FROM THE OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION

This quarterly newsletter highlights key activities and issues related to teaching and learning at NSCC for fall quarter 2008. The instructional deans have included highlights from their division in the Programs section.

Dear Faculty,

During this 08-09 academic year we set a goal of reaching a student faculty ratio of 22:1. Thanks to all your cooperation, we have met that goal for fall quarter. Given the governor’s request to decrease our state operating budget by 4.1 percent this year, I am asking your help to continue to increase our student faculty ratio to 24:1. I know this is a stretch, but if we can achieve this student faculty ratio we can contribute this decrease in the cost of instruction to the $863,000 budget cut that we need to implement this year. This is an urgent request that I am making because students are in the process of registering for winter quarter. If we all work together during this budget crisis we will become stronger as a college.

Mary Ellen
Vice President for Instruction

Focused Interim Evaluation Report

We have received a recommendation from the focused interim evaluation visit held on October 10.

Although North Seattle Community College has made progress toward the development of a student learning assessment process, there is still more progress which must be made. The college must move from a phase of planning for assessment to the actual systematic collection of assessment evidence and a demonstration that this evidence of student learning has led to the improvement of teaching and learning. (Standard 2.B.1; 2.B.2; 2.B.3; and Policy 2.2).
We, as a college, are heading in the right direction with Assessment and have a planning process in place. The Northwest Commission will take action on the evaluator’s report at their January 2009 meeting, and the college will be informed soon after.

**ENROLLMENT**

Our campus reached 94.76% of our FTE goal for fall 2008. We reached 115.10% of our FTE goal for worker retraining this quarter. We have 582 international students enrolled for fall quarter. e- Learning enrollment has increased by 20% from fall 2007.

**PROGRAMS**

**Arts, Humanities, and Adult Basic Education**

The SBCTC has approved an Optional Certificate in Communication and Media Arts, complementing the Certificate and Associate of Applied Science—T Degree in Communication, Business, and Media...with studies and applications emphasizing: Visual and Aural Communication, Art and Technology, and Media Design, Production, and Management. The new certificate expands and enhances CB&M’s unique cross-disciplinary approach for integrating hands-on / minds-on coursework from the college’s professionally oriented and liberal arts based curricula.

With the successful winter launching of Rainier Radio here on campus, select Communication, Business, and Media students are now working with SCC TV / IRIS staff members to further refine the internet station’s infrastructure—and to continue developing contemporary, Seattle-based programming to complement the rich historical broadcasting material already archived online / on-demand, 24 – 7, @ www.rainierradio.org . This experiential training and learning epitomizes the real world oriented mentoring students receive through their CB&M coursework.

Printmaking for 5 credits continues to meet on TTh 1:00-3:50; during winter quarter 2009. We will create a portfolio of students’ original prints, a sequel to the portfolio that Printmaking students donated to the NSCC Foundation’s China event a couple of years ago.

NSCC was recognized several times, again, this year, by the Washington Community College Humanities Association (WCCHA) annual conference, Oct. 17-18, 2008:

1. *Licton Springs Review* 08 received an Honorable Mention for best literary magazine,
2. Joan Stuart Ross received an award for Best Art (cover) in *Crosscurrents* 08,
3. Edith Wollin received an award for Exemplary Status in service of the Humanities.

More indirectly, even the folks who printed *LSR* 08 and *Crosscurrents* 08 received awards issued by the Washington State Gallery of Printers, which were based on print quality, content, and design layout:

*Licton Springs Review* 08 received the Washington State Gallery Silver Award
*Crosscurrents* 08 received the Washington State Gallery Bronze Award

Tracy Heinlein serves as editor of Crosscurrents and involves as many folks from NSCC as she can!

Congratulations to all!

Note: LSR, as you know, is the North Seattle student literary magazine. *Crosscurrents* is the WCCHA literary magazine for statewide faculty.
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

KUDOS TO OUR NURSING PROGRAM!

THE NSCC Nursing Program accepted 31 LPN students this fall. At this time, all are doing well and it is everyone’s hope they all will progress to second quarter. The 24 RN first quarter students who were accepted this fall are also doing well. The NAC program has 19 students this fall, and we plan to allow more students into the program winter quarter. There is lots of interest in all or our nursing programs!

The Nursing Program implemented during fall quarter: a student mentoring program, greater access to student tutoring, a first quarter student orientation, and more career development activities. We have a “Laerdal instructor” coming to NSCC in December to give an 8-hour, one day, training session for faculty using our simulation manikins.

A consultant has been hired to prepare our RN program for NLNAC accreditation. The LPN and RN student handbooks have been revised/updated. We have several new, part-time, nursing faculty who are making major contributions.

All of these activities will benefit our students, faculty, and the employers in the community.

MATH, SCIENCE, SOCIAL SCIENCES

MS3 is rolling out two new classes for the winter quarter including the second quarter of the upper level Biochemistry series (CHEM 256), and the second quarter of the online CHEM series (CHEM& 122). Thanks to the faculty for their work in creating these valuable classes.

