

PIN NEWSLETTER

Postsecondary International Network
Spring 2012 Edition

Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology to Host PIN Conference 2012 in New Zealand

PIN Conference October 7-12, 2012

Submitted by Tony Gray, CEO, Nelson Marlborough

Following the exceptionally successful conference in Alberta, Canada, which was hosted by SAIT, Olds College, and NAIT, Nelson Marlborough IT is gearing up to host the PIN Conference 2012

PIN 2012 Conference Theme: Facing the Future

Three sub-themes are:

- **Innovation (Technology) for Future Success**
- **Business Models for the Future**
- **Changing Demographics – Meeting the Needs and Aspirations of Indigenous Peoples'**

Host: Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology, Nelson, New Zealand

Dates: October 7-12, 2012

The opening session will be held late afternoon/evening on Sunday, October 7, with conference sessions from Monday, October 8 through Friday, October 12. Saturday, October 13 will be a free day, with several optional activities.

There will be a keynote speaker addressing each of the sub-themes, as well as presentations from PIN members. PIN member presentation will provide insight into success oriented initiatives in each of the sub-themes. All PIN members who have volunteered to present have been accepted for presentations.

As is the tradition with PIN Conferences the Delegates and Companions will be invited to partake of New Zealand's 'delights'! For the Top of the South Region this will include experiences in Nelson, Tasman and Marlborough – wine in some shape or form - 'growing it' – 'managing it' and/or 'drinking it', will be evident as will opportunities to see the regions wonderful national park (Abel Tasman) as well as partake in Art, Culture, Conservation, Aquaculture (Fishing) and the delights of this regions food – cheese, fish, wine and beer! There will be a free day on Saturday October 13, designed to provide the choice of wine country or whale watching or hot springs or bungee jumping or jet boating.

There will be a conference website available shortly for registrations and conference booking.

POSTSECONDARY INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

Travel/Flights: International flights are best booked into Auckland (AKL) or Wellington (WLG) - but Wellington is less likely to have direct flights outside of Australasia. There are direct flights from Auckland (1hr 20mins), Wellington (30mins) and Christchurch (CHC - 50mins) into Nelson (NSN).

Central Community College & Bahrain Polytechnic Strengthen Entrepreneurship Education

Central CC News Release

Central Community College and Bahrain Polytechnic have signed a contract with Higher Education for Development to proceed with a project to strengthen entrepreneurship education. The two institutions previously had received a \$60,000 HED grant for project planning. Higher Education for Development has approved a \$450,000 grant to implement the project, providing \$150,000 a year for the next three years.

Dr. Eric Jones, dean of business and information technology programs at Central Community College, said the project has three main goals:

- Set up a business development center at Bahrain Polytechnic, which was opened in 2008 to fill the gap between training and teaching students to be ready for work, with a focus on job skills.
- Revise the entrepreneurship curriculum at Bahrain Polytechnic.
- Provide staff development to Bahrain Polytechnic to enhance entrepreneurship curriculum.

The partnership between Central Community College and Bahrain Polytechnic grew out of their mutual membership in the Postsecondary International Network.

During an October visit to Central Community College, Dr. Hasan Almulla, academic director at Bahrain Polytechnic, said entrepreneurship is one way to create jobs for young people. "With the difficulties experienced currently in the global economy, entrepreneurship education is important internationally because of the need for new businesses to create new jobs," Almulla said.

Dr. Eric Jones, dean of business and information technology programs at CCC, said during the visit that the two colleges are looking for ways to move forward on parts of the project that can be accomplished without grant funding, including developing courses and curriculum and other activities.

Jones visited Bahrain Polytechnic this summer to discuss the project, and faculty members from the two institutions met at a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) conference in New York, and at a National Association of Community College Entrepreneurship conference in October in Portland, Ore.

Jones said one of the goals of the project is to give students in the STEM fields the tools they can use if they decide they want to be a business owner at some point in their career. "Technology and business education is a great combination, giving people the ability to apply their technical training in a business venture," said Abdulhasan Abbas Al-Dairi, stakeholder relations manager at Bahrain Polytechnic.

CCC and Bahrain Polytechnic plan to make classes available to each other's students online and through live video via the Internet. Almulla said one of the main objectives of the project is to provide an international experience for students at both colleges.

Business Excellence Initiatives at Otago Polytechnic Polytechnic News Release

For the past seven years, Otago Polytechnic has been following the Baldrige Framework for Excellence. Throughout this time, there have been improvements across all operational dimensions, including educational metrics, the work environment and sustainable practice - not to mention the Polytechnic's best ever financial result in 2012.

Otago Polytechnic's commitment to financial and organisational health was endorsed in 2011 through an external assessment against the Baldrige criteria and participation in the Performance Excellence Study Awards (PESA). The Polytechnic's first application was submitted, enabling benchmarking against the rating criteria. Otago Polytechnic representatives also visited the U.S., to experience first-hand ten businesses which achieved Baldrige performance excellence awards.

In March 2012, the Polytechnic, the Otago Chamber of Commerce and Polson Higgs (business advisors) brought inspirational performance excellence presenter, Mike Levinson, to Dunedin. The former city manager of the U.S.'s best performing city, Coral Springs, Florida, took part in one day of events, including an invitation-only corporate breakfast and workshop. Two further sessions were held during the afternoon for Otago Polytechnic staff: one targeted at those involved with the Polytechnic's PESA application, and the second aimed at all staff.

The Polytechnic is also sponsoring a visit in May by Liz Menzer, a senior Baldrige Criteria/Internal Assessor, who will present a two-day workshop to provide hands-on skills for improved business performance.

