



**Postsecondary  
International  
Network**

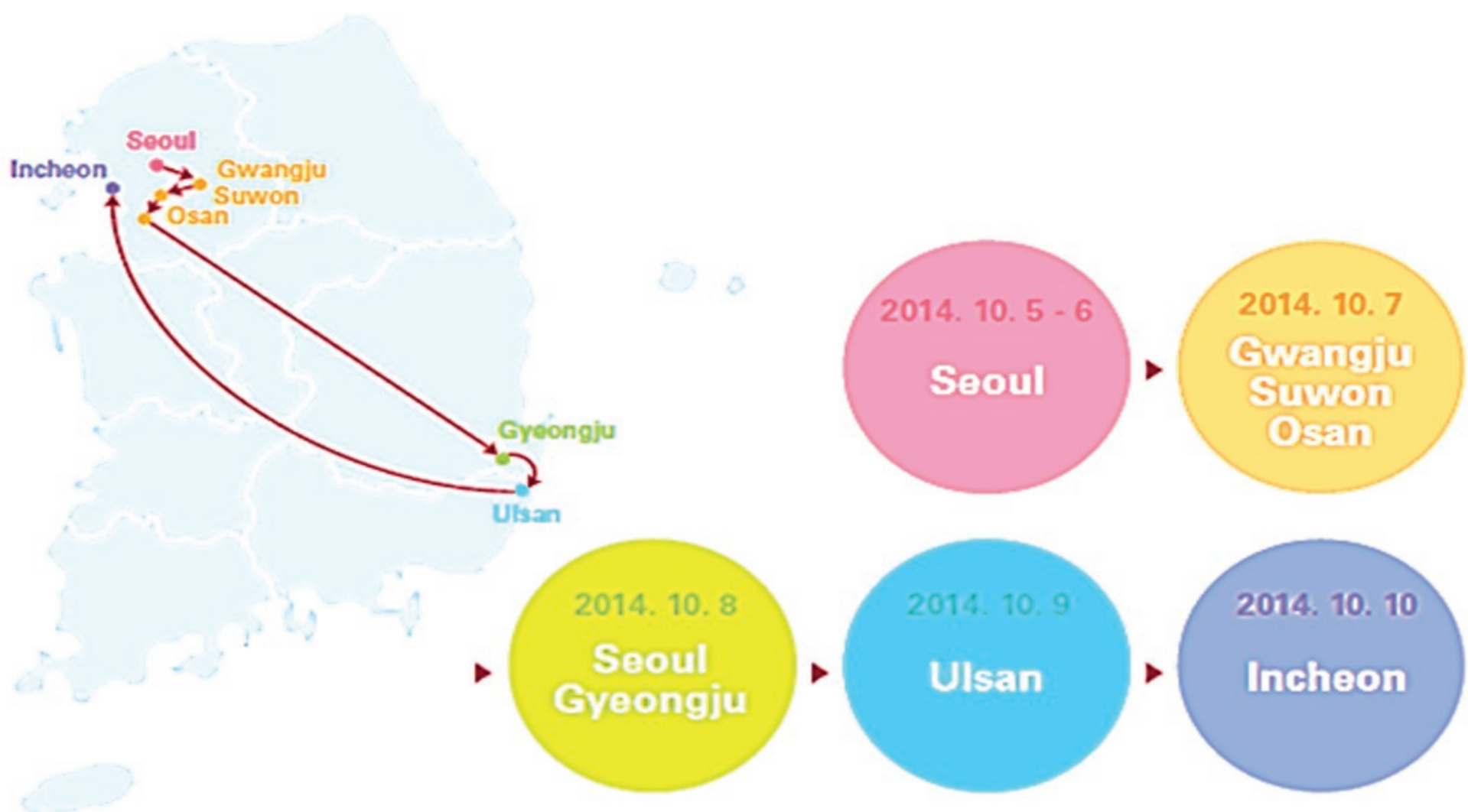
# Newsletter Part 2

Issue 3  
August 2014

## 2014 CONFERENCE IN KOREA 5th-11th October, 2014

**Focusing on**

**“Innovation, Convergence, Collaboration”**



### In this issue:

Annual PIN Conference 2014

Clyde Sakamoto's achievements

PIN Annual Conference 2015-Bahrain

Highlights from PIN member Institutions

University of Hawaii-Maui College

Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology

Sault College

Otago Polytechnic

Central Community College

Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology

Christchurch Polytechnic of Institute and Technology

Olds College

Lambton College

Northeast Community College

Northern Alberta Institute of Technology

## ANNUAL PIN CONFERENCE 2014-KOREA

The PIN 2014 Korean Conference from October 5 - October 11, is the first PIN conference to be held in Asia. Three Postsecondary institutions - Tongwon University, Ulsan College and Incheon JEI University - are serving as the hosts. The PIN hosts represent very high performing institutions of postsecondary technical education. All three of them are participants for the Korean Leaders in Industry - University Cooperation. The partnerships of Tongwon University, Ulsan College and JEI University (e.g. Hyundai, Heavy Industries and the Korean Ministry of Education) provide examples of public-private partnerships. (See [www.pinnet.org](http://www.pinnet.org) to access the conference website).



South Korea has risen from the ruins of the Japanese colonial era and the Korean War to become one of the world's top ten economies. The high quality of education, including post-secondary education, has played a pivotal role in this economic ascendancy.

Tongwon University, founded in 1996, is located near Seoul and currently enrolls about 3500 students in 22 departments with 8 majors in 6 divisions. In addition to a strong academic infrastructure, Tongwon University possesses the latest in research facilities. The University has received the designation of Education Quality Assurance from the Ministry of Education.

Ulsan College was founded in 1973 based on an agreement between the Republic of Korea and the United Kingdom. A major sponsor of the College has been Hyundai Heavy Industries, the world's largest shipbuilding company. Currently more than 5000 students study on the East and West campuses of Ulsan College. The College has eleven programs and focuses on an engineering certificate system. Ulsan College has been designated as a World Class College by the Ministry of Education, joining a group of best performing colleges in curriculum innovation.

Incheon JEI University, founded in 1970, is sponsored by the JEI Corporation. The University is the first college in Korea to freeze and reduce tuition. JEI University was also designated as a World Class College by the Ministry of Education. In 2013 the University ranked first among 2-year colleges in the metropolitan area with a 70.2% graduate employment rate.

## THE HIGHLIGHT OF PIN MEMBERSHIP - THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Each year PIN makes a conference available to its members which serves as the annual highlight. The 2014 PIN Conference-KOREA continues in this tradition. The three host institutions (Tongwon University, Ulsan College, and Incheon JEI University) will provide conference registrants a chance to experience three different locales within South Korea. (See [www.pinnet.org](http://www.pinnet.org) for conference details.)

Unlike most conferences, the PIN conference registration covers most meals, travel between sites and admission to most cultural experiences. PIN's companion program track is another unique benefit. PIN's annual institutional membership remains at \$750 which is also the amount of the discount for one representative from each member institution. Early registration fee for conference registrants and companions is \$1200 and extends from July 31st - late August. After late August, standard registration is \$1400. (See website for precise dates.)

This year's PIN conference will also include two new structural features in the program. The agenda will incorporate a professional, organizational development track. In addition, an Institutional Member Sharing Template has been created and put on the PIN website. This will enable PIN members to ascertain partnership opportunities.





**CHANCELLOR SAKAMOTO RETIRES AFTER 41 YEARS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII-MAUI COLLEGE**

University of Hawai'i Maui College Chancellor Clyde Sakamoto announced he will retire at the end of October 2014. Sakamoto has served in the UH System for 41 years and has been the chief executive officer of the Maui campus since 1990.

Sakamoto has also served as dean of instruction at the Maui campus and was executive director of Project 2 and 4, which brought baccalaureate development to UH community colleges. The student population in fall 2013 was 4,076 – about a 290% enrollment increase since 1973 when he started as dean of students with 1,400 students. Since 1990, he has helped secure more than \$147 million in extramural funds for UH Maui College to support educational programs.