Congratulations to Alissa Agnello for completing an extensive 3 year NSF-ATE proposal for the Nanotech Program. If successful, this will be a great shot in the arm for the program and NSCC. This was a large undertaking for Alissa with great help from Tracy Woodman (NSCC) and Jeanne Small (UW).

As a result of the inevitable summer cleaning, three of our full-time faculty went “paper-less” and got rid of their filing cabinets. Several other faculty have greatly reduced their reliance on paper as well. Not only has it reduced paper costs, and cleared up their offices, but it has also cleared our halls of extra filing cabinets. Thanks to all for these efforts.

BUSINESS, ENGINEERING & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES DIVISION

Accounting Program:
Several new courses have been added to the accounting curriculum including ACC 120, 130 and 241 which is a key investment course in personal finance. An off-site course will be offered at Neighborhood House winter quarter 2009 and a re-structure of the partnership with Watermark Credit Union is slated for spring quarter 2009. Rick Sweeny, Accountant for Washington State Board of Accountancy, was the speaker for the Accounting Club this past October and presented on opportunities in the accounting industry. Rick Sweeny also approved the law course recently re-labeled as a PolSci course to be accepted as a law course for their CPA. The Accounting Club will be holding a panel discussion with members from the accounting industry invited together with former students to discuss current opportunities for future graduates of the program.

Business Program:
New courses in the International Business Program have been developed and partnerships with the Seattle Municipal Court and City of Seattle have continued with enrollments increasing every quarter. Children’s Hospital is interested in a partnership and would like the Business Program to provide courses on site focusing on Project Management. William Holt was
selected as the new business faculty coordinator for winter and spring quarters 2009.

Real Estate
Several new courses are being developed and will be offered in real estate finance and sustainability. It is anticipated that enrollments will increase spring quarter 2009.

Architectural Engineering Drafting Program:
Steve Simmons is the new full time faculty for this program. We are experiencing strong enrollments with new courses in Revit and ADT.

HVAC
This program is experiencing increased enrollments and demand. The TAC is very supportive and has offered internships and potential jobs to graduates. We will be expanding to a 2 year program and implementing new certificates in 2009. Lennox is very interested in continuing to grow the partnership and work with other industries to increase funding and equipment support.

LIBRARY AND MEDIA SERVICES
This winter quarter North’s library will begin participating in a cooperative digital-reference service called QuestionPoint. Using QuestionPoint, students will be able to “chat” online with a librarian to get their questions answered, any time of the day or night. Digital (or virtual) reference is especially important in serving elearners and commuting students, who may not be able to come to campus when the library is open. NSCC librarians are excited to be participating in this new service!

WORKFORCE EDUCATION
Steve Miller and his team are preparing to respond to an RFP for Postsecondary Completion Strategies for low-skilled working adults-$600,000 to be shared amongst 5-6 projects. They are working on the implementation of Hospital Employees Education and Training program (five college courses delivered to incumbent NAC’s at NW Hospital and Medical Center to allow them to advance on the Career Pathway to Lab Assistant and eventually LPN). Another project is that Steve and his team are assisting Tracy Woodman with the new DOL grant to support NAC Academy, Anesthesiologist Technician and I-BEST phlebotomy.

As chair of Capital Project Steering Committee, Steve met with student leadership and architects from Schacht-Aslani to begin discussion of possible new student center

CAS
For a full list of CAS activities see the minutes in public folders or please see the CAS website: http://northonline.sccd.ctc.edu/CAS/

NEW FACULTY HIRES
We have completed the hiring of eleven tenure track faculty this fall. This is the largest cohort of new hires in several years.
Aryana Bates, Library
Brian Holt, Psychology
Jennifer Jack, Nursing Assistant – Certified
Elizabeth Goulet, Biology
Edgar Jasso, Mathematics
Steve Simmons, Arch Eng Drafting
Jill Bauer, ESL
Jamila Barton, ESL
Judy Learn, Nutrition, Health
Joseph Smith, Accounting (winter 2009)
William Holt, Business (winter 2009)

FACULTY LEARNING COMMUNITY
A faculty learning community is a group of multidisciplinary faculty who come together for a yearlong program to engage in activities that focus on enhancing teaching and learning and community building. There was an application process in September, and faculty were selected from tenured faculty who began full time teaching anytime between 1993 and 2003. The members of the faculty learning community are Denise Brannan, Davene Eyres, Tracy Furutani, Paul Kurose, Pam Lippert, Ann Murkowski, Trish Root and Karen Stuhldreher.
During fall quarter they are working to design their projects that will achieve the goals of enhancing teaching and learning – building community – infusing diversity.

**ASSESSMENT**

The General Education Taskforce continued to provide leadership for institution-wide assessment of student learning. Please consider joining one of the six workgroups that will be looking at student work in winter and spring quarters. The professional technical programs continue the mapping process and focuses on identifying program outcomes and gathering evidence of student work.

**CALENDAR**

- **First day of winter qtr**: January 5
- **Martin L King Jr holiday**: January 21
- **Collaboration Day**: January 29
- **All faculty meeting**: January 29
- **Faculty Coors Mtg**: January 29
- **President’s Day**: February 18
- **Faculty retreat**: February 27

![Happy Holidays](image)