Chief Executive Phil Ker is bringing together a group interested in developing a business excellence "community" in Dunedin, made up of organisations interested in pursuing business excellence as a means to better performance. The group will meet approximately monthly, with an initial focus on the practicalities of implementing a business excellence programme.

Otago Polytechnic is proud to lead the way on this initiative given the positive outcomes it has experienced through the Baldrige Framework for Excellence.

Lambton College Scores #1 in Employer Satisfaction Second Year in a Row! College News Release

Provincial KPI scores are in and Lambton is the best in the category of Employer Satisfaction

When it comes to employer and student satisfaction, top-notch education and job-finding success, Lambton College numbers speak volumes.

The provincial Key Performance Indicator (KPI) numbers were released yesterday for Ontario Colleges and Lambton College has exceptional results. Unveiled in an independent survey that evaluates Ontario's 24 community colleges in five Key Performance Indicator areas – Employer Satisfaction, Student Satisfaction, Graduate Satisfaction, Graduation Rate and Graduate Employment Rate, a total of 97.5% of employers were “very satisfied or satisfied” with Lambton College graduates, putting Lambton in first place province-wide in the category of employer satisfaction.

“We are very pleased with the KPI results,” said Judith Morris, President & CEO, Lambton College. “These numbers demonstrate that students are receiving high quality education at Lambton and we are thrilled with how their skills and expertise are being received in the workplace.”

In addition to Employer Satisfaction, Lambton rated very well in all other categories including Student Satisfaction (77.1%), Graduate Satisfaction (78.4%), Graduate Employment Rate (84.3%) and Graduation Rate (68.8%).

Independently gathered figures based on a survey of Ontario's community college students earned Lambton College “outstanding results,” said Morris. “The results of this survey,” she added, “are a reflection of how well and how hard the people here at Lambton College have worked with students and employers to achieve these high marks.”

NorthTec Campus Chamber an Integrated Platform for Growing Businesses in Northland

NorthTec News Release

NorthTec and the New Zealand Chambers of Commerce Northland are offering tertiary students in the region, opportunities to gain unprecedented access to local business people, through their new Campus Chamber.

A cutting-edge concept, the long-term partners officially launched the Campus Chamber at a special function recently.

The formulation of the Campus Chamber by NorthTec and the NZ Chambers of Commerce Northland signifies a new bridge between Northland's tertiary and business sectors. Not only will it help to encourage entrepreneurship, but it will also raise awareness amongst the business sector of the need to nurture and bring on new business talent that comes with its own benefits.

“The Campus Chamber has the potential to become a platform for growing new businesses and business personalities in Northland,” New Zealand Chambers of Commerce Northland Chief Executive Officer, Tony Collins, said. He highlighted that the establishment of the Campus Chamber enables tertiary students to network, and develop links with those in the business sector in Northland that his regional Chamber and NorthTec have been working on together now for two years.

Collins said that in the past the Chamber and other agencies have probably not fully explored the opportunities to generate business growth that such an initiative as this has the potential to provide. He noted that given the limited resources and capacity of many agencies within Northland it was

important that a collaborative approach was taken to business development and economic growth. The Chamber and the different agencies they work with need to integrate their resources better to bring about the best possible results such as with the Campus Chamber developed in partnership with NorthTec.

“Many organisations are doing great work to initiate change in our business environment yet much of this goes unnoticed. With the commitment the Chamber and NorthTec have shown to get a Campus Chamber off the ground, it demonstrates the effectiveness of being visible said Collins that will make other people and organisations think about how they can work collaboratively to instigate positive change.

Marketing Manager, Paul Voigt, said that the Campus Chamber presents students with unprecedented opportunities early on in their studies to work closely with those a part of the local business sector. Voigt believed that as well as providing a most important link with those in the industry, the arrival of the Campus Chamber will also enable students to remain connected to developments in the sector that then gives them a competitive edge.

Box Hill Institute Cements Collaboration with Cambridge College News Release

Melbourne’s Box Hill Institute has signed an agreement with University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations (Cambridge ESOL) to work towards the delivery of language assessment services in Australia and around the world. Box Hill Institute, CEO, John Maddock met with Cambridge ESOL's CEO, Dr Mike Milanovic to cement an alliance - the first agreement of its kind between an education institute in Australia and Cambridge ESOL.

In what promises to be a significant new strategic alliance, Box Hill Institute's CEO, John Maddock said, “We look forward to working with Cambridge ESOL to further advance the delivery of testing and assessment services in Australia and globally, including without limitation, a strategic collaboration for delivery and assessment of the Occupational English Test.”

Language learners are set to be the winners through this exciting new alliance which will be instrumental in the growth and development of the test in Australia and across the globe. Cambridge ESOL is the world’s leading provider of language assessment for learners and teachers of English, with nearly four million candidates a year in 130 countries. It is a part of the world-renowned University of Cambridge, which is regularly placed No.1 in rankings of the world’s universities.

Cambridge ESOL’s CEO, Dr Mike Milanovic said “We are rapidly expanding our activity in Australia and are delighted to be working with Box Hill Institute. Together we can offer an enhanced service both in Australia and throughout Box Hill’s network which has been so successful. There are many other opportunities to be pursued together in Asia and the Middle East, for example in the hospitality industry where English language skills and global mobility for staff go hand in hand.”

Building on their extensive relationships with industry and government, these two iconic educational organisations will provide access to identified target markets and clients globally, where English

language training, assessment or vocational higher education products and services are required. Maddock explained that the two organisations will soon be announcing further details of the services which they plan to deliver together.

