

SAFAGRAM

SAFA Labour Relations Officer



Matthew Hamilton is the new Labour Relations Officer for SAFA. He graduated from York University with a degree in Labour Relations and was a member of the Canadian Auto Workers Union (C.A.W./T.C.A). While working with the C.A.W., he was part of the Negotiations Committee, Occupational Health and Safety Committee, Grievance Committee, and Labour-Management Committee. ➡

SAFA Administrator



Robin Jenkins started with the SAIT Academic Faculty Association in July 2006 as the Office Administrator. Her previous job was with a local jewelry manufacturer as a Project Manager. This job taught her the need for excellent communication skills in addition to giving her a keen sense of awareness. As the project manager for top sports accounts, she became knowledgeable in all aspects of the manufacturing process and strove to ensure that the company produced the best quality products for each team. Robin brings dedication to her current position and continues to welcome new knowledge and experiences.

Please stop by the SAFA office (N201) to speak with either Matthew Hamilton or Robin Jenkins; or give them a call to set up appointments for you or to direct you to the right person to answer your questions or to get advice.

You may also contact Matthew or Robin by e-mail at matthew.hamilton@sait.ca or robin.jenkins@sait.ca, or by telephone at Local 8321. ➡

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Editorial Board

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SAFAGRAM is published by the SAIT Academic Faculty Association (SAFA) five times a year usually closer to the end of the months of October, December, February, April, and June. Deadline for submissions is the 10th of the month preceding publication. Send submissions to SAFAGRAM, care of the SAFA office, N201 or e-mail submissions to luda.paul@sait.ca. Please keep submissions under 300 words, double space. Submissions may be edited for grammar, length, or content.

SAFAGRAM editorial policy, as approved by the SAFA Executive on June 14, 1995, is as follows:

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 Web Page

The new SAIT Library home page was launched in August. Our new website is easier to navigate and provides clear access to our information resources and services. Kat Johnston led the project that completely revamped the website architecture to make it compliant with current industry standards. In the future, it will be easier to update and maintain. We reorganized, rewrote, and created new content; created sections that outline services available to our various user groups; and have several new guides that will help students with their research. These guides include "Building a Research Strategy," "Evaluating Information," and "Avoiding Plagiarism." If you haven't checked out our new website yet, please do so and let us know what you think. Our web address is www.sait.ca/library.

The SAIT Library Redevelopment Project was a group effort. We would like to thank John Rauchert and Rosita Kwan, CITD, for web development; Don Ratke and Dianne Alahakkone, Marketing, for their insights; and the entire Library staff for their contributions.

⇒ Online Study Room Booking Software

The Library's seven study rooms for student groups have been in high demand since we moved to the Heart Building in 2001. In September, we initiated an online study room booking service called ORB (Online Room Booking) using a web-based product from www.onlinescheduling.com. Our former hard-copy, self-sign-up system was not providing equitable room access for students and was difficult for staff to monitor. Prior to accessing the new online booking timetable, students need to register at the Library Information Desk. Registered users can access ORB via the Library's home page in the Quick Links section. Students can book a maximum of two hours per week up to two weeks in advance.

⇒ Library Resources Only Workstations

Five student computers located at the Library's entrance have been designated "library resources only" workstations. In-library access to the library catalogue, the Library's ever-growing collection of digital research resources, and new online library services such as the online study room booking make dedicated library resource only workstations

an absolute necessity. We now have online access to over 35,000 full-text books and 12,000 journals.

⇒ Library Skills Instruction

Our Library Instruction Program teaches students how to find and evaluate the information resources they need in order to do college-level and professional research. Our instructional program includes everything from basic introductory tours to our Library Skills Workshop (which is integrated into the technical and business communications courses) to specialized workshops developed on request. As of September 29, we delivered 39 Library Skills Workshop sessions, 9 tours, and 16 specialized research skills sessions to over 1200 students. We also participated in the campus orientation sessions offered to first-year students in August, including in-class introduction sessions to library resources and services for the first-year Aero Centre students, who made a special trip to campus to see us.

If you would like to book an instructional session, please contact Nora Robinson 210-4073 or Kat Johnston 284-8515.

