

ACIFA Award of Excellence Winner

Pam August joined the Food and Nutrition Management Technology program (previously called Dietary Technology) in September, 1991. Early in her career, Pam became intrigued with the concept of facilitating learning because she instinctively knew that a great instructor was much more than a content expert.

Pam completed 11 courses in the University of Alberta Outreach B.Ed. in Adult Education Program and recently earned the Level One Certificate. She is continuing her studies to earn a Bachelor Degree. To further enhance her effectiveness as an instructor, Pam developed a strong working relationship with Georgina Kiraly and David Pike in the Teaching and Learning Centre. Pam's interest in student learning and her energy and enthusiasm made her a natural candidate for training as a facilitator of the Instructional Skills Workshop. Since then she has coached and mentored over 100 faculty.

Managers describe Pam as a learning success story: a competent, committed and compassionate individual. Students describe Pam in the following ways:

"...few instructors have the ability to promote enthusiasm and learning in the positive manner exhibited by Pam..."

"Her creativity and effectiveness are illustrated by her effect on our class."

"Pam's innovative teaching style allows me to relate the material to real life situations..."

"...she always makes time for her students. She possesses a contagious enthusiasm..."

"The personal encouragement that she gives us in our various projects is priceless."

Pam will be presented with the ACIFA (Alberta College-Institutes Faculties Association) Award of Excellence at a banquet during the ACIFA Conference in Edmonton, June 1-4, 1997.

Congratulations Pam! ♦♦



Pam August with student Lem Chong

EDITORIAL

Have you noticed more smiles, fewer eyes that say "don't even ask me"?

Why were people not smiling? Well, the usual: a bitterly cold winter, changes in staff, changes in departments, dacums, workload simulations, workload simulation appeals, contract negotiations, more and greater demands on everyone's time. By the beginning of April, many people around campus had their shoulders hunched up around their ears, their eyes glued to the floor, and faces fixed perma-

nent frowns. The tension was palpable. Then came the end of April—endless marking, students' questions, the usual battles with the Banner system.

So what changed? Why are people smiling? The reason is simple. IT'S SPRING. It's a time of relaxation, rejuvenation, and

anticipation. Many people are now planning their summer holidays and activities: barbecues, family reunions, hiking, biking, camping, water skiing, and fishing, not to mention various seminars and industry work. Getting outside (without coats and

Continued on Page 5

IN THIS ISSUE

Editorial	1
Library Update	2
FAQ's	2
Blow Your Horn	3
TLC	5



FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions



by Heather Sagan,
SAFA Administrator

FAQ: Is SAFA PD still available for this academic year?

- A:**
1. Applications for SAFA PD must be approved prior to June 30, 1997 (cannot be carried forward to next year).
 2. Approval of SAFA PD is required by your department dean.
 3. Each permanent salaried academic staff member will be entitled to receive \$300.00 towards a professional development activity in an academic year. Permanent salaried academic staff members in part-time positions will have their entitlement pro-rated.
 4. With the dean's approval, a faculty member may use the \$300.00 to pay the cost of:
 - a. tuition or registration and associated travel expenses for courses, seminars or conferences;
 - b. memberships in professional or trade organizations
 - c. subscriptions to professional or trade journals
 - d. books and software related to the instructor's area of expertise
 - e. a modem ♦♦

SAFAGRAM

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SAFAGRAM is published by the SAIT Academic Faculty Association (SAFA) five times a year on or about the first days 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 email submissions to luda.paul@sait. Please keep submissions under 300 words, double space, and, if possible, submit on floppy disc (Mac or DOS) with an accompanying hard copy. Submissions may be edited

for grammar, length or content. SAFAGRAM editorial policy, as approved by the SAFA Executive on June 14th, 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 Updates



by Dave Weber
Educational Resources Library N204 (8408)

