**From the Office of Instruction**

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

*Dear Faculty,*

As we begin our final week of the 07-08 school year, I want to highlight the good work you have done in instruction to promote student learning! In the fall we began our major initiative on assessing our general education outcomes. We agreed to begin to identify the courses that teach one or more of the seven skill outcomes and develop tools that faculty can use to gather evidence of their students’ learning. Faculty in the professional technical program have also worked on identifying their program outcomes.

We also hosted the first regional undergraduate research one day workshop sponsored by the Council on Undergraduate Research in the fall.

October 10th has just been confirmed by the North West Commission on Colleges and Universities for a returned visit from an evaluator to address the specific recommendations from our April 2007 accreditation visit that focus on a comprehensive assessment plan and our part-time faculty evaluation plan.

I will be holding an all faculty meeting on the afternoon of Convocation Day September 17th. This will be an opportunity for all faculty to be part of the conversation of what we want instruction to look like in the future.

I hope many of you will come to graduation Friday at 6:00 P.M. Have a relaxing summer and take time for renewal!

Mary Ellen
Vice President for Instruction

**General Education**

The NSCC team returned June 4 from the AAC&U Institute on General Education, which was in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Team

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**What’s Inside:**

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members were Mary Ellen O’Keeffe, Edith Wollin, Sharon Simes, Denise Brannan, Davene Eyres, Brian Holt, Diana Ma, and Ron Woods.

**Title III**

NSCC submitted a $1.9 million Title III grant proposal to the U.S. Department of Education on May 20. The proposal focuses on promoting student retention and progression and is closely tied with the state board’s Student Achievement Initiative. Grant activity strengthens institutional capacity to effectively serve student populations who have historically experienced high rates of attrition and low levels of attainment. Specifically, NSCC proposed the development of new Integrated Basic Education Skills Training (I-BEST) Programs supporting concurrent enrollment in basic skills and college-level courses, extensive faculty collaboration retreats to improve course alignment across the pre-college and college levels, implementing an academic Early Alert System and extended student orientation, faculty professional development in learning-centered instructional best practices, and, improving tutoring programs and instructional technologies to support learning. The Department of Education expects to announce this year’s funding recipients in early July.

**Enrollment**

Our campus reached 102.71% of our FTE goal for spring 2008. We reached 137.93% of our FTE goal for worker retraining this quarter. We reached 97.93% of our annualized FTE goal for this year. Worker retraining reached 107.53% of its FTE goal this year. We have 527 international students enrolled for spring quarter. (We had 491 international students enrolled winter quarter.)

**Program Review**

There will be a new program review calendar this fall 2008 and a review process that has incorporated many of the suggestions you have given over the last few years. Program review will be better aligned with other instructional review activity on campus. Davene Eyres, program review coordinator, is reviewing software that will enable all resource allocation processes to access program review information to better match the needs and the resources. And because program review ought to be a service to ourselves as we work to improve learning opportunities, your review should be available to you as an ongoing and growing resource. Davene will gladly accept all offers of help with software decisions (any experts out there with KM and Mashups?) and volunteers for the program review committee.

**Programs**

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

Art Gallery: two shows, immigrant art and annual student art show.

Music: symphonic band ensemble night and full band concert (June 15 at 7:30, so that is yet to come) and college choir concert of American music of the 1940’s, with Fred Radke on the trumpet; Jazz Ensemble quarterly concert.

The Theater Department has been very active this Spring. Our productions were

**Virtual Solitaire** - April 4, 5, 11, & 12 @ 7:30 pm each night

**The Imaginary Invalid** - May 16, 17, 23, 24, 30, & 31 @ 7:30 pm; May 25 & June 1 @ 2:00 pm

Virtual Solitaire was a one-person play by Dawson Nichols which played to large houses and brought in nearly $1300 for student scholarships.

The Imaginary Invalid was a lush production with stunning costumes, an amazing set, and stellar performances from NSCC students, faculty, and staff. This truly community effort was enjoyed by more than 450 audience members.

In the 08-09 year the Theater Department will have three new main stage productions and will bring back the tremendously popular Vagina Monologues – this time for an extended
run. We will also begin a new tradition at NSCC – our very own Talent Show. Stay tuned....

World languages met off campus for some end-of-the-year Latin bonding. Next year, we will again offer Russian and offer second year Japanese.

NSCC Poets and Writers Series featured new voices, students in the creative writing classes during the last school year. National Poetry month: the events of this week were co-sponsored by the Arts and Lectures series and the English Department and the Humanities Division. Well over 70 people attended the events, over our goal of 50. This event will be even bigger next April.

Communication completed the paperwork to add a certificate in Communication and Media Arts, a certificate that includes courses from Communication, Business, and Art.