North Wales College Merger - Grŵp Llandrillo Menai College News Release

A new £70 million super-college comes into existence today following the green light from the Welsh Government. The proposed merger of three successful North Wales colleges was approved last week by Education Minister, Leighton Andrews. After months of planning, Grŵp Llandrillo Menai, which comprises Coleg Llandrillo, Coleg Menai and Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor, begins its first day of operation on Monday 2 April.

The new Grŵp creates an umbrella organisation to oversee the operation of the three member colleges, and completes the process begun two years ago when Coleg Llandrillo Cymru merged with Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor. The merger will create Wales' largest Further Education Institution and one of the largest FE colleges in the UK. It will employ 2,000 staff and deliver courses to around 34,000 students across four counties in campuses from Denbigh to Dolgellau, as well as business and research facilities.

The partner institutions have been involved in detailed planning for the merger since last summer, when the governing bodies announced their intention to come together to form the Grŵp. After consultation with students, staff and communities in the region, detailed plans were submitted to the Welsh Government before Christmas.

Glyn Jones OBE now takes up the role of Chief Executive Officer of the Grŵp. He will be supported by an Executive Management Team comprising the Principals of each of the three member colleges: Dr Ian Rees at Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor, Dafydd Evans at Coleg Menai and Jackie Doodson at Coleg Llandrillo. Additionally, there will be two executive directors: Kath Coughlin will head up Corporate Services across the Grŵp and Linda Wyn will lead on Academic Services.

Grŵp Llandrillo Menai will be focussed on providing the skills that will ensure competitiveness and success for the North Wales economy, by widening opportunities through an expanded curriculum and offering improved progression opportunities for learners.

Additional opportunities to study at university level will enable young people and mature learners to take advantage of opportunities to study for degrees and professional qualifications without leaving their home region, either on a full-time or part-time basis, thereby saving thousands of pounds. A new University Centre at Coleg Llandrillo is planned for the Rhos-on-Sea Campus, as a result of the recent strategic alliance with Bangor University.

Glyn Jones told us: "Everything is now falling into place for the start of an exciting journey. The creation of the Grŵp will be good news for students, employers and the wider community. Through creating the Grŵp structure, we will build on the successes of the existing colleges by widening opportunities, developing specialisms and investing in first class facilities.

"We set a high priority on working with partners to ensure we can make a major contribution to the economic success of the region. We also aim to share good practice in key areas such as bilingual provision and make sure we offer an outstanding experience to all of our students - whatever type of provision they choose."

College of Lake County Chosen to Help Set Up New American Cultural Center in China by the State Department
Submitted by Dr. Li-hua Yu

CLC is one of 10 American colleges and universities—and the only community college—to be selected by the U.S. Department of State to establish an American cultural center in China. Other U.S. universities include such as the University of Chicago, Ohio State University and Arizona State University.

Known as the CLC-XAIU American Culture Center, the 40,000 square foot facility is located in the library of Xian International University (XAIU), the school where CLC students and faculty have spent semester-long programs over the past three years. The Center opened in March, with a grand opening set for June when CLC's President Dr. Weber will visit the Center and also attend the Center Directors' Conference in Beijing sponsored by the Ford Foundation.

In March CLC presented a series of programs that attracted over 3200 people. These programs featured a series of lectures by CLC faculty: Dr. Li-hua Yu, Dr. David Groeninger and Librarian, Uri Toch. There were also 8 lectures on American Youth Culture by Gracie Williams and Kasia Leus, CLC student interns. The faculty members' presentations touched on cultural topics such as American Basketball, American individualism, and College Life, as well as more intellectual topics such as Sex and Sexuality in American Society and the History of Chicago. All the lectures featured spirited question and answer periods and the Chinese audiences showed a keen interest in all of the topics.

Increasing the cultural understanding between the two countries is the main reason for the State Department funding the cultural centers in China. So far 12 such centers have been funded. Most Chinese citizens know that the U.S. is a wonderful country, but most don't really understand American society. Conversely, China's military and economic growth is tremendous, and sooner or later, Americans need to know China.

The Culture Center will be stocked with a combination of media designed to showcase the diversity of American culture, according to Uri Toch, a CLC librarian who has travelled to China in March with Dr. Yu, the Grant Director to help set up the new center. The Selected books—rich in pictures to minimize language barriers—cover topics as wide-ranging as slavery and Jim Crow laws to baseball and Apple computer founder Steve Jobs. We were very impressed by the professional job of cataloging books and other materials done by Chinese librarians. Right now posters, showing everything from the Marx Brothers comedy actors to enlarged *New Yorker* magazine covers cover the walls. T-shirts and Americana objects such as basketball, baseball, and sport caps spread in the Center. The Center will eventually have more decorations with American themed posters and computers, with Internet access that will allow visitors to browse websites and blogs.

The intent is to create a welcoming place where both Chinese students and faculty, along with their American counterparts, can come to relax. Cultural learning will come not only through browsing materials but through friendly conversations between Chinese citizens and visiting Americans.

Olds and Niagara Colleges Sign Partnership Agreement for Canada's Sole Brewmaster Program

College News Release

Two Canadian colleges – one from Alberta and one from Ontario—officially signified their intent to deliver Canada's sole, national post-secondary Brewmaster program by signing a new east-west partnership agreement.

By formalizing this agreement, Niagara College had committed to share its expertise and knowledge with Olds College as it launches the Brewmaster program in western Canada. Alberta's Olds College and Ontario's Niagara College will deliver common curriculum and courses and will use identical infrastructure and brewing equipment to education Brewmaster students under terms of the new agreement signed today on the Olds campus.

