

PIN NEWSLETTER

Postsecondary International Network
Spring 2010 Edition



PIN Conference 2010 - Hawaii

Conference Theme: Leadership in Entrepreneurship Through Optimizing Local Advantages And New Technology

Maui College hosted the 2010 PIN Conference in Hawaii. The conference was attended by 31 delegates and 15 companions, which was one of the larger conferences. PIN countries represented were: Australia, Bahrain, Canada, New Zealand, United Kingdom, and United States.

Building upon 2008's conference contributions by Adam Smith College and 2009's New Zealand's Sustainability Theme and the educational and economic challenges faced by most if not all institutions in all countries. The focus of the conference was on exploring strategies relevant for PIN program, institutional, student and service area self-sufficiency through concepts related to entrepreneurial and free/private enterprise development. Three topical tracks were complimented by presentations and site visits throughout the conference.

Track 1: Leadership in Entrepreneurship – PIN's institutional role in stimulating students and communities to create and/or strengthen new enterprises

Track 2: Leveraging Local and Institutional Comparative Advantages – How can PIN institutions create and add value to student learning and community economies through collaboration

Track 3: Optimizing Anticipated Broadband Ubiquity – How can telecommunications and distance education technologies more effectively serve our PIN students, institutions, and communities

The conference started in Honolulu on Monday, April 12, and concluded on Maui on Friday, April 16. The first two days of the conference included visits to Windward Community College and Honolulu Community College. At Windward Community College's Hokulani Imaginarium delegates experienced a high-tech planetarium and multi-media facility. At Honolulu Community College delegates recorded "We are the world" while experiencing the Music & Entertainment Learning Experience (MELE). The delegates heard from Linda Smith, Senior Policy Advisor, John Morton, and Vice President for the Hawaii Community College System, and Senator Norman Sakamoto at the State Capitol. A visit to the Bishop Museum provided an opportunity to learn about the Hawaiian culture and history.

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Conference participants flew to Maui for the final phase of the conference. Delegate experienced Haleakala National Park, home to Maui's highest peak. Rising 10,023 feet above sea level, Haleakala's slopes can be seen from just about any point on the island. Haleakala means "house of the sun" in Hawaiian. The trip back allowed the delegates to view firsthand the entrepreneurial business of the Lavender Farm and the Waipoli Hydroponic Lettuce Farm. Both have strong connections to Maui College. The conference concluding event was a catamaran cruise highlighted by whale watching.

In addition, PIN delegates made presentations on issues and programs from their colleges. Speakers included:

Larry Litecky, President Century College - "Entrepreneurial Institutional Practice: Century College and the GPS Life-Plan"

LaVern Franzen, Retired President Central Community College - "Incubator Program: Central Community College"

Bahrain Polytechnic Team (John Scott, Aalaa Al Laith, and Amal Al Seleh) - "Bahrain Today"

John Maddock, CEO Box Hill Institute & Pauline Farrell, Learning Design Manager - "Benchmarking International Leadership Capability"

Craig Thomson, Principal Adam Smith College- "The "Magic Dust" Benchmarking Style and Stamina"

Fiona Haynes, Dean Christchurch Polytechnic Institute - "A Continuous Improvement Approach to Enhancing Industry Partnership Provision"

Tom Thompson, CEO Olds College - "A Place to Learn"

Sam Shaw, CEO Northern Alberta Institute of Technology - "From Myth to Market: Fostering a Culture of Start-Up Success at NAIT"

Peter Kowald, Jerome de Rose Canberra Institute of Technology - "Canberra IT Systems"

2010 PIN Delegates - Maui, Hawaii



PIN Installs Tom Thompson as President, Thanks Outgoing President Craig Thomson



Craig Thomson

Craig Thomson, Principal of Adam Smith College (Scotland) completed his term as President of PIN (2008-2010) at the 2010 PIN Conference in Hawaii. During Craig's term as president PIN expanded membership to Bahrain, cosponsored Adam Smith Lecture Speech by Kofi Annan, Former Secretary-General of the United Nations, spearheaded the PIN Leadership Benchmarking initiative, among many other achievements. As a result of his leadership PIN continues to provide an international network for two-year colleges. Craig was thanked for his many contributions to PIN. Craig will continue to serve on the PIN Executive Committee.



Tom Thompson

Tom Thompson, President of Old College (Alberta, Canada) was installed as PIN president for the 2010-2012 term. During his tenure as president of two Alberta colleges – Olds College since 2001 and Grande Prairie Regional College, 1997-2001 - Tom has drawn on a rich background in education and sports-related coaching, marketing and administration. His personal commitment has galvanized the faculty, staff, students and alumni of Olds College to achieve a broader educational and community role for the College. With the backing of a strong team, Tom is working with government, industry and communities to achieve the Community Learning Campus (CLC) goal of a seamless and integrated learning environment, one which will help rural students remain in rural Alberta. Tom is looking forward to advancing the goals of PIN during his term as president.

Future PIN Conferences

2011 PIN Conference - Dates are June 19-24, 2011- Canada is the host country.

Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, Olds College, and Southern Alberta Institute of Technology will co-host the 2011 conference. The conference will start in Edmonton on June 19 hosted by NAIT. Olds College will host the conference on June 22 at the college. SAIT will host the conference on June 23-24 in Calgary. **Conference Theme: Innovative ways to enhance the student experience.** Members will receive updates as the conference planning progresses.

