

SAFAGRAM

President's Message



by Doug Spurgeon

I have a couple of announcements to start off with:

Firstly, I would like to congratulate Vicki Landymore, daughter of Norm Landymore and Pat Squibb, on her successful application for the SAFA Scholarship. Vicki is in her second year at Simon Fraser University and is planning to study Education.

Secondly, I would like to welcome Sean O'Flynn to the SAFA office. Sean has accepted the position of Labour Relations Officer (LRO) with SAFA. Sean's expertise will be a welcome addition to the SAFA office staff.

Christmas will soon be upon us, and we all know what that means—final marks will soon be due!

As this semester winds down, I would encourage all faculty to take some time over the holidays and enjoy the best of the season. This is a well-deserved rest stop as we all get ready for the next semester. Take time to spend with your family and friends. Try to let your mind relax; work will still be there when you return, and having the break will enable everyone to cope with the rush of starting another semester.

The SAFA office is currently dealing with ongoing issues, which hopefully can be resolved shortly after the New Year. These issues cover a broad range of topics under the Collective Agreement ranging from workload to sickness.

Again, I would encourage anyone who has a concern or question to drop a note to the SAFA office. We will try to resolve what we can and provide guidance to obtain the answers. Thanks to all of those who have come by and offered suggestions and help.

As we move into the new year, several questions have been revolving around the 15-week semester, world skills, credential framework, and the application for degree-granting status. The Association is working to get these answers, and as information comes forward, we will pass it along. If you hear of rumours regarding any issue, please bring it to the Association's attention, and we will attempt to get either confirmation or clarification. In that way, we can ensure that we are tracking the facts of the situation and not chasing issues arising from rumours.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Holiday. I hope everyone has a memorable season and comes back in the new year refreshed. ♦

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1. The Editorial Board has the final say as to what is included or deleted from the newsletter.
2. Editorial Board decisions about newsletter material must be agreed to by consensus.
3. The newsletter will include a disclaimer stating that the views expressed in its content do not necessarily represent the views of the Editorial Board or SAFA.
4. All material included in the newsletter must
 - be signed by the author when submitted to the editors, but anonymity may be requested and granted for printing.
 - be based on "reasoned argument" if personal criticism is used.
 - not involve name-calling.
 - not include sexist, racist, or homophobic comments.
 - be related to SAIT, although this will be interpreted broadly.

The views expressed in SAFAGRAM do not necessarily represent the views of the Editorial Board or SAFA.

Library Report



by Dave Weber and Nora Robinson

Library Wireless Computer Access

The 2nd generation of wireless has been installed and is working. The new wireless system will work on any laptop or hand-held device that the student, faculty, or staff member is using. Because extra nodes being installed, wireless is guaranteed in any public area of the Library. In last year's student survey, enhanced wireless access was one of the top requests. We are glad that we could work with IS to meet the demand.

Laptop users can connect to "Sait-Open" using the wireless client on their laptop or a Wi-Fi handheld device for unsecured access to the Internet (i.e. does not support data encryption). This network does not allow access to network drives (H: drive, O: drive) or to SAIT printers.

Log-on is with the network domain\username and password.

Access to a secure network is also available. IS has provided us with detailed directions which can be found on the <http://wireless.sait.ca/> page. The secure network allows access to network drives and printers.

SAFA Division Four

The Library hosted the first annual Div.4 SAFA informational session on November 25. Members from counselling services, CITD, and the Library discussed issues such as the collective agreement.

SLIC Blog

The SAIT Library Information Collective was created in October. The SLIC blog is hosted on Google blogger.com. Library staff expressed a desire to develop a communications tool that could replace Outlook e-mail. The Library offers over 120 hours of service, seven days a week. We needed an efficient, easy way to discuss library procedures and policies to improve our service delivery processes. SLIC is an internal, invitation-only blog. Tag clouds and an archive make it easy for staff to consult the blog for past discussions. Rather than searching through *multitudinous* Outlook e-mails, staff just click on keywords to find comments relevant to their information needs. Library staff are now better equipped to interpret policies and procedures with uniformity and consistency to achieve high-quality client service. ♦♦

The Twelve Computerized Days of Christmas

On the twelfth day of Christmas my computer gave to me:

Twelve blown-out circuits,
Eleven damaged Flash drives,
Ten disk-drive lockouts,
Nine burnt-out fuses,
Eight worthless printouts,
Seven system resets,
Six I/O spasms,
Five blank CDs,
Four garbled saves,
Three loose plugs,
Two key bounces,
And a glitch on the computer screen!!!!

