

LIFELONG LEARNING

MEMO

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ATTENTION Senate

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FROM Helen Wussow, Dean, Lifelong Learning

RE 2010/11 Senate Committee on Continuing Studies Annual Report to Senate.

DATE November 1, 2011

Please find enclosed for Senate's information the Senate Committee on Continuing Studies Annual Report for 2010/11.

This was another exciting year for the unit previously known as Continuing Studies, now Lifelong Learning. The name change is indicative of the educational scope of our offerings, from English language enhancement programs to certificate offerings popular with SFU alumni. Our reach is global: online courses designed for Salvation Army officers in South America and think tanks focusing on the health of local salmon habitats are just a tiny part of what we do.

On behalf of the unit, I would like to thank the members of the Senate Committee on Continuing Studies, who take of their valuable time in order to provide guidance on alternative learning modes and course delivery times to better serve both the University and the Lower Mainland community.



Helen Wussow
Chair, Senate Committee on Continuing Studies
Dean, Lifelong Learning



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
Lifelong LEARNING

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
SENATE COMMITTEE ON CONTINUING STUDIES
ANNUAL REPORT TO SENATE FOR 2010/2011

Composition and Mandate

The current membership of the Senate Committee on Continuing Studies (SCCS) is the Dean of Lifelong Learning (chair), Dean of Libraries, three faculty members, two at-large members, one convocation member and one student (see Appendix A). The SCCS meets twice each year (during the fall and spring semesters) and is responsible to Senate for policy with respect to the overall development of the University's continuing education credit and non-credit programs. The Committee also reviews, at regular intervals, existing and proposed non-credit programs; develops procedures for the approval of various categories of credit-free instruction; and receives, for consideration and approval, programs proposed as suitable for non-credit certificate granting status. The SCCS reports its activities annually to Senate. Numbers included in this report are based on the fiscal year 2010 – 2011.

Actions of the SCCS in 2010-2011

The Senate Committee on Continuing Studies met on two occasions: October 21, 2010 and April 15, 2011.

At the Fall 2010 meeting the Committee:

- ratified the Annual Report to Senate for 2009/10
- approved a proposal for a Certificate in Human Resources Management
- approved a proposal for a Certificate in Journalism
- approved a proposal for a Certificate in Public Relations
- approved Continuing Studies Non-credit Certificate and Diploma Graduates

At the Spring 2011 meeting the Committee:

- approved a proposal to rename and redesign the Certificate in Business Analysis to Certificate in Applied Business Analysis
- approved a proposal to rename and revise the Diploma in Rehabilitation Management to Diploma in Rehabilitation and Disability Management
- approved a proposal for the revision of the Certificate in Restorative Justice
- approved Continuing Studies Non-credit Certificate and Diploma Graduates

Credit Course Offerings

Credit programs offered by Continuing Studies are organized through either the Centre for Online and Distance Education (CODE) or the Centre for Integrated Credit Studies (CICS).

Centre for Online and Distance Education

CODE's mandate is to provide increased access to undergraduate students by offering undergraduate courses and programs in online and distance education formats. Participant faculties include the Faculty of Arts and Social Science; the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology; the Faculty of Education; the Faculty of Science; the Faculty of Environment; and the Faculty of Applied Science. Courses are offered chiefly to SFU students, but a limited number of seats in courses are offered to non-SFU students

through the BC Open University Consortium.

Total enrolment in CODE courses increased from 14,602 in 2009/2010 to 14,860 in 2010/2011. The result was an overall increase of the FTEs from 1,599 to 1,622. Two hundred sixty-nine courses were available over three terms; of these, almost all were offered online. CODE currently has 163 courses available and ready for delivery at any time, across six faculties. Of this total, 15 are writing intensive courses, and there are offerings in the Q (quantitative) and B (breadth) categories as well.

This past year the academic units with which CODE collaborates have continued to call upon the centre to assist them in managing FTEs, either by increasing enrolments in specific courses or by offering multiple sections of the same course. Academic departments have continued to approach CODE for the development of new courses. At the same time, CODE has called upon departments to plan strategically for both the development and delivery of CODE-supported courses.

At the request of SFU's Office of Research Ethics, CODE began work on a graduate student tutorial that will be required of all SFU students who wish to begin a research project that has human or animal subjects. In partnership with the School of Criminology, CODE developed an online MA in Applied Legal Studies. This course of study garnered a Program Excellence award from the Canadian Association for University Continuing Education. In collaboration with the International Programs Office in the Faculty of Education, CODE organized a three-week professional development program for 10 senior administrative and professional staff members from the Universitas Terbuka during Fall 2010. The Universitas Terbuka is a distance learning higher education institution headquartered in Indonesia with approximately 600,000 students and 26 campuses and centres spread across the country.

CICS

The Academic Sampler was launched in the fall of 2010. The program provides students an easy way to audit a selection of undergraduate courses at SFU Vancouver. Our students chose from 44 courses in 15 departments in the following Faculties: Arts and Social Sciences; Communication, Art and Technology; Environment; and Science.