2012 PIN Conference - Bahrain is the host country

Bahrain Polytechnic agreed to host the 2012 conference. The projected conference dates are October 10-17, 2012. The PIN conference will be presented in conjunction with an education conference hosted by the Crown Prince. John Scott felt that making the connection with the Crown Princes' conference would expand the opportunities of the PIN conference.

2013 - PIN Conference Location - It is anticipated that Australia would host the conference in 2013.

College Of Lake County Recognized For Study Abroad Programs From CC Times

The College of Lake County (CLC) in Illinois has received top honors for its study abroad program from the Institute for International Education (IIE). CLC was named the winner of the 2010 Andrew Heiskell Awards for Innovation in International Education in the community college category.

CLC created an affordable program to provide about 40 students who come mainly from low-income, diverse and nontraditional backgrounds an opportunity to study a semester at Xi-an International University in China. The program has helped to internationalize the college's curriculum. Since it started in 2008, 17 courses have added East Asian content. The program is also complemented by two short-term summer study abroad programs in China, one focusing on business and culture in China and the other a six-week language immersion experience.

This is the second year IIE has offered the award for community colleges. From academic year 2003-04 to 2007-08, the number of public two-year colleges offering education abroad programs increased by 22 percent, according to IIE's 2009 "Open Doors" report.

American Association of Community Colleges Signs MOU with TAFE From CC Times

The American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) and Technical and Further Education (TAFE) Australia this week signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for the organizations and their college members to collaborate on course and program articulations, lifelong learning and student and faculty exchanges.

Partnerships between members of AACC and TAFE Directors Australia (TDA) will result in sharing of good teaching, learning and leadership practices, among other benefits, according to the agreement. "It opens the door to opportunities for exchange of faculty and leaders, as well as sharing of promising

practices and engaging in cooperative projects," AACC President and CEO George Boggs said about the agreement. "I look forward to working more closely with our Australian colleagues."

TDA CEO Martin Riordan, who is currently visiting and studying U.S. community colleges on a Fulbright fellowship, said one of his goals while in the U.S. is to foster more college partnerships between the two countries. The MOU deals effectively with the scale and extent of the relationship TDA is seeking to build, he said.

"It neatly covers broad parameters at peak strategic levels between our countries, and operationally the MOU reaches across our respective membership, which may encourage teacher exchanges and even look to college networks to widen opportunities for our students, including beginning or completing courses between the U.S. and Australia," Riordan said.

The MOU is modeled after a similar AACC agreement with its counterpart in Denmark. AACC has existing MOUs with others countries, including Canada, China, Ireland, England, Germany and the Netherlands. Each one is slightly different.

Sustainability Focus for Firms in Queenstown, New Zealand **College News Release**

Eight Queenstown companies are taking their sustainable practices to new levels. They are taking part in a programme run through the Centre for Sustainable Practice at the Otago Polytechnic. The programme runs throughout the year and is built around five group workshops, complemented by one-on-one advisory sessions and a tailor-made workshop for each company.

Centre for Sustainable Practice head of school Steve Henry said the programme was designed specifically for Queenstown businesses, and would address the needs of each participating company.

One participant is the Queenstown design and marketing firm Fluid Visual Communications, which also followed the centre's introductory programme last year. "All of our staff here at Fluid are interested in the concept of sustainability, so it is natural for us to take the opportunity to learn what we can about the issue," director Tim Buckley said. "As a design company, we might not be a major 'producer' in the traditional sense of having a large environmental impact." But since we're in the business of advising our clients, we need to be aware of the issues of sustainability, so we can include it in our advice."

Lakes Property Services is also in the programme. "At the first workshop we learned that sustainability is not all about environmental aspects - it's also about people, about empowering staff and being ethical," managing director Joanne Conroy said. "This was not what I had expected to hear, but it has broadened my perspective."

Ms Conroy said Lakes Property Services had been doing a lot of strategic thinking after the February seminar, and she was looking forward to the one-on-one session with the adviser to get tips on how to implement the strategies. "Once we have implemented the sustainability practices, we will later aim to pass these practices on to our many contractors," Ms Conroy said. The centre starts new groups in its introductory programme for Queenstown businesses three times a year.

Learners' Summit at James Watt College

Submitted by Alistair Shaw, Assistant Principal, James Watt College

In January, 2010, James Watt College held an innovative and inspiring Learners' Summit, bringing together decision makers from the college's leadership and management teams with students to generate the college's first Learners' Charter.

To commemorate this pivotal point in the college's history and future, staff and students gathered together at the Finnart Campus on the 26th March, 2010, to unveil a wall plaque, proudly setting out the declaration contained in the Learners Charter.

The journey of the 'Learners Summit' is one that has received high praise from David Cairns, Labour MP for Inverclyde. David said: "A very important aspect is the manner in which these declarations unveiled here today were reached. The idea that learning is passive and students are told what to do is inadequate; it needs to be engaging and creative. The whole process of the Learner Summit demonstrates James Watt College's commitment to engaging and educating our young people to be well rounded and proactive individuals

At the Learners' Summit, representatives from the student body worked with the college's management team, staff, and delegates from the Scottish Funding Council, the EIS and UNISON, to discuss issues of importance to students and determine possible action. At the end of the summit 10 declarations of action had been agreed upon and the college's first Learners' Charter came to life.

