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2016 PIN Executive Committee

## Message From The President



We are excited to announce that the 2016 PIN Conference will be held from July 10 –16 and hosted by Olds College in Alberta. It should be a great experience. We are encouraging institutions to send teams this year to make this the best PIN conference ever.

Here are two informational links of interest. The first is the draft conference brochure and the second is a short promotional video.

<http://oldscollege.ca/staff/communications/events/2016/PIN-Conference/index>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eO3XfXlzGeg>

You can access information about the 2016 PIN Canadian Conference through the bottom of the home, front page of the PIN website, [www.pinnet.org](http://www.pinnet.org). In addition to finding out about the conference programme, you can also register and pay for the conference online and make hotel reservations with the information on the website. Please plan to attend the 2016 Conference.

If you have colleagues who may be interested in joining PIN, please share these materials. See you in Alberta!

### Dr. Greg P. Smith

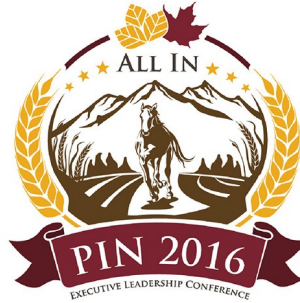
President  
Central Community College  
Nebraska  
USA



## Points of interest

- ⇒ Registration and hotel reservations now open for the 2016 PIN Conference Canada hosted by Olds College
- ⇒ Registration Otago Polytechnic International Symposium September 2016
- ⇒ Reminder 2016 PIN Membership Renewal due now

# COLLEGE PRESIDENT INVITES DELEGATES TO OLDS



As President of Olds College, we look forward to hosting you as a delegate or guest to the Post-Secondary Network (PIN) 2016 Executive Leadership Conference from July 10-16, 2016. Olds College is truly a remarkable place. We take pride in the notion that we are trailblazers, and that our programs are among the most respected in the nation.

Our core set of values focus on offering specialized education complete with hands on-learning. We are also intent on fostering partnerships and relationships with our community and industry stakeholders. Olds College is committed to be the premier Canadian integrated learning and applied research community specializing in agriculture, horticulture, land and environmental management.

In keeping with our conference theme "ALL IN", themes of the speakers will include: Inspire, Invigorate, Involve, Indulge, Influence and Invest. Delegates and guests will also have the opportunity explore Olds College, the Town of Olds, the City of Calgary and the Calgary Stampede, the marvel of the Rocky Mountains, the economic engine of the Athabasca Oil Sands and the mysteries of Dinosaurs in the Badlands.

We look forward to your visit to Olds College, in the province of Alberta, Canada.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Thompson".

# OLDS COLLEGE ALBERTA 2016 CONFERENCE HOST

## About Executive Leadership at PIN 2016:

PIN 2016 offers you a unique and transformative executive leadership experience. In keeping with our conference theme “ALL IN”, the keynote speakers will Inspire, Invigorate, Involve, Indulge, Influence and Invest.

Arlene Dickinson, one of Canada’s most renowned independent marketing communications entrepreneurs, will present to us at District Ventures in Calgary. This is a rare opportunity that we are pleased to share with our PIN 2016 Conference members. Dr. James Honan, a member of the Harvard Graduate School of Education, will challenge us to look at learning in new ways with a focus on ‘Case Study’. Ken Steele, a much sought after higher education market research analyst and consultant, will share with us innovative trends in higher education and then offer an interactive presentation on ‘Fostering Innovation in your Institution’. Dr Reuben Puentedura, the creator of the SAMR model, will explore technological integration in higher education. Dr. Jon Landis, a National Development Executive with Apple Inc., will share with us technological trends in higher education.



Olds College – a great place to grow!



Olds College Treatment Wetlands, a crown jewel of our campus

## About Olds College:

Olds College is truly a remarkable place. We are entrepreneurial and innovative in spirit and action. Olds College takes pride in the notion that we are trailblazers, and our programs are among the most respected in Canada. While visiting Olds College, you will see a number of our recent projects and developments that represent that innovative spirit, including: Our new student housing facility, Centennial Village, the first private funding business model on a College campus in Alberta; the recently renovated National Meat Training Centre retail store; Western Canada’s first Teaching Brewery; and the Community Learning Campus (CLC), a joint venture between the Chinook’s Edge School Division and Olds College.



