**Director’s Corner**

Convocation this June was a great success. Thanks to **Laurie Klak** for organizing the Reception after the ceremony.

The Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research held a Reception for the winners of Scholar Awards at the Chan Centre Auditorium on June 3rd. Students **Dawn Mackey** and **Andrew Laing** were present to be recognized at this ceremony. **Jacob Ross** was also acknowledged.

The School held a Mini Retreat on June 4th to continue consideration of the Graduate Program. Details of changes to the current M.Sc. Thesis degree were considered and recommendations for a new M.Sc. by Coursework were also discussed. Recommended changes will be taken to the next School Meeting.

During the last month we learned that **Etienne Burdet** has withdrawn from our nomination for a CRC Tier II position in biomedical engineering. After reviewing the applications, the Search Committee recommended another candidate for this CRC Tier II. The School of Kinesiology is in the process of ratifying this recommendation.

A ground-breaking ceremony was conducted on June 15th, 2004 for the new DTS TASC I expansion of the Applied Sciences Building. President Michael Stevenson presided at the ceremony which was attended by the Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Advanced Education. The School of Kinesiology will be a participant in the new building. Current plans call for an additional 6,000 sq ft to be allocated to the School.

I recently attended CCUPEKA Meetings (Cdn Council of Univ Phys Educ and Kinesiology Administrators) in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Accreditation issues were discussed and CCUPEKA is looking forward to reviewing our application.

John Dickinson

**Scholarships**

Congratulations to our Graduate students who have received Scholarships and Fellowships:

**C.D. Nelson Memorial Graduate Scholarship ($18,000)**

**Andrew Beaudin**
Graduate Fellowships ($6,000):

**Andrew Curtis**
**Geoff Desmoulin**
**Alejandra Farias**
**Fabio Feldman**
**Xuan Geng**
**Mitsu Komba**
**Ingrid McFee**
**Flavio Oliveira**
**Guobin Sun**
**Darryl Whitney**
**Mihaela Zahariev**

Faculty of Applied Sciences
Graduate Fellowships ($6,000)

**Xiaoyang Shan**
**Harneet Singh**

**Faculty, Staff & Graduate Students**


The North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity (NASPSPA) met this year in Vancouver, BC. There was excellent representation from the School of Kinesiology. Papers included:

“The energy minimization bias in simple aiming tasks,” by **F. Oliviera** and **D. Goodman**.

“Defining the end of the reach phase in natural and remote prehension,” by **A. Tao**, **B. Zheng** and **C. MacKenzie**.

“Prehension: Visual and haptic information about object texture,” by **C.L. MacKenzie** and **M. Walji**.


There was also a significant contribution from former graduates of the School of Kinesiology, most notably **Aftab Patla** who gave a keynote address. Also presenting were **Richard Carson**, **Carolyn Cao**, **Peter Crocker**, **Romeo Chua**, K.J.
MACKENZIE'S Professional has summer are now working in Ann Arbor, MI at the head office for the summer semester. The article has been submitted to (1) Board of Certification in Professional Ergonomic's (BCPE) newsletter www.bcpe.org, (2) Human Factors and Ergonomics Society's newsletter http://hfes.org/ HFES has 5,000 members, and (3) ACE (Assoc of Canadian Ergonomists).

Unique Recruitment Strategy
Caroline Rose, International Co-op Coordinator
Simon Fraser University, Vancouver Canada

What does Humantech, North America's largest workplace ergonomics' consulting firm, know that you may not? That hiring Co-op students is an excellent, low-cost strategy to finding and keeping enthusiastic, skilled employees. Co-op Education is an educational model that allows students to alternate periods of academic study with 4, 8, or 12-month periods of paid, full-time employment related to the student's major or interests. Students get practical work experience while employers gain access to the best and brightest students available.

Although Humantech has hired Co-op students since 1979, Darren Macdonald, Senior Consultant has only recently begun recruiting through Simon Fraser University's (SFU) Co-op Program in Vancouver, Canada. "I like working with SFU Co-op", explains Darren, "because the hiring process is simple and I like the flexibility of being able to keep a student for 4 or 8 months, which is not an option all college programs have." Darren goes on to add, "Humantech is so committed to Co-op recruitment that one of the reasons our corporate headquarters is in Ann Arbor, Michigan is because of the close proximity to a large pool of engineering and human performance co-op students.

Aiden Wickey, one of the newest Co-op additions to Darren's team, credits SFU's Kinesiology courses for helping him understand the needs of his employer. "In particular," Aiden notes, "my courses in musculoskeletal disorders, occupational biomechanics and physical hazards of the workplace prepared me for the report writing and office assessments I've had to do."

Darren reveals that hiring Co-op students is integrated into Humantech's business model as part of their hiring strategy, and estimates 25% of their Co-op students are hired on full-time after they graduate. "The first four-months a student is with us they do some report writing, vendor searches and small internal projects. During the next 4 months a student will work as a junior consultant, which means working with clients, doing more detailed report writing and data collection." By the time they're ready to graduate they have nearly a year's worth of experience, making the transition to full-time employee as painless as possible.

Humantech's web site is: www.humantech.com

PARTICIPANTS SOUGHT

Robotic Arm Study of Motor Command Noise

A motor control study is currently being conducted in the Neuromuscular Control Lab (Biomechanics K8605) in the School of Kinesiology at Simon Fraser University, to learn more about how we adapt to internal disturbances during motion.

Potential participants must be between 19 and 35 years of age with no neuromuscular impairments of the arm. They must have normal corrected vision, be right hand dominant and be able to understand instructions in both written and spoken English.

Participation in the study will require one visit to the
laboratory, lasting up to 3 hours. Procedures will involve recording of electrical activity from arm muscles using surface electrodes while performing a pointing task using the manipulandum of a robotic arm. Forces will be applied to the manipulandum and electrical stimulation will be used to contract certain arm muscles in order to simulate external and internal disturbances respectively.

If you are interested in participating, please contact GEOFF DESMOULIN at 604-291-3398 or e-mail (geoffd@sfu.ca).

**Ultrasound Imaging Study of Low Back Muscles**

A study is currently being conducted at UBC, in collaboration with researchers from the School of Kinesiology at SFU, to learn more about the reasons why individuals develop low back pain. The study will be held in the Robotics and Control Lab of the Dept of Electrical & Computer Engineering.

Potential participants must be between 19 and 35 years of age with no history of low back pain or musculoskeletal injury affecting the trunk or neck. They must have normal corrected vision and be able to understand instructions in both written and spoken English.

Participation in the study will require two visits to the laboratory, lasting up to 4 hours each. Procedures will involve recording of electrical activity from trunk muscles with fine wires inserted into the muscles and imaging of trunk muscles using medical ultrasound equipment while activating the trunk muscles.

If you are interested in participating, please contact GEOFF DESMOULIN at 604-291-3398 or e-mail (geoffd@sfu.ca).