group discussions at both campuses during the College's annual Diversity Week from March 22 to 26.

They will talk about their experiences with the College, showing clips of

different programs as examples. They will discuss how they became involved in the field and what makes them passionate about their work.

The event takes place Monday, March 22 from 2-4pm at the New Westminster Campus (room TBA) and

Thursday, March 25 from 2-4pm at the David Lam Campus (room A1190). All students, staff and faculty are invited to participate. Stay tuned for information around the College on other great events coming up as part of Diversity Week, including the President's Writing Contest on Diversity.

### VP search down to two candidates

Come out and meet the two shortlisted candidates in College-wide forums for the Vice President, Educational Services position, currently held by Al Atkinson who is retiring this summer. During the first half-hour of the forums, the candidate will tell you about himself/herself and do a presentation on a topic of his/her choice; 30 to 45 minutes are then set aside to enable the candidate to respond to questions from the floor. The sessions will end with an informal reception, giving you an opportunity to informally interact with the candidate. On Monday, March 8

from 12 to 2pm, you can meet Blaine Jensen. Jensen is currently Dean of Students at the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology in Saskatoon. He was awarded his MEd from Oregon State University with a major in College Student Services Administration. On Tuesday, March 9 from 12 to 2pm, in the same location, you can hear from Jan Lindsay. Lindsay is currently Dean of Child, Family and Community Studies at Douglas. She was awarded her Doctorate of Psychology in Organizational Development from the Professional School of Psychology in Sacramento, California.

Following each presentation, an informal reception will take place down the hall from the meeting room, in the lounge alcove. The forums take place in room 5105 at the New Westminster Campus. They are using the new fifth floor – access to the floor is via Stairwell 6 across from room 4208, or via the new elevator on the fourth floor north, across from 4211A. Members of the Selection Committee will be there to observe and receive feedback from the College community. College President Susan Witter expects the committee will have concluded its work by March 10, and plans to announce the successful candidate shortly after that.

### HSBC creates bursary for Aboriginal students



From left to right: HSBC Senior Vice-President of BC Region Bill Crawford, College President Susan Witter, HSBC Foundation Member Randy Barrington-Foote and Douglas College Board Chair Bill Gartside. Thanks to HSBC, Douglas College now has its first-ever bursary fund specifically designated for Aboriginal students. Representatives from HSBC presented their third cheque (of a total \$15,000) to Douglas College President Susan Witter in February. The money established the HSBC Aboriginal Bursary at Douglas College, which now has a total of \$30,000 thanks to matching funds. The first bursaries were given out in Fall 2003 – four Aboriginal students received \$400 towards their education.

noon-1pm, Room 1805  
**Saturday, March 13**  
 WomenSpeak Workshop:  
*The Potter's Art and Hands-on Slip-painting*  
 Learn simple techniques with ceramic artist Gillian

McMillan, using homemade liquid clay slips on clay tiles. Sponsored by the Leon and Thea Koerner Foundation  
 9am-noon, room 1620, \$10 fee

**Monday, March 15**  
*Get Growing*: envision a "story garden" and create an action plan. Marion Rutter will show you how to start your organic seeds, replenish and prepare the soil and save

space by planting complementary companions. Sponsored by the Green Team.  
 noon-1pm, Boardroom (room 4920)

**Thursday, March 18**  
 Noon at New West presents *Student Showcase Recital*  
 12:30 pm, Performing Arts Theatre

**Thursday, March 25**  
 Noon at New West presents: *Student Showcase Recital*  
 12:30 pm, Performing Arts Theatre

## People love a good witch hunt, says play director

Arthur Miller probably wouldn't approve, shrugs Conrad Alexandrowicz, the director of *The Crucible Variations*, on stage March 12 to 20 at Douglas College's Performing Arts Theatre.

The director and his cast have taken the themes and images from Miller's play *The Crucible* and created new scenes, spanning the era from Salem 1692 to a futuristic Christian fundamentalist state.

