Message from the Dean

The fiscal year ending June 30 was a very successful one for the Faculty of Continuing Education and Extension. We experienced a significant recovery in registrations and revenue from the recessionary years of 2008-10. There was a jump of over 10% in registrations from 2010-11 to 2011-12.

We are off to a good start this year with results to date for the Fall 2012 semester showing a 15% increase in registrations.

Continuing Education staff have been busy over the past several months creating new programs and courses:

Programs

- Birth Doula
- Cultural Diversity in Human Services Extension Certificate
- Education Assistant Certificate
- Integrative Health Coach Extension Certificate
- LEED® in Practice Certificate of Completion
- Professional Editing Extension Certificate

Courses

- Boomers Technology/Social Media – Digital Storytelling with iPhones and iPads for Boomers; Androids for Boomers
- Change Management – Prepare and Present Applied Change Management: Final Project
- Creative Writing – Writing for Children and Young Adults; The Basics of Blogging
- Mac Courses – offered in our new Mac lab
- Nonprofit Management – Financial Basics: Keeping it Simple for Nonprofit Managers
- Nursing Education – Clinical Education: Contexts, Challenges and Collaboration
- Petroleum Land Business – Ethics and Fiduciary Duties
- Police Studies PD Seminar – Crime and Intelligence Analysis: Bridging the Gap
- Project Management PD Seminars – Intergenerational Communication in Project Management; The Power of Negotiation
- Reiki – Karuna® Reiki I and II; Karuna® Reiki III
- Technical Writing – Managing Documentation Projects

We were delighted to welcome the Conservatory and their wide range of programming into the Faculty of Continuing Education and Extension last year. We are also pleased that the new Conservatory building will be breaking ground this fall. It will be located just to the east of the Roderick Mah Centre for Continuous Learning, so our colleagues will become even closer neighbours.

With a successful year just completed and new developments for our 2012-13 programs, we are looking forward to an exciting year ahead.

Norma MacIntosh, Dean
Faculty of Continuing Education and Extension
30th Annual TVP Picnic in the Park a Success

The 30th annual Big Bob’s Picnic in the Park was held June 13, 2012. The proceeds from this annual event support adults with developmental disabilities through the Transitional Vocational Program. This year $2,100 was raised through ticket sales and donations.

The event was well supported by volunteers, attendees and donors from the MRU community and beyond. Door prizes included:

- Rocking horse chair – Calgary Correctional Centre
- Patio table and four chairs – Calgary Correctional Centre
- Weekend in Kananaskis – MRSA, Delta Hotels
- Gift certificate – MRFA
- Eight single-admission passes – Cardel Place
- E-reader – MRU BookStore
- Fitness passes and classes – MRU Recreation
- Gift basket containing electric toothbrush, whitening vouchers – Dental Choice/Wyckham House
- Gift certificate for special occasion cake – Lisa Tooes
- Gift certificate for cut and colour – Thairapy Hair Salon
- Gift certificate for hair cut – Logix Hair Salon
- Gift certificate for one-hour massage – MRU Optimal Therapies
- Gift certificate for private brewery tour for 15 people – Wild Rose Brewery
- Gift certificate – MRFA
- Gift cards to restaurant – Himalayan Restaurant
- Outdoor photo session (incl. two 5x7 prints, two 4x6 prints) – Angie Boyler
- Three Morningside Music Bridge Program ticket voucher/prize packs – Conservatory.
- Two gift $50 certificates – Local 002
- Two subscriptions for 2012/2013 season – Alberta Theatre Projects

Lisa Tooes is the Assistant to the Dean, Faculty of Continuing Education and Extension, in addition to being a talented baker. Lisa Minnikin, Administrative Assistant to the Dean of the Faculty of Science and Technology, was the winner of the cake. She chose a Canadian-themed cake (see photo above) to welcome her parents who were visiting from England in August.

Award-Winning Police Sergeant Featured in Video Lessons

Tim Fitzgibbon, a sergeant with the Calgary Police Service, was awarded an Exemplary Leadership Award at the Chief’s Awards ceremony on May 10, 2012. Tim was recognized for leading the multi-agency team that succeeded in closing the notorious Savoy Motel in Calgary’s motel village. The Savoy had become a magnet for illegal drug activity, numerous assaults and bylaw infractions.

Sergeant Fitzgibbon has been associated with the Faculty of Continuing Education and Extension by participating in a series of student video interviews. These videos are an important part of one of the online Police Studies Extension Certificate courses that transfer into Mount Royal’s Bachelor of Arts – Criminal Justice degree program.

Tim is a graduate of MRU’s former Bachelor of Applied Justice Studies. He had been taking courses for several years before graduating in June of 2011. After graduating he worked as a private investigator before joining the Calgary Police Service.

Tim continues to volunteer his time to speak to classes in Justice Studies.

Events and Conference Services Welcome Guests to MRU

The Faculty’s Events and Conference Services area has had a busy first half of 2012. They hosted 101 external events and 65 internal MRU events between January and June 2012. There were almost 20,000 guests at the external events and over 7,500 guests at the internal events, which included the Employee Award Ceremony. May and June were the busiest months so far this year, welcoming approximately 5,000 guests each month.
Employee Awards Recognizes Continuing Education Staff

A large number of employees of the Faculty of Continuing Education and Extension were recognized at Mount Royal’s Employee Awards Ceremony on June 5, 2012.

