

OCULL Newsletter

July, 2006

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Message from the President

It has been an busy spring and early summer for the OCULL Executive, and we wanted to bring you up to date on some of our current initiatives. We also wanted to take this opportunity to wish all of our colleagues and friends a safe and happy summer. We look forward to seeing all of you at our Retreat Day on October 27, 2006 in Waterloo.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome the new President of CAUCE, Dr. Wes Koczka of the University of Victoria and the new President of CADE, Mr. James Rossiter. Our best wishes to both of you at our national organizations.

Mark Your Calendars:

Annual General Meeting and Retreat Day

The OCULL Executive would like to remind you that the 2006 Annual General Meeting and Retreat Day will be held on October 27, 2006. We would like to thank the University of Waterloo for volunteering to host this successful and popular day.

Last year's theme for the retreat was "Building Communities." The theme for the 2006 workshop is "Shaping Communities" to show that we are, collectively, taking the next step toward redefining our role, and the role of lifelong learning in an ever changing society.

The itinerary for the day is shaping up, and we are sure that it is going to be a very exciting and rewarding opportunity for all participants. One of the highlights of the day is the participation of Samantha Anderson, our Executive Representative from the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities Branch.

We are also excited to be awarding an Honorary Membership again this year, which will be presented at the Annual General Meeting to a very deserving recipient.

Changes to the OCULL Research Initiatives Fund

The OCULL Executive has recently completed the revision of our policy on the support of Provincial research initiatives. OCULL is proud of the research that we currently support (which you can read about on our website www.ocull.ca).

OCULL administers a small research fund that supports projects which build knowledge of our constituency and enhance the quality of university lifelong learning.

These grants are designed to support research projects whose outcome is going to be of direct relevance to the topic and practice of university lifelong learning, in any or all of its guises.

Grants are typically in the \$1,000 - \$1,500 range. They can be higher if the OCULL Executive deems a given project to be worthy of such support. In reviewing applications, the committee will give first priority to applicants from OCULL member institutions.

1. Clarity of proposal;
2. Soundness of research design and methodology ;
3. Other financial or in-kind support for the project, or letters of support; and,
4. A well articulated process for disseminating findings.

Deadline for 2006 Grants: September 30, 2006

Successful applicants will be notified by October 20, 2006



Research Grant applications must include:

1. A comprehensive statement of objectives and anticipated outcomes;
2. A literature review;
3. A description of research design and methodology;
4. Reasons why the project is of relevance to university lifelong learning;
5. A budget;
6. A project timeline (typically, research projects will be completed within one year); and,
7. A description of how the research findings will be disseminated.

For more information, including selection criteria, please visit our website. Applications should be sent via email as a Word document to Karen Maki , Manager of Continuing Education and Assistant to the Associate Dean , Trent University, 1600 West Bank Road, Peterborough , Ontario K9J 7B8 or by email: karenmaki@trentu.ca.

OCULL Launches Staff Development Bursary for Travel to Annual General Meeting and Retreat Day

The OCULL Executive is pleased to announce a new policy around the Annual General Meeting and Retreat day that has positive implications for staff at our institutions.

The OCULL Executive will allocate \$1,000 annually to a Staff Bursary internal account to provide funds for OCULL staff members to attend professional development opportunities (such as the retreat, AGM, a meeting of a Community of Practice, etc).

The purpose of this bursary initiative is to allow more staff participants to attend OCULL programming and events. To qualify, the recipient must:

- Be a staff member at an OCULL member institution;
- Be a secondary participant at an event, such that Deans and Directors do not qualify for the bursary;
- Select the 'Apply for Bursary' check-box on their registration form;
- Reside and or work more than 300 kilometers driving distance from the site of a meeting and/or programming event.

Should more than four participants apply and qualify for the staff bursary, decisions will be made by lottery. The lottery process will subsequently ensure that no institution (should the applicants be from more than four individual institutions) receive more than one bursary.

The OCULL Executive will normally limit the cost per participant associated with the registration fees of any event to FIFTY dollars. Host institutions are encouraged to maintain costs within this range. Should the cost of hosting an event be higher than FIFTY dollars per person, the OCULL Executive agrees to cover the costs of any additional amount up to \$1000.

For more information, the full policy and application form are available on the OCULL website.