"This is an historic day for Olds College as not only do we become the first teaching brewery in western Canada, but this Brewmaster program also marks our first new, two-year diploma program in the past five years," President Dr. H. J. (Tom) Thompson said on announcement day. "In Niagara College's Canadian Food and Wine Institute, we also gain a national partner with impeccable credentials and impressive achievements." Dr. Steve Hudson, Acting President of Niagara College, said the expansion of its Brewmaster program to Olds College is a testament to the program's success.

"When we created our Canadian Food and Wine Institute, our objective was to create a Canadian presence focused on food, wine and beer, and academic programming that can serve as a model for applied education," he said. "We are delighted that Olds College approached us to establish this collaborative relationship. The program has elements of agriculture, business and hospitality. It is an exceptional program, and will only grow stronger drawing on Olds' strong agricultural background and Niagara's strengths in hospitality."

The Olds College teaching brewery will be housed in the Pomeroy Inn and Suites at Olds College, a hotel and conference centre currently under construction on the campus. It is expected to be ready to handle the first class of Brewmaster students beginning in September, 2013.

Olds College Vice-President Academic and Research Dr. Jason Dewling anticipates the Brewmaster program will deliver a track record of academic achievement he envisioned from the outset. "This Brewing Program supports Olds College's on-going efforts to define and deliver academic uniqueness and performance excellence," he said today. "Furthermore, I'm pleased that today's national program agreement delivers clear support for the mission and mandate of the Canadian Institute of Rural Entrepreneurship at Olds College." Project teams from both colleges will collaborate on all aspects of development for the Olds Teaching Brewery to complete installations and operational testing by the target start-up date.

Member News

Irene Lewis, SAIT President, to Retire at End of 2012

Irene Lewis, President and CEO of SAIT Polytechnic and PIN Executive Committee member, announced her intention to retire on December 31, 2012.

Lewis, 67, became president of SAIT in 1998. She will retire after nearly 15 years at the helm of what has become one of the world's top polytechnic institutions – educating 70,000 annual registrants and employing more than 2,300 faculty and staff. “It has been my honour to lead SAIT through a tremendously exciting period, but time is marching on,” says Lewis. “There is no avoiding it for any of us. The time (for retirement) is right for me – and I believe it is right for SAIT.”

In a video statement issued this morning to all SAIT employees, Lewis thanked them, her executive team, students, alumni, industry supporters, and all levels of government. “We’ve accomplished a great deal together,” she noted. “I’m very proud of that – and I hope you are, too. I think we’ve done far more than construct world-class facilities, improve academic choices and access, build SAIT’s reputation and increase employee engagement. I prefer to think – and hope – we’ve enriched people’s lives. And *that* is an extraordinary gift.”

SAIT facilities have been remarkably transformed under Lewis. In 2001, a major revitalization saw construction of the Heart Building and restoration of Heritage Hall. Two new residences were also constructed – the East Hall in 2001 and the Tower Residence in 2008. The Clayton Carroll Automotive Centre was completed in 2001, followed in 2004 by the opening of the Art Smith Aero Centre at Calgary International Airport. The Brawn Fieldhouse recreational facilities were completed in 2006 and – three years later – were complemented by the installation of an artificial turf playing surface atop a new underground parking garage.

The Trades and Technology Complex – the largest and perhaps most spectacular of SAIT’s facility enhancements – will open in the fall of 2012. It will feature more than 740,000 square feet of new world-class training spaces that will accommodate up to 8,100 more apprenticeship and full-time students in the areas of energy, construction, manufacturing, automation and applied research.

“Irene’s passionate and dedicated leadership has transformed SAIT – and will leave the institution exceptionally well positioned for the future,” says Bill Lingard, the Chair of SAIT’s Board of Governors. “Irene is a builder. She has not only made impressive changes to the campus, she has improved Calgary’s educational landscape. For that we are extremely grateful.”

Prior to joining SAIT, Lewis was president of a college in Edmonton and led its transition to an independent board-governed institution. She also worked in Singapore for more than five years, where she held a central role in shaping that country's vision for workforce development. Lewis has written textbooks, hosted an educational television series and taught in the primary, secondary and post-secondary systems.

In May, Lewis was presented the Distinguished Workplace Leader Award by Alberta Congress Board. In 2010, she was named one of Canada's 100 Most Powerful Women and received an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Calgary – its highest honour. She has received the Chair Academy's International Exemplary Leader Award (2009), the Distinguished Leadership Award (2008) from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, the Premier's Gold Award of Excellence (2008) and a Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal (2008). She was also named Woman of the Year (2009) by Consumers' Choice, a Woman of Vision by Global Calgary, one of Alberta's Most Respected Corporate Leaders (2007) and one of Alberta's Most Influential Citizens (2005).

New Principal Takes Over the Reins at Coleg Llandrillo Cymru

Coleg Llandrillo Cymru is pleased to announce that Mr. Glyn Jones OBE will take over the reins as the new Principal of the College this week.

Glyn Jones takes over from Huw Evans OBE, who retired last Christmas, and will oversee the College's ten campuses throughout Denbighshire, Conwy and Gwynedd. Jones will be closely involved in the preparations for the planned merger between Coleg Llandrillo Cymru and Coleg Menai, and will also become the Chief Executive of the new institution in April, pending final merger approval from the Welsh Government.

Councillor John Bellis, Chair of the Coleg Llandrillo Cymru Corporation Board, said, "We look forward to working with Jones as he leads our very successful College into the next exciting stage of its development with the planned merger with Coleg Menai."

