There was no newsletter in April because of the industrial action taking place on campus. One of the objectives of such action is to make the University community aware of the significant contributions made by our employees to the operations of education and research. In this, their objective was achieved and particularly for an administrator, their contribution was made very plain. They were missed and we are pleased that our staff is back playing its important role within the School community.

One of our staff, Gary Shum, Electronics Technician, has announced his acceptance of a similar position in the School of Engineering Science at SFU. His last day in the School of Kinesiology will be on Friday, May 2nd, 2003. Many thanks to Gary for his excellent service to our School.

During this last weekend there was the meeting of the Canadian Kinesiology Alliance (CKA) held at the Executive Inn in Burnaby. This conference brought together representatives from the Kinesiology Associations from across the country. I met as the representative of the Canadian Council of University Physical Education and Kinesiology Administrators (CCUPEKA) with the Executive Committee of the CKA. They had a number of questions with respect to the CCUPEKA accreditation process and also look forward to working cooperatively with CCUPEKA in enhancing the professional reputation of Kinesiology across the country. I am to make a report at the CCUPEKA meeting scheduled for Montreal next weekend.

Two proposals have been forwarded to the Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences, for incremental faculty positions in Kinesiology. One is for a full-time faculty position to increase our enrollment at the Harbour Centre campus. If approved, we will begin a search for a faculty member whose responsibilities in terms of teaching will be based at Harbour Centre. The other is a proposal for the conversion of a Limited Term half-time Ergonomist position to a continuing position. The search for the limited term candidate is already underway and the position has been advertised.

I am pleased to announce that a recommendation from the University for the appointment of Glen Tibbits as a CRC Tier I has been sent to Ottawa. A decision from Ottawa is anticipated in early September.

During the past month members of the School of Kinesiology met along with the President, Vice Presidents and Dean, with the International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries (ICORD) group to be based in a new building near the Vancouver General Hospital. ICORD was represented by its President, Dr. John Steeves, and Rick Hansen was also at the meeting, since the Rick Hansen Foundation is a significant source of funding for this new endeavour. I can foresee significant interaction between the researchers at ICORD and members of the School of Kinesiology. Andy Hoffer is a founding member of ICORD. Others in the neurophysiology and biomedical engineering research areas also expressed interest in collaboration.

John Dickinson


Welcome to Professor Satoru Kawai, visiting from Tezukayama University in Nara, Japan. Collaborating with Christine MacKenzie in the Human Motor Systems Laboratory for his sabbatical year, he will investigate heaviness perception, size-weight illusions, and grasping forces in augmented environments. Dr. Kawai also conducted research here in 1996-1997. We wish Professor
Kawai a productive and enjoyable stay in the School of Kinesiology. **MIRIAM ROSIN** reports notification of a 5-year renewal of an NIH Award. This grant is funding a longitudinal clinical study that will follow 400 patients with early premalignant changes over time, with periodic assessment for molecular alterations. The objective of the study is to identify prognostic markers that can be used to identify lesions that require intervention, thus preventing cancer development.

**ERIC ACCILI** has been approved for NSERC funding of $22,400 in each of three years (2004-2007) for his research entitled, *Comparative studies of pacemaker channels*.

Congratulations to **AMANDIO VIEIRA** who has also received an NSERC Grant.

**ERIC ACCILI** has also been awarded an operating grant of $295,599 over three years from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). His grant will fund exploration of a protein involved in regulating repetitive electrical activity in the heart and nervous system.

**SCOTT LEAR** has been awarded $418,316 over three years from CIHR’s Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes. His grant will fund an investigation of the relationship between ethnic background and obesity and how this relates to cardiovascular disease risk in men and women of Aboriginal, Chinese, European and South Asian descent.

Congratulations to **DIANE FINEGOOD** who appears on the cover of *AQ Magazine* for May 2003, with a detailed story inside.

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**SEMINARY LAST MONTH**

The School of Kinesiology was pleased to host the following seminar on April 25th, 2003:

**DR. JACK DENNERLEIN**
**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ERGONOMICS AND SAFETY, HARVARD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

Dr. Dennerlein was invited by **TOD MILNER** and **STEVE ROBINOVITCH**. His topic was: “*Work-related musculoskeletal disorders and injuries: Office workers to bicycle messengers.*”

Dr. Dennerlein’s research is related to the prevention of work-related musculoskeletal disorders, primarily those of the upper extremity. He is working to understand the biomechanics and physiology of injury mechanisms, as well as to improve approaches to exposure assessment and epidemiology for musculoskeletal disorders. His specific projects examine aspects of orthopaedic and occupational biomechanics of the upper extremity and hand, motor control and physiology of repetitive movements and tasks, and the design and performance of haptic interfaces and their associated ergonomics.

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**DEFENCES**

Successfully Defended:

- **N. PETER REEVES** M.Sc. Mon April 28th, 2003
  **EMG-Based Classification of Low Back Pain**

- **VAL WALKER** M.Sc. Fri March 28th, 2003
  **Cardiorespiratory and autonomic responses to maximal voluntary breath hold.**

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