Francis McGeachie, Assistant Principal at James Watt College, said: "Learners are at the heart of everything we do at James Watt College, so it is entirely fitting that they were fully involved in the process. This was a genuine opportunity to gain feedback from students, and for them to articulate which aspects of the learning experience are most important to them."

The 10 Learning Declarations of the Learners Charter are as follows:

1. People are different and we commit to treating others as we and they wish to be treated
2. We commit to listen and respond to one another
3. We commit to learners being at the heart of everything we do
4. We will provide virtual social and learning spaces to enhance learning and promote a community of learners within 2 years
5. We will introduce suitable types of work experience as an element of each college course within 2 years
6. All learners should and will be supported to actively participate in their learning and the life and work of the college
7. We will develop our estate to provide better access to drinking water in all college campuses by June 2010
8. We will provide an appropriate and comfortable learning environment throughout all parts of the college and create focus groups to provide ongoing review of the learning environment and identify key priorities at all campuses
9. We will reduce congestion and increase access to all college services by introducing a system for varying lunch and break times during 2010/2011
10. We will continue to review all college services (canteen, student funding, library, ELS etc...) to ensure they meet the evolving needs of our learners annually throughout the portfolio review process.

**New Early Learning Program Combines
Bachelor of Education Degree and Early Childhood Education Diploma
Submitted by Tony Hanlon, President-CEO, Lambton College**

Beginning September 2010, Lambton College will launch a new program designed to meet increased provincial demand for primary teachers and early childhood educators. Partnering with University of Windsor's Faculty of Education, the two-year program will qualify graduates with both a diploma in Early Childhood Education and a Bachelor of Education (Primary-Junior) degree. Ontario's full-day early learning initiative for four and five-year-olds will commence its phase-in this fall, with a plan to equip all elementary schools for the program by the 2015 school year. This new program will result in a sudden increased need for qualified educators.

Both academic institutions are renowned for their approach to education. Windsor's Faculty of Education prepares teacher candidates with a solid theoretical foundation in teaching methodology, combined with actual teaching practice in the classroom, alongside a qualified teaching professional. Lambton College's Early Childhood Education program offers students the opportunity to gain practical experience working with children at the on-site Ontario Early Years Centre and the Early Childhood Education Centre, while applying the knowledge and theory learned in their courses.

Program instructors will collaborate to plan an integrated approach to early learning philosophy, curriculum development and teaching approaches, with University of Windsor faculty delivering the university-level courses on-site at Lambton College. Students in the two-year joint program will focus on their Bachelor of Education courses during the first and last terms, and will complete the early childhood education component in the second and third terms.

Candidates for the program must have previously completed a three year (minimum) Bachelor's degree from a recognized university. Applicants with university courses concentrated in a curriculum area, such as English, Mathematics, Science, Canadian Geography/History, Fine Arts or Physical Education will be given preference.

**Increased International Student Numbers Benefit Hawke's Bay, New Zealand
College News Release**

Eastern Institute of Technology (EIT) Hawke's Bay's international student numbers are on the rise - outstripping New Zealand-wide growth in the sector over the last year and injecting millions of dollars into the regional economy. Figures released this week by Education Minister Anne Tolley show New Zealand turning around steadily declining international student numbers recorded from 2003 to 2008. This year reversed the decline, with New Zealand attracting 76,562 fee-paying international students compared with 72,540 in 2008 - a 5.5 percent increase.

EIT recorded a 9.9 percent increase in international fee-paying students, up from 373 in 2008 to 410 this year. The students were drawn from 36 different countries and their study programmes covered four faculties. Business and computing was the most popular study area, followed by arts and social sciences, science and technology, and health and sport science.

EIT is on track to earn \$2.734 million from international student fees over the 12-month period - seven percent of its total revenue. Last year, its international fee income was \$2.383 million. "Education is

one of our top three service exports," Tolley said. "Last year it contributed \$2.1 billion to our economy, supported more than 32,000 jobs and provided our education institutions with nearly \$600 million in fees."

EIT's international centre manager Christine Wright said 36 nationalities were represented by international fee-paying students enrolled at the institute, and the benefits were not just financial. "International students bring their own unique flavour and cultural heritage with them from home. They really add to campus life, and we celebrate this diversity with activities held throughout the year."

Local students also benefited from the opportunity to learn alongside students who came from some of the world's largest cities to gain a New Zealand qualification. "It's a win-win for both groups of students."

China was formerly EIT's biggest market for international students. Now the greatest growth came from India, with students from the subcontinent making up 46 percent of the institute's international students. Indian students were not permitted to come to New Zealand for English language courses, and many of those attending EIT were enrolled in business, computing and nursing programmes.

Subcontracted by Victoria University, EIT continued to run short, Government-funded, English language courses for officials from Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos and other South-East Asian countries. Growth in Saudi students coming to study English language had levelled off. "EIT is aiming for 250 international equivalent full-time students next year - eight percent of the study body. That compares to 230 EFTS achieved this year," Ms Wright said.

Mohawk Officially Opens Transportation Centre: College to Thank Province and Marshall Family College News Release

Ontario's largest trainer of apprentices officially opened the \$4.4 million Gerald Marshall Centre for Transportation February 4th at the Mohawk STARRT Institute. More than 400 apprentices will train annually at the Gerald Marshall Centre for Transportation, named in honour of the late Hamilton businessman who founded G. Marshall Transport Limited in 1970 in East Hamilton.