Long Service Employees

25 years:
• Elizabeth Mason

15 years:
• Wendy McLeod
• Donna Palmer

10 years:
• Sandie Cheney
• Shelley Davis
• Mary Ewanicke
• Norma MacIntosh
• Nicole Mitchell
• Shahpar Mohtadi

Retirees

• Donna Sharman, Transitional Vocational Program

Distinguished Teaching Awards (credit free)

• Cornelia Chang, Academic Upgrading
• Winston Noren, Conservatory

Effective Team Awards

MRU Centennial Stampede Parade Float Organizers:
(team member from Continuing Education)

• Luisa Cruz-Milette, Business Education and Training

Children’s Mental Health Program Redevelopment Team:
(team members from Continuing Education)

• Cindy Campbell, Community and Health Studies
• Tammy Cross, Community and Health Studies
• Greg Dunn, Marketing and Communications
• Norma MacIntosh, Dean
• Sue Madsen, Marketing and Communications
• Karen McCarthy, Marketing and Communications
• Michael Poon, Marketing and Communications
• Laurel Smith, Community and Health Studies
• Christina White Prosser, Community and Health Studies

Other members of the Faculty contributed to this special celebration. Representing Academic Upgrading and Open Studies, Jana Wyber on the duck whistle and Reg Pakosz on the car horn joined an ad hoc orchestra.

In video presentations for the Distinguished Teaching Awards (credit-free), Academic Upgrading instructors Zulobia Shivji Wahed and Martina Eckert brought the house down with a rap honouring Cornelia Chang. Sheldon Nadler and Bill van der Sloot of the Conservatory were warm and humorous in honouring Winston Noren.

iPad Winner

Program Director Sandie Cheney presented an Apple iPad to Kristina Gardiner on July 6. Kristina entered a draw on the Continuing Education website during 2011-12 and shared her story with us. She is a graduate of both the Event Management and Public Relations certificates.
MRU Kids Highlights

Highlights of MRU Kids 2012, which welcomed nearly 3,000 children and youth ages 5 to 17 to campus during July and August, include:

- Two successful new camps: Triathlon and Movers & Shakers
- Trips to Kananaskis Country, the Canada Sports Hall of Fame, Calgary Canoe Club and Weaselhead Flats
- A flash mob dance with 75 kids
- Two show choir showcases
- Watching the Titanoboa by Beakerhead snake around the pond to the beating of drums
- Volunteers from all over, from kids in Glee program to kids from Germany
- Bursary program subsidizing a total of 45 weeks of camp for families in need
MRU Kids Create Art Panels for City Construction Sites

This summer the campers in the August 13-24 Academie Artiste at MRU Kids had the opportunity to enhance a construction site at the corner of 9A Street and 2 Avenue NW in Kensington.

Paul Hughes, father of a 10-year-old son who participated in MRU Kids’ Tech Academy, spearheaded the project. Paul has a passion for beautifying communities and creating engagement on all levels of society.

The idea was met with enthusiasm by MRU Kids administration and Dean Norma MacIntosh.

The Academie Artiste campers worked in teams on ten different panels. Academie Artiste camp features drawing, painting and sculpture classes as well as discussions on design elements and art history.

The panels were installed at the site during the week of September . The MRU Kids panels are mixed in with panels created by other community artists, including Paul Hughes and his son.

Paul studied art at ACAD and the University of Calgary and has an ongoing interest in public art. He has been coordinating and participating in similar projects for the past three years.

“I like to beautify and enhance properties and bring colour to grey buildings. I like to involve artists at all levels in these temporary displays.”

“This project is a win-win for everyone,” Paul notes. “The kids get an opportunity to create a connection between self-expression and the beautification of their community. The construction company gets a discount on the hording panels and a decrease in tagging and other vandalism at their site. The city gets a group of engaged citizens who care more about their environment, which can lead to decreased littering and other careless behaviour.”

Upgrading Instructors Create Unique Learning Experience

Academic Upgrading instructor Zulobia Shivji Wahed has a daughter at Maria Montessori Education Centre in Currie Barracks. She teamed up with fellow instructor Cornelia Chang to create a unique learning experience for 33 of her daughter’s grade 1 to 3 schoolmates in June.

There is greater availability in Mount Royal’s science labs in spring, so Zulobia took the opportunity to give the children hands-on learning in human anatomy. She and Cornelia created stations and activities to study the skeletal and musculoskeletal systems, the brain, respiration, digestion and more.

“It was a whole physiology course crammed into 90 minutes,” Zulobia says. “We had a microscope station where the children could look at red and white blood cells. We had stethoscopes for the kids to listen as I drank water.”

The lab session sparked an interest in science in some of the children. The teacher has purchased a microscope for the classroom as well as materials for chemical reactions.

The Maria Montessori Education Centre follows the Alberta curriculum and is enriched by special projects initiated by parents and teachers, such as an upcoming trip to a honey bee farm.
News from the Conservatory

Alberta Culture Days

The Mount Royal University Conservatory invites you to transform your weekend into a cultural celebration — by participating in Alberta Culture Days September 28-30, 2012 on campus. Discover theatre, dance, film, music and visual arts, and feature performances by local artists including:

- the Calgary Fiddlers
- the Juilliard-trained Lily String Quartet
- flamenco guitarist Holly Blazina and Iranian Oud player Masoud Abedini
- the Calgary Chinese Music Development Authority Youth Orchestra
- and many more

Join an afternoon activity working with film composer Peter Jancewicz, Aboriginal artist and educator Dion Simon, and Rhythm Mastery CEO Malcolm Lim, among others.

To kick off this exciting event, the Conservatory invites all Mount Royal faculty and staff to take part in a fun multicultural potluck at noon on Friday, September 28 in the MRSA lounge by bringing a dish that reflects their cultural roots. You are also welcome to wear an article of clothing that represents your cultural heritage to the potluck!

More details available at mtroyal.ca/abculturedays. All activities and performances FREE and take place on the Mount Royal University campus.