Jones said, "I am absolutely thrilled to be starting this new exciting challenge, and look forward to working with two colleges of the highest calibre in Wales as they move towards becoming a single entity."

Algonquin College President Robert Gillett Honoured With Naming Of New Student Commons

When it opens in September of 2012, the College's latest building will have a distinctive new name – the *Robert C. Gillett Student Commons*. The Algonquin College Students' Association and the College's Board of Governors jointly announced the naming of the new Student Commons facility in recognition of President Robert Gillett's outstanding contribution to student success.

"For 17 years, Robert Gillett has been tireless in his service to this community, with a relentless focus on student success. It is really quite remarkable what has been accomplished in the last decade and we cannot thank him enough. Through President Gillett's outstanding contribution and dedication Algonquin has become the envy of all colleges in Ontario", noted Jacob Sancartier, President of the Students' Association (SA).

"Robert Gillett has spent his career in education dedicated to the success of students. Therefore, it is both an honour and a pleasure for Algonquin's Board of Governors to join with the Algonquin

Students' Association in extending this recognition to President Gillett", remarked Mike Dunlop, Chair of the Algonquin College Board of Governors.

Anchored by a 700-seat theatre for lectures and performances, the \$52 million, 110,000 square foot *Robert C. Gillett Student Commons* has been designed to serve as the 'heart of the Woodroffe campus'. Built to the exacting LEED-Gold green building standards, the new facility will also house a grand atrium lounge area, new Students' Association offices, expanded club and activity spaces, and comfortable quiet study spaces.

"Good work deserves its reward. The Students' Association recognizes this, and has decided to give out its highest honour ever in recognition of the many accomplishments, the caring nature, and the forward thinking of Robert C. Gillett", added Sanscartier.

Gillett will officially step down as President in a year's time, on December 31, 2012, having completed 17 years at the helm of Eastern Ontario's largest community college. During his tenure as President, Gillett guided the institution through exceptional growth and the transformation of applied education.

The building will be built adjacent to the existing home of the College's Hospitality and Tourism programs, and serve as a gateway for visitors arriving via the eastern approach to the campus.

Dr. Mohamed Al Aseeri New Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Bahrain Polytechnic

Dr Mohamed Ebrahim Al Aseeri has been appointed the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Bahrain Polytechnic. Dr Al Aseeri replaces John Scott, who recently resigned. Dr Al Aseeri brings a wealth of extensive academic and professional experience to the Polytechnic.

Dr Al Aseeri holds a PhD in Reactors Design from the University of Florida, USA. He also holds a Master's degree in Reactors Design from the University of Florida, a Master's in Bioreactors from the University of Manchester, a Master's in Academic Practice from the University of York St. John (UK), in addition to holding a Bachelor's Degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Bahrain.

At the professional level, Dr Al Aseeri previously worked as Director of the Accreditation and Licensing Directorate under the Higher Education Council, Director of the Educational Resources and Techniques Directorate at the Ministry of Education, Project Director of the King Hamad Library, and he was appointed recently as Director of the Technical and Vocational Education Directorate at the Ministry of Education.

Dr Al Aseeri also worked as an Assistant Professor in the Chemical Engineering Department at the University of Bahrain, and he is a member of the Working Group on the National Qualifications Framework. He represented the Kingdom of Bahrain in the Gulf team to exploit atomic energy in the production of electricity and desalination of water. Over the last five years, five of Dr Al Aseeri's research articles were published in scientific journals. He is the recipient of 56 professional certificates in many areas from the United States and Britain

New PIN Member: Northeast Community College

History: Established by the state legislature in 1973 as a comprehensive community college offering vocational/technical, liberal arts, college transfer, and continuing education, Northeast Community College is a modern, two-year college located at the northeast edge of Norfolk, Nebraska. It serves residents of a 20-county area in northeast Nebraska. Northeast is the only community college in the state with one-and two-year vocational, liberal arts, and adult education programs all on one main campus.

From the merger of two separate and distinct institutions—Northeastern Nebraska College and Northeast Nebraska Technical College - Northeast Community College has become a unique college with its own identity.

Our Philosophy: Northeast Community College provides comprehensive, affordable, and quality learning opportunities that are responsive to the diverse needs of the individuals served. We believe students are active partners in a learning process enhanced through effective and professional instruction. Northeast Community College promotes and provides lifelong learning opportunities that encourage people to contribute to society as thoughtful and responsible global citizens.

Overview:

Degrees and Awards

- Associate of Arts -- 2 years
- Associate of Applied Science -- 2 years
- Associate of Science -- 2 years
- Associate in Nursing -- 2 years
- Diplomas -- 1 year
- Certificates -- Less than 1 year

Graduation Placement Statistics

- 99% of 2008 Northeast graduates seeking employment are employed. Of these, 64% are employed in the 20-county service area; 91% are employed in Nebraska.
- 87% of 2008 Northeast graduates are employed in a field related to their college training.
- 93% of 2008 Northeast graduates continuing their education chose to attend Nebraska colleges.

Physical Facilities

- Norfolk Main Campus Site: 205 acres
- College Farm: 566 acres
- South Sioux City College Center: 57 acres
- Buildings (24): 639,464 sq. ft.

Enrollment Statistics for Fall Semester 2010

- 2,343 Full-time Students (12+ credit hours)
- 3,034 Part-time Students (11 or less credit hours)
- Approximately 40% of students taking credit courses are 25 years of age or older.
- Approximately 30% of degree seeking students intend to transfer to a four-year school and 70% earn career/technical degrees or diplomas.