Olds College Land Sciences Centre



# OLDS COLLEGE ALBERTA 2016 CONFERENCE HOST

Cont.

As an outcomes-based institution, one of our Centres of Specialization is Entrepreneurship. Olds College's culture finds great affinity with entrepreneurs, which is why we have partnered with District Ventures, a new consumer packaged goods business accelerator. Our mandate of supporting innovation and entrepreneurship has led to our partnership with Alberta Garment Manufacturing in the creation of the [Apparel Innovation Centre](#), a new research based facility. With a focus on innovative use of technology, together with the Government of Alberta and the Alberta Hotel & Lodging Association, we recently unveiled a joint project that will develop a new [mobile tourism and hospitality training program](#) that will be available this fall.

We look forward to sharing Olds College with you at the PIN "All In" Conference in July.

To learn more about [PIN "All In" Conference](#) , or to register, visit us online at [www.oldscollege.ca/PIN2016](http://www.oldscollege.ca/PIN2016) !



Calgary, Alberta – Home of the Calgary Stampede



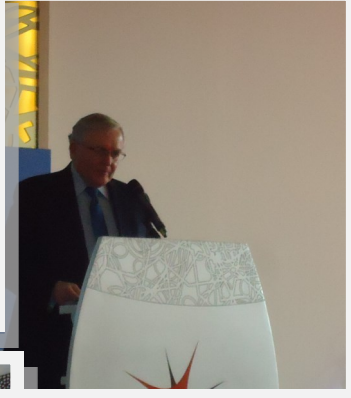
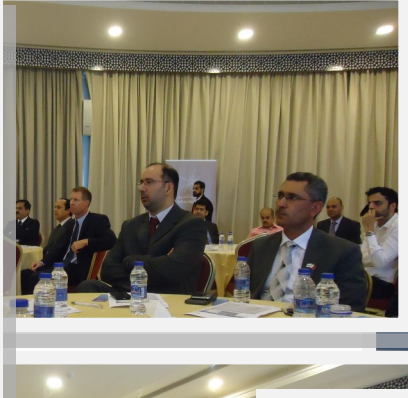
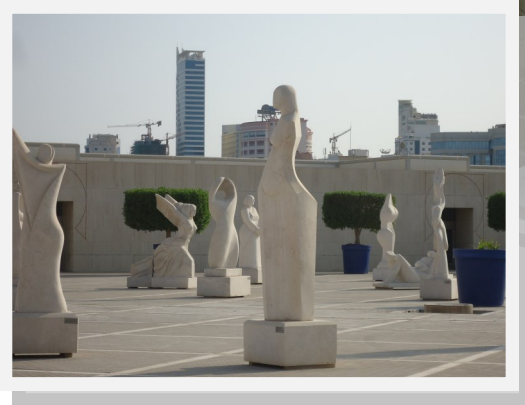
The Badlands, Drumheller, Alberta