- ⇒ The library hosted the Spring '97 meeting of the Alberta Association of College Librarians. The meeting workshop concerned UMI research databases. UMI is an American company offering Web access to many databases ranging from business to the sciences and technologies. The most important outcome of the presentation was the availability of consortium buying. Alberta colleges and technical institutes are eligible for large discounts on database access if we make group purchases. The business meeting included much discussion on resource sharing through document delivery services and union catalogs. The Alberta Library and its mandate to make libraries in the province available to as many clients as possible were also important topics of discussion.
- ⇒ The SAIT library has received a one-time funding grant to construct a new computer lab. The lab will be located adjacent to the Information Desk in N204. Connectivity was the key to the library's successful bid for the new lab. Trends toward computer assisted and computer managed learning and the expected growth in distributed learning make computer access more essential than ever. Equipment includes at least 25 new PC's accessible to other server based labs on campus. Other hardware will include a graphics scanner, virus scan software machine, and a laser printer. Students will also be able to use the lab to self-register and verify marks. At least \$50,000 will be committed to the purchase of research databases accessible by distance learners. More financial support may be forthcoming if the lab can support the provincial Learning Enhancement Envelope. Although the hours of service have not yet been set, they will be longer than the library's because the facility will have a separate entrance.
- ⇒ Seven staff members have been relocated next to the new lab. Jean Hollows, Irene Guidos, Linda MacDonald, Alison Hart, Terry Smith, and Dave Weber are now located in J201. Sarah Baran is now located in the new lab in N204. Telephone access to all but Sarah and Dave may be disrupted until the beginning of June. Please call the Library Information Desk to relay any messages to these staff members. The voice mail for their numbers is also operational. ♦♦

Spell Check Bloopers

(Comic relief while marking papers.)

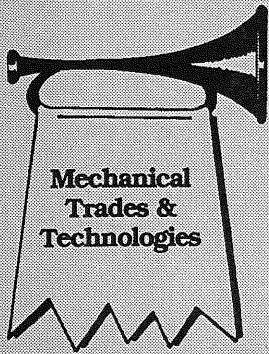
From student reports...

...sole proprietorship over the funds available, which intern causes...

...it was not just paying lip Seville...

...The total fuel capacity is 3899 liters.

Blow Your Horn SAIT Gets New Centre With Support of HVAC & R Industry Partners



"Blow Your Horn" is an opportunity for instructors to educate the rest of us about their program by providing a personal view of what they and their students are up to.

by Phil Larkin, Mechanical Trades & Technologies

Construction has begun on SAIT's Engineered Air Centre for Heating, Controls, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration following a successful fundraising campaign that collected nearly \$1.5 million over two years. The Centre will be fully operational and open to students in September 1997.

Designed in collaboration with members of the heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration (HVAC & R) industry, the Centre will reside in the Thomas Riley Building at SAIT. Part of the Mechanical

Trades and Technologies Department, the facility will be a state-of-the-art applied technology centre that will provide basic and advanced HVAC & R training.

Industry representatives have wholeheartedly supported the fundraising campaign to build the Centre which is named in recognition of its industry sponsor, Engineered Air. Other businesses which have supported the Centre through generous donations include Copeland Canada, Calgary Co-operative Association, Emco Distribution Group, Honeywell Limited, Johnson Controls, Sinclair Supply, Startec Refrigeration