SFU NOW continued its steady rate of growth. Total enrolment increased from 1,339 in 2009/2010 to 1,947 in 2010/2011. In 2010/2011, the program offered 10 courses at SFU Surrey. In 2011/2012, in order to meet demand, we plan to double this number to 20.

For enrolment information, refer to Appendix B.

Non-Credit Programming: New Initiatives

In early 2011, SFU Continuing Studies celebrated its 40th anniversary. The University established the unit to offer programming at "times other than the usual times, in places other than the usual places, and in ways other than the normal ways." We have provided excellent education opportunities for those seeking career enhancement or transition while simultaneously improving access to education among those who face barriers: Aboriginal people, immigrants, marginalized communities, and seniors with mobility issues. We plan to continue this important mission in the decades to come.

Offered through our **Management and Professional Programs**, the new certificate in Human Resources Management, which launched in January 2011, helps meet the need for human resources training in BC's labour force. Statistics from Human Resources and Skills Canada suggest that there will be a national shortage of HR professionals over the next seven years.

To serve the business community even better, the Certificate in Business Analysis was redesigned to focus more on experiential learning with an emphasis on both qualitative and quantitative analysis and teamwork.

Over 85 percent of the 2010/2011 Career Development Practitioner Certificate graduates are now working with more than 20 different employment services agencies in the Lower Mainland. September 2010 saw the launching of a 36-hour training course for career centre advisors. The open enrolment course, which was initially created for the Surrey and Vancouver school districts, is now available to other school districts as well.

The curriculum for the Diploma in Rehabilitation and Disability Management was redesigned in order to align more closely with the requirements for the Registered Rehabilitation Professional designation from the Vocational Rehabilitation Association of Canada.

Over 1,800 people attended **City Program's** 14 free public lectures and events in 2010/2011. The Surrey Transportation Lecture Program helped Surrey residents and professionals understand transportation issues in their city, the fastest-growing part of the Vancouver region. The breakthrough course, which the City Program launched in October 2010 to a full house, featured lectures from Surrey City staff. The Program offered Urban Design courses in Edmonton for the fourth year in a row. It also expanded its reach with a new professional development course in Kamloops and Victoria called Acting Local: Municipal Government Responses to Climate Change.

The **Community Education Program** ran an Advanced English in the Workplace Program in April 2010. Forty-one newcomers to Canada gained the cultural and language skills and confidence they need to find employment in their chosen professions. The program was delivered in partnerships with Progressive Intercultural Community Services in South Surrey and received support from the Employment Skills Access Program, which, in turn, received funding from the Canada/British Columbia Labour Market Agreement.

SFU students, community workers, and activists met in 2010 to explore the theory and practice of using art to address community issues in a course called Exploring Arts for Social Change. Lynn Fels of SFU's Faculty of Education and Judith Marcuse, a pioneer in the field of using art as a catalyst for social change, co-designed and delivered the course, in which participants learned skills for facilitation, art activism, and teaching.

Continuing Studies in Science and Environment hosted two workshops in the spring of 2010 that examined the well-being of salmon and shellfish in BC. Participants included regulatory agencies, scientists, academics, investors, First Nations, and government and industry representatives. In partnership with BCIT and the Pacific Salmon Forum, CSSE hosted a scientists' think tank that examined the causes of the record-breaking high returns of Fraser sockeye salmon in December 2010.

The **Dialogue Program** welcomed 41 students to its certificate program this year. BC Transit, BC Government and Service Employees' Union, DIVERSEcity, the David Suzuki Foundation, the City of Richmond, and the Sudanese Immigrant Support Society were among the NGO and government agencies represented.

The **English Language and Culture Program** helps international students and working professionals achieve their academic, business and personal goals through language enhancement and cultural fluency. Full-time enrolment in the ELC program grew from 487 students in 2009/2010 to 679 students in 2010/2011. In Fall 2010, ELC launched a comprehensive curriculum development project to facilitate

change in the full-time program from four 12-week terms to six eight-week terms. This new schedule will align with the academic calendar year, making it easier for students to transfer into university or college.

The Philosophers' Café, part of the **Interdisciplinary Studies Program**, continued its pattern of growth. In 2010/2011, it held 195 individual cafes for 3,496 people. 2010 marked the retirement of Dr. Yosef Wosk, the director of Interdisciplinary Programs and the founder of the Philosophers' Café, CIVITAS, and the Canadian Academy of Independent Scholars.

The **Office of International Development** completed its last major international project, Reducing HIV Stigma by Education. In May 2010, OID hosted a public symposium focused on academic research initiatives and community action to reduce HIV and AIDS stigma and discrimination in Ghana. Challenging Stigma, a conference on research and action against HIV/AIDS stigma, met at the University of Cape Coast, Ghana, in October 2010. The conference assembled academic researchers, senior administrators, government officials, community workers, and performance artists around the theme of reducing HIV/AIDS stigma. OID also worked with its partner institutions in Ghana to develop a non-credit youth worker course about HIV/AIDS stigma. Thirty youth worker trainers received instruction between March and May 2010. Our partners produced a household and community brochure for rural families in Ghana in 2010 and distributed approximately 20,000 of them in 2011.