New Member: Aoraki Polytechnic

Aoraki Polytechnic offers high quality education and training which is reflected in the excellent employment outcomes of their graduates. The programmes offered by Aoraki Polytechnic are vocationally orientated and have been developed in collaboration with industry.

Aoraki Polytechnic has excellent supportive tutors and small class sizes. Programme qualifications have been developed in collaboration with experts in relevant industries, professions and trades. They are practical; student focused and has excellent employment outcomes.

With campuses spread across the Central South Island in Timaru, Ashburton, Oamaru, Christchurch and Dunedin, Aoraki Polytechnic is ideally placed to help students succeed. Aoraki Polytechnic also has a range of specialist courses offered throughout New Zealand in areas as diverse as parenting, business ownership and agriculture. Aoraki Polytechnic offers programmes in the following areas: Adventure Tourism, Sport and Business; Creative Technology, IT & Journalism; Health and Education; Agriculture and Technology; and Hospitality, Hair and Beauty.

2010 A Year of Implementing Change

2010 was a year of significant change for Aoraki Polytechnic. The new Tertiary Education Strategy provided a strong direction for change and a new Chief Executive, Kay Nelson, and Council brought new ideas and vision for how the strategy could be implemented. The starting point for change was an organisational stock-take conducted in 2009. This was followed by a consultation process that resulted in over 100 submissions from staff supporting a new direction.

Staff supported a more student-centric approach to the organisation with overall support for a new direction - new vision, new goals and new values.

The Gordon's Centre for Sustainable Innovation

College News Release

A strong focus is being placed on transitioning Australia from its current carbon intensive economy to one which has low carbon emissions and is environmentally sustainable.

New types of jobs and new skills will be in demand. The Gordon's Centre for Sustainable Innovation supports the development of skills for sustainability as government, industry, individuals and the wider community move towards a more sustainable future.

The Centre for Sustainable Innovation, via its range of nationally accredited courses and expert teachers, provides training options for new entrants to the labour market, existing workers from across all industry sectors looking to up-skill or re-skill and to the general community to help build sustainability skills. The Centre has a selection of courses to suit various skill levels which are listed under three main areas - Business and Industry, Environment and Community.

Collège Boréal Unveils a First for College Level Health Research

College News Release

Collège Boréal has just received funding approval from the *Consortium national de formation en santé (CNFS)* for a research project aimed at improving access to health services for French-speaking minority communities in their own language. Thanks to this project, successfully proposed by Collège Boréal in cooperation with the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM), a Canadian college will directly be granted research funding from the *CNFS Fonds national de la recherche* for the very first time.

Collège Boréal President, Denis Hubert-Dutrisac, highlights the particular importance of this initiative for the institution: “The project is important to Collège Boréal in several ways because it marks the start of research initiatives in the health sector by our institution for the first time. Moreover, this project undeniably strengthens the position of our institution in the area of ensuring the fundamental rights of Francophones in Ontario, and indeed, throughout Canada. In this case, the fundamental right relates to the availability of French-language health services.”

Thanks to the support of the CNFS, this new research project is allowing Collège Boréal to enhance its cooperative relationship with the NOSM and the French River Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic. It also means that these partners can work together to ensure that the project proceeds smoothly, and that the objective of greater numbers of qualified trained staff can be met in order to answer the health needs of the francophone population.

CCC Paramedic Program Accredited

College News Release

Central Community College recently was notified that its paramedic program has been accredited for five years by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHAP) as recommended by the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoA EMSP).

Phil Allen, program director, said accreditation by CAAHAP means program graduates are eligible to take the skills and written test required to become a nationally registered paramedic and assures that their education at CCC meets national standards for the profession. The paramedic certification exams are developed and administered by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians. The national certification is part of the requirements to get a license to practice as a paramedic in Nebraska.

CCC paramedic graduates have been eligible to take the national registry exams since the program began but, starting Jan. 1, 2013, graduation from a CAAHAP accredited program will be required to take the exams, said Charlie Gregory, associate dean for Extended Learning Services (ELS) at the Grand Island Campus. Gregory was instrumental in starting the paramedic program through ELS, CCC's division that offers continuing education programs throughout CCC's 25-county service area. “Accreditation is a big step toward recognition of paramedics as professionals on a level with anyone in the various health care fields,” Gregory said.

The ELS department for decades has been the primary source of training for emergency medical technicians (EMTs) in central Nebraska. In 2006 the college began offering the classes required for EMTs to become paramedics, who have advanced life-saving skills and a broader scope of practice than EMTs. Currently CCC offers 19 paramedic courses totaling 38 semester-hours of credit to prepare graduates to take the national registry exam.

The program accreditation is a milestone in CCC's plan to implement a paramedic associate of applied science degree, said Dr. Deb Brennan, CCC executive vice president and chief instructional officer. The tentative starting date is the 2012 fall semester, which begins in August, pending approval by the CCC Board of Governors and the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education. One-year diplomas and short-term certificates also would be offered as part of the program.

Allen said career opportunities for paramedics are growing and include employment with fire departments, private ambulance companies and hospital emergency rooms. "Some Nebraska communities are looking for people with a paramedic degree to work with doctors, doing post-surgery checks, basic prescriptions and other functions," Allen added.

SAIT Update

Submitted by Susan Radke, SAIT, Manager of Academic Affairs

SAIT continues to gear up for the opening of our Trades and Technology Complex, which is leading to the transformation of our main campus and which is proceeding on schedule for September 2012. Plans are now in place for the movement of employees into their new premises, a process which will stretch out over the summer months as three entire schools—Construction, Manufacturing & Automation, and the MacPhail School of Energy— move into their new buildings. Plans are also in development for a variety of celebratory opening events for donors, students, employees, alumni, and industry to mark the grand opening of this complex.