The Marshall family and Marshall Truck & Trailer Repair Ltd. donated \$1.2 million, raised an additional \$350,000 and contributed \$240,000 for student bursaries named in memory of Gerald and Anna Marshall. The Province of Ontario also contributed to the Gerald Marshall Centre for Transportation with \$2.9 million from the Ontario Strategic Skills Capital Investment Fund. Mohawk will recognize the Marshall family and the Province of Ontario during the Feb. 4 official opening ceremony.

The two-storey Gerald Marshall Centre for Transportation will be the new and expanded home for Mohawk's Truck and Coach Apprentice, Truck and Trailer Apprentice and Pre-Apprentice Truck and Coach Programs. Students and apprentices will train for careers in the commercial vehicle and transportation industry.

The official opening of the Gerald Marshall Centre for Transportation completes the \$27 million transformation of the College's Stoney Creek Campus into the Mohawk STARRT Institute. With 4,000 apprentices overall at the College, Mohawk is the largest apprenticeship trainer in Ontario.

College Merger Completed - Wales

College News Release

The final stages of the legal merger of Coleg Llandrillo Cymru in Conwy and Denbighshire and Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor in Gwynedd have been completed. In communications to the Chair of the Corporation, the Office of the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning confirmed that the proposed merger had been approved. The dissolution of the Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor Board followed, with the expansion of the Coleg Llandrillo Cymru Board to include proportional Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor representation.

The resulting merged College is one of the largest in the UK, with around 1300 staff, over 21,000 students studying at nine campuses across three counties and a turnover of around £45m.

Both Colleges have welcomed the news. John Bellis, Coleg Llandrillo Cymru Corporation Chair commented: "We are delighted to have received Welsh Assembly approval and look forward to the opportunities that this merger will bring. Both Corporations were unanimously in favour of a merger which will bring significant benefits to staff, students and communities throughout the region."

"This is an important landmark for the College and the areas served by the extended institution" said Huw Evans, OBE, Coleg Llandrillo Cymru Principal. "The merger will provide opportunities to engage with communities and local business in a way which is supportive and sensitive to local needs. Achieving the highest standards remains the top priority as the new College gathers momentum and this can only be of benefit to students and learners in the area." Some of these benefits are already evident, for example, with preparations well underway for the development of a new Business Point facility at the Dolgellau Campus. The new facility will provide training and support services for employers throughout the region.

From the initial commitment to look at the feasibility of a potential merger, the process took just over a year, including a detailed planning and consultation phase involving several thousand stakeholders. Without exception, all consultation feedback was supportive of the proposed merger, with respondents recognising the considerable opportunities that a new, merged organisation would bring.

Education Minister Leighton Andrews said: "This merger represents a clear commitment to the future of learners in north Wales. In the past, both institutions have played an important educational role in their area. In the future, as one institution their strengths will be enhanced contributing to our transformation agenda while providing the best possible outcomes for their students." Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas commented: "The Welsh Education Minister's decision to review the efficiency of the education infrastructure is a challenge for all who are involved in provision, especially post-16 provision. The merger of Llandrillo and Meirion-Dwyfor will create a robust college in the North that will be able to respond to any new challenge. I am very pleased to be able to support this development."

\$13 Million Horticulture Centre Open for Business at Canberra Institute of Technology

College News Release

The new \$13 million Canberra Institute of Technology Horticultural Training Facility at Bruce Campus is now in business. The new facility will help Canberrans learn the skills they'll need to help make Canberra and other Australian cities more environmentally sustainable into the future. Students will not only learn in these buildings, but also from these buildings and their surrounds. The lessons of sustainability are built into the fabric of this facility.

It features a 5.2 megalitre dam catching runoff, 30 rain and bore water storage tanks which will not only water this site, but that of CIT's strategic partner the Canberra Raiders. The sustainability lessons learned by students will also extend to them using their skills to further improve this facility. Students in Horticulture, Landscaping and Turf Management will work on projects on and around the Bruce Campus making it a 'live' environmental training site. A great education system is one that provides students with the skills they will need for the future. The ACT education system does this, and this facility is a great example of why this is so.

The new facility covers four and a half hectares. The dam will be used as the primary water source for the site, and 23 on-site rainwater tanks, with capacity of 69,000 litres will capture roof runoff from the new buildings and provide additional water for the site.

The new facility will also give students access to the full range of CIT support services. At Bruce, CIT students will have access to a wider range of services which were not able to be provided at the smaller Weston Campus. This includes library facilities, retail and food outlets, study support and CIT Student Association services.

Fire Training Simulator to Provide Significant Benefits To Durham College's Firefighter Students

College News Release

Students in Durham College's Firefighter - Pre-Service, Education and Training program will now have an edge over students training in the same field last month when they became the beneficiaries of an innovative fire training simulator thanks to the a partnership between the college and the Municipality of Clarington, City of Oshawa and Town of Whitby.

"Durham College is thrilled to be working with its surrounding municipalities to offer this state-of-the-art fire training device to our students," said Don Lovisa, president, Durham College. "This is a great opportunity for our Firefighter students and we are grateful for such wonderful community support."

At a ceremony held at the Oshawa Municipal Airport, firefighters and councillors from the all three communities joined Lovisa and local dignitaries as they unveiled a propane training unit that simulates realistic fire conditions. Housed in an eight by 40 foot steel trailer, the unit offers a safe and effective environment for students to train.

