



# NEWSLETTER

## WELCOME

Welcome to the first issue of the AACTI Newsletter. The purpose of the newsletter is to provide regular updates concerning activities within the college/institute system. These updates will be forwarded electronically to Board Chairs and Presidents quarterly. Your comments are welcomed.

**Pam MacGillivray** – Chair,  
Council of Board Chairs

**Tom Thompson** – Chair, Council  
of Presidents

## 2002-03 HIGHLIGHTS

AACTI became operational September 1, 2002. The highlights of the first year of operation include:

- Made presentations describing the college system and explaining the socioeconomic impact study to the Standing Policy Committee on Learning and Employment, the Construction Owners' Association of Alberta, the Calgary Chamber of Commerce, the Association of Canadian Community Colleges annual conference, the Northern Alberta Development Council and the Deputy Ministers of Alberta.
- Completed the socioeconomic impact study and distributed the results widely to government, industry and the general public.
- Participated actively in the review of legislation affecting the colleges and institutes.
- Established offices in Calgary at **Mount Royal College** and Edmonton at **NAIT**.
- Prepared system responses to Alberta Learning position

papers on tuition fee policy and the performance envelope.

- Established contact with other stakeholder groups: Alberta Colleges and Institutes Faculties Association, the Alberta School Board Association and the Alberta Chamber of Resources.

## SYSTEM CHANGES

**Irv Pineau** has replaced **Bill Kondro** as Chair of **Lakeland College**.

**Ian Reid** has replaced **Brian Butlin** as Chair of **NAIT**.

**Stanley Mills** has replaced **Alf Savage** as Chair of **Olds College**.

**David Marshall** has replaced **Tom Wood** as President of **Mount Royal College**.

**Jim Foote** has replaced **Art Whetstone** as President of **Keyano College**.

## 2003-04 BUDGET IMPACTS

With expenses exceeding the base grant increases, institutions had to take steps to balance their 2003-04 budgets.

The following is a system-wide summary of the budget reduction impacts:

- 9 programs were eliminated.
- 6 programs downsized.
- 7 campus centres closed.
- 54½ full-time faculty positions abolished
- 124 part-time or adjunct faculty positions abolished.
- 92½ support staff positions abolished.
- 28 administrative positions abolished.

\*\* NOTE: These totals may have been modified due to the late June funding announcement by Alberta Learning.

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## APPLIED RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

The Innovation Management Committee, chaired by **Ron Woodward**, has allocated applied research funding support to three projects - **Olds College**, **Fairview College** and **Lethbridge Community College**. This funding allocation is a portion of a \$300,000 grant from Western Diversification designed to encourage applied research and innovation in the college/institute system.

- The Chair of the Alberta Research Council, **Marlene Graham**, visited AACTI member institutions to raise the profile of applied research in the colleges and institutes. To date, Ms. Graham has visited **Olds College**, **Lethbridge Community College** and **Red Deer College**. Later this Fall she is scheduled to visit **Keyano College** and **Grande Prairie Regional College**.
- **Peter Lacey**, Chair of **Red Deer College**, has been appointed to represent AACTI on the Alberta Ingenuity Fund.

## SYSTEM COMMUNICATION TASK FORCE

**Sharon Carry**, President of **Bow Valley College**, is chairing the newly formed System Communication Task Force. This group, with representatives from the public relations departments of member institutions, is developing a communications strategy to support AACTI's advocacy initiatives. The preliminary communications strategy will be presented to Board Chairs and Presidents at the October 2 meeting.

## e-LEARNING

e-Campus Alberta, chaired by **Irene Lewis**, President of **SAIT**, is a consortium of 14 colleges and institutes established to facilitate increased access to quality on-line learning. In August, Alberta Learning announced a \$900,000 grant to assist institutions in developing on-line courses and the necessary student support.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

October 1, 2003

Council of Board Chairs, Council of Presidents Dinner and celebration of e-Campus Alberta - **SAIT**

October 2, 2003

AACTI Annual General Meeting, Council of Board Chairs, Council of Presidents – **SAIT**

December 3-4, 2003

Council of Presidents – **Grant MacEwan College**

February 4-5, 2004

Council of Presidents – **Mount Royal College**

April 7-8, 2004

Council of Presidents – **NAIT**

May 6, 2004

Council of Board Chairs, Council of Presidents – **The Banff Centre**

May 7-8, 2004

Board Workshop, Provincial Awards Celebrating Excellence Award Luncheon – **The Banff Centre**

June 2-3, 2004 \*

Council of Presidents – **Medicine Hat College**

\* Date under review.

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