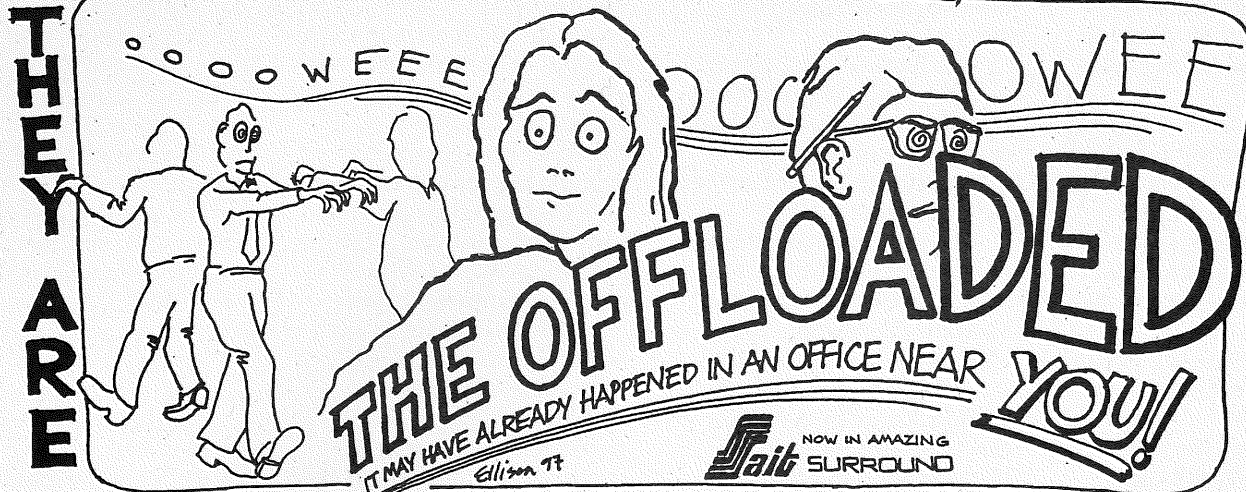
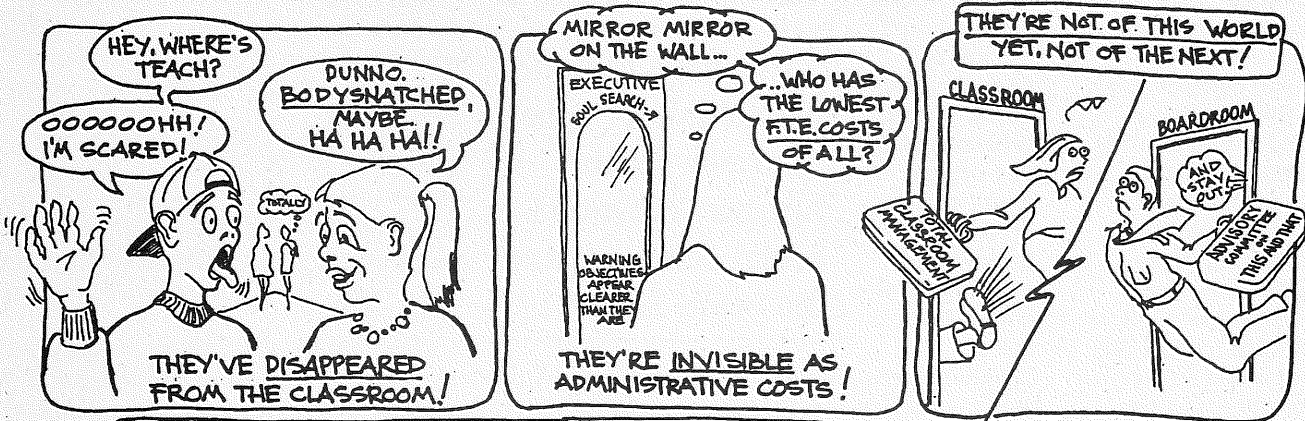
Services and Gateway Industries. A number of other companies have also made contributions.

SAIT instructors are understandably pleased with the prospect of a leading-edge training facility, especially since the HVAC & R industry has changed dramatically in the last several years.

"I think the Centre is long overdue, not just for Calgary, but for Western Canada," said Dave Duchak, an MT & T instructor. "Up until now, our facilities and equipment have been about two steps behind the current industry level."

Continued on Page 6

SO, YOU THOUGHT THAT DOWNLOADING ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS HAS RESULTED IN A LEANER, MEANER SAIT? TAKE A LOOK AROUND !!



Why I am on strike at York University

by Peter McKinnon, Toronto

(The following article first appeared in the Toronto Globe & Mail on April 17, 1997. It has been edited and is reprinted here with the author's permission).

As the strike by York's faculty enters its second month, one professor counts the contributing factors.

To the members of the board of governors of York University, and to the senior members of the administration of York University:

I teach in the department of theatre, and I want to tell you why I am on strike.

For the past 10 years or so, we at York have had budget cuts. Many of these cuts have been shared around the university, but of late it seems to me that they have been borne more and more heavily by the front-line workers—the professors—and the clientele that we serve—the students.