In 2010, the **International Teaching Assistants Program** had its largest summer intake yet. A total of 176 students enrolled in the program in 2010 – 2011.

The **Seniors Program** welcomes 3,024 registrations in 69 courses and three opera events. These numbers represents a 12 percent increase over 2009/2010. Working in partnership with the Seniors Lifelong Learners Society, the Program offered seven free Saturday forums that were open to all ages at SFU Vancouver. Videos of these forums are available online so that people can watch from the comfort of their home.

In August 2010, the Seniors Program lost its long-time director and lifelong learning advocate, Alan Aberbach. Dr. Aberbach joined the Seniors Program in 2000 after many years as a charter faculty member in the SFU Department of History. Beyond his work as a historian and teacher, Dr. Aberbach was devoted to opera. He published several books on the music and philosophy of Richard Wagner, broadcasted extensively for the CBC, and founded both the Vancouver Opera Club and the SFU Opera Studies Program. His legacy lives on through his generous bequest to the university to support staff salaries and related administrative activities of the Senior's Program in order to ensure the continuance and expansion of courses for seniors. Students and the legions of music enthusiasts whose lives Aberbach enriched with his passion for seniors' education and opera will remember him fondly.

Working with The Canadian Encyclopedia, **7th Floor Media** completed a prototype of an application in March 2011 that will put Vancouver history onto the iPhone. The mobile application, called Vancouver in Time, tells colourful—and sometimes sensational—stories behind Vancouver locales. Working with the Faculty of Health Sciences, 7FM began developing a research site to study the impact of virtual self-management for patients with chronic illnesses. In 2011, 7FM began work on a multi-dimensional program for teens about substance-impaired driving. Developed in partnership with the Centre for Addictions Research of BC, the project uses web, mobile applications, lesson plans, and social media to encourage young people to evaluate information, make personal choices, and understand social norms and peer values about the use of different substances that affect their driving.

The **Writing and Publishing Program** developed a new Public Relations Certificate. The certificate provides up-to-the-minute, career-specific training in a professional, practical format that includes a practicum and instruction from leading Vancouver PR industry experts. To support aspiring media reporters, the Journalism Certificate was launched in 2010 as an alternative to a traditional four-year journalism degree. In May 2011, the Certificate in Editing moved to a completely online environment.

The Writer's Studio celebrated multiple successes during 2010/2011. Five alumni had books published in 2010, and two of these publications won awards. The First Book Competition offered an exciting opportunity for emerging Canadian writers to publish for the first time. The three winners were announced in October 2010 in the categories of poetry, nonfiction, and fiction; the works were published in May 2011. Finally, a series of poetry readings brought together writers from Canada and the United States. The first two events in the series, called Cross-Border Pollination, took place in the spring of 2011 at SFU Vancouver. The series was funded by a grant from the US Mission in Canada American Studies-Community Partnership Program.

Please note: a more comprehensive version of the 2010-2011 Continuing Studies Annual Report is available at http://www.sfu.ca/cstudies/annual_report.html

Appendix A

Senate Committee on Continuing Studies, 2010 -2011 Members

Helen Wussow, Lifelong Learning (Chair)
Lynn Copeland, Bennett Library (until September, 2010)
Charles Eckman, Bennett Library
Robert Gordon, Criminology
Daniel Laitsch, Education
Christopher Pavsek, Contemporary Arts
Dolores van der Wey, Education (until July 2011)
Tracey Leacock, Education
Peter Ruben, Biomedical, Physiology and Kinesiology
D'Arcy Warner, Convocation Senator
Benjamin Lee, Student At-large

Appendix B

2010/2011 ENROLMENT IN SFU LIFELONG LEARNING COURSES, PROGRAMS, AND EVENTS

Program	Fee-based Registrations	Free and Sponsored Registrations
THE TEACHING AND LEARNING CENTRE	35	1,698
FLEXIBLE DEGREE PROGRAMS AND COURSES		
SFU NOW: Nights Or Weekends	1,947	
Integrated Studies	709	
Credit enrolment at SFU Vancouver	7,916 *	
SFU Academic Sampler	52	
Centre for Online and Distance Education	14,860	
PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT		
City Program	523	1,789
Management and Professional Programs		
Justice and Conflict Resolution	47	
Business and Management	1,960	200
Career and Life Planning	558	300
Seniors Program	3,027	945
Writing and Publishing Program	2,386	647
LANGUAGES AND INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION		
English Language and Culture Program	679 **	
Interpretation and Translation Program	52 **	
International Teaching Assistants Program	176 **	
Project JAPAN	7	
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT		
Community Education Program	261	44
Continuing Studies in Science and Environment		653
Philosophers' Café		3,496
Office of International Development		199
TOTAL CREDIT AND NON-CREDIT ENROLMENT	35,195	9,971

* Supported by the Centre for Integrated and Credit Studies

** Enrolment in multi-course cohort programs was counted as one registration per student