"I'm very pleased that we were able to partner on this new training unit," said Oshawa Fire Chief Steve Meringer. "Today is an excellent example of partnerships and we will continue to look for other opportunities for shared equipment and resources in the future."

Firefighter students will be able to practise controlling and extinguishing fires using suppression tactics while learning how to identify dangerous flash-over conditions. Previously, they had to travel to a similar facility more than 100 kilometres away in Norwood, Ontario several times each year to receive the same training.

The joint purchase of the training unit reflects the ongoing collaboration between Durham College and its community partners to deliver high-quality and enhanced education opportunities to students.

New Training for an Emerging World at NAIT College News Release

In a world where technology is evolving at an ever-increasing rate, it has been said that the job you may do in the future may not even exist yet. NAIT's new Nanotechnology Systems diploma – the first such diploma in Canada – is evidence of that reality. The two-year program, launching in September 2010, will provide graduates with the skills to operate systems and equipment associated with Canada's emerging nanotechnology industry.

Nanotechnology is the science of developing materials at the atomic and molecular level in order to instil them with unique chemical and electrical properties. It is a convergence of other technologies: electrical and mechanical engineering, IT, biotechnology, chemistry and material sciences. The field has applications across many industries, products and processes, including energy, pharmaceuticals, textiles, cosmetics, foods and automobiles. For example, micrometer-level mechanical devices built onto semiconductor chips are used to make temperature and pressure sensors, light reflectors and inkjet print heads. Micro-fluidic systems have application in the discovery of new drugs, and micron-scale chemistry is leading to the development of high-performance fabrics able to withstand extreme environments.

The Canadian nanotech sector is just beginning to emerge, and Alberta is a major player. The Alberta government unveiled a nanotechnology strategy in 2007, outlining an investment of funds and infrastructure aimed at capturing a \$20 billion share of the worldwide nanotechnology market by 2020. Alberta now boasts a growing nanotech enterprise sector of more than 40 companies, with many located in the Edmonton region. Labour forecasts for the sector project very strong growth.

NAIT's Nanotechnology Systems diploma will help to prepare the workforce for this burgeoning industry. Graduates will fill technical roles in nanotechnology manufacturing and research departments, supporting engineers and scientists. As such positions will require a range of interdisciplinary skills; the program will provide a strong foundation of electronics, material science, instrumentation, chemistry and biochemistry, supported by courses in communications, ethics and management. Students will gain lab experience and learn clean room protocols in sessions at partner institutions located at the University of Alberta and the Edmonton Research Park.

SAIT News**Submitted by Gord Nixon, Vice President, SAIT**

The past few months at SAIT Polytechnic have been characterized by expansion and growth. In relation to our campus expansion, our old parkade has been demolished, and our new parkade is now in operation. As well, several older buildings have now been demolished. All of this is in preparation for construction of our new Trades and Technology Complex. Excavation, foundation piling, and concrete pouring are now well underway for both the South and Centre Wings of this new complex, and work has just begun on the West Wing. The Complex is expected to open in 2012, and to add 675,000 square feet of new space on campus.

Our international study abroad initiatives also continue to grow. Over the next few months, students from a wide variety of SAIT programs will head to Box Hill Institute (Melbourne, Australia) and the Institute of Technical Education (Singapore) on several different study-abroad programs. Our Hospitality & Tourism students will travel to China and to Germany, and Architectural Technology students will head to Chicago. As well, several SAIT Manufacturing and Automation students are currently spending a semester studying in France, as part of our TransAtlantic Exchange Partnership.

Another interesting area of growth lies in SAIT's move towards building a culture of sustainability. As part of this move, our 2010/11 Cadmus Trades Teaching Chair recipient will develop a framework of sustainability and community engagement. This framework will initially be developed for our culinary programs, but will be transferable to other program areas at SAIT.

This builds upon some of the green initiatives currently underway in the School of Hospitality and Tourism, such as the development of our culinary garden (a living classroom) which will help connect our culinary students to a sustainable environment. Another interesting initiative now underway is our bio-diesel project: a unique filtration system and process that converts culinary waste oil into bio-diesel fuel that is commercially saleable, and that lets SAIT reduce its environmental footprint. Revenue generated from this fuel is reinvested into making the bio-diesel production self-sustaining.

Siouxland Regional Innovation Grant Completes Planning Process at Western Iowa Tech Community College **College News Release**

Western Iowa Tech Community College (WITCC) has published the fourth and final document of the planning phase of a regional effort for workforce development. The four planning documents have emerged from a project conducted by WITCC in partnership with the Siouxland Tri-State Regional Innovation Grant steering committee or "Sioux Crew."

The goal of the project was to outline a plan to help the region better align the skills of the workforce with the needs of business and industry. This plan is contained in the project's key document, "The Siouxland Region Workforce Strategic Plan."

This plan identified five critical strategies for addressing the 11-county Siouxland region's key workforce challenges. These challenges were identified through a series of interviews and focus groups with numerous stakeholders during the project. During two strategic planning meetings, The Sioux Crew and other stakeholders reviewed these challenges and developed strategies in response to them.