New Distance Education Technology To Benefit Students In 32 Remote Ontario Communities

- From the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities

SIOUX LOOKOUT, ON, July 12 - More than 30,000 residents of northern communities are expected to benefit from improved access to university, college and secondary education, Chris Bentley, Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities, announced today.

"We're on the side of Northerners," Bentley said. "That's why our government is investing \$1.5 million to help Contact North expand its award-winning distance education and training network into over 20 new communities in Northern Ontario."

Contact North/Contact Nord is a bilingual distance education and training network that uses advanced technology to bring university, college and secondary school programs and courses to people living in small and remote northern communities.

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Communities of Practice Online Forums

You might recall when we launched our new website in May of this year that we also launched a set of online forums for our communities of practice. So far, this has provided a useful opportunity for our members to virtually meet, and discuss topics of interest such as online learning management systems. If you have not had an opportunity to join, we welcome you to do so now!

To join the forums:

1. Open a web browser program. (ex. Internet Explorer)
2. Go to the Nipissing University: Centre for Continuing Business Education forum website at <http://www.nipissingu.ca/ccbe/forums/>
3. Locate and click on the join button found toward the top right of the page.
4. Read the Registration Agreement and click on the I Agree button found towards the bottom left of the page.
5. Fill in the required fields that are indicated with an asterisk and click on the **Join CCBE Forums!** button found towards the bottom left of the page.

For more information, please go to our webpage at:

<http://www.ocull.ca/communities.html>

CAUCE Professional Development Initiatives:

'Dial and Discuss' 2006-2007 Teleconference Series

Topic: **Innovation Strategies from Program Award Winners**

Description:

CAUCE's annual program awards recognize innovation and excellence for program development in University Continuing Education settings. Three recent program award winners discuss how their programs incorporate ingenuity and innovation in content, design and delivery, provide value and service to their stakeholder groups, manage complexity, and enhance the profile of continuing education in their communities. The session will be facilitated by members of the Program Awards committee.

Facilitator: CAUCE Program Award Winners

Date: Tuesday, October 24, 2006

Time: 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. EST

Topic: **The Care and Feeding of Effective Communities of Practice**

Description:

What are Communities of Practice and what purpose do they serve within professional associations? What are the measures of an effective community of practice and why are some communities more active than others? What are reasonable expectations of members who want to participate? To answer these questions and facilitate a lively discussion, colleagues from the University Continuing Education Association, which established several communities of practice eight years ago, will share successful techniques and challenges learned from using this approach to connect members with similar interests. This will also be an opportunity for all participants to share what works well for nurturing strong communities of practice.

This session will be facilitated by Barbara Scott, President of the University Continuing Education Association (UCEA). Barbara is Associate Provost for Extended Programs at Southern Oregon University in Ashland, Oregon and has been involved in continuing education administration for eighteen years. Chairs of exemplary UCEA Communities of Practice will also be invited to participate.

Facilitator: Barbara Scott, President, UCEA

Date: Tuesday, November 28, 2006

Time: 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. EST

Topic: **Get a Life! Balancing Work, Family and Recreation**

Description:

Continuing educators have long prided themselves on the long hours they devote to their "calling". However, most don't talk about the fact that they don't spend enough time with family and friends, that they may be out-of-shape, and that they don't eat and sleep as well as they should.

Join long-time CAUCE member Jane Lewis to learn how she manages to carry out a demanding job, attend to family responsibilities, keep fit, eat well and still have a little time left over for ...whatever. She will be the first to say that what works for her doesn't necessarily work for someone else so....be prepared to share your stories.

Facilitator: Jane Lewis, Dean of the School of Education, Health and Wellness, Cape Breton University

Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2007

Time: 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. EST

Topic: **Learning Objects; What Are They and Why Are They Important to Continuing Educators?**

Description:

We have all heard of learning objects. But what are they exactly? How are they created? Where can they be found? How do they fit into continuing education in general and into our continuing education courses specifically? Join Kevin Harrigan and Gwen Wojda as they discuss these and many other aspects related to these interactive learning resources.