# OVERVIEW OF 2015 CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS BAHRAIN

Date	Time	Presenter	Presentation Title
<b>Monday 2 November 2015</b>			
Mon 2 Nov	10:00 – 10:30	<i>Dr. Michael Chipps</i>	<i>Keynote Speech</i>
Mon 2 Nov	10:30 – 11:00	<i>Mr. Phil Ker</i>	<i>Keynote Speech</i>
Mon 2 Nov	12:00 – 12:30	<i>Dr. Michael Chipps</i>	Northeast Community College: An Overview
<b>Tuesday 3 November 2015</b>			
Tue 3 Nov	9:00 – 9:30	<i>GPIC staff</i>	GPIC
Tue 3 Nov	9:30 – 10:00	<i>Dr. Derek Bierman</i>	Good to Great: Northeast Service Centre
Tue 3 Nov	10:00 – 10:30	<i>Dr. Larry Litecky</i>	Designing the Curricular Dimensions of Post-secondary and Workforce Readiness
Tue 3 Nov	10:30 – 11:00	<i>Dr. Joe M. Sertich</i>	Business Performance Coaching for the Entrepreneur
<b>Wednesday 4 November 2015</b>			
Wed 4 Nov	9:00 – 10:00	<i>Mr. Tim Murray, CEO ALBA</i>	ALBA
Wed 4 Nov	10:00 – 10:30	<i>Mr. Jean-Baptiste Lucas - GARMCO</i>	Alignment of Industry With Academic Institutions
Wed 4 Nov	10:30 – 11:00	<i>Dr. Jerry Weber &amp; Dr. Jill Bruellman</i>	Multicultural and Global Competencies: Key Skills for the 21st Century Workforce
Wed 4 Nov	11:00 – 11:30	<i>Mr. John Donald</i>	A Case Study of the Implementation of Problem Based Learning in Bahrain Polytechnic's Mechanical Engineering Programme
<b>Thursday 5 November 2015</b>			
Thu 5 Nov	9:00 – 9:30	<i>Dr. Thomas Walker</i>	Creating a Culture of Sustainability within Two-Year Colleges
Thu 5 Nov	9:30 – 10:00	<i>Mr. Phil Ker</i>	Developing, Assessing and Reporting Learner Capability

**Thank you Bahrain Polytechnic for an outstanding  
conference experience in 2015**

# CULTURE AND BUSINESS AT THE PIN CONFERENCE BAHRAIN





# BAHRAIN CULTURE AND FALCONRY

## Cultural Immersion for PIN in Bahrain

PIN conference delegates and companions tried their hand at falconry during a conference dinner.



### *Comments from a companions*

To describe my PIN experience in Bahrain I would have to say it was a powerful time networking with amazing people and immersing in the rich culture of Bahrain with people from all over the world.

It was a once in a lifetime opportunity. Looking forward to Canada. PIN has enriched my life personally and professionally.

Nancy Sertich  
USA

I was surprised that I go so much personally out of the presentations. I came along thinking I was going to get ideas how to run a conference (which I did), however I came away with so many ideas that could be implemented at Otago Polytechnic that I'm excited about. Phil's probably got them too, but one in particular is getting our (electrical) students to help the community check their power connections for safety (this came from the Alba book that we were given).

Michele Barron  
New Zealand

## Canada and New Zealand get a little bit closer with new agreement

A newly signed memorandum of understanding between two international polytechnics paves the way for amazing learning opportunities for both students and staff.

An MOU, signed in November 2015, brings Saskatchewan Polytechnic in Canada and Otago Polytechnic in New Zealand, together to share ideas and provides ample opportunity for student, employee and academic information exchanges. The MOU also enables each institution to meet their own educational internationalisation goals.

“Saskatchewan Polytechnic believes in the value of collaboration and partnership,” says Dr. Larry Rosia, Saskatchewan Polytechnic president and CEO.

“We collaborate with industry employers to develop curriculum, we partner with Saskatchewan post-secondary institutions to deliver programming and now we are building an international relationship with Otago Polytechnic,” says Rosia. “We look forward to future academic exchanges and international opportunities.”

This exciting partnership builds upon already existing similarities in each institution’s values, goals and guiding principles. For example, each institution has made a promise to their surrounding communities to incorporate more indigenous language and perspectives into everyday campus life. By committing to share ideas, strategies and to develop exchange programs each institution is able to reach new levels of success in teaching, program development and service delivery.

“Saskatchewan Polytechnic is an institution with a similar mission to Otago Polytechnic, and a similar range of programmes. It is an institution which is keen to embrace internationalisation as a means of enhancing both staff and student capabilities and opportunities,” says Phil Ker, chief executive, Otago Polytechnic.

“It is an important new partner for Otago Polytechnic because it extends our international partnership into Canada, creating the potential for further staff and student exchanges, made easier because it is an English language institution and because of programme portfolio compatibility,” says Ker.





## **Academic Model aims to provide more opportunities for success**

*The draft Academic Model is being piloted in early 2016*

In an effort to respond to a changing and dynamic student population, Saskatchewan Polytechnic has put the way it approaches academics under the microscope.