Five priority strategies were recommended for implementation. These were: 1) promoting career opportunities available in Siouxsland, 2) fostering efforts to increase productivity and investment in the region's targeted industries, 3) developing and encouraging greater entrepreneurial activity among workers and businesses to generate more regional economic opportunity, 4) enhancing and expanding school district curricula to better prepare students for workplace success, 5) leveraging existing programs, providers, and facilities in the region to expand the delivery of higher education offerings. For each of these strategies, the plan identifies action items, key tasks, and metrics conducive to success.

Box Hill Institute Health & Wellbeing Hub **Submitted by Kerri Ferguson, Box Hill Institute**

Nursing Skills Centre of Excellence

The Nursing Skills Centre of Excellence (NSCE) and the Aveda Institute Melbourne, together form the nucleus of the Health and Wellbeing Hub at Box Hill Institute. The Health and Wellbeing Hub is a \$20 million purpose built facility designed around the concept of "training workplaces."

The Nursing Skills Centre of Excellence was designed in consultation with two major hospital partners as a "virtual hospital", with flexible learning spaces which replicate hospital facilities including an emergency department which can double as a day procedure facility, four bed wards, with handover spaces, an intensive care unit, and a fully equipped operating theatre. The Centre also includes a homecare and assisted bathroom facility designed for aged care and disability training.

The Centre is equipped with 16 state of the art medium to high fidelity manikins to enable the incorporation of simulation as the pedagogical approach to teaching nursing and other health programs. Students are able to gain and improve skills in a safe, non-threatening environment. Students accessing the NSCE are exposed to decision making, critical thinking and team building within a simulated working hospital or health practice environment. The benefit to the students and ultimately their patients is the experience of working through realistic scenarios which are likely to be replicated in the workplace. This makes BHI graduates work ready and immediately employable.

Aveda Institute Melbourne

The Aveda Institute Melbourne (AIM) facility enables students to develop the practical and professional skills required to deliver the highest quality service to guests in an integrated hair and beauty training environment. The delivery of training in training workplaces ensures our graduates are work ready.

Students attending the Aveda Institute Melbourne (AIM) at Box Hill Institute (BHI) are encouraged and supported to undertake higher level qualifications focussing on the skills required to operate a successful business. The Institute aims to raise the average qualification level of individuals working in the hair and beauty industry

The Aveda Institute Melbourne provides a broad range of training opportunities and environments for students and industry including

- an Aveda Experience Centre (an interactive, operational retail space adjoining a salon);
- a commercial salon;
- a product dispensary;

- an industry demonstration
- day spa areas include
- couples massage space;
- water therapy equipment
- massage and facial space

Teachers have identified and implemented new pedagogical approaches to the training and education of hair and beauty students, capitalising on the facilities available at AIM/BHI. This change in pedagogical practice allows students and industry to benefit from the improved outcomes related to the new delivery models. Graduates develop the skills required to be productive in a commercial environment.

Olds College Gala A Smashing Success **College News Release**

With all 342 available seats filled, Olds College's 2010 Gala was once again a rousing success. On hand among the many supporters from industry and alumni were dignitaries Luke Ouellette, Minister of Transportation, and Mary Anne Jablonski, Minister of Seniors and Community Supports. They were joined by eight colleagues from the Alberta Legislature, two Members of Parliament, a Senator and former Alberta Premier Ralph Klein who was also the evening's keynote speaker. Wildrose Alliance Party leader Danielle Smith was on hand as well.

The evening kicked off with an intimate reception and silent auction netting much-appreciated contributions that, combined with funds raised in a live auction later that evening, created total gross revenues of \$163,000 and a net profit of \$75,000 for the Olds College Opportunities Fund. These proceeds are a "best ever," marking a 65 per cent increase from the previous year. The Opportunities Fund supports a variety of important initiatives such as ongoing curriculum renewal and access to leading learner and instructional technology.

Olds College President Dr. Tom Thompson then welcomed the evening's guests and announced that Olds College will be conferring honorary degrees upon Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills MLA Richard Marz, Rocky Mountain House MLA Ty Lund and Jim Gibbons, outgoing Superintendent of the Chinook's Edge School Division. "These three men have worked tirelessly on behalf of the Community Learning Campus and have been absolutely vital to the success of this innovative project," said Thompson.

Following dinner, Ralph Klein delivered his keynote address, stating that the College shares many of his principles. "Olds College understands the notion of healthy balance between academics for the sake of learning and job readiness and hands-on training," he said. "They always struck me as really responsive to the needs of industry, government and the needs of their students."

A major highlight of the evening was the announcement of the Heavy Equipment Industry as Olds College 2010 Partner of the Year. "There are few groups that could have had such a powerful, influential impact on Olds College in such a short period of time," said Bill Quinney, Olds College Board of Governors Chair. "We have worked together not only to build meaningful partnerships and innovative educational programs, but to build the very world that we and our loved ones live in and share."

Malawi - Scotland Connection

Submitted by Alistair Shaw, Assistant Principal, James Watt College

A team of 11 students and 4 staff visited Malawi in May 2009. The college made a contribution to the funding of this Project. However, the students had to raise funds through various events and obtain sponsorship from businesses in Inverclyde, Argyll and North Ayrshire. This venture was totally embraced by the local communities of Inverclyde, Argyll and North Ayrshire. Students gained great benefit from negotiating with local businesses and preparing for a large project.