⇒ Faculty Orientation

Over 45 new faculty members visited the Library for an introduction to our resources and services as part of their training session in August. Kat Johnston and Susan Brayford led the sessions, which focused on accessing our electronic books and journals. We welcome the new faculty.

⇒ Renovations

The delayed library entrance renovations should commence before the end of the fall semester. Plans are underway to equip a temporary entrance adjacent to the Heart Atrium during the construction period.

⇒ New Scanners Installed

Two new HP Scanjet 8200 document scanners were installed for student use. Text scanning utilizes Microsoft Office Document Imaging software, and graphics scanning is available with Adobe Photoshop.

⇒ Library Staff News

Two new part-time Library Technician positions were filled in September. Edith Koprek and Jim Gray will be working evening weekend hours. The addition of these positions has allowed the Library to increase its Sunday staff from one to two library technicians.

Kristian McKinnis has begun his Communications Studies Master's degree at the University of Calgary. Kristian has been our cover-off for Michelle Racine-Stacey, who was on maternity leave. In August,

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President's Message



by Ceril Kenny

Welcome back for the new academic year, and welcome also to the new faculty who have been recently hired—there are quite a few new faces on campus.

If you've been to the SAFA office recently, you will have also noticed some new faces there. In addition to Kathy Dann, who still works with us two days a week, we welcome the new office administrator, Robin Jenkins, and the new Labour Relations Officer (LRO), Matthew (Matt) Hamilton. Please feel free to drop by to meet them all.

We have many things happening this year. Matt has already sent out some e-mails for volunteers to work on negotiations and benefits committees. He had some quick responses, and it's great to see that we have volunteers who are new to SAFA committees. It's important to build our volunteer base as a number of the "old" volunteers have retired or are considering retiring in the not-too-distant future.

Apart from up-coming negotiations for a new Collective Agreement, we are currently in the consultation

phase of the recommendations from the Academic Coordination Task Team report, and a new task team has been set up to look at instructor evaluation. In addition to the new initiatives, we are waiting for an arbitration award on a workload issue, and we are working on some other grievances.

I'd like to wish everyone a successful year. ♦♦

FAQs

Q: How does an academic staff member advance on the salary grid?

A: An academic staff member must receive a satisfactory grade on his/her annual performance review (PPR) in order to advance one increment on the salary grid. According to Article 18.01 (a) of the collective agreement, "an academic staff member whose overall performance is determined to be satisfactory shall advance by one increment, unless the academic staff member has reached the maximum of the salary grade."

However, if an academic staff member is not satisfied with his/her performance review, then that academic staff member can file a grievance according to Article 18.01 (b) of the collective agreement, which states that if "an academic staff member[s] overall performance is determined to be unsatisfactory, then they must be given reasons in writing and may appeal according to the Grievance Procedure." ♦♦



Luda Paul, instructor, Digital Graphics Communications (DGC), Information and Communications Technologies Department, won two Bulletin Editor awards for the Calgary Chapter of the Alberta Graphic Arts Industries Network (aGain) Bulletin.

The first award was presented at the 87th annual IAPHC Graphics Network Professionals Resource Network Convention held at the Rancho Bernardo Inn in San Diego, California, on 17 August 2006.

The Friday Bulletin Awards Luncheon was presided over by International Bulletin Chair Fran Pagel of long-time Best Book sponsor Worzalla, in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. Fran's fervent belief that a bulletin is crucial to the EPIC knowledge sharing in each chapter, was warmly supported by Mike Patterson of Los Angeles (the Fairy Godmother of bulletin editors). One of three top awards (the medium chapter class) went to Luda Paul, editor aGain (Calgary).