The result is an academic model that embraces applied learning, relies on faculty's industry knowledge and is accessible to as many students as possible.

"We've operated via a collection of documents, policies and procedures, but have not, before this project, taken an in-depth, comprehensive look at the core of our operation: academic programming and delivery," says Barb Gustafson, project manager, Academic Model.

With more students coming to Sask Polytech from a variety of living situations, as well as family and job responsibilities, the way we teach and how we create program plans needs to better reflect the needs of the student. The new Academic Model accounts for these changing demographics and allows for greater opportunity for academic success by streamlining the program planning process. It also means Sask Polytech, as an institution, can create solid strategies for the future.

"There are two key benefits to the Academic Model project," says Gustafson. "One is that it makes the current, implied model clear and explicit.



The second major benefit is the opportunity to plan for the future, through considering the needs of our two primary stakeholder groups: students and employers."

Throughout development, the team explored current research and engaged in meaningful consultations with key stakeholders, such as deans and program heads, to ensure the new model aligned with the school's overall goals and vision. For Anne Neufeld, provost and vice-president, Academic, and executive sponsor of the project, being able to design the model from a position of strength is vital to the model's success.

"It builds support for the recommended changes to come by seeing them as a continuation of the good work already done. We are building on a strong foundation," says Neufeld.

The result is an academic model that is more flexible for students and offers new timing and delivery models. It also addresses the needs of employers who have been asking for students to gain employability skills, such as critical thinking, as well as the required technical skills. Other recommendations include a commitment to include more indigenous materials into curricula; an increased focus on applied research and scholarship; and, standardization of course and term lengths.

During the first half of 2016, the Academic Model team, which includes Arnold Boldt, associate vice-president, Learning and Teaching, plus Linda Dewhirst and Gustafson as project managers, is piloting the draft model to review new concepts against current processes to capture any gaps or challenges. This will allow the team to evaluate effectiveness and ensure it is providing students with more opportunity to achieve their educational and career goals and that faculty, staff and employees are able to continue to provide instructional excellence. Then, in June, it will go back to senior management for final approval. When approved, programs will begin to make concrete changes, staged over the next five years to get all 150+ programs on board.

# NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Three faculty from Northeast Community College served as guest lecturers over a two-week period in a Denmark college as part of a faculty exchange program between Northeast and Aarhus Business College in Aarhus, Denmark. The faculty, Julie Ptacek-Wilkey, Gary Timm, and Maryjan Fiala, taught lessons on early American literature, American government, and marketing, respectively. All three subject areas focused on the theme “The American Dream.”

Northeast faculty were in Denmark from November 1 – 15 during the fall 2015 term. This is the second such exchange for the two colleges since entering into a Memo of Understanding in 2013. Faculty and subject areas are chosen by mutual agreement based on the desires of the host college.

Faculty served as instructors in the Danish classrooms, giving the Aarhus students a chance to delve deeper into American culture and providing the Northeast faculty with a fascinating perspective on Danish students’ impressions of the United States.

“The students in particular took my request to hit me hard with their questions and that no question would be out of bounds,” said Timm, a political science and history instructor at Northeast. “The questions and discussions that followed were exceptional and often reached the higher levels of learning.”

Ptacek-Wilkey, an English instructor at Northeast, agreed.

“The students’ and instructors’ questions and comments were insightful, thought-provoking, and engaging.”

While the faculty’s experiences definitely benefitted students on either side of the Atlantic, the exchange also helped those instructors grow both professionally and personally, according to Fiala, a business instructor at Northeast.

“During our two-week stay, I learned many things about the Danish culture that I plan to incorporate into my classes here in the States,” she said. “These experiences helped to broaden my understanding of the educational system in Denmark. I would love the chance to visit again someday.”

In a letter to Northeast Community College’s President, Dr. Michael Chipps, from Aarhus Business College’s President, Gitte Norgaard, Dr. Norgaard stated that “by educating and engaging” Aarhus students, the Northeast faculty “have assisted in empowering [them].”