"The themes from *The Crucible* are timeless," he says. "The content – accusation, suspicion and jealousy – echoes in all societies. Whether it's a witch hunt in Salem or a terrorist hunt in America, it's the same demonization

of otherness – the tendency to see things in completely black and white terms... that simplistic thinking human beings are so fond of."

*The Crucible Variations* also incorporates excerpts from the original play and parts of Eric Bentley's play, *Are You Now or Have You Ever Been*, which is based on the American government's hunt for suspected communists from 1947 to 1956.

"*The Crucible* was also a parable about the Un-American Activities Committee, which was created by the American government to go after Hollywood leaders and other intellectuals during the Cold War. Miller was

struck by the similarities of the two witch hunts. Even the words used in court by lawyers in both cases were eerily similar."

Student actors get a chance to test their acting prowess by playing several different characters. They also worked collaboratively in teams to develop some of the scenes.

"The play shows that displays of abusive power, like Salem in the 1690s and Washington in the 1950s are just as common today," says Alexandrowicz. "The moment we feel threatened, our society is ready to violate human rights in the interests of preserving ourselves and

our social order."

*The Crucible Variations*, a presentation by Douglas College's Theatre and Stagecraft departments, runs March 12 to 20, evenings at 7:30pm with two-for-one performances on Tuesday at 7:30pm and Saturday, March 13 and 20 at 2pm.

Performances take place in Douglas College's Performing Arts Theatre, 700 Royal Avenue, New Westminster (one block north of the New Westminster SkyTrain station). Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$5 students and seniors. To order tickets, contact the box office at 604-527-5488. For group bookings, call 604-527-5281.



Douglas College theatre students Matt Zustovic and Jessica Willan deal with timeless themes in *The Crucible Variations*.

### Students can explore options at Career Fair

What kind of work would I like to do? What kind of skills and knowledge do I require? What kind of education or training will help me reach my career goals?

The answers to these questions and much more can be found at the Alumni Association's 15th annual Career Fair on Monday, March 8 at the New

## Zastrozzi brings morality circus to Douglas College stage

Director Denise Kenney turned to the experts to create an atmosphere of chaos in the upcoming Douglas College production *Zastrozzi*. She brought in Canadian pro wrestler Vance Nevada to help the actors develop wrestling moves for the fight scenes. Former student Brad Tones, who is certified in sword-fighting for the stage, came to help the cast enhance their combat skills.

"*Zastrozzi* is a morality circus," says Kenney. "The philosophy of the play is that life is a series of meaningless events. In order to avoid despair, you have to keep occupied. And that's what the characters do – sometimes with violence."

The performance takes place in a set-up akin to a circus ring. The actors are encircled by the audience, except when the events transcend the boundaries of the stage.

All of the characters are animalistic – larger-than-life archetypes driven by sexual and lustful impulses. Kenney says they're typical of characters crafted by the play's author, George F.

Walker, known for provocative, political plays.

The characters each have their preoccupations to pass the time. *Zastrozzi*, played by Surrey's Baljinder Grewal, is fixated on revenge. "*Zastrozzi* is a wonderful psychopath," says Kenney. "He's the negative, natural consequence you can't avoid in life, like getting hit by a bus. There's no rhyme or reason – it just happens."



Theatre students (left to right) Craig Messere, Adri Searcy, Baljinder Grewal and Sean Ewing fight it out in *Zastrozzi*, running March 5 to 13 at the College's Studio Theatre.

Other characters are obsessed with romanticism, honour, cruelty and reason.

In the end, despite all their different preoccupations, chaos reigns supreme.

*Zastrozzi*, a presentation by Douglas College's Theatre and Stagecraft departments, runs March 5 to 13, evenings at 7:30pm with two-for-one performances on Monday and Thursday at 1pm,

Tuesday at 7:30pm and Saturday at 2pm. Performances take place in Douglas College's Studio Theatre, Room 4140, 700 Royal Avenue, New Westminster (one block north of the New Westminster SkyTrain station). Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$5 students and seniors. To order tickets, contact the box office at 604-527-5488. For group bookings, call 604-527-5281.