Although a massive undertaking in itself, this complex is not the only facility development project underway for SAIT. Work has also now begun on a satellite culinary campus in downtown Calgary, a few kilometres from our main campus. This new downtown culinary campus will include a kitchen and bakery and will be a living classroom that provides students with real-world, hands-on culinary experience. Students will be able to work directly with a customer base vital to the industry – downtown clientele--and will sell their products in a small market attached to the kitchen, just as they do on the main SAIT campus.

In addition to making an impact in a new part of Calgary—the downtown core—SAIT continues to make an impact in other areas of the world. In February, students from the Architectural Technologies and Electrical Apprenticeship programs took part in an innovative field school experience in a rural part of Guatemala. In collaboration with the NGO Mayan Families, students helped design a trade school for the region and took part in a variety of service learning projects, including the construction of a home for a local resident. Next year, we plan to repeat the experience and to expand it by including students from programs in our School of ICT. Participation by these ICT students may take a variety of forms, including the creation of a documentary on our students' experiences working with these Guatemalans.

SAIT also continues to have an impact in Afghanistan. On International Women's Day, March 8, 2012, a group of female Afghan students who have been studying in Kandahar at the Afghan-Canadian Community College graduated from SAIT's online Business Administration Certificate program. SAIT has offered this program for several years; we are very proud of the accomplishments of these students, many of whom have faced death threats for pursuing this education, and whose daily living conditions are more difficult than most of us can even imagine.

Box Hill Institute Launches VMware Academy **College news Release**

Box Hill Institute is leading the way in virtualisation training in Victoria, becoming the State's first VMware Regional Academy on 4 April 2012. VMware and Box Hill Institute have joined forces to launch this exciting new training program which will provide the Institute with the most comprehensive virtualisation training capability across the TAFE and university sectors outside the United States.

Box Hill Institute's Chief Information Officer, John Italiano launched the new academy with VMware, Director IT Academy, David Nelson, at the Box Hill Institute and Centre for Adult Education city campus this week. John Italiano welcomed VMware, who are the leading global provider of network virtualisation, a key driver for the future of the information and communications technology industry, and outlined how the Institute and its students will benefit through Box Hill Institute's delivery of virtualisation training. Box Hill Institute has been instrumental in establishing a 'Virtualisation Lab', accessible to students through a web browser, anywhere in the world, at any time.

This new capability supports not only VMware, but also CISCO Academy outcomes - making Box Hill Institute one of the first training and education organisations in the world to achieve this innovative outcome. "Continuing with our great work in the IT area, this new capability will underpin our future programs in diploma, degree and post graduate level training and cement Box Hill Institute's position as the leader in networking education in Australia," John Italiano said.

International Exchange Opportunities at Conestoga for Business Degree Students **College News Release**

Thanks to new agreements between Conestoga and three accredited universities in Eastern Europe and South America, students enrolled in business degree programs will soon have additional opportunities to gain international experience through the course of their studies.

The new exchange programs will allow to study abroad at the University of Finance and Administration in Prague, Czech Republic; Duoc UC in Santiago, Chile; and the International Business School in Ljubljana, Slovenia (former Yugoslavia).

Students who participate in an exchange program will study at one of the partner institutions for either one term or an entire academic year while earning credits towards the completion of their degree. Conestoga students who participate in an exchange program will not be required to pay

additional tuition fees. Host schools will assist participants in finding suitable accommodation and settling in to their new environment. Participants can apply for the Ontario International Education Opportunity Scholarship (\$2,500), which would help them finance their flight tickets and accommodation.

“This is a great opportunity for our students,” said Dr. Barbara Fennessy, program chair. “Students will be able to study different aspects of Business Management while gaining valuable life, educational and international experience.”

Conestoga’s International Business Management degree program is designed to prepare students to handle managerial issues in Human Resources and Operations Management requiring broad knowledge of international business practices. The goal is to provide graduates with the ability to bring people, process and technology together to achieve improved performance in business, whether that business operates in the domestic or international arena.

The program design includes three co-op terms and three Consulting Projects and has been accredited by the Canadian Institute of Management (CIM) and the Forum for International Trade Training (FITT). The program also prepares students for the Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM) designation and the Certified Human Resources Professional (CHRP) designation.

Conestoga’s Accounting, Audit and Information Technology degree program blend a comprehensive education in each of these disciplines to produce graduates who possess the skills needed in the global business environment. The program design includes three co-op terms and has been accredited by the Certified General Accountants of Ontario (CGA) and the Certified Management Accountants of Ontario (CMA). The Institute of Chartered Accountants (CA) is currently reviewing the courses in the program for accreditation. Graduates are also able to challenge examinations for the CIA designation awarded by the Institute of Internal Auditors.

NAIT and City of Edmonton Collaborate On Groundbreaking Solar Energy Research Project

College News Release

The new solar panels on NAIT’s roof are being used to evaluate the potential of the sun to produce green energy in Edmonton, one of the sunniest cities in Canada. The information generated by the solar photovoltaic (PV) reference array system – the only one of its kind in Alberta - will serve as a guide for the construction industry, homeowners and others interested in using solar energy.

“Alberta is an energy superpower. This project builds on that history and capitalizes on an area where we have yet another natural advantage – capturing the sun,” said NAIT President and CEO, Dr. Glenn Feltham. “As one of Canada’s leading polytechnics, we pride ourselves on our applied research capabilities and exploring different forms of alternative energy production. We are excited to be working with the City of Edmonton to provide the information that will lead to greater adoption of solar energy technology.”