"I am continually and deeply grateful to have been given an opportunity to contribute to higher education in Maui County and Hawai'i. On behalf of our students and community, our college's progress reflects a commitment from our campus staff and faculty, community and political leadership in Maui County," Sakamoto said. "I thank all of my PIN colleagues as well who have contributed to improving higher education learning in Maui County through our program partnerships and faculty exchanges. Your support and assistance established a strong foundation for continual and future

collaboration to prepare learners for the global and local opportunities presented by needs and problems."

"I greatly appreciate the many years of leadership and contributions that Chancellor Sakamoto has provided to UH Maui College and the community college system," said Vice President for Community Colleges John Morton. "Our task now is to begin the process of finding someone who can continue Chancellor Sakamoto's legacy of service and dedication to the residents of Maui County as the next Chancellor."



**BAHRAIN POLYTECHNIC TO HOST PIN 2015 CONFERENCE**

As part of its goal to improve and expand the means by which the technical/community further education colleges serve their own communities within an international setting, the Postsecondary International Network (PIN) has been hosting conferences since 1979, when the first of these was held in Minneapolis. These conferences provide a forum for discussing the many challenges that face postsecondary education and over the ensuing 35 years many different topics have been canvased, ranging from leadership to innovation, convergence and collaboration, the theme of this year's conference in Korea. In an effort to improve curricula to prepare students to live in a global society, these conferences have been situated across many different countries, mostly in the West. For the first time this year members will share the experiences with their far Eastern counterparts in Korea and in 2015 it is planned to build on this with a conference themed round cultural context being hosted in the Kingdom of Bahrain in the Arabian Gulf.

Established to fill a gap in the market for applied professional and technical graduates, Bahrain Polytechnic was opened in 2008. It offers career focused programmes to produce professional and enterprising work-ready, graduates and it is the only polytechnic in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Underpinned by the values of excellence, learning and innovation, Bahrain Polytechnic's Vision is to become a "world class provider of applied higher education" and to deliver on its Mission of producing "professional and enterprising graduates with the 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills necessary for the needs of the community locally, regionally and internationally."

Bahrain was one of the first in the Gulf region to discover and capitalise on its natural oil wealth. However depleting oil resources and the need to become globally competitive have forced it to

diversify the economy in order to maintain sustainable growth. The Kingdom of Bahrain's national strategy, *Bahrain Vision 2030* is a bold strategic plan created to provide the way forward. It is predicated on a more highly skilled labour force, and identified the need for radical educational reform to create an effective education system, relevant to today's global labour market. The Polytechnic is one of the key initiatives arising from this plan.

Bahrain Polytechnic recognises the value international association brings to the institute. The 2015 PIN Conference will provide a forum for raising critical issues that affect many member institutes, such as the impact of technology on teaching and learning practice, and economic trends and development on curriculum design and strategies of delivery. It will provide the opportunity for leaders from member organisations to 'rub shoulders' with Senior Managers from Bahrain Polytechnic and possibly other institutions within Bahrain, to share problems and learn from their experiences.

Bahrain Polytechnic is looking forward to welcoming its international guests in October 2015.

(The translation of the Arabic writing on the image is " Our Country.. Our Future". )





# Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology



## **SIAST NAMES NEW DIRECTOR, ABORIGINAL STRATEGY**

Focus includes achievement of Aboriginal initiatives and student success.

**April 22, 2014** – SIAST provost and vice-president, Academic, Dr. Anne Neufeld announced today the appointment of Jason Seright to the position of SIAST director, Aboriginal Strategy. Seright will assume his new role immediately.



Jason Seright

Seright is currently a facilitator-consultant on First Nations Métis education with the Mamawohkamatowin partnership, which is a collaboration between Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools, Saskatoon Tribal Council and Central Urban Métis Federation Inc.

"The appointment of the SIAST director, Aboriginal Strategy follows a highly competitive search facilitated by the executive search firm Caldwell Partners," says Dr. Neufeld. "With almost 3,000 SIAST students declaring themselves as having Aboriginal ancestry, more than any other post-secondary institution in the province, this position will be integral in providing vision, strategy, leadership and direction in the implementation, continual improvement and completion of SIAST's Aboriginal initiatives and partnerships."

"I feel honoured and privileged to have been selected to the position, director of Aboriginal Strategy," says Seright. "I realize it is a big role and embrace the opportunity to contribute to the Aboriginal students' success who choose to attend SIAST. By achieving the Aboriginal initiatives it will support SIAST's own vision in valuing student success and advancing social and economic prosperity."

Seright brings a wealth of experience to this position. In addition to his work as a partnership facilitator-consultant, he has held a variety of leadership positions, including principal of Maskwacis Outreach School; district principal, Central Okanagan School District; and principal, Ermineskin Elementary Junior School. Seright has a master's degree in education from the University of Calgary. He graduated from the

University of Saskatchewan with a bachelor of education, with minors in native studies and in Indian and northern education.

SIAST is Saskatchewan's primary public institution for post-secondary technical education and skills training. A member of Polytechnics Canada, SIAST offers apprenticeship training and certificate, diploma and degree programs. The institution serves 26,000 distinct students through campuses in Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina and Saskatoon, and through extensive distance education opportunities.

## **SIAST TESTS 3D HEALTH-CARE TECHNOLOGY**

Students, patients and health-care workers stand to benefit.

**April 7, 2014** – SIAST students and faculty are collaborating on a research project that will determine how 3D muscle-movement-tracking technology can be refined and customized to enhance the teaching of clinical skills. The portable technology will expand SIAST's use of high-tech health-care training that enhances learning environments, increases patient safety, and ultimately may reduce musculoskeletal injuries among health-care workers.

Working with ISIS Health Informatics, a Canadian health information management company, SIAST nursing students and faculty will test hardware and software that track and analyze body movements. The students will perform two clinical tasks, such as intravenous line insertion or an injection, that require coordination, dexterity, speed, fine motor movement or other psychomotor skills.

"The students' and faculty's continual feedback during these tests will help us fine-tune the design and calibration of the technology," says Dr. Vahid Anvari, ISIS's director of research and development. The company plans to patent the technology and incorporate it in a highly sensitive training device, such as a sensor-embedded glove.

ISIS expects that end users of the muscle-movement-tracking device will include educational institutions, community-based clinics and health-care delivery organizations.

"This portable technology will enable SIAST to offer higher-fidelity learning opportunities in a much more cost-effective manner, independent of a centralized lab," says Dr. Lyle Grant, coordinator of SIAST's Institute for Nursing

Scholarship. "Its application ultimately enhances safety and comfort to patients by allowing students to practise 'invasive skills' on a lifelike device and receive very realistic feedback."

"SIAST is a leader in the use of simulation learning in Canada," says Dr. Netha Dyck, dean of Nursing at SIAST. "We continually strive to enhance our virtual education capacity." SIAST's Office of Applied Research and Innovation (OARI) worked with the research team to secure a \$25,000 grant through the College and Community Innovation program of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), enabling ISIS to access applied research expertise at SIAST for six months.

Because the training device will have the potential to monitor body mechanics in realtime settings, ISIS predicts that health-care authorities and workers' compensation boards in Canada will show an interest in the technology. Health-care workers have some of the highest rates of musculoskeletal injuries of all Canadian workers. These injuries relate to repetitive on-the-job tasks and inadvertent body positioning while bending and lifting.

ISIS Health Informatics is a Saskatchewan-based Canadian health management company with expertise in the health system, including project audits, information technology reviews, technology project management, health information privacy, data analytics and health training technology. It is an international leader of certification testing of Electronic Medical Record (EMR) systems.





# Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology

## HARPER GOVERNMENT IMPROVES TRADES AND APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS AT SIAST

**April 24, 2014** – Saskatoon, Saskatchewan – Western Economic Diversification Canada

Students and apprentices enrolled in seven training programs at the four Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST) campuses across the province will have improved access to leading-edge industrial equipment and computer technology thanks to a \$1.4 million investment from Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD). The funding will help address the high demand for skilled workers in Saskatchewan and Western Canada.

SIAST is purchasing a new tractor, two forklifts, engines, hoists, computer diagnostic equipment, welders, digital meters, sanders, and other specialized equipment that will allow its programs to meet increasing demand from employers to introduce new technologies.

The Honourable Lynne Yelich, Minister of State (Foreign Affairs and Consular Services) and Member of Parliament for Blackstrap, on behalf the Honourable Michelle Rempel, Minister of State for Western Economic Diversification, announced federal support for apprenticeship training in the carpentry, electrical, plumbing and welding trades. The equipment upgrades will also provide better training opportunities for students in the following programs: Agricultural Machinery Technician, Automotive Service Technician, and Heavy Equipment Truck and Transport.

### Quick Facts

- The new equipment means that some of the apprenticeship programs may be able to accommodate increased enrolment. The funding could allow SIAST to train an additional 490 skilled workers over two years in these seven trades and industry sectors that have

been identified as experiencing moderate to severe shortages.

- SIAST apprenticeship training has seen a 72 per cent increase over the last seven years. In 2013-2014, SIAST trained 5,726 new apprentices compared with 3,292 trained in 2007-2008.

### Quotes

"Our Government is helping Canadians acquire the skills and training they need to fill jobs in the agricultural, construction and mining sectors. Students enrolled in apprenticeship and trade programs at SIAST will soon have greater access to modern equipment and computer diagnostic technologies in their training programs, giving them a competitive advantage as they seek employment upon graduation."

- *The Honourable Lynne Yelich, Minister of State (Foreign Affairs and Consular Services)*

"Providing applied learning opportunities is central to SIAST's role as a polytechnic. This contribution from the federal government will help us ensure that our students are well equipped with skills that are relevant to today's work place."

- *Dr. Larry Rosia, SIAST president and CEO*

## SIAST ENHANCES ONLINE LEARNING SYSTEM

New digital ecosystem increases collaboration, mobility.

**April 16, 2014** – SIAST has embarked upon a modernization of its online learning technologies that incorporates social tools and enhanced mobile capabilities. The project will result in an enriched student learning experience.

"Connecting and engaging with students, and providing unique learning tools for mobile devices are key components required in today's online learning environment," says Arnold Boldt, SIAST's associate vice-

president, Academic and Research.

Each year, almost 2,200 SIAST students take courses online, in subject areas ranging from hydraulics to psychology. Technology-enhanced learning allows SIAST to expand access to programming and to provide learning opportunities in a contemporary environment.

A key step in the evolution of the digital ecosystem at SIAST is the recent selection of Desire2Learn (D2L) Integrated Learning Platform (ILP) to replace an end-of-life system.

"The new platform is pivotal to advancing SIAST's strategic goals of maximizing student success and leveraging educational innovation," says Boldt. D2L could be implemented as early as this summer, he adds.

D2L's platform provides SIAST with a user-friendly and intuitive interface, and integrates the most contemporary teaching and learning tools on the market, including robust assessment functionality, dynamic and social collaboration and communication tools.

SIAST's selection process consisted of extensive consultation, both internally and externally, on the current state of the industry, as well as best practices for development and delivery of instruction.

Desire2Learn (D2L) is the pioneer of the integrated learning platform, delivering a personalized learning experience for every individual. With a focus on improving the learning experience, D2L partners with thought-leading institutions and organizations to accelerate learning and improve results. D2L provides an open and extensible platform for more than 1,100 clients and 13 million learners.





### SAULT COLLEGE PRESIDENT DR. RONALD COMMON RECEIVES THE PROVINCE'S HIGHEST HONOUR

(Sault Ste. Marie, On January 24, 2014) It is with great pride and excitement that Sault College announces that President Dr. Ronald Common has been awarded the Order of Ontario, the province's most prestigious and highest official honour.

The award recognizes extraordinary Ontarians who have demonstrated a high level of individual excellence and achievement in any field benefiting the people of Ontario or anywhere in the world. Once a year, the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario honours those chosen for appointments to the Order at an investiture ceremony which took place yesterday at Queens' Park.

Dr. Common was recognized for his impressive 46-year career in education, with roles ranging from teacher, principal, and professor at five universities in three provinces. Common was dean at two post-secondary institutions, with his career culminating as president of Sault College. His achievements include educational initiatives related to Aboriginal groups, managing organizational change within educational organizations and international development.

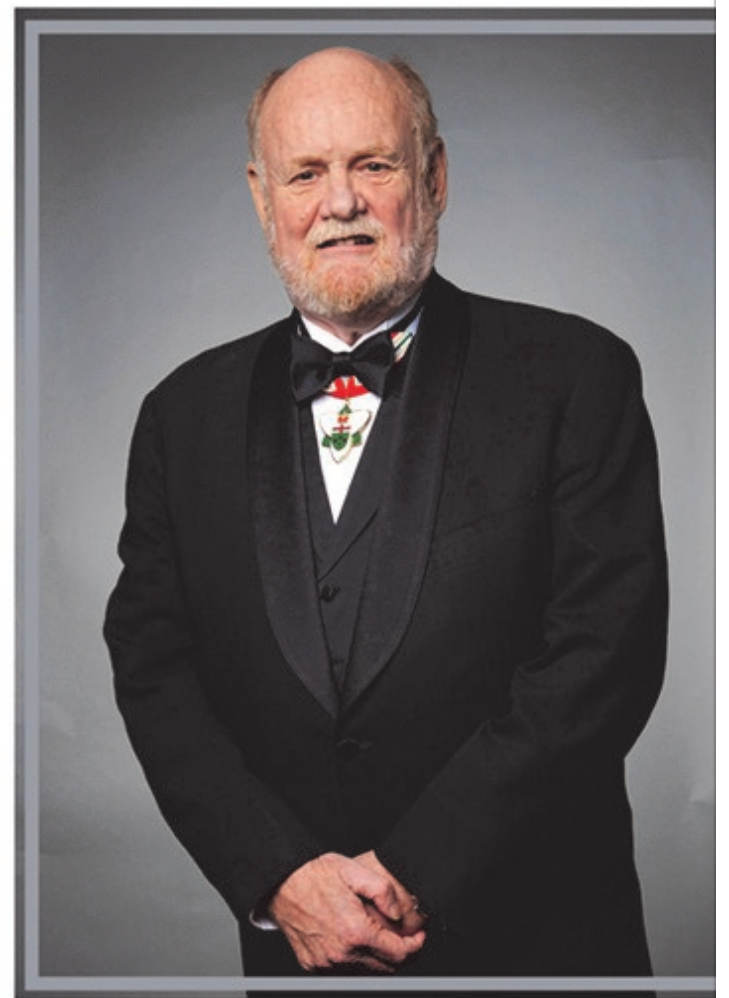
President Common has worked extensively with Aboriginal communities throughout Canada, successfully establishing band-operated school systems, including building schools and negotiating educational self-government agreements. He was recently inducted into the Nipissing Human Rights Hall of Fame for his work with First Nations and marginalized people around the world. He has worked on international development projects in Malawi, Cameroon, Kenya, and South America.

"Dr. Common is truly a deserving candidate that has demonstrated a high level of individual excellence and achievement benefiting not only the people of Ontario but worldwide," notes Carla Fabbro, Chair, Sault College Board of Governors. "During his time with our College, President Common has helped our College provide the highest-quality post-secondary education and training services in the province. His time, dedication, and vision are very much appreciated. He is truly deserving of this honour."

Prior to joining Sault College, Dr. Common was Dean of Education at Nipissing University for seven years. He has been a university administrator for 12 years at Nipissing, Brandon and Memorial Universities, and has held positions at Queen's University, Brock University, Memorial University, Brandon University and Nipissing University as a Professor of Education Administration.