## Event magazine celebrates winners



From left to right: Reading at Event Magazine's celebration of the 2003 creative non-fiction contest were runner-up John Vigna (a graduate of *Print Futures: Professional Writing*) and winners Jancis Andrews and Andrew Westoll.

The terrifying experience of a child exploring a bombed-out house in World War Two England, the exploits of a primate researcher in the jungles of Surinam and the ordeal of an environmental activist who ends up in jail – these stories were the winners in *Event* magazine's 2003 creative non-fiction contest, celebrated in a reading held February 25.

"Creative non-fiction, if it truly casts a spell, proceeds like fiction, carried along on the lovely slippery back of the language it crafts," wrote

contest judge Marnie Jackson, author of *The Mother Zone and Pain: the Fifth Vital Sign*.

*Event*, Douglas College's award-winning literary journal, aims for diversity, excellence in expression and intensity of experience. Two of the contest winners, Jancis Andrews and Andrew Westoll, and runner-up John Vigna read at the event, which took place in the Boardroom (4920) at the New Westminster Campus.

For more information, call 604-527-5293.

# Events Calendar

Continued from page three.

**Friday, March 26**  
*Annual Scholarship Benefit Concert* with Douglas College Chorus and Chorale and the Douglas College Concert Band

8pm, Performing Arts Theatre. Admission: \$10 general, \$5 students and seniors. Douglas College students free, tickets at the door

**Monday, March 29**  
*An Evening of Jazz* with Douglas College Jazz bands directed by Robert Caldwell and Robin Shier, 8pm, Performing Arts Theatre, Admission: \$10 General, \$5 students and

seniors. Douglas College students free, tickets at the door

**Tuesday, March 30**  
*Co-op Housing - Shining Example of Participation or Hell Run* by a

*Committee?*  
Join Jennifer Kirkey, a faculty member in Science and Technology and a DCFA Vice President, for an informative session on co-op housing. noon-1pm, room 1806

## Web registration for College employees

Summer 2004 registration for College employees begins March 24. To receive priority registration, please be sure you fit into one of the following categories:

1. If you attended classes in the Winter Semester, call the Office of the Registrar at 604-527-5356 and identify yourself as a College employee planning to register for the Summer Semester.
2. If you are a College employee with a student number and you did not attend classes in the Winter Semester, complete an Application for Re-admission form to reactivate your student number. (Be sure to identify yourself as a College employee when reapplying.)
3. If you are a College employee without a student number, complete an Application for Admission form and return it to the Office of the Registrar as soon as possible. Be sure to identify yourself as a College employee when applying.

If you are in doubt as to the fee exemptions you qualify for as a College employee, please check with the Employee Relations office.

## DVST Students Surveyed

The College's 2004-05 budget plan includes a recommendation that regular tuition fees be charged for Developmental Studies students who have graduated from secondary school. Currently, DVST courses are free. DVST faculty have completed a survey of DVST students. For details contact Program Coordinator Joyce Cameron at 604-527-5156.

## Marketing instructor gets certified



Willis Turner (left), President of Sales and Marketing Executives International (SMEI), and Gerard Edwards (centre), a marketing instructor at Douglas College, displays Edwards' newly minted certifications, Certified Sales Executive (CSE) and Certified Marketing Executive (CME), along with College President Susan Witter. Edwards has been on educational leave since last spring, working as SMEI's Acting Director, Education. His job: revamping the organization's CME, CSE and SMEI Certified Professional Salesperson (SCPS) credentials, which included writing textbooks and creating resources for the programs. Now, the revamp is done and Edwards has the credentials to prove it. "I wanted to be sure that material in the certification programs melds really well with what we're teaching at the college and university levels in North America," says Edwards. "The long-term goal is for college and university graduates to get credit in the certification process for their education."

## Briefly

The Faculty of **Child, Family and Community Studies** is co-sponsoring a conference *The Importance of Research for Family Theory and Therapy* on March 5 and 6. Speakers include Dr. John Gottman of the renowned Gottman Institute in Seattle, where they do research on relationships and divorce prediction, and Dr. Michael Kerr of the equally renowned Bowen Center for the Study of the Family in Washington, DC. The conference is just about fully booked, but for more information, contact instructor Nancy Newman at 604-527-5590.