Norgaard went on to say that Ptacek-Wilkey, Timm, and Fiala “opened new doors” for the Aarhus students.

“Most of our students will know a lot about the U.S., but most of them will never have heard of Nebraska,” she wrote.

As part of the MOU with Aarhus Business College, Northeast will host three of its faculty as guest lecturers during the spring 2016 semester.



Three Northeast Community College faculty participated as guest lecturers during a two-week exchange with Aarhus Business College in Aarhus, Denmark. Julie Ptacek-Wilkey, Gary Timm, and Maryjan Fiala.

## Higher education continues to focus on global workforce issues

NORFOLK, NE (USA) – Members of the higher education community continue to look into solutions to further address the need for a more skilled international labor pool of workers. It continues to emerge as an important issue in the world economy. At the 2015 Postsecondary International Network (PIN) Conference in Bahrain in November 2015, many themes were discussed to begin a coordinated effort to meet these global challenges head on.

Representatives from American community colleges were among those at the conference sharing their findings on how their institutions are looking at new avenues of global engagement. Dr. Michael Chipps, president, and Derek Bierman, vice president of Technology Services, at Northeast Community College in Norfolk, NE, gave presentations on what the College has or will undertake to train its students to be productive members of the global workforce.

Chipps spoke on several initiatives, chief of which was Northeast's new five-year strategic plan, Vision 2020. Vision 2020 incorporates the principles outlined in the American Association of Community Colleges' (AACC) implementation guide for *Empowering Community Colleges to Build the Nation's Future* to redesign students' educational experiences, reinvent institutional roles and reset the system so it better promotes student success.

The implementation of student success initiatives, workforce development strategies, developing a globally competitive workforce, the establishment of new operations across the College's service area, the development of a 21<sup>st</sup> century farm and ranch, and creating a connection to technology that Northeast Nebraska has never experienced are just some of the new and exciting projects and services that await our students and constituents through our strategic plan."

"Chipps also spoke on the College's proposed National Agriculture, Water and Energy Center for Excellence, which will incorporate applied research and industry partnerships where students can apply what they learn, while Bierman made a presentation on the College's technology partnership initiatives to better deliver services to students.

Chipps, who represents AACC on the board of the World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics (WFCP), said the work of these higher education organizations fits in nicely with the mission of PIN.

"The Post-Secondary International Network is an exemplary opportunity for senior leaders to learn from others, which correspondingly leads to institutional changes that better prepare a well-educated, technically proficient, global workforce. I believe collaborating with others will open avenues to meet the needs of members of this workforce and, in turn, sustain the global economy."



Dr Chipps—Post-Secondary International Network Conference Bahrain



## NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION STUDENTS GET A UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE ON THEIR INDUSTRY FOLLOWING THEIR TRIP TO ENGLAND

Six Northeast Community College Building Construction students now have a better understanding of building processes from “across the Pond,” as well as across the centuries, following a student exchange with North Lindsey College in Scunthorpe, England. The students comprised the third class in so many years to have the exchange experience through Northeast’s agreement with North Lindsey that allows students in the applied technology programs opportunities to travel abroad and experience like programs in the United Kingdom.

This latest student exchange was the first to be conducted under the supervision of Northeast Community College’s new Center for Global Engagement and its new Director, Pam Saalfeld. Although the position and the Center are new to the College, Saalfeld has been with Northeast since 1997 as an instructor and an associate dean for the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences. She was co-chair of the Global Opportunities Committee since 2010.

A visit to England was particularly appropriate for students interested in careers in Building Construction due to the many opportunities to see architectural advances from multiple time periods, according to Saalfeld.

Students were able to see a 21<sup>st</sup> century building going up next to a Roman wall from the first century.

They were able to see different building styles from the times before the Norman Conquest through the Middle Ages and Renaissance up to today,” she said.

“The students were accompanied by Saalfeld and First-year Building Construction instructor Roger Walker. While there were definite differences between construction practices in the UK and the United States, Walker and the students were surprised by the number of similarities.

“We found a lot of similarities not only between our college and North Lindsey, we also saw a lot of similarities when it came to their flooring and roofing systems,” Walker said. “Except that they use a lot more brick, the systems are nearly identical.”