A multi-degree graduate, Dr. Common received Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Education and Master of Education degrees from the University of Manitoba. Dr. Common earned his Ph.D. in Educational Administration from the University of Ottawa.

Sault College congratulates Dr. Common for his leadership and for exemplifying the highest level of individual excellence and achievement in the field of education. His respect for the profession has fuelled his relentless passion for the pursuit of bettering the field that both informs and inspires minds of the future, and we are grateful for his contributions to the students, communities, and organizations with whom he has worked, including our College.







## 7 TERTIARY TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARDS PRESENTED TO OTAGO POLYTECHNIC STAFF

The Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards celebrates New Zealand's finest tertiary teachers - as recognised by their organisations, colleagues, learners and broader communities. A total of twelve awards were presented for sustained excellence in tertiary teaching – under General and Kaupapa Māori categories.

The parliamentary dinner was jointly hosted by the Minister for Tertiary Education, Hon Steven Joyce, and Dr Cam Calder, Chairperson of the Education and Science Committee. Ako Aotearoa – The National Centre for Tertiary Teaching Excellence, administers the awards. The Centre aims to recognise and celebrate excellence in tertiary teaching and share good practice that has proven benefit for learners.

Dr Peter Coolbear, director of Ako Aotearoa, and member of the Awards Committee, comments "Being on the Awards committee

is a great privilege. We had 37 nominations for these awards this year and each of their portfolios reinforces to us that the best of New Zealand teaching is undoubtedly world class. The awardees being celebrated are truly inspirational tertiary teachers."

Chef and senior tutor Adrian Woodhouse from Otago Polytechnic stepped forward to receive his second national teaching excellence award. In 2009 he received an award as an individual teacher; this time it is as a member of the talented Culinary Arts teaching team from the School of Hospitality at Otago Polytechnic. The team - the only group to receive an award this year - also includes Stephen Ellwood, David Gillespie, Antony Heptinstall and Daniel Pfyl. Together they have developed a highly innovative learner-centred undergraduate programme at the polytechnic that is framed by reflective practice, experiential learning, design-led thinking and authentic work projects.

Chair of the Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards Committee, Phil Ker says, "Being Chair of this Committee was a very rewarding

experience. To see the breadth and depth of the experience of tertiary teachers within New Zealand through their portfolios was outstanding and a real privilege. The Committee had a difficult task in deciding the winners of each category and my congratulations go to all those who submitted portfolios and especially those who received awards."

Every Sustained Excellence in Tertiary Teaching Award is worth \$20,000 to each recipient.

Otago Polytechnic is very proud of its success at these awards having won, over eight consecutive years, seven Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards.



L-R: Caro McCaw, Daniel Pfyl, Adrian Woodhouse, David Gillespie, Jude Roddick, Tony Heptinstall, Stephen Ellwood

## 2014 STUDY TOUR

Twenty academic and general staff from Otago Polytechnic undertook a two week study and sightseeing tour to Vancouver, Seattle and San Francisco in July. The tour was focussed primarily on innovation and the group visited a range of organisations renowned for their innovative ideas and practices.

Five days were spent in Vancouver, where visits were made to BC Campus, University of British Columbia (including their Centre for Research

on Sustainability) and British Columbia Institute of Technology's (BCIT's) Aerospace Campus in Richmond.

In Seattle, the group spent a half day at Microsoft's Executive Briefing Centre gaining an overview of their Envisioning Centre, Security and Retail Experience Centre, visited the Bezos Centre for Innovation @ Mohai and travelled to South Puget Sound Community College in Olympia with which Otago Polytechnic has had a long standing relationship.

San Francisco visits included Kiwi Landing Pad, Exploratorium, IDEO, Les Mills, Pearson and Rocketspace as well as Mixbit in San Mateo.

The Study Tour was considered a fabulous opportunity by participants, who returned home to New Zealand thoroughly inspired from what they had seen.

Planning will be soon underway for a third study tour - to India, in 2015.



# Otago Polytechnic

## INTERNATIONAL FOOD DESIGN CONFERENCE HELD BY OTAGO POLYTECHNIC

An international culinary arts conference was hosted by Otago Polytechnic in Dunedin, New Zealand, in July, to officially introduce its new Food Design Institute. The *International Food Design Experience, Conference and Studio* was held over three days and attended by more than 100 chefs and food designers from nine countries.



The keynote speaker was Emilie Baltz, the Art Director and Curator of the PLAY bar at the New York Museum of Sex; the founder of the Food Design Studio at the Pratt Institute in New York, and an award-winning cookbook author. As a trained dancer and photographer, Baltz is known for incorporating elements of performance and photography into her food design in order to appeal to all five senses. Other guest speakers included Elisabet Skylare and Nikolaj Danielsen of the New Nordic Food Movement, and award-winning New Zealand-based chefs Michael Meredith, Gianpaolo Grazioli and Giulio Sturla.

Students of Otago Polytechnic's Bachelor of Culinary Arts – the only design-led undergraduate culinary arts degree in the world – also featured on the programme, creating meals for the Gala Dinner which concluded the event. It was curated by the English food designer and conference guest speaker, Chloe Morris, who came to prominence after founding Edible Stories, a London company that serves food creatively to tell stories without any form of accompanying narration. The Gala Dinner offered a dining experience that reflected the history of the city of Dunedin, from the first settlement by indigenous Māori to present day. The event generated considerable interest in the three-year Bachelor of Culinary Arts, which was launched in 2012. The first intake of students is due to graduate this December.



## INNOVATIVE COOKING STOVE LAUNCHED IN SAMOA BY OTAGO POLYTECHNIC GRADUATE

In June, staff from New Zealand's Otago Polytechnic travelled to Samoa to support one of the institute's Bachelor of Engineering Technology graduates as he launched an efficient cooking stove that he had developed on campus during his studies.

Otago Polytechnic funded the development and production of the stove, and subsequently financed the launch and installation of three of them in the Samoan villages of Vaiala and Faatoia.

The wood-fired oven was designed by John Eteuati, who is originally from Samoa, to help combat the chronic, adverse health effects of traditional open-fire cooking in the Pacific Islands. His invention uses much less wood fuel than is required for open-fire cooking, and produces significantly fewer emissions of harmful gases and smoke. In addition, it has a positive social impact as construction can be carried out locally using conventional building materials involving minimal capital expense.

"It was a great honour to install the stoves and I'm very excited about seeing the impact they will have on the Samoan community," Mr Eteuti says. "In time, I hope to see some real improvements in residents' health and well-being, as well as on the environment."

While in Samoa, Otago Polytechnic's Pasifika Advisor, Anna Seiuli, and Communications Director, Mike Waddell, were able to visit the National University of Samoa. Both institutions are currently exploring prospects for educational collaboration, including potential scholarship and exchange opportunities.



John Eteuati and his  
Innovative Cooking  
Stove



# Central Community College



## COLLEGE WELCOMES NEW CAMPUS PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AND ENROLMENT SERVICES

Central Community College-Grand Island (Neb.) has a new campus president, Dr. Thomas A. Walker Jr., who joined the CCC staff on July 7.

He replaces Alan Hartley, who had served as interim campus president since Aug. 2, 2013.

In addition to serving as Grand Island Campus president, Walker is vice president of student and enrollment services for the college, which includes campuses at Columbus and Hastings as well as Grand Island.

College President Dr. Greg Smith said, "We are pleased that Dr. Walker has chosen Central Community College. He is a student- and community-focused educator who brings a wealth and breadth of experience to the job."

Immediately before joining the CCC staff, Walker was vice president for student affairs at St. Louis Community College in Forest Park, MO. He has extensive experience with community colleges.