**Michael Wilson** (Geology and Anthropology) has co-authored two articles in the February issue of *Geotimes*, the journal of the American Geological Institute. The two articles make up this month's feature story, which relates to geology and the early peopling of the New World. One article, *The Ice-free Corridor Revisited*, considers the decreasing likelihood that the first

people to arrive in the mid-continent migrated southward through the Yukon and Alberta between the retreating ice sheets near the end of the last glaciation. The second article, *Quest for the Lost Land*, discusses the increasing likelihood that people migrated down the West Coast through lands subsequently inundated as the ice sheets melted and sea levels rose. The articles mark the latest round in a long-standing debate that may soon be coming to resolution as archaeological and paleontological finds continue to accumulate.

**Shony Bar-Elan** of Applications Services made number 5 on the *SoundClick World Jazz Charts* with his latest jazz track called *Oasis*. Congratulations, Shony.

**Kimberley Fehr**, the Writer/Media Specialist in CMO (and the editor of this newsletter), recently

had two freelance articles published in the *Georgia Straight*, and one in the *Vancouver Courier*.

The **New Horizons Community Concert Band** is looking for new members. If you have previous band experience at the intermediate or Grade 3 level, they are looking for you. They meet Wednesdays from 6:30 to 9:30pm. Cost is \$120 for 17 sessions. Contact Gary at 604-592-0032 or e-mail gwbateman@shaw.ca.

Drop by the **Bookstore** and take advantage of the Annual Pre-Inventory Sale; all sweats are 25 percent off until March 12.

The Women's Centre wishes to remind students and staff about the **Mother's Room** (room 322 on the third floor of the Students' Union Building). The room provides a quiet place for breastfeeding. Pick up the key at Students' Union Resource office (second floor of the Students' Union Building), the

Women's Centre, Continuing Education or from Security (after hours and weekends).

Looking for a relaxing holiday? Enjoy beautiful Long Beach on Vancouver Island while staying at the Summerhill Guest House, in a peaceful old-growth rainforest setting. Check out the Web site at [www.tofinlodging.com](http://www.tofinlodging.com) or ask **Ginny Batke** at 604-527-5439 in Administration for a brochure.

Get away from it all and rent a three-bedroom cabin near a sandy beach, close to Sechelt on the Sunshine Coast. Fully equipped kitchen, barbeque, fireplace, large living room, sundeck, canoe and pickle ball court. July and August \$400/week, September to June \$350/week. Call **Jean Hammer**: 604-939-5777.

New Westminster Campus' **Bill Hughes Family Library** is proud to welcome more cutting-edge technology, affection-

ately referred to as **Hal**, the self-checkout unit. Hal's been with the Library since December of 2003 and they're confident that he will prove an invaluable asset in coming rush periods. If you're tempted, come and ask the Library staff for a formal introduction. Remember, bring your library card with you and choose some books to checkout before you begin. You'll be as excited as the Library staff are to see how accommodating and simple Hal is to use.

She hasn't even graduated yet, and she already has a job. Congratulations to former Community Music School Program Assistant **Catherine Jones** (and Print Futures: Professional Writing student) on her new job as a program and volunteer coordinator with the Fraser River Discovery Centre.

Congratulations to **Carolyn De Melo** who was filling in for Ian Cockfield as the Assistant

Editor at **Event Magazine**, Douglas College's award-winning literary publication. De Melo has accepted a position working at the Office of Research Services at UBC as their Grant Applications Assistant.

**Mag Lam** moves from auxiliary to regular Program Assistant I at The Training Group. **Maxine Gracey** moves to Departmental Assistant II in the Psychiatric Nursing Department.

**Anar Amlani**, ER Manager, has resigned. **Ross McKinnon** has accepted the position of Pensions and Benefits Manager, effective March 1. Ross comes from the Capital Regional District in Victoria where he held the position of Manager, Employee Resources. In addition to his experience in all aspects of human resources, Ross is skilled in the areas of pension and benefit administration and human resource information systems.