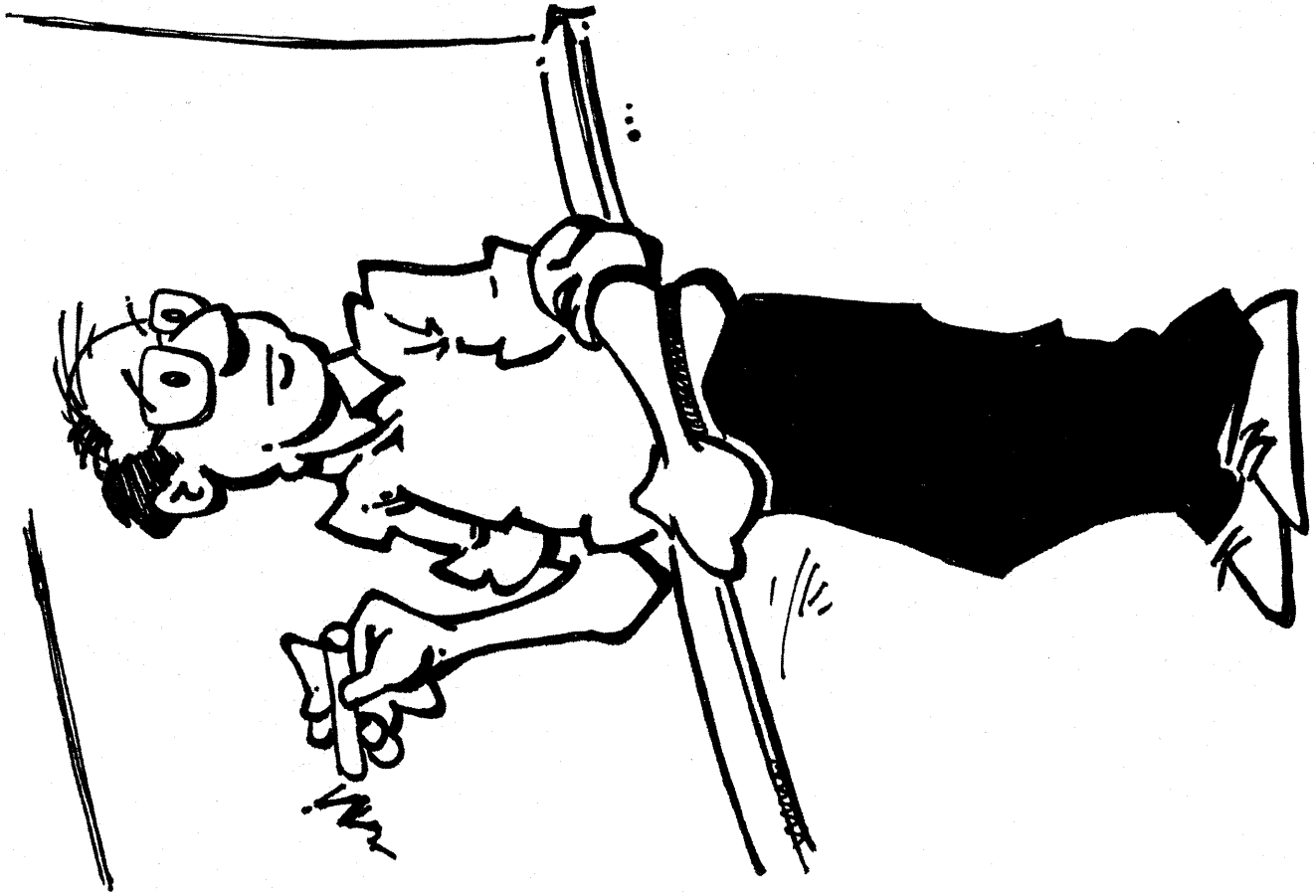
The second award was presented September 30 at the IAPHC Northwest Region (NWR) Fall Conference. Luda won the "Jim Lower Bulletin Award" for the Calgary Chapter, aGain. The judges for the NWR bulletin contest were Christina Greco from Greco Studios (also contract instructor in DGC) and Mo Keshavjee, Marketing Coordinator for ICT. Each of the judges has over 25 years of print industry experience.

In addition to being the bulletin editor, Luda also designed, typeset, and composed the pages for the aGain Bulletin. Distribution was 10 times a year, and was sent out to all aGain members and the IAPHC international officers. For more info, www.iaphc.org. ♦♦

*Library
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Michelle resigned and accepted a part-time position with the Calgary Police Services Library. We are currently recruiting to fill Michelle's Knowledge Management/Research position. Kristian will be on staff for the balance of the fall semester. ♦♦

A sign there might be too much technology in the classroom....



Will this lecture be
in High Definition?

