



College Matters

College Matters, Fall 2002

WHAT'S NEW

NEW ADDRESS

Although "College Matters" has not been published in some time, the College Sector Committee has been very active and would like to announce some very exciting developments. Lynne Wallace, the Executive Director of the CSC, has retired from Cambrian College in order to spend more time on CSC initiatives. Marla White has been hired to assist Lynne. They can be reached at the following:

Suite 200, 109 Elm Street,
Sudbury, Ontario,
P3C 1T4;
Phone 705-675-2124;
Fax 705-560-0101;
E-mail:
lw Wallace@vianet.ca
mwhite@cambrian.on.ca

Lynne and Marla are in the office Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 to 4:00 p.m. Lynne can be reached the balance of the week at her home office 705-969-2963 either sitting at her computer in her pajamas or on the deck sipping coffee. In either case, don't hesitate to call!!!

NEW LOOK

The CSC has a new logo to celebrate these developments. This new logo represents a vision for college adult upgrading programs in Ontario - moving upward, answering questions, and awakening staff and students. No doubt at first glance many of you may have seen a face (definitely punk rocker), a bird (wood duck or rooster)

or a light bulb. We'd like to hear your thoughts on our new logo.

COMING SOON

As a sub committee of ACAATO reporting through the Training and Development Coordinating Committee (T&DCC), information about the CSC is available on the ACAATO web page. This fall the CSC is also launching its own web page www.collegeupgradingon.ca hosted by NALD. Check these locations for contacts in your region and information about college initiatives.

THANK YOU

We would like to thank Cambrian College for the support provided the CSC during the past four years. We would also like to thank ACAATO particularly Pam Derks, Joan Homer and Jackie Thomas for their continuing guidance and assistance.

Inside this issue:

WHAT'S NEW	1
STUDENT SUCCESS REPORT	1
REGIONAL TRAINING	2
RETENTION THROUGH REDIRECTION	2
TEACHERS FOR TOMORROW	2
NUMBERS TALK	3
NEW PROJECTS	3
FREUDIAN SLIPS	3
CONGRATULATIONS TO DURHAM	4
TO DO LIST	4

STUDENT SUCCESS REPORT

In January 2001 a report, *Prepared for Success*, was released which documented the success of upgrading graduates in post secondary programs from September 1995 to January 2000. A follow up summary is now available for students who entered post secondary in 2000-2001. Data is currently being collected for 2001-2002. The follow up study definitely confirmed the results of the initial report: students from preparatory programs succeed in post secondary both in terms of their grade point average and their continuation in programming.

- 722 students from 9 colleges were tracked
- 68% of the students were female
- 51% of the students selected programs of 3 or 4 semesters in duration (up from 45% in the initial study)
- **PS Program Selections:**
 - Health Sciences 26%;
 - Business 22%;
 - Social Sciences 15%;
 - GAS 13%;
 - Technology 11%;
 - Trades and Skills 6%;
 - Other 7%
- Average GPA at the end of first semester: Ranged from 2.8 to 3.16
- **% Enrolled in Second Semester:**
 - Low of 70% in GAS to a high of 87% in Health Sciences

For the complete report contact your program manager or Lynne Wallace.

REGIONAL TRAINING

Again this year, the CSC assisted regional program managers in providing highly successful workshops and information sessions for teachers and support staff. Participants had an opportunity to discuss the findings and implications for implementation of the 2001-2002 projects - Numbers Talk, Retention through Redirection and Teachers for Tomorrow-share program challenges and solutions, and plan for future initia-

tives. Participants were very enthusiastic; "The day was very useful, invigorating and affirming"; "There was a lot of valuable sharing"; "I enjoyed the day. Workshops were substantive."

Training will again take place during the spring of 2003. If you

have ideas for workshops or discussion topics contact your manager or Lynne Wallace.



Regional training will again take place during the spring of 2003.

RETENTION THROUGH REDIRECTION

The results of this project were distributed in June 2002 and include a report, redirection protocol and video. Building on the findings of the *What Works* project completed in January 2001, this project focuses on the retention of "at risk" students. Redirection is defined as "a significant change in a learner's goals or route to the

goal that leads the learner in a different career, educational, employment or personal direction." The project workers, Mary Jonik and Dee Goforth, examined provincial college year-end statistics, administered staff and student questionnaires and conducted focus groups and individual interviews across the province.

The protocol includes an effective means for identifying learners at risk, attendance, progress and behaviour policies and awareness of the different types of redirection options available for learners. Intended to be part of an overall retention strategy, it presents samples of current college best practice.

TEACHERS FOR TOMORROW - How Do We Get There?