Second-Year Building Construction students from Northeast Community College and their instructor, Roger Walker, get a unique perspective on medieval construction techniques while visiting Lincoln Cathedral in Lincoln, England.

The older structures, many several centuries old, also taught the students a valuable lesson, according to Walker.

“We saw a wood building from 1543 that was still in good shape, which goes to show that, with proper construction, buildings can last a few hundred years.”

The student exchange with North Lindsey is one of Saalfeld’s favorite international offerings for Northeast students, as well as one of the most successful, because of the opportunities it presents to a unique group of students.

“This program is focused on students and programs of study that are not normally considered when one talks of ‘study abroad,’” Saalfeld explains. “These experiences are wonderful examples of Northeast’s efforts towards internationalization across the curriculum.”

In addition to immersion in the classroom, the Northeast group was able to experience some sightseeing, including a visit to Lincoln Cathedral and Castle, where they saw one of four surviving original copies of the Magna Carta; Beamish Living History Museum; the Tower of London; the British Museum; and the London Eye.

Students were selected through an application and interview process conducted by the Building Construction instructors. Those selected were Marcus Claussen, Wausa; Michael Colwell, Coleridge; Lucas Kleinschmit, Menominee; Evan Lubberstedt, Dixon; Ty Merten, Albion; and Aric Nathan, Norfolk.

Previous programs of study selected for the experience included Business students pursuing an Associate of Applied Science degree in 2013 and Auto Body students in 2014. Programs are selected by mutual consent between Northeast Community College and North Lindsey.



Lucas Kleinschmit and Marcus Claussen, two students in the Northeast Community College’s Building Construction program, work with copper piping as part of their classroom experience at North Lindsey College in Scunthorpe, England

# CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN SOUTH KOREA AND RUSSIA

## CCC INSTRUCTORS TEACH IN SOUTH KOREA

Two Central Community College instructors had the opportunity to teach at Ulsan College in South Korea in December and January.

Holdrege Center adjunct instructor Heather Easton taught medical English to students in the Ulsan College nursing program, while Grand Island Campus human services instructor Joyce Meinecke taught medical English and multiculturalism classes to dental hygiene students.

Their two-week stay included 60 hours of classroom time with Ulsan College students.

## CCC Hosts Ulsan College students for second year

For the second consecutive year, Ulsan College students worked on their career English skills during a month-long visit at Central Community College in January and February.

CCC's Columbus Campus was host to four students from the Ulsan College nursing program, while the Hastings Campus was host to four dental hygiene students.

During their stay, the Ulsan College students lived in campus residence halls and interacted with CCC students, faculty and staff as well as community members.

In addition to attending classes, the South Korean visitors enjoyed many extracurricular activities. The Hastings Campus Culinary Arts Club gave the visitors a taste of Nebraska one evening, preparing traditional Nebraska fare including chili, cinnamon rolls and runzas, a type of pastry filled with ground beef, onion and cabbage, once served by Volga German immigrants to Nebraska.

The South Korean students reciprocated, sharing the cuisine of their country by making bulgogi, a Korean grilled marinated beef dish.



## FULBRIGHT GRANT TAKES CCC INSTRUCTOR TO RUSSIA

Susan McDowall, a Central Community College English instructor, is spending the 2015-16 academic year in Russia where she is lecturing at the Moscow Timiryazev Academy.

The experience is the result of McDowall being awarded a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program grant.

McDowall is working with future English teachers and technical professionals, teaching ELL (English language learner) pedagogy and advanced English language writing.

Outside of the classroom, she and her husband and four children are exploring Russia and learning about its people and culture.

McDowall is one of about 1,100 U.S. faculty and professionals who are traveling abroad through the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program in 2015-16.

## INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS WORKSHOP

### ATTRACTS 17

An international business education workshop attracted 17 faculty members from three Nebraska community colleges to Central Community College-Grand Island in February.

The Michigan State University International Business Center presented the workshop under the auspices of a U.S. Department of Education CIBER grant, in conjunction with Community Colleges for International Development and Central Community College.