The main Project in Salima College involved the refurbishment of 2 classrooms into a fully functional Library and Learning Centre. Both sets of students and staff worked together to design the layout and redevelop the building structure to suit the needs of the College. All building materials were sourced locally, with over £3000 being spent in local businesses in Lilongwe and Senga Bay. Students gained considerable skills and experience in dealing with local customs and obtaining best value for money.

The Project involved knocking down walls, building desks, upholstering seats, renewing windows, painting walls etc and the provision of learning material, Laptops and LCD Projector. The project was an outstanding success for all concerned - students have made a difference to the environment for a group of 300 students and staff in Salima College.

The visit to Don Bosco Technical College involved our students taking part in lessons within the College as well as a Sports event and a Malawian/Scottish Evening of food and dance. Staff from James Watt College provided training in teaching methodologies and motivational learning techniques to the staff from Don Bosco.

The students are now visiting various groups and businesses in local communities giving presentations on the Projects completed.

In May 2010, the college will take part in the second student trip to Malawi – This will involve building student hostel accommodation for Don Bosco College in Lilongwe. Students are currently taking part in fund raising events to ensure that this is a successful trip as before.

Sheridan Welcomes Its New President: Dr. Jeff Zabudsky

**Jeff Zabudsky welcomed as 6th President of Sheridan Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning in its 42 year history
College New Release**

Dr. Jeff Zabudsky, an accomplished educator and college executive, has been named President and CEO by the Board of Governors of Sheridan Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning. He will take office on February 1, 2010. He succeeds Dr. Robert Turner, who is retiring after leading Sheridan since 2001.

Sheridan is one of Canada's most unique educational institutions. It lies at the forefront of innovation in digital media and the arts, and plays key roles in business, technology and liberal arts education. Its new "Shine Brighter" marketing campaign reflects Sheridan's deep commitment to graduate success and employer satisfaction through providing a progressive, holistic, high-quality education for its 16,000 full-time and 35,000 part-time students.

“We’ve found an accomplished leader to take on the responsibility of shaping Sheridan’s future at this important time,” said Michael Cloutier, Chair of Sheridan’s Board of Governors and President and CEO of Critical Outcome Technologies Inc. “Jeff is an outstanding choice as Sheridan’s next president. He impressed us with his leadership and vision, his commitment to student-centered learning, support of applied research and experience in fundraising. As Sheridan develops its Creative Campus concept and reignites its digital learning environment, we look forward to the successes that lie ahead with Jeff as our President and CEO.”

Zabudsky comes to Sheridan having served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Manitoba’s Red River College since 2004. Red River College is Manitoba’s largest institute of applied learning with over 32,000 students at eight campuses and over 110 full-time programs. Zabudsky brings almost 25 years experience in post-secondary educational administration and in educational broadcasting. He is a tireless advocate for the critical role colleges play in the Canadian economy.

College of Lake County’s International Education Programs Make Huge Impact on Students and Faculty

Submitted by Dr. Li-hua Yu, Coordinator for the Center for International Education

In just three years, the College of Lake County (CLC) has transformed its international education offerings from the typical few short-term field study trips into an award-winning, comprehensive Center for International Education. This Center is led by Dr. Li-hua Yu, a Chinese-born sociology professor, and has been supported by a U.S. Department of Education Title VIA grant (2006-2008). The Center for International Education centralizes international education, international student recruitment, and curriculum development. However, a unique aspect of the Center is the semester-long study abroad program at Xian International University (XAIU) that engages CLC students in studying the Chinese language and culture.

Thirty-nine CLC students, including four students from other Illinois community colleges, participated in this China program in 2008 and 2009. It provides a truly affordable semester-long experience for community college students, many of whom come from lower income families and diverse family backgrounds. These students tend to be place-bound and often cannot afford to study abroad for a semester. Fortunately, CLC Foundation scholarships and the low cost of the program helps make this possible. With China becoming a growing player in the world economy, CLC students have gained valuable knowledge and experience that can open new or broader career options. Among the participants, the oldest was 52 and the youngest was 18 with five Latino students, four African-American students, and two Asian-American students. In the evaluation, all students expressed how this program had changed their lives and their perceptions about China and the world and, particularly, how the American media portrays the world. Most of them developed a passion for Chinese language studies and several of them have expressed interest in pursuing careers related with China.

All of this activity has attracted the attention of the international education community. In February 2010, the college received the Andrew Heiskell Award for Innovation in International Education from the Institute for International Education. CLC President Jerry Weber has been asked to join the Board of Community Colleges for International Development (CCID) after a successful January 2010 visit from John Halder, CCID president, and Mick Starcevich, president of Kirkwood Community College.

Lambton College's Fire & Emergency Response Training Centre Receives \$9.8 Million

Submitted by Tony Hanlon, President-CEO, Lambton College

Lambton College has received \$9.8 million from the Federal Knowledge Infrastructure Program and Provincial Infrastructure Stimulus Funds, partnerships of the Ontario and Canadian Governments. The money is being used to refurbish the Fire School and grounds located at the Fire & Emergency Response Training Centre (FERTC) on LaSalle Line in St. Clair Township. At this 6.8 hectare (17 acre) site, Lambton College delivers the Pre-Service Firefighter and Training (PFET) Certificate and Fire Science Technology (FIRE) Ontario Advanced Diploma programs. Fire fighting and Hazardous Materials training programs aimed at industrial clients and regional fire departments are also offered onsite. The FERTC is composed of classrooms, office and storage buildings, a burn tower, a water treatment facility and numerous props used for training industrial clients.