Facilitators: Kevin Harrigan, Associate Director, Learning Objects Programs, University of Waterloo/Director of CLOE
Gwen Wojda, Director Continuing Education and Distributed Learning, Lakehead University

Date: Tuesday, March 27, 2007

Time: 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. EST

For detailed topic and registration information please contact: cauce@igs.net or check out the PD Committee's Upcoming Events section at <http://cauce-aepuc.ca>

CADE Professional Development Initiatives:

Wise & Witty Weekday 2006 - 2007 Program

Topic: **Ten Myths about Copyright and Distance Education**
Date: September 20, 2006
Facilitator: Rory McGreal

Topic: **AMTEC Award Winner**
Date: October 18, 2006
Facilitator: To be announced

Topic: **Distance Apprenticeship Training and Education**
Date: November 15, 2006
Facilitator: Bill Fricker

Topic: **Managing & Maintaining the ProD Learning Materials We Create**
Date: December 13, 2006
Facilitator: Daph Crane

Topic: **New Technologies**
Date: January 17, 2007
Facilitator: Gary Woodill

Topic: **CADE Award Winner**
Date: February 21, 2007
Facilitator: To be Announced

Topic: **IATHE: FACDEV – Professional Development**
Date: March 21, 2007
Facilitator: Adam Caron

Topic: **Blended Learning**
Date: April 18, 2007
Facilitator: Norm Vaughan

Topic: **How Higher Education Responds to New Learning Project Types**
Date: May 23, 2007
Facilitator: Bev Pasian

- More information about each session will be provided via the CADE listserv about 3 or 4 weeks in advance of each session.
- Most sessions are offered via teleconference; some are web-conferenced.
- Session costs are as follows:
 - Per session – Student - \$16, individual - \$25, institution - \$100
 - Season's pass – individual - \$100, institution - \$650

For more information and registration details, see the Wise and Witty Webpage at:
http://www.cade-aced.ca/cade_event_wv.php?i_nMode=

New Distance Education Technology To Benefit Students In 32 Remote Ontario Communities, Continued

Today's investment is intended to fund e-learning access centres in at least 20 new communities, of which 16 are confirmed so far. It will also enable 12 additional northern communities to participate in Contact North/Contact Nord's videoconference network. Last year, Contact North/Contact Nord helped deliver close to 13,000 course registrations in 589 credit courses.

"This new investment from the Ontario government is great news for Northerners who want to further their education," said Maxim Jean-Louis, president and chief executive officer. "I'm excited that our network will be able to serve many more people and communities in the North."

"Thanks to today's announcement, residents of my community will have access to additional education and training opportunities via Contact North," said Fernand Bidal, mayor of the town of St. Charles. "This is excellent news for our residents and will further support economic development in St. Charles."

Six northern colleges and three northern universities will be able to deliver distance education to support more students thanks to the expanded e-learning platform and videoconferencing capabilities provided by Contact North/Contact Nord. Partner colleges are Cambrian, Canadore, Confederation, Northern and Sault College as well as Collège Boréal. Lakehead, Laurentian and Nipissing Universities are partnered with Contact North.

"Minister Bentley's announcement brings great news to the additional northern communities that Contact North will be able to serve," said Barbara Taylor, president of Canadore College and vice-chair of the Contact North board. "The northern colleges will continue to work collaboratively with Contact North and with each other to bring the diploma and apprenticeship programs needed in Northern Ontario to people in their home communities. This will significantly enhance accessibility to post secondary education in our region."

Helping expand access to education and training opportunities for northerners is the latest way the McGuinty government is working to provide opportunity for Ontario's students. Other initiatives include:

- Ensuring that all students, no matter where they live, have access to high quality postsecondary education;
- Doubling student aid, so families can afford higher education;
- Bringing back upfront tuition grants for students who need help the most: 60,000 students will get grants this coming year covering between a quarter and all of the cost of their tuition.

Under the Reaching Higher Plan, the Ontario government is making an historic \$6.2 billion multi-year investment to support postsecondary education - the largest in 40 years - to create more opportunities for Ontarians to succeed.

"We know that enhancing support and services for students in northern communities will help them achieve their postsecondary goals," said Bentley. "We're working to ensure everyone in Ontario has the tools they need to prosper in the economy of the 21st century."



More information is available online at:

http://ogov.newswire.ca/ontario/GPOE/2006/07/12/c9391.html?lmatch=&lang=_e_h