Previous positions include dean of administrative services at Metropolitan Community College in Kansas City, dean of student services and enrollment management at Davidson County Community College in North Carolina and a similar position at Southwest Tennessee Community College in Memphis, as well as having served as a full-time faculty member and an academic dean.

In addition, he was founding executive director of KIPP (Knowledge is Power Program), a regional office supporting KIPP Public Charter Schools in St. Louis. He also was an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps.

A native of Lumberton, N.C., Walker earned a bachelor's degree in political science and journalism from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a master of public administration degree and a doctoral degree in higher education administration from the University of Memphis.

Walker has been involved in several executive development programs including Harvard University's Institute for the Management of Lifelong Education, the League of Innovation's Executive Leadership Program and the Lakin

Institute of the President's Roundtable of the American Association of Community Colleges. He has been a Fellow with the National Center for Education Statistics.

Walker's civic activities include serving as chairman of the board for Manaseeh Ministry, chairman of the Education Committee of 100 Black Men of Metropolitan St. Louis, vice president of Education of Primary Conversations Toastmasters and member of the Education Committee at Friendly Temple Missionary Baptist Church.

Walker has a 10-year-old daughter. He enjoys fishing, hunting and outdoor activities. He also enjoys antiquarian book collecting.



## CCC, WILSON FOUNDATIONS COMBINED ASSETS NEARLY \$27 MILLION

An affiliation between the Central Community College Foundation and the Warren and Velda Wilson Foundation has resulted in combined assets of nearly \$27 million.

The two foundations began working on the affiliation in 2012. The U.S. Internal Revenue Service recently approved the action, which changes the Wilson Foundation from a private to public foundation and a supporting organization of the CCC Foundation.

Wilson Foundation President John Farrell said the change in status to a public foundation is important to maintaining the value of the Wilson Foundation's assets. In its previous status as a private foundation, it was required to disburse five percent of its assets annually. In its new status as a public foundation affiliated with the CCC Foundation, the Wilson Foundation no longer is subject to the five percent

disbursement requirement. That will give the Wilson Foundation the ability to maintain the value of its assets and provide more flexibility in managing its funds, Farrell said.

The Wilson Foundation's assets of approximately \$20 million brings the combined assets of the two foundations to nearly \$27 million.

"This will create opportunities for both foundations, both in the short run and long term," said Dean Moors, executive director of the CCC Foundation. "The mission of both organizations is very compatible, as awarding scholarships is the main focus," Moors said.

The merger will create efficiencies and synergies within both foundations that will generate combined scholarships for students in excess of \$700,000 per year, Moors said. The Wilson Foundation recently awarded \$425,000 for students who will begin college in 2014-15. The CCC Foundation has managed the scholarship program for the Wilson Foundation for the past

12 years. During this period, the Wilson Foundation awarded more than \$5.6 million in scholarships.

The Warren and Velda Wilson Foundation was founded in 1992. The Wilsons were involved in production agriculture in the Clay County area of Nebraska. To be eligible for a Wilson Foundation scholarship, a student must reside in and be a graduating senior from a high school in one of the following counties: Adams, Clay, Fillmore, Hall, Hamilton, Nuckolls, Thayer, Webster or York. The scholarships must be used to attend an accredited institution of post-secondary education in Nebraska.

The majority of these counties are in the Central Community College Foundation 25-county service area.

## ACCT LEADER IS SPEAKER FOR THREE CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMMENCEMENTS.

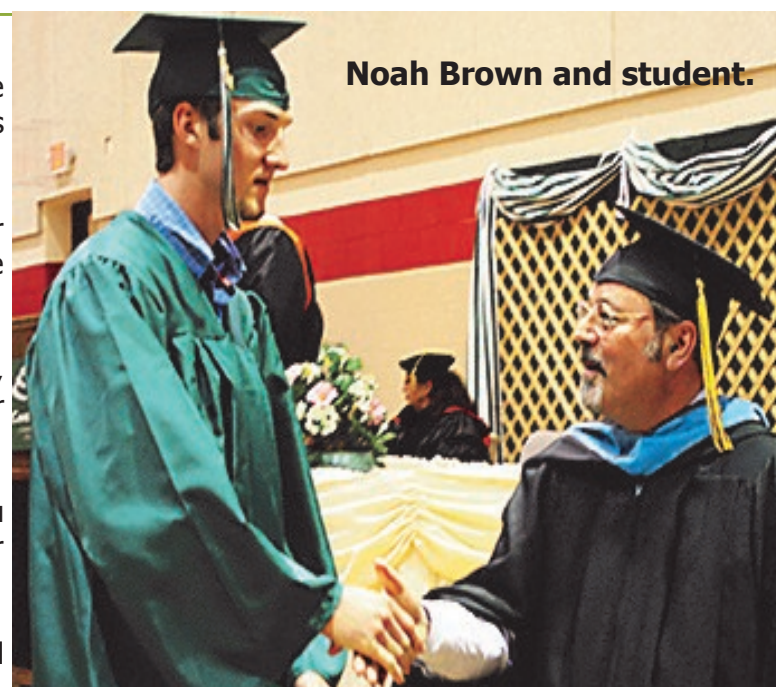
J. Noah Brown, president and chief executive officer of the Association of Community College Trustees, was the keynote speaker for commencements Central Community College's campuses in Columbus, Grand Island and Hastings, Neb., in May.

Brown is a nationally recognized authority on community college governance; a contributor to national publications; a speaker on a broad range of topics; and an experienced executive who specializes in public policy, legislative advocacy and strategic planning.

During his commencement address, Brown encouraged students to "be creative, visionary, act upon well thought-out plans, assess and take calculated risks, and take accountability for those risks and outcomes."

"Today is not just a personal triumph, it is a victory for our entire nation," Brown said. "You now join the ranks of those who continue the legacy of educational achievement. Your success ensures our economic resurgence and climb back to global leader status."

He also encouraged graduates to "take different paths leading to success," and "be now and forever prepared, so when a new opportunity to serve and to apply your talents materializes, you recognize and embrace it without hesitation."



Noah Brown and student.



As we consider the past year at Olds College, partnership is the term that best defines the beginning of our second century.

Olds College celebrated the grand opening of the Botanic Gardens & Treatment Wetlands in August 2013. This one of a kind research facility is the tangible result of business, individual and government partnerships that created a beautiful yet highly functional addition to Olds College. The research conducted at the facility has applications related to major Alberta industries including oil and gas, agriculture, land development, horticulture, food production, conservation and more.

Olds College served up the newly acquired Hospitality and Tourism Management Program in September 2013. Leveraging existing Olds College programming, our public/private partnership with the Pomeroy Inn and Suites and our on-campus partnership with Chartwells, the Hospitality and Tourism Management Program is a "fit" for us. Upon its arrival, the program was revamped and we are now able to offer a unique program that will provide hands-on practicum training students while allowing students to graduate with a diploma in 14 months. This delivery model has been met with enthusiasm by our industry partners as it will help to fuel the labour needs of this burgeoning industry.

The Olds College Brewmaster and Brewery Operations Management Diploma is one half of a unique Pan-Canadian experiment in Canadian brewing education. The result of a partnership with Niagara College, the Olds College Brewmaster program will equip graduates for a variety of careers within the brewing industry. The Olds College Teaching Brewery is Western Canada's only teaching brewery and will provide students with a unique, hands-on learning experience plus a solid understanding of both the art and science of brewing. Long time partners and friends of Olds College were recognized for their generous contribution in support of the Brewmaster and Brewery Management Operations programs by officially dedicating the Olds College Teaching Brewery as Wilson Hall in January 2014.

The National Meat Training Centre at Olds College officially opened in March, 2014. Partners have stepped forward to support this initiative because they see the value it provides to the community. A generous sponsorship contribution, with a four year commitment, from municipal

government will ensure the success and growth of this facility.