The workshop conducted in Nebraska is an abbreviated version of the flagship International Business Institute for Community College Faculty (IBI) that Michigan State University offers biennially in East Lansing, Mich.

The aim of the IBI is to provide participants with the knowledge, experience and resources they need to internationalize general business courses and develop specialized international business courses at the two-year college level. More information about the IBI is available at <http://global.broad.msu.edu/outreach/ibi>.

In addition to Central Community College, faculty from Nebraska's Southeast Community College and Northeast Community College attended the workshop.





## NEW ERA FOR CANTERBURY'S VOCATIONAL TRAINING

CPIT and Aoraki Polytechnic have entered a new era, working together to provide innovative tertiary vocational training to the Canterbury region.

In November 2015 CPIT and Aoraki Polytechnic received approval to together create a new organisation, following the announcement by Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment Steven Joyce on 10 November that the proposal from the CPIT and Aoraki Polytechnic Councils has been approved.

The new organisation became operational on 1 January and is trading under the name CPIT Aoraki until a new brand is launched at the end of March.

This announcement followed eighteen months of work by the institutes to explore all the options for the future of vocational training for Canterbury. The councils submitted a joint Business Case to the Minister for consideration in August and the Tertiary Education Commission subsequently released the proposal for public consultation on the Minister's behalf.

"This is fantastic news for the future of vocational training in Canterbury following a thorough process," CPIT Council Chair Jenn Bestwick said. "The new organisation opens the way for implementing new and innovative ways of learning and improving accessibility across the region."

Aoraki Polytechnic Chair Janie Annear agreed that the new organisation model had emerged as the most exciting and viable option for continuing to deliver excellent tertiary education cross the whole region. "Learners and local industries will benefit enormously," she said. "There are some very exciting plans in the pipeline that we can now progress and make a reality."

The new organisation will provide applied tertiary education to the Canterbury region with access to a greater number of programmes, in a larger number of centres, supported with better services. In the future the new organisation will be the platform for creating Centres of Excellence which will be nationally focused hubs that will engage with industry and attract local and international students to Canterbury. Planned Centres of Excellence servicing key industries include primary industries, health, broadcasting, sustainable practice, tourism and trades.

New programmes have already been introduced to South Canterbury campuses and extensive IT upgrades has improved wifi and brought in new computers.

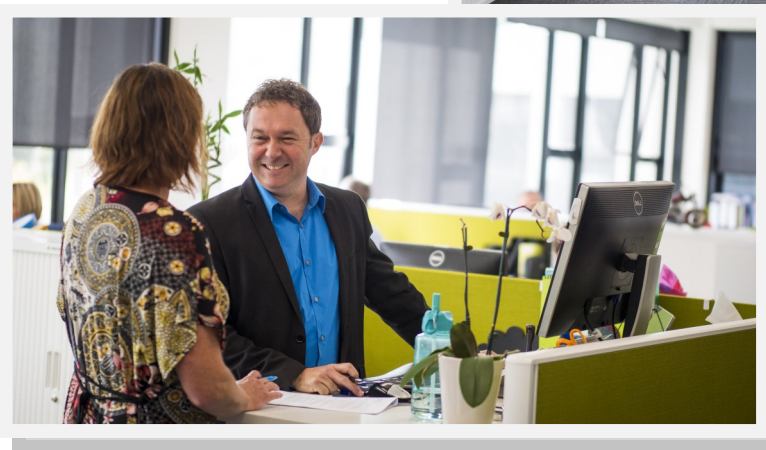
CPIT Aoraki has now aligned student management systems, HR systems and other processes. Only two former Aoraki Polytechnic staff were not offered positions in the new organisation due to clear duplication of roles. In the future, the educational delivery profile of the new organisation will determine its staffing needs.

## MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR BUILDING PROJECT ENHANCES COLLABORATIVE CULTURE

Otago Polytechnic completed its \$10.3 million learning commons redevelopment in late 2015, presenting a new modern face to the world, and as part of the redevelopments the adjoining administration block, F Block (now known as the Mason Centre), was redesigned into a collaborative open-plan working space. The intent behind the development was to enhance communication, collaboration and access for staff. With this goal in mind the Leadership Team working space is now strategically placed on the same floor as the staff room. This allows the Leadership Team to set an example of collaborative working by greatly enhancing visibility and engagement with staff.

