FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to Maggie Yeung, our new Financial Assistant.

Congratulations to Diane Finegood on receiving the 2008 Frederick G. Banting Award from the Canadian Diabetes Association, recognizing her significant contributions through leadership in Canada's diabetes community, as founding scientific director of the CIHR Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes since 2000.

Congratulations to Max Donelan for being chosen by Time Magazine as having invented one of the 50 best inventions in the world in 2008, with his electricity-generating knee-brace device, which harvests the energy of walking.

A new concentration in the Kinesiology major program titled Exercise and Nutrition in Health and Disease was unanimously passed at the November School Meeting. This Surrey Initiative is to be offered only at the Surrey campus, with a planned start for Fall 2009. It builds on the basic sciences as applied to nutrition, exercise and metabolism. A strong "practical-application" focuses on chronic disease prevention and early detection; health behaviour change; nutrition/exercise programs to prevent chronic diseases; and nutrition/exercise programs for those with chronic diseases. Thank you to the team who put this initiative together: Craig Asmundson, Ryan Dill, Carrie Matteson, Stephen Brown, Penny Deck, Scott Lear, Tony Leyland, Angie Brooks-Wilson, Miriam Rosin, Amandio Vieira, Richard Ward and the Undergraduate Program Committee.

Happy Holidays!

Peter Ruben

Faculty, Adjuncts & Grad Students

Parveen Bawa presented a poster at the 38th Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, Washington, DC (Nov 15-19, 2008). Title of paper: "Rotation of motor units in a variety of human muscles."


Faisal Beg, Associate Member from ENSC, reports he is now a Reviewer on CIHR's Medical Physics & Imaging Committee.

Publications


**SUCCESSFUL DEFENCES**

**Fabio Feldman** – Nov 14th PhD

Title: Neuromuscular and behavioural influences on balance and falls

Senior Supervisor: **Stephen Robinovitch**

Supervisory Committee: **Max Donelan, David Goodman, Karin Kahn**

**Joseph Choi** – Nov 19th MSc

Title: Factors affecting the efficacy of hip protectors during falls

Senior Supervisor: **Stephen Robinovitch**

Supervisory Committee: **Andy Hoffer, Faisal Beg**

**Biljana Maric** – Nov 20th MSc

Title: Remove Management of Chronic Heart Failure Patients using Internet Supported Technology

Senior Supervisor: **Scott Lear**

Supervisory Committee: **Glen Tibbits, Andrew Ignaszewski**

**CO-OP CORNER**

This semester we placed 35 Co-op students in positions throughout Canada. We also took over the supervision and facilitation of the practicum component in the course, **Kin 343 Active Health: Assessment and Promotion**, a new initiative for Fall 2008 that saw 31 Kin 343 students placed in practicums throughout our office. This also allowed the Co-op program to filter all Kinesiology related work and volunteer opportunities through one office, streamlining the process for all.

This also fits in with Kines Co-op’s role in SFU’s Work Integrated Learning (WIL) Unit, which houses Co-op, Career and Volunteer Services under one roof, allowing Kines Co-op to tap into resources on Community Based Learning, using the new Symplicity database to post all work related opportunities in one place.

Feedback from employers and students has been very positive!

**DARLEEN BEMISTER & SARAH MILLER**

**CO-OP STUDENT PROFILE**

**Kathleen Huber** at Canadian Space Agency (CSA), Quebec

Exercise Countermeasures

Student is my official work title, in the Operational Space Medicine (OSM) department, and I am working for an SFU Kinesiology alumna, **Natalie Hirsch**, who is a Project Officer in Operational Space Medicine.

For 3½ months at CSA I trained Canadian astronauts, researching medical counter-measures for space, taste testing space food at Agriculture Canada, and collaborating with Canadian Forces on recruitment testing.

I also travelled to Houston, Texas to work at NASA-JSC (Johnson Space Centre) for three days. At JSC astronauts seem to be ubiquitous—imagine going to work and meeting astronauts every day!

It is an exciting time at the CSA as the entire agency is preparing for Bob Thirsk’s long duration mission (approx 6 months) aboard the International Space Station, commencing May 2009. This is the first long duration mission for a Canadian astronaut and is the first mission to be supported from the ground by the CSA (all previous Canadian missions have been supported by NASA).

My daily work in OSM preparation includes compiling literature and research of various exercise counter-measures in space, analyzing functional fitness test experimentation, and researching topics such as orthostatic hypotension, whole body vibration, probiotics and intestinal microflora.

I have worked with some incredibly talented and knowledgeable people, many who have dedicated their lives to the research of space science. In Canada the space science industry, including space medicine, is a growing field and will require more Kinesiologists and Biomedical engineers for future endeavours as an International Space Station partner. A career in space medicine could be for you!

**HOLIDAY CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT THE DAC**

You are invited!

Monday, December 15th, 2008
12:00 noon
Diamond Alumni Centre

Cost: $15 due to Laurie by Dec 5

*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!*