In the summer of 2015, College Housing (Olds) Inc. will open its doors and welcome 450 students to a new living experience in the Centennial Village housing complex on the Olds College campus. Centennial Village has been designed from the inside out, starting with single, private rooms, leading to social, active and retail spaces to meet the distinctive need of the modern student. In the first model of its kind in Alberta, Centennial Village is fully financed from the private sector under a design, build, finance and operate partnership.

In partnership with a local firm, Olds College will establish a state-of-the-art research, training and development facility for the apparel industry in Western Canada. The federal government also came to the table, providing grant funding for this collaborative initiative. The facility will be a venue for hands-on training and will support innovative entrepreneurs in the journey from concept to reality.

We are truly thankful for those who have partnered with Olds College. With partners such as those mentioned (and the many more who are not), we do not do the heavy lifting alone and we look forward to the exciting possibilities ahead.

**Dr. H. J. (Tom) Thompson**



L-R: Gilmar Joachin, Marvin Deitzer and Savanah Broatch from the Hospitality Programme.

# Lambton College



## LAMBTON COLLEGE CLAIMS FOUR COVETED TITLES AT ENACTUS CANADA NATIONAL EXPOSITION

Lambton College is celebrating victory after claiming a series of coveted titles at the 2014 Enactus Canada National Exposition held in Calgary from April 28 - 30.

The three-day event welcomed more than 1,200 delegates including the country's brightest university and college students, academic professionals and top Canadian CEOs as they showcased their community outreach projects and business ventures through rounds of live competition.

Of the six national titles being awarded, the Enactus Lambton team managed to claim four of the top honours, a record achievement for a second year college or university team competing at the national level. They are now the only team to win six national titles in their first two years.

**Enactus Lambton was awarded first place for the following awards:**

**Scotiabank EcoLiving Green Challenge National Champion** for their innovative One Seed project which trained 230 Zambian farmers to use an environmentally friendly no-till farming technique. The project also encouraged solar powered water gathering methods and eliminated 366 tonnes of CO2 emissions.

**TD Entrepreneurship Challenge National Champion** for their work transforming the rural village of Kasaka, Zambia through their One Seed project, creating 41 jobs, starting seven small businesses, processing 150 micro loans and generating \$623,000 in economic impact.

**Unilever Sustainable Living Plan Project Partnership National Champion** because of the One Seed project's ability to improve the health and well-being of the residents of Kasaka, Zambia, reducing environmental impact and enhancing livelihoods.

**Walmart Women's Economic Empowerment Project Partnership National Champion** because of the positive impact of their Strength in Numbers project, a financial education program, which served 93 Sarnia women this year, who were able to reduce their average debt by \$150/

month while saving an additional \$50/month.

"The success of the Enactus Lambton team is unprecedented, and something no other team has accomplished before," says Judith Morris, President & CEO, Lambton College. "When you look at what the Lambton College team has done with their programs, they really are helping to create a better future for so many people with the work they are doing. It's inspiring to see how much of a difference our students are making through these projects and we are thrilled to see them get the recognition they deserve."



From left to right, front row:  
Judy Morris (President & CEO, Lambton College), Bolatito Olagunju-Alawode, Samantha Zoccato, Sarah Irwin, Laura Hammell, Kyla Roadhouse, Haylee McKelvie, Leah Brownlee, Yvonne Clarke (Associate Dean of the School of Business and Creative Design, Lambton College), Carly VandenEnde (Faculty Advisor)

From left to right, back row:  
Erica Dean, Jeddore McDonald, Jon Milos (Faculty Advisor), Rob Kardas (Executive Director of Student Services, Lambton College)



The Top of the South Trades Academy (TOTSTA)'s win at the Prime Minister's Education Excellence Awards is a win for the whole region, says TOTSTA Manager Shaaron Adams.

In June, the Academy won the 2014 Educational Focus - Takatū Prize at the awards in Wellington. The awards are designed to celebrate and recognise innovative teaching practices. The judges said: *"Top of the South Trades Academy has taken vocational training to students throughout Nelson, Tasman and Marlborough. Adults have put their interests aside, focussing on students and creating flexible programmes that are achieving results."*

This year has seen more than 300 students from 14 secondary schools undertake Trades Academy courses at Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology (NMIT) and Whenua Iti Outdoors, across 17 different areas including automotive engineering, hospitality, hairdressing and beauty, aquaculture and maritime, aviation engineering and sport and fitness. Manager Shaaron Adams says the Academy sets students up to succeed.

"Through the Academy, we hope to give students more reason to stay at school, a greater chance of career success and an easier transition into work or tertiary

education after school. The students are telling us that they enjoy being part of the tertiary world and that the hands-on experience helps motivate them to want to learn more. What we are seeing is motivated, relaxed kids who are getting a look at what their future could be – while still getting all the wonderful experiences that schools can offer – the best of both worlds."

Rex Smith, Principal of the lead provider, Nayland College, says that the award acknowledges the great job done by the tutors at NMIT and Whenua Iti in engaging students in authentic learning as well as recognising the work done by a dedicated group of teachers in each of the schools. "As a partnership we always knew that we could achieve far more for all of our students by working collaboratively and this has been recognised," he said.

NMIT Chief Executive Tony Gray says the Trades Academy has been successful on many different levels. "The Trades Academy has been of real benefit for students wanting to progress to NMIT. We are now seeing a greater number of school leavers choose to stay in the region and study at NMIT. Their transition from school to tertiary study is also much smoother as students have already been exposed to learning in an adult environment."

Launched in 2012, the Academy is now a joint venture between 14 secondary schools in the Top of the South Island of New Zealand, NMIT and Whenua Iti Outdoors. Academy courses are open to year 11, 12 and 13 students who have level one NCEA, are committed to learning, and are keen to train towards a career. The students remain enrolled in school while attending training one day per week at a tertiary provider, working towards a National Certificate and a minimum of NCEA level 2. Classes are taught by tertiary tutors.

The Ministry of Education approved funding for the Academy in late 2011 as part of its Youth Guarantee policy which focuses on improving educational opportunities and achievement for 16 and 17 year-olds. The Top of the South Trades Academy is one of 22 Trades Academies across New Zealand and is funded by the Ministry of Education. Colleges involved are: Nayland College (funding coordinator and lead provider), Waimea College, Nelson College for Girls, Nelson College, Garin College, Motueka High School, Collingwood Area School, Rai Valley Area School, Tapawera Area School, Marlborough Girls' College, Marlborough Boys' College, Queen Charlotte College and Te Kura (the Correspondence School) and Te Kura Kaupapa o Tuia Te Matangi.



**The Top of the South Trades Academy is recognised at the Prime Minister's Education Excellence Awards 2014.** From left: Education Minister Hekia Parata, Sandra Williams (NMIT), Delyth Logan (Waimea College), Prime Minister John Key, Shaaron Adams (TOTSTA), Rex Smith (Nayland College) and Associate Education Minister Nikki Kaye,



## CPIT CAMPUS MASTER PLAN

Late last year CPIT announced an extensive \$120m, including government support, programme of new building and refurbishment work that will enable the institute to train high quality graduates in more flexible, modern facilities.

Our post-earthquake engineering evaluation of our building stock revealed little structural damage. However the need for cosmetic repair work has encouraged us to reassess our master planning and bring some of the developments forward. It's an exciting programme of work that will take us through to 2022. The plans are the outcome of a complex analysis of regional development, industry needs, projected growth and future training delivery.

Work on both campuses has begun. Stage 1 of the Campus Master Plan at Madras Street is a new purpose-built Whareora (Science and Wellbeing Facility), featuring sports facilities, a community health centre and learning spaces. This is planned to be completed at the end of 2014.

Subsequent stages feature a new Engineering and Architectural Studies building, a new Corporate Services building, more green

spaces, the Main Registry building, the Rakaia Centre, repurposed as a Student Hub and a proposed new performing arts facility. CPIT will self-fund the majority of this investment from existing cash reserves and future operational surpluses.