Matt Carter, Director of Organisational Development at Otago Polytechnic says, “I always knew that physical building symbols are important reflections of, and impact on, organisational culture. However the new space has had much more impact than I expected. At Otago Polytechnic connectedness, transparency and collaboration are important to us. Having three buildings connected as one now, and removing walls, doors and corridors thus creating an open shared space have all helped reinforce those important elements of culture and made it easier for us to actually operate in those ways.”

Another member of the Leadership Team, Jean Tilleyshort, Director of Sustainability, describes her experiences of working in the new building like this: “I think the open plan office creates a supportive and open atmosphere, where we work more closely together, and understand each other’s workloads and perspectives better. I like that we deal with things more quickly because we talk straight away. I really like seeing people from across Otago Polytechnic visiting the space and embracing the opportunity to have a chat. Occasionally I have to go to a quiet space or put my iPod on to really concentrate, but that’s a minor hassle compared to the benefits.”



## Educating tomorrow's workforce – International symposium

Fifty years have passed since Otago Polytechnic was first established in 1966 – with a mission to provide skilled graduates for a New Zealand workforce.

The first major commemorative event celebrating Otago Polytechnic's 50th anniversary recently took place at Otago Polytechnic with the official opening of The Hub and Mason Centre.

Distinguished alumnus Nigel Bamford, co-founder and Chief Executive of Dunedin based gas-fire manufacturing company Escea, unveiled the plaque, and founding member of the 1966 Otago Polytechnic council, 101 year old Dawn Ibbotson, cut the anniversary cake. A time capsule was also buried on site.

It's one of many events celebrating Otago Polytechnic's golden anniversary this year including an International Symposium on the topic of "Educating Tomorrow's Workforce". On the 29th September 2016 there will be a practical workshop on experiential learning, followed on the 30th September, 2016 by an International Symposium, at our Dunedin campus.

Showcasing learning and teaching practices from around the world, and holding a series of presentations and workshops, the symposium will give participants the opportunity to discover:

- ⇒ Strategies for developing transferable skills valued by employers
- ⇒ Learning and teaching practices to develop work ready graduates
- ⇒ Industry engagement to ensure alignment with labour market needs
- ⇒ Educating for self-employment
- ⇒ Educating for jobs that have not yet been invented
- ⇒ Strategies for developing learner autonomy and reflective capabilities

We welcome the opportunity to host our international partners and allow them to celebrate our fiftieth anniversary with us and share knowledge together across diverse professions including health, business, engineering, art, design and IT.

**For registrations of interest, please email us at: [InternationalSymposium@op.ac.nz](mailto:InternationalSymposium@op.ac.nz)**





# PIN Executive 2015-2016

## Dr. Greg P. Smith

President  
Central Community College,  
Nebraska

USA

PIN President



## Mr. Phil Ker

Chief Executive Officer (CEO)  
Otago Polytechnic  
New Zealand



## Mr. Larry Rosia

Chief Executive Officer (CEO)  
Saskatchewan Institute of  
Applied Science and  
Technology

Canada

PIN President Elect



## Mr Tony Gray

Chief Executive Officer (CEO)  
Nelson Marlborough Institute  
of Technology, Nelson  
New Zealand



## Dr. Tom Thompson

President  
Olds College  
Alberta

Canada



## Dr. Young-Kee Moe

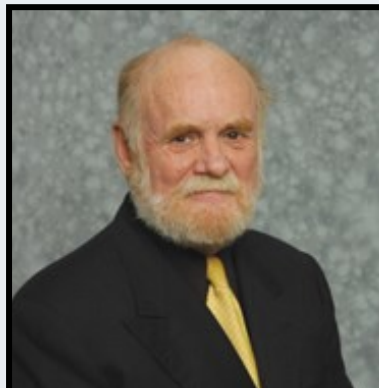
President  
Tongwon University,  
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