This report was distributed to all college managers and Human Resource Departments in June 2002. It uses as its foundation the October 2000 report, *Teachers for Tomorrow*, which identified the essential skills required of entry level college upgrading teachers and made recommendations concerning the hiring and ongoing

training of college preparatory staff.

Monte Black, the project researcher, conducted interviews with all managers and was a presenter at all the regional workshops where front line practitioners had an opportunity to provide their perspectives on the issues of

evaluation of current staff in the light of the essential skills, PLAR and on-going training needs. Also included in this report are considerations and suggested questions which managers and HR departments can use when selecting new staff for upgrading programs.

NUMBERS TALK

This cross sector investigation of best practices in LBS numeracy conducted by Barbara Glass of Canadore College was released in March 2002. This highly readable report challenges numeracy teachers to view numeracy as another form of communication. In addition to questionnaires and site visits, Barbara conducted extensive international research and presents

the most current thinking about the delivery of numeracy.

Included in this report is a program evaluation form which provides a tool to use to reflect on program strengths in delivering numeracy as well as a means to identify areas where "more attention may be beneficial". Also included are a practitioner contact

list, an annotated bibliography and current best practices in Ontario LBS programs.

The report recommends ongoing professional development for numeracy teachers, greater integration of numeracy and literacy instruction and a province-wide system of recognition for the achievement of upgrading students

NEW PROJECTS

The CSC has been funded by MTCU and the National Literacy Secretariat (NLS) in 2002-2003 for two projects: Teachers for Tomorrow- The Next Step and Dealing Effectively with Inappropriate Classroom Behaviour.

As the practitioner training strategy moves into phase 3 - Implementation - it is important that effective system wide policies and processes for certification are in place and recognized by college

managers and human resource departments. It is also important that the Adult Literacy Educator Certificate modules (formerly LOON) are updated according to the essential skills. Conestoga, Algonquin and Sault Colleges have been funded to undertake this task. The CSC anticipates working closely with MTCU and the other sectors during this implementation stage.

The anticipated outcome of the second project is "a set of best

practices which will guide adult literacy practitioners in their interaction with clients in the area of behaviour management". Fanshawe College is providing the lead for this project. Managers, teachers and students will have an opportunity to provide insight and information through questionnaires, interviews and focus groups.

FREUDIAN SLIPS

During the past few years, I have noticed I am consistently making the same typing errors. Initially I put it down to my typing technique (search and find), but the frequency of some of them has made me wonder if there isn't some Freudian connection! For example "learners" are often "leaners" and with increasing frequency "earnars"! (Is this reflec-

tive of the workforce initiative?) Other names I've adopted for people in our programs are "studnets" and "clinetts". (Sounds a little Star Wars!!) "Field consultants" are more often than not "filed consultants". (Where am I filing them?) And I have also noticed that "October" is "Octobeer" which seems quite understandable given Octoberfest, but its expansion to

September, November and December is causing me some concern. Finally "confusion" (no doubt the beer) has been translated into "confussing". (Now this seems like a word we could definitely adopt.).

I'd like to hear about your Freudian slips.





CONGRATULATIONS TO DURHAM COLLEGE

René Riel registered in the Durham College Academic Upgrading program through the sponsorship of LBS in September 2001. In the past year, René has completed four levels of English while maintaining a part-time schedule.

René's poem "The Wind Moves My Heart" was the winning entry in the Creative Writing category of the College Association of Language & Literacy (CALL) Student Writing Contest in Spring 2002. This competition is an annual event that is open to all college students throughout Ontario no matter whether they are in preparatory or post-secondary education.

The wind moves my heart

With blueberry places in mind
And slant of mountain kind
Empty buckets and a chance
The wind, the sun, the blueberry dance
The wind moves my heart

Empty buckets, the day's hot sun
Our young laughter, we had fun
Sitting in the sun's hot stance
I'd hardly given you a glance
The wind touches my heart

A grandfather, a father all in one
Your stillness stood until we were done
The moment comes, the moment goes
That blueberry day perhaps nobody knows
The memory moves my heart

I look back and think of the day
We set out the blueberry way
With empty buckets and a chance
When I look back it's more than a glance
Your memory touches my heart

TO DO LIST

1. Take some time to congratulate yourself and your students for the hard work of 2001-2002 which has resulted in the undeniable success of college upgrading students.
2. Tell someone outside your department about these successes.
3. Read *Numbers Talk* and *Retention through Redirection* and identify an action plan for doing one thing differently as a department or personally this year.
4. Send the CSC a brief profile on a student who you think should be recognized for his or her accomplishments.
5. Send the CSC your favorite Freudian slips!!!