The Arts, Humanities, and ABE Division and BIEIT Division recently added HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) job training to its I-BEST programs. Developed especially for English as a Second Language (ESL) students, I-BEST (Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training) programs feature professional-technical instructors and ESL instructors teaching together to help students learn English and job skills at the same time. HVAC joins programs in IT for Healthcare, Nursing Assistant (Certified) and Accounting.

Most I-BEST programs are just one year in length. The Nursing Assistant program is only one quarter. After finishing one of the I-BEST programs, students are prepared for immediate employment in a technical or professional field. The programs are also open to non-ESL students. Help with tuition is available to those who qualify.

HVAC students get hands-on work experience and make contacts with local employers. Graduates of the HVAC program are eligible for jobs as installers and can expect to earn about $35,000/year or more. There are many job openings in the Seattle area and HVAC workers can generally expect steady employment with long-term career potential as a service technicians and supervisors.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The IT for Healthcare Program is offering the One Year Achievement Certificate in the I-BEST format now. New cohorts start every spring and fall quarters. The AAS-T degree for IT for Healthcare has been revised now offering students a pathway elective to better match student goals for a four year degree. PDA’s were incorporated this past quarter, and offer the students more opportunity to view options in healthcare technology equipment.

The Parent Education Program is pleased to welcome Cesily Crowser as our new full-time tenure track instructor. She comes to us after having been a part-time faculty member at SCCC in this same program, as well as a Family Support Worker for Seattle Public Schools – and a parent to her own two children which gave her the opportunity to be a student in this same program. She is a graduate of Occidental College in California. She brings with her an enthusiasm for working with parents and families along with a strong belief in the difference that parent education can make in a community. Cesily enjoys spending time with the “future grown-ups” of our society and has a great appreciation for the parents who will nurture and help shape them into loving and strong individuals.

MATH, SCIENCE, SOCIAL SCIENCES

MS3 is proud to celebrate the careers of our retirees for this year. Retiring faculty are Ellie
Cauldwell, Larry Hall, Earl Hamilton, Andrew Walker, and retiring staff is John McDaniel. All 5 of these individuals have provided outstanding service to the Division as well as the college as a whole.

Congratulations to Natasha Kholomyeva and Vince Offenback who were named as “Innovative instructors” in the Computer Sciences recognized by the University of Washington. They were nominated by former NSCC students.

MS3 is rolling out two new classes for the Fall Quarter including an upper level Biochemistry class (CHEM 255), and an “Intro to Sustainability” (SUST 101). Thanks to the faculty for their work in creating these valuable classes.

BUSINESS, ENGINEERING & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES DIVISION

Business Programs: New Project Management Certificate with most courses on-line, International Business Certificate expanding to include an on-line marketing course, new short term administrative certificates for our partners at the SMC, Children’s Hospital and possibly Swedish Hospital, and newly combined TAC of International Business and Business Representatives.

Accounting Programs: New courses in Corporate Income Tax, and Finance, several courses going DL including ACC 110, 120 and 130, two new individual income tax courses.

HVAC Program: HVC 101 going on-line fall quarter, Our industry partner Lennox will be working with SCCtv and e-Learning Support Center (NeLSC) in converting most of the in class sections to distance learning, and enrollment continues to gain in this program. We are also partnering with Washington State Energy Services.

RES Program: Many courses going on-line including the Home Inspecting program. Development of additional courses in Green Built and Sustainability.

EET: One course packet for both day and evening students. Much work went into deleting and adding courses and changing credits. We are also partnering with the Electronics Association of Washington State.

WORKFORCE EDUCATION

Worker Retraining, WorkFirst and Carl Perkins plans have been submitted to the State Board. The HVAC/Lennox partnership and the Watch Technology Institute partnership with Rolex and Ben Bridge are being considered for a Governor’s Best Practice Award. After nearly 25 years in the District Betsy Hale has accepted a position with Casey Family Services.

CAS

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

DIVERSITY

Thank you to Betty Williams for her leadership in organizing the Students of Color Panel Presentation and workshop, which was on May 22. Thank you also to the students for the great job that they did in the presentation and workshop. The event was sponsored by the Diversity Advisory Committee and the Teaching and Learning Center.

Opened Faculty Positions
We advertised for full time tenure track faculty positions in the following positions: ESL (2 positions), Nursing Assistant, Business, Accounting, Architectural Design, Biology,
Mathematics, Psychology, and Reference Librarian. Selection committees have been interviewing the finalists for the positions and will be submitting three candidates for each position to Mary Ellen O'Keeffe who will forward her recommendation to the president for the final selection.

**Calendar**

- Commencement, End-of-Year Party: June 13
- First day of summer qtr: June 23
- Summer quarter ends: August 15
- 2008 SBCTC New Faculty Institute (at Everett CC): September 4-5