Expansion at the Trades campus, supported by government funding of \$18.9m, will create new buildings and flexible learning spaces for the projected increase of 400 'equivalent full time' students (up to 1000 individual students). The work includes three new buildings of 2,500 m<sup>2</sup> and repurposing 11,000 m<sup>2</sup> of buildings. The new buildings should be completed by the end of 2014.

By 2019, every building on our campuses will be new or will have been remediated and refurbished. Our recently released Technology Enhanced Learning Strategy and our current Learning Spaces Pilot project are guiding the challenge to create amazing learning spaces and educational delivery options throughout the institute. It's an exciting challenge in the context of exciting times for our city.

**Kay Giles**  
**CPIT Chief Executive**

## CPIT OPENS DOOR TO TRADESWOMEN

In November last year, CPIT, to encourage more women to consider a career in trades, announced new scholarships and added a new Top Female Trades student award to the annual Trades Innovation Institute (TII) celebration of achievement in trades training.

CPIT announced this new package of Women in Trades scholarships to help women to retrain for a career in trades.

Working closely with the Ministry of Women's Affairs, CPIT developed a strategy that makes trades training more accessible for women and generates awareness of the many opportunities for women in the construction industry, particularly here in Christchurch. More women participating in Canterbury's recovery will help women whose circumstances may have changed post-earthquake, as well as their families and our regional economy. It has also long been recognised that women are under-represented in the trades with less than 1% of tradespeople being women

The scholarships are available to all women who are New Zealand citizens enrolling in a trades programme at CPIT. The inaugural Women in Trades award winner Joy Lalahi

could not have been happier with her decision to pursue electrical trades at CPIT. Joy, who trained through CPIT's Pasifika Trades Training scheme, had no trouble finding an apprenticeship and is working at the University of Canterbury with a team of eight electricians.

"There is a huge variety of things to do. I am enjoying the fact that I am learning heaps and the people are awesome," she said.

Prior to her electrical training Joy had worked in customer service, tutoring English and as a flight attendant. As a single mother of two boys, retraining required commitment and organisation but it was also very rewarding. Joy has been invited to speak at CPIT to share her experiences and inspire other women. "It is challenging, but it's having that purpose. It's empowering to know you can do it."

Her qualification will open doors around the world. "With a kiwi qualification – they want you all over the world."

The award recognises top academic marks, practical skills, determination, a positive attitude and initiating group study outside of classroom.

**Joy at the November 2013  
trades prize giving**





## NORTHEAST INSTRUCTORS RECEIVE WARM VELKOMMEN IN SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRY

NORFOLK – Since Northeast Community College instituted global educational opportunities as one of its eight institutional priorities, several students, faculty and staff have had experiences of not only learning and understanding other cultures, they have grown personally as well. Three Northeast instructors are the latest to experience a real world culture first-hand by traveling to a distant land.

Brian Anderson, broadcasting instructor, Cara Hoehne, business instructor, and Kate Trindle, history/geography instructor, traveled to Denmark this spring to teach at Aarhus Business College in Aarhus, Denmark. "The trip to Aarhus was an amazing experience, both culturally and educationally," Anderson said. "Our hosts provided us with a great mix of both that helped us bring those experiences back to our students and classrooms."

Administrators at Northeast and Aarhus signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in April 2013, designed to promote relationships among students, faculty, administration, and board members that will mutually benefit each college. The Danish institution sent three instructors to Northeast Community College in October, 2013.

On their recent visit, Anderson, Hoehne and Trindle had the opportunity to immerse themselves in both of Denmark's education system and culture.

Hoehne said she enjoyed getting to meet the students. "They divide their students based on the degree they are seeking and where the person is in life when they are seeking that degree. At Northeast, we put all of these students together." She said in her business communications class at Northeast, she has instructed students enrolled in business, diesel technology, wind energy, utility line, administrative assistant, computer programming, medical administrative assistant, graphic design, drafting, welding, and auto body. Hoehne said she also has had students of all ages in one classroom - from a high school senior to a second career grandmother.

"I believe these dynamics create a unique atmosphere with many different opinions and perspectives. Our students receive first hand experiences and enjoy communicating with students from across campus."

The age range at Aarhus Business College is primarily between 15 and 22, however, there are some non-traditional students, but not as many that are found at Northeast. In the Danish education system,

students can choose their direction after 9th grade. They may go on to 10th grade and finish high school or choose a technical college or trade school, such as Aarhus Business College, where they learn specific skills to prepare them for life in the work force.

Trindle said Aarhus instructors requested she have three different presentations when she taught. "I received the best response from students on *The American Dream* and *American Politics*. I also presented on *Nebraska Culture*. While our political systems are way different, we concluded that the American Dream isn't all that different than the Danish Dream. Our means of securing the dream are a bit different."

Trindle said the Aarhus students were eager to learn and asked good questions about Americans and American life. "They have impressions from movies and media and wondered about which stereotypes are true. They asked some great questions."

The Aarhus MOU actually got its start through the Northeast broadcasting program. The Danish college doesn't have a broadcasting department, but it wants to incorporate more of the technology.

That's where Anderson comes in. "The vision of this partnership is to create a European TV station that is programmed entirely with college programs from around the world. Northeast was chosen to be part of this project because of its excellence in broadcasting. As the program evolves, it is our hope that our TV newscasts or other programs produced on the Northeast campus will be aired all across Europe on a regular basis."

Aarhus Business College has a number of campuses spread out in the city of Aarhus. "Between the three of us, we had the opportunity to speak at most of them. I spent most of my time at their main location where their broadcasting course is offered," Anderson said. "Unlike Northeast, Aarhus Business College offers students a one-week broadcasting course instead of a full-time major of study. Each student at the college has the opportunity to take the course and learn about the world of TV broadcasting. During the week, they learn about cameras, video editing on the computer and putting an entire show together. I had the opportunity to speak to students and help them with video editing and camera handling skills." When he wasn't observing the broadcasting course, Anderson spoke to English classes about American media culture, funding differences and how the Federal Communications Commission operates in the U.S.

"We had the opportunity to see both Danish radio and TV industries in operation. Unlike the U.S., most TV stations in Denmark are owned and governed by the Danish government," Anderson said. "Visitors would be surprised to watch an entire 20 minute TV program or listen to a radio broadcast without any commercials. The government provides most of their operating funds, unlike the U.S., where advertising dollars and commercials are the only sources of income for commercial stations."

The Northeast instructors had the opportunity to visit Danmarks Radio (DR), which also includes six TV stations in addition to numerous radio stations. Aarhus is one of those stations.

Anderson said the TV stations run Danish programs, but most of the content is programming created and distributed in the United States. "Another day, we visited an Aarhus radio station called "go!FM" The station reminded me of northeast Nebraska radio because their focus was on how to provide the best content and information to the listener. They had great personalities, focused on news and listener benefit and even went out into the community and did live broadcasts to meet their listeners." Another aspect of Danish broadcasting is called "Project: Gellerup." The project is designed for Danish residents who may be out of work and who are looking for a skill to help make them employable. This particular project teaches them how to shoot, edit, and create various video projects that are made for television.

Aarhus, a city the size of Omaha, is the second largest city in Denmark and is the principal port city of the country. The three instructors said the Danes rely mostly upon public transportation and their own foot power (walking and biking) instead of automobile traffic. The tax on a car purchase in Denmark is approximately 180%, so many choose not to buy a vehicle. Outside many public places, there are areas where bicycles can be locked up and stored.

Anderson, Hoehne, and Trindle also had opportunities to see portions of Denmark and experience Danish hospitality.

Trindle said the faculty and staff of Aarhus Business College were extremely friendly and welcoming. "They were eager to escort us through Aarhus and throughout Denmark to show us the beauty and diverse landscapes of their country. We were welcomed into their homes and they treated us very well. It was a great study in Danish culture."

