**DIRECTOR’S CORNER**

During the past month, there has been significant discussion surrounding the development of a Faculty of Health Sciences at Simon Fraser University. Despite misgivings on the part of a number of faculty from the School of Kinesiology, this was given approval by the Senate Committee on University Priorities and the proposal was passed at the Senate Committee meeting of October 6th, 2003. The nature of the relationship between the School of Kinesiology and this new Faculty will need to be negotiated in considerable detail and this will be a preoccupation of mine over the next months. It will also be a significant part of the discussion for the School Retreat.

The Retreat itself is being held in order to discuss the Self-Study Report to be presented to the External Reviewers who should be making a site visit to the School early in the Spring. The Retreat will be held on October 28th, 2003 in MBC Rooms 2290 and 2292. It is perhaps fortunate that we will be able to take advantage of expert external advice with respect to the development of the relationship between this School and the new Faculty.

Since the last newsletter there has also been the Terry Fox Day celebration on campus including the run in which Kinesiology fielded the greatest number of participants of any group on campus. A full report on the day has already been provided by the Chair of the Terry Fox Day Committee, **Craig Asmundson**, to whom I am grateful for his continued organizational effort on behalf of that society. For those of you who have not seen the report, a summary of the day’s events appears at the end of this Newsletter.

The Faculty of Applied Sciences and the School of Kinesiology jointly sponsored a table at the fundraising gala dinner for Downs Syndrome held at the Hotel Vancouver during September. **Wade Parkhouse, Hal Weinberg**, and I represented the School of Kinesiology.

I should like to thank **Christine MacKenzie** for the organization of a Graduate Student “Meet and Greet” Reception at the Diamond University Centre on October 32003. This was a success despite the relatively modest participation by faculty. I suggest that in future this be given higher priority by both current graduate students and faculty. Those who attended found it to be a worthwhile social experience.

Finally, I would like to thank those who acted as Director during my illness last week, including **Charles Krieger, Jim Morrison** and **Steve Robinovitch. Dave Goodman** taught my classes, the first of them on 10 minutes notice!

The Convocation ceremony this year was held on Friday, October 3rd, 2003. It was followed by a Reception in the atrium of the Applied Sciences Building.

**John Dickinson**

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**CONVOCATION: October 3rd, 2003**

Congratulations to our October graduands who have received a Kinesiology degree:

**M.Sc. Graduands**

- Cecil Chau
- Brent Gall
- Mark Hinder
- Peter Reeves

**B.Sc. Graduands**

- Imrana Mehnaz Ali
- Ali Amiri
- Jagandep Singh Bajwa
- Kari Elizabeth Barnett
- Eric William Bergstrom
- Sarah Kelly Brown
- Christopher James Burk
- Jessica Chan
- Jennifer Crew
- Miguel Rivera Cui
- Kian Ehsan
- Cheryl Lynn Ewald
- Ali Aceza Golabaei
- Petra Hajek
- Jennifer Lynne Harvey
- Adrian Owen Hingston
- Ann-Marie Margaret Kehoe
- Mitsuhiro Komba
- Rita Tin-Yee Ma
- Sharon See Men Ma
- Steven Alexander Mar
- Denain S. Milwid
- Vinay Ashish Nand
- Dylan Garry Roguski
- Elizabeth Jane Segal
- Byung Koo Shon
- Michelle Marie Sigismund
- Jonathan Keith Suen
- Virginia Taliadouros
- Julie Anne Toms
- Chad Van Tongeren
- Yin Yin Tse
- Ian Williamson
- Renee Woyvitka
- Shenwood Yun Sang Yu
The School owes a debt of gratitude to Van Truong for organizing and coordinating Kinesiology’s participation in the SFU Open House held on Saturday, October 4th, 2003. Potential students currently in grade 11 and 12 came with their parents to visit SFU. The Faculty of Applied Sciences alone had a few hundred students come to visit the tables. Kinesiology had a good turnout, with many students coming by to speak to the advisor and volunteers, and also to participate in the three lab demonstrations. FAS also organized a student panel and a scavenger hunt, in which Kinesiology also participated. This day would not have been possible without the effort and time of many volunteers: Erin Sloan, Jen Litt, Nori Bradley, KSA, and the Goodman, MacKenzie, and Finegood labs.

Welcome to a new Postdoctoral Fellow, Changting Ziao, who joined Diane Finegood’s Diabetes Research Lab in September. He arrived with his wife and newborn baby Karen from the University of Guelph where he received his PhD Changting will be involved in Type II diabetes research, mainly in systems physiology and mathematical modeling.

Diane Finegood gave an inspiring and informative lecture entitled “Canada on the Move” at the University of Alberta Alumni Reunion. Her talk focussed on the links between active living, healthy eating, and wellbeing. Both she and Dr. James Hill discussed their current research in the areas of diabetes and obesity, simple ways of monitoring walking activity, and motivating walking and active living. Both have been instrumental in motivating people to get “on the move” with amazing results. Dr. Hill is the developer of the successful America on the Move program and Diane Finegood is currently making Canada on the Move a reality. After the talk there was a celebrity-led walking tour of campus, wearing a pedometer to count steps to increased health and well-being.

The following paper has been accepted by the Journal of Neuroscience Methods that stems from an undergraduate thesis project by Blake Murphy, co-supervised by Charles Krieger and Andy Hoffer: “Chronically implanted epineural electrodes for repeated assessment of nerve conduction velocity and compound action potential amplitude in rodents.”


Defences:

Successfully Defended:

Jie Hong Hu Ph.D.
Tuesday September 16th, 2003
Abnormal Protein Phosphorylation in Human Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)

Terry Fox Update

Summary below from an e-mail sent by Craig Asmundson, Chair of the Terry Fox Day Committee, plus the October 2nd edition of the SFU News:

On behalf of the 2003 Terry Fox Day Committee (10 volunteers composed of staff, students and faculty), Craig Asmundson, Chair, thanks all participants, volunteers and donors who made SFU Terry Fox Day on September 18th, 2003 a very successful event.

The 2003 SFU Terry Fox Day walk/run had 525 enthusiastic participants, in spite of the poor weather. This was an 80% increase compared to last year. Sixteen teams were registered.

Congratulations to Kinesiology, the top team winning the award for the largest number of participants (98). A banner will hang in the SFU Gymnasium for the next year advertising this fact. The other four top teams were: Student Services (34), Playthings-PDP (34), Golden Key Honors Society (25), and Biological Sciences (24).

The SFU Track Team won the the Most Spirited Team award, with 15 members appearing with large Superman emblems painted on their bare chests and capes flowing behind them as they ran the 5 km course at the front of the pack.

$6,200 was raised for the Terry Fox Foundation. More than $1,300 came from the efforts of an introductory undergraduate Kinesiology class taught by Andrew Blaber, who encouraged students to raise funds and participate. The total raised is overall better than last year but still short of our goal of raising two dollars per student, staff & faculty member at SFU - $44,000.

The Terry Fox Gold Medal Award ceremony was highlighted by a moving speech by Jodie Warren, the 2003 recipient of the award. Check the www.sfu.ca/terryfox website. To see photos of all aspects of this year’s event.