To accommodate the Fire, Paramedic and Law & Security programs, a new 27,340 sq. ft. training centre will be built with the endowment. In addition to classrooms the training center will house an attached three-bay fire hall, breathing apparatus facilities, shower and dressing rooms, a Drive Wise Simulator, cafeteria and office complex. The site's existing burn tower will be refurbished, and in addition, a new four-storey, 4480 sq. ft. burn tower will be erected. A new training tarmac will also be installed to allow fire apparatus and EMS vehicles to move around the fire grounds.

To reduce the FERTC's environmental impact, liquid natural gas and liquid propane will replace the fuels currently being burned at the site's industrial props, this should decrease the black smoke emitted in training scenarios. The project's anticipated completion date is spring 2011.

In May of 2009, the Ontario and federal government announced a joint investment of \$1.5 billion to support 49 projects at Ontario colleges and universities through the Federal Knowledge Infrastructure Program and Provincial Infrastructure Stimulus Funds. The intention of the investment is to strengthen Ontario's economic future by updating facilities and promoting research and skills training capacities at colleges and universities across the province.

NAIT and Ledcor Partner to Make Oilsands Greener Research Chair in Oilsands Environmental Sustainability Announced College News Release

The Ledcor Group is investing \$1.5 million to establish the Ledcor Group Applied Research Chair in Oil Sands Environmental Sustainability at NAIT. The institute will be matching the funding to create a \$3 million endowment, which will fund industry-driven applied research.

"Ledcor is showing outstanding leadership by joining forces with NAIT to set up an applied research chair in oilsands sustainability," says Dr. Sam Shaw, NAIT's President and CEO. "What makes this so unique is that Ledcor is helping its clients develop environmental solutions while being competitive." The Chair will focus on applying green chemistry and engineering principles in oilsands production.

"It is Ledcor's expectation that the Applied Research Chair at NAIT and the work that they conduct will help identify practices and processes that are of material benefit to the industry and can be applied to enhance and improve our operations in the oilsands," says Don Breen, President, Ledcor Industrial

Group. "If we are to truly make practices in the oilsands sustainable, we need to make changes now. However, these changes need to be based on a reasoned approach and sound science and be conducted in a collaborative manner making use of all research being conducted in this area."

The Chair will develop applied, real-world solutions that can be integrated within current and future oilsands operations in the form of new processes and technologies. The decision on what research will be done will come from close consultation with industry.

"As an applied research institution, NAIT's core focus is developing practical solutions for real-world issues," says Dr. Shaw. "We expect the Leducor Group Applied Research Chair to be the first of many at NAIT. We want to play a vital role in bringing innovation into business, which generates wealth for the companies we partner with and the Canadian economy as whole and leads to important social change."

PIN Faculty/Staff Exchange-Visit Program

Applications are currently being taken for the Faculty/Staff Exchange Visit Program. The exchange and visit program is designed to facilitate faculty and staff exchanges and visits among PIN member colleges. The exchanges and visits are designed to enhance the professional development of faculty/staff and to further international understanding of two-year colleges. The colleges are expected to support and facilitate the exchange/visit process. The college and the faculty members develop the exchange or visit to meet their institutional and individual objectives.

PIN will award two \$1,000 (US) stipends to facilitate faculty exchanges and visits to each country for the academic year. It is expected that the college will match the dollar amount of the stipend. The match will be cash or an in-kind contribution.

Process

The Faculty Exchange and Visit Program Application Form should be used.

The program criteria must be addressed in the application.

The narrative should be no longer than 1000 words.

The college president/principal and the faculty/staff member must sign the application form.

If there is a need for assistance in identifying a host college, PIN will assist in identifying appropriate host colleges.

Faculty Exchange and Visit Program Application are submitted to Executive Director, Bill Warner.

The Executive Committee reviews all applications at the annual meeting.

The Executive Committee will identify the award recipients.

The PIN Executive Director will notify the successful and unsuccessful applicants.

The \$1,000 (US) stipend check will be sent to the college president, who will make the award to the faculty/staff member.

Forward your Faculty/Staff Exchange and Visit applications to Bill Warner, Executive Director.

PIN Executive Committee

The current PIN Executive Committee membership includes:

Australia:	John Maddock, Box Hill College
Bahrain:	John Scott, Bahrain Polytechnic
Canada:	Irene Lewis, SAIT Tom Thompson, Olds College (PIN President)
	Ron Common, Sault College
New Zealand:	Phil Ker, Otago Polytechnic
United Kingdom	Craig Thomson, Adam Smith College (Past PIN President)
United States:	Sue Collins, Northeast Minnesota Higher Education District Clyde Sakamoto, Maui Community College Joe Sertich, Sertich Consulting Greg Smith, Central Community College
Executive Director:	Bill Warner, US

The role of the Executive Committee is to:

1. Plan and develop objectives and activities for the organization;
2. Initiate policies and implement policies of the Network;
3. Make recommendations regarding annual membership fees;
4. Review, in context, the participation of PIN members and make decisions about continued memberships;
5. Determine the budget for administrative tasks of the organization;
6. Communicate the decisions taken at its meeting to the membership in semi-annual newsletters; and
7. Facilitate the securing of external resources for PIN projects and encourage members to do the same.

For more information about this Newsletter or PIN contact: Dr. Bill Warner, Executive Director
E-mail: warne017@umn.edu