The SAFAGRAM Editorial Board wish all the faculty a happy, restful holiday season with family and friends and a prosperous New Year.
(See you at the SAFA Christmas Party on Thursday December 18)

Digital Graphics Communications Receive Five Awards

By Luda Paul

School of Information and Communications Technologies

The Digital Graphics Communications program won five awards at the Annual Gutenberg Award competition for the 2007-2008 school year.

The competition, sponsored by the International Graphic Arts Education Association drew over 200 entries from graphic arts programs from the United States and Canada.

The Gutenberg Award recognizes exceptional achievement in the field of Graphic Arts. Awards are available for printed items, web sites, and photographs. Entries may be submitted by graphic arts students at any educational level including those in university, college, community-college, post-secondary technical school, high school vocational, high school technology education, and junior high/middle school technology education programs in Canada and the United States. There are three different Gutenberg competitions: Print, Web Site, and Photography.

SAIT student Randidawn Rollison won Best of Show with her entry in Spot Colour Lithography. The entry was a business card design, printed in two spot colours, created in Adobe Illustrator, imposed in Heidelberg Signa, and printed on the Heidelberg Quickmaster 46/2. This was part of the Digital Graphics Communications projects class, and the objective for each student was to design and print his/her own business card.

Other Awards Received by SAIT DGC students (Class 2007-08) include the following:

First Place, Spot Colour Lithography, Jon Schroeder (1st year)

First Place, Process Colour Lithography, Group Projects class (2nd year)

Certificate of Merit, Spot Colour Lithography, Adam Envoldsen (1st year)

Certificate of Merit, Process Colour Electronic Publishing, Clint Petersen (1st year)

All winners were awarded certificates that are gold-foil stamped with an embossed image of Gutenberg Fust and Schaeffer. The Best of Show winner also received a medal of the same embossed image.

The Gutenberg entries were judged by members of the Susquehanna Litho Club in Lancaster, PA and displayed at the annual 2008 IGAEA conference this last summer.

Willem Sijpheer, *Academic Chair, Digital Graphics Communications and Journalism*, and the Digital Graphics Communications instructors join in congratulating Randidawn on her achievement, noting that she brought honors to herself, the school, and community.



Willem Sijpheer presented Randidawn Rollison with her Best of Show Gutenberg Award for her entry in Spot Colour Lithography.



Welcome to Sean O'Flynn, Our New LRO

Sean O'Flynn comes from Hamilton, Ontario, where he gained an understanding of the role of an instructor while teaching snowboarding at the local ski hill.

Sean received a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Guelph. He continued to gain insights into the role of an instructor as he tutored Economics students with learning disabilities. He then studied Psychology at Carleton University. During this time, he began taking a more serious interest in Labour Relations while furthering his understanding of the challenges of the instructor's role through working as a tour guide for groups of Grade 8 students coming to explore the city of Ottawa.

With a strong passion for Labour Relations, he entered the Master of Industrial Relations program at Queen's University, where he gained concrete knowledge in labour law, negotiations, and contract administration. As well, he was also able to research the Apprenticeship system in Canada and learn about some of the challenges facing instructors teaching students in the skills trades.

With the combination of his extensive studies in labour relations, experience in the instructor role, and passion for workplace justice, he is ready to work hard as your Labour Relations Officer to make sure all the SAFA members get the respect, rights, and privileges they are entitled to. Sean appreciates the opportunity to serve as your labour relations officer and encourages you to come in and discuss any concerns you may have. Please contact Sean at 403-210-4067 or sean.oflynn@sait.ca. ♦