“The City of Edmonton is pleased to support this solar reference array project in cooperation with NAIT,” said Edmonton Coun. Ben Henderson. “Increasing our knowledge about, and adoption of, renewable energies is one of the goals of The Way We Green, our city’s environmental strategic plan. The students who use the information provided by the array will be the experts who lead our adaptation to renewable energies in the future.”

The reference system consists of six PV modules arranged at fixed angles on the roof of the Shaw Theatre at NAIT’s Main Campus, near the corner of Princess Elizabeth Avenue and 106 Street. The angles correspond to those typically used for solar installations in Edmonton. Each of the six modules is paired with a duplicate module placed at exactly the same angle. During the winter months, snow will be cleared from half of the modules. By pairing modules at exactly the same angles, researchers will be able to compare the effect of snow clearing versus snow cover on energy production.

Energy produced by the modules will be tracked and measured. This data will be made available to students in NAIT’s Alternative Energy Technology program, researchers within the NAIT Centre for Renewable Energy Technology, the City of Edmonton and the project engineers at Howell-Mayhew Engineering Inc., who, along with the Solar Energy Society of Alberta, acted as consultants on this project.

“This is a unique municipal post-secondary collaboration that will greatly benefit our students,” said Dr. James Sandercock, chair of the Alternative Energy Technology program. “The design and system evaluation associated with this project mirrors the type of work our graduates will do in solar, geothermal and other alternative energy technologies. We’re very excited about all the possibilities this presents.”

Donation of 100 Vintage Cars and Trucks the Largest In Olds College 99-Year History College News Release

Calgary area businessman J. C. (Jack) Anderson in January announced his intention to donate to Olds College the largest individual gift in the institution’s long history, 100 vintage cars and trucks from his personal collection.

The collection is valued at between \$2 million and \$3 million. It will be sold at auction the summer of 2013 as part of the college’s year-long Centennial celebrations, marking its 100th year of academic achievement. Olds College President Dr. Tom Thompson captured the college’s gratitude. “Jack has, again, given us a remarkably incredible gift. It’s not just seven figure cash donation that will flow from the auction, but the auction itself has amazing potential to shine an enormous spotlight on our college as celebrate 100 years of education excellence.

We are beyond grateful.” Proceeds from the vehicles auction will be split between the college’s next capital building campaign and various campus and student needs. Mr. Anderson’s donation was made with its disposition at the discretion of the college’s Board of Governors. In 2006, Mr. Anderson made a previous gift of \$1 million to the college, under similar terms.

News of Mr. Anderson's vintage car and truck donation generated national, international and local headlines stretching as far as Toronto and New York City and has been mentioned on countless auto and financial websites extending as far as Germany. The extent of this donation has enabled a small, rural college known for agriculture and rural development to be recognized world-wide.

Mr. Anderson was recognized at Olds College's 2012 Partner of the Year at the annual Gala held in March, accompanied by his wife and several members of his family.

SAIT Developing a Downtown Culinary Campus College News Release

SAIT Polytechnic is expanding its culinary education menu. Work has begun on a satellite campus at 230 8 Ave. SW. The SAIT downtown culinary campus will be a living classroom that provides students with real-world, hands-on experience. The 10,000 square-foot facility — scheduled to open this fall — will allow more students to enrol in the wait-listed Baking and Pastry Arts and Professional Cooking programs. Students will also get the opportunity to work directly with a customer base vital to the industry — downtown clientele.

"I am thrilled that we are able to offer this opportunity to our students," says Tom Bornhorst, Dean of the School of Hospitality and Tourism. "Having this world-class facility in the heart of downtown will allow our students to increase their industry readiness and 'be part of the new energy.'"

The SAIT downtown culinary campus will include a kitchen and bakery. Similar to SAIT's main campus, students will be able to sell their products in a small market attached to the kitchens.

"This is a great addition to SAIT," says Irene Lewis, SAIT President and CEO. "This facility will allow increased access to real-world education and help meet the ever-increasing demand from industry for highly-trained professional chefs and bakers." SAIT statistics show that 100 per cent of Baking and Pastry Arts and Professional Cooking diploma graduates find work in their fields.

Maggie Schofield, Executive Director of the Calgary Downtown Association is excited about the SAIT downtown culinary campus, which will also offer continuing education classes and corporate team building sessions. "The Calgary Downtown Association is always striving to increase vibrancy in the downtown core, and the new SAIT culinary campus not only brings students into the core during the weekdays, but will add new activity on weekends and in the evenings," says Schofield. "Additionally, businesses will have an opportunity to participate in team-building activities at the school, and consumers will be able to purchase delicious products. Everyone wins!"

SAIT looks forward to exploring new opportunities for industry professional development and working with our hospitality partners.

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

1. The Faculty Exchange and Visit Program Application Form should be used.
2. The program criteria must be addressed in the application.
3. The narrative should be no longer than 1000 words.
4. The college president/principal and the faculty/staff member must sign the application form.
5. If there is a need for assistance in identifying a host college, PIN will assist in identifying appropriate host colleges.
6. Faculty Exchange and Visit Program Application are submitted to Executive Director, Bill Warner.
7. The Executive Committee reviews all applications at the annual meeting.
8. The Executive Committee will identify the award recipients.
9. The PIN Executive Director will notify the successful and unsuccessful applicants.
10. 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
Canada:	Irene Lewis, SAIT
	Tom Thompson, Olds College (PIN President)
	Ron Common, Sault College
New Zealand:	Phil Ker, Otago Polytechnic (PIN President Elect)
United Kingdom	Vacant
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