She said the Danes are a proud people and

willing to share their accomplishments. "We visited a union and met with union representatives who explained the Danish model in which almost all Danes are union members and are paid a fair living wage no matter the level of job. It seemed to me that they have all but eliminated poverty and with that, eliminated crime. We also visited a clinic and hospital and were introduced to their system of free, state-sponsored healthcare. Their college tuition is free as well. Students are paid a stipend of approximately \$1,000 to cover their living expenses while in college."

The Northeast instructors had the opportunity to see a good portion of Denmark too. To the north, they visited Skagen, which is the northern most tip of the country. "This was my favorite stop on the tour," Hoehne said. "It's where the North Sea meets the Baltic Sea and you can literally see an "X" in the water. Our guide was curious as to why we were picking up seashells on the shore. We quickly let him know that we do not have seashells in Nebraska."

The group also took a three hour train ride to Copenhagen, the country's capital - where they saw the Queen's Palace, Parliament, The Little Mermaid statue and numerous other famous landmarks. They also traveled south over the Danish border into Germany to the town of Flensburg. On the way to Germany, they stopped at a former WW II concentration camp and bunker complex and one of

Denmark's first communities, Ribe.

Anderson said the night before they left, they stayed at the famous Legoland Hotel in Billund, Denmark. "Everyone in the U.S. has heard of or owns Lego, but do they realize that this product originates in Denmark?"

Anderson, Hoehne, and Trindle enthusiastically agree that the trip was very beneficial to them as it gave them a better understanding of the Danish culture.

"I think my cohorts will agree that we have come home with a much better understanding of Denmark and Danish culture and we can share that with our students and be one step closer to making our curriculum more international," Trindle said. "Our students will benefit from this partnership with Aarhus Business College. We hope in the near future to be able to offer such an exchange for our students and theirs as well."

Anderson called it an "amazing" cultural and educational experience. "In today's world, it is important that our students learn about other cultures and learn how to operate in a global climate. When I teach my students about advertising or commercial production, I will be able to relate to them about how it's done in Denmark. I will be able to tell them about how the skills they are learning at Northeast can be utilized in a

broadcasting career in Denmark and how the programs they create here in the U.S. could be seen in European countries," he said. "I also brought back a few classroom ideas, such as an increased use of labs and group work, that I will be using beginning this fall."

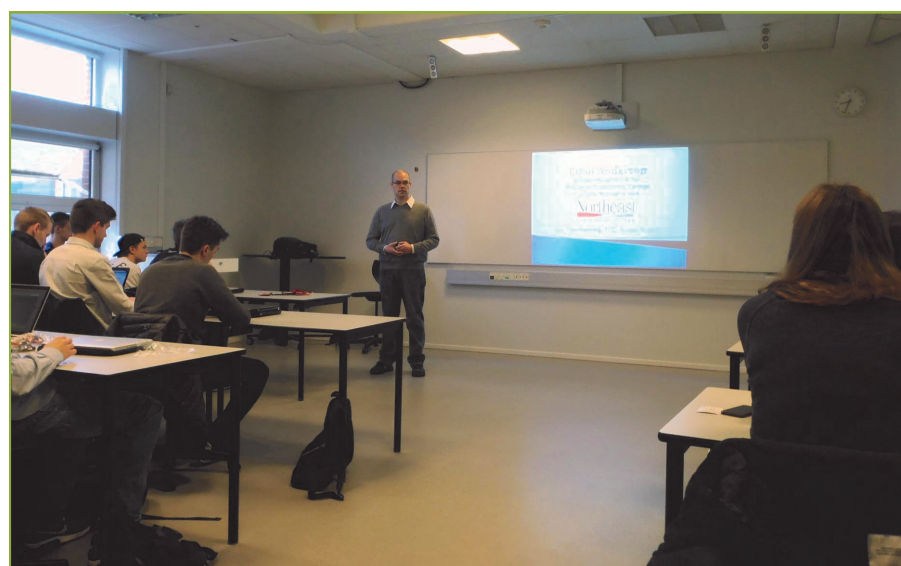
Hoehne was very complementary of their hosts at Aarhus Business College. "They had a fantastic itinerary planned for us, and we basically saw the entire country of Denmark. We were asked many times if we need down time, and we enthusiastically said 'no, we want to see it all!'"

She feels very fortunate to have been chosen to travel to Denmark.

"Northeast's commitment to Global Educational Opportunities for our students should be commended. Whether a student travels abroad with Northeast, has exchange students in their classroom, or has an instructor who travels abroad, global and cultural understanding will be enhanced. We can talk about how the world is getting smaller in our classrooms all we want, but if we can bring in real life experiences, people, and examples, students will truly understand just how important global and cultural understanding can be."



Northeast Community College instructors Kate Trindle (left), Cara Hoehne, and Brian Anderson recently traveled to Aarhus Business College in Aarhus, Denmark. It is part of a Memorandum of Understanding that administrators of the two colleges signed last year designed to enhance cultural awareness and workforce development. **(Courtesy Photo)**



Brian Anderson, broadcasting instructor at Northeast Community College, speaks to a class at Aarhus Business College in Aarhus, Denmark recently. Anderson, along with Cara Hoehne, business instructor, and Kate Trindle, history/geography instructor at Northeast, traveled to Aarhus as part of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that administrators of the two colleges signed last year. The MOU is designed to enhance cultural awareness and workforce development. **(Courtesy Photo)**



## EXPANDING APPLIED RESEARCH IN FOREST RECLAMATION

The Boreal Forest is one of Canada's natural treasures. In Alberta the Boreal Forest covers more than one-third of the province's land base and plays a vital role in sustaining ecological cycles, including wildlife diversity and carbon storage. Promoting stewardship of the forest is a primary focus of NAIT's Boreal Research Institute, located in the northern Alberta Town of Peace River.

NAIT celebrated the opening of new facilities at its Boreal Research Institute with industry partners and the local community in May. The new 9,000-square foot facilities feature two laboratories, a three-bay greenhouse and expanded office space.

"As a leading polytechnic in applied research for forest reclamation, public education and industry training in Alberta's boreal region, NAIT is committed to developing sustainable solutions with our industry partners," said NAIT President and CEO Dr. Glenn Feltham. "With the new facilities, the Institute is able to expand essential research in well site reclamation."

Research staff and students are conducting germination trials on a variety of boreal tree, shrub and forb species, which will help commercial greenhouses and industry better understand re-vegetation requirements. Forbs such as fireweed and aster, for example, show promise as natural ground cover for well sites.

Support for the new facilities was provided by the Government of Canada, through the Canada Foundation for Innovation, and Alberta Innovation and Advanced Education, as well as industry partners including Shell Canada Limited and Penn West.

"Reclaiming industrially disturbed lands to natural forest conditions is a critical and challenging research area for Canada," said Canada Foundation for Innovation President and CEO Dr. Gilles Patry. "NAIT's Boreal Research Institute is already a leader in this field."

The NAIT Boreal Research Institute was established in 1995 in partnership with the forest industry. While maintaining its forestry partners, the Institute has diversified to become a leader in the reclamation of oil and gas sites.

The applied research at the Institute and the close proximity to the Boreal Forest present an ideal hands-on learning opportunity for students enrolled in NAIT's Forest Technology and Biological Sciences diploma programs, as well as students from other Canadian postsecondary institutions. This year students from the University of Calgary, MacEwan University, University of Alberta and Laval University joined NAIT students in research at the Institute.



Celebrating new facilities at the NAIT Boreal Research Institute (L to R) Hugh Seaton, Director of the NAIT Boreal Research Institute; Hon. Frank Oberle, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Member of the Legislative Assembly for Peace River; Nicolas Beaulieu, NAIT Forest Technology student; Dr. Glenn Feltham, NAIT President and CEO; His Worship Tom Tarpey, Mayor of the Town of Peace River.

Dr. Bin Xu, NAIT's Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Chair in Peatland Restoration, conducts critical work to the expansion of Alberta's in situ oil well sites within sensitive wetlands.