You asked me to double the size of my first-year class. I did so because I recognized the financial troubles of the university. You then asked me (by cutting the budgets of sister departments) to include the dance department's first-year students in my first-year course. I did so because I wanted to help students in other beleaguered departments.

You asked me (by cutting the departmental budget) to double the size of my second-year course in my specialty, lighting design. I did so, even though that meant doubling my contact hours.

You asked me (by cutting our departmental budget and forcing us to reduce our senior course offerings) to teach more introductory courses. I did so, albeit

reluctantly, since the reason I teach at a university is to teach at both a lower and an advanced level in my specialty.

You asked me (by cutting our budget) to cut the senior course in my specialty from a full credit to a half credit. I did so, even though this meant increasing my workload, by collapsing most of the content of a full course into a half course.

You asked me this fall (by passing the financial troubles of the university on to me) to collapse my fourth-year course in my specialty into my third-year course for the coming year, thus doubling my work. I will do so even though this is likely to take my department very clearly out of the ranks of good theatre schools in Canada.

You asked me (by not replacing any of the recent retirements in our department) to serve on more faculty and departmental committees. I did so because I recognize that the work of serving the students must go on despite your cuts.

You have told me not to ask for a pay raise for the duration of Ontario's social contract, and the years following. I didn't ask for one for many years.

You have doubled the size of the department, for the sake of provincial income. I doubted the wisdom of constantly increasing the size of the school without adding any more teaching resources, but we did so, because you told us to.

You have tripled the

numbers of students I teach. You have doubled my contact hours. You have doubled my committee work. All this I contributed as my share of the responsibility to the financial well-being of the university.

My students now get me for only six minutes each, per year, for one-on-one advising, down from 25 minutes. They deserve better, but you asked me to take more and more work without any more resources.

Then you tore up our collective agreement, unilaterally removed those clauses that you found irritating, and refused to discuss any compromise.

I can understand that the university is in parlous times. For 10 years the university has solved the problem of its resource shortage by charging the students more money, and by getting me to teach more

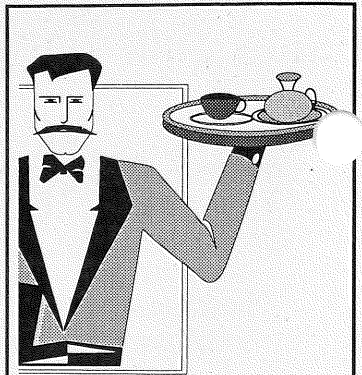
"You have told me not to ask for a pay raise for the duration of Ontario's social contract, and the years following."

students in larger classes at a lower level. I have never balked at more work, until now. The university says it has no more resources for

me. Unfortunately, I now have no more resources for the university.

It has taken a lot of work for you to radicalize me the way you have, but you have succeeded. I have volunteered to be on the next negotiating committee, and look forward to make York University serve its students and its faculty and the people of Ontario. I look forward to undoing at least some of the damage you have done to us all. ♦♦

Peter McKinnon is an associate professor in the department of theatre at York University.



Dinner Winner!

In our March/April issue of Safagram, the Editorial Board asked for feedback on your faculty newsletter. We even bribed you with a draw for dinner for two at the Highwood.

We had several calls from faculty members - all positive - saying that SAFAGRAM is an excellent publication and to please keep it going.

Some suggestions for future newsletters included the following:

- services available for SAIT instructors
- a "Pension Corner"
- news from other Alberta colleges (this is partially covered through the ACIFA newsletters)
- continuation of articles about SAIT colleagues.

From the names of those who called in their responses, a draw was made for dinner for two at the Highwood. The winner is Garry DeVries, Instructor in Instrumentation, ENRD.

Thanks to all of you who phoned the SAFA office with your feedback. The Editorial Board appreciates suggestions for articles and, of course, submissions of articles. Please forward any newsworthy articles you would like to see published to:
heather.sagan@sait.ab.ca

On Great Green Summers and First Class Strategies



by David Pike

While some of us will continue teaching and developing new programs, and others of us will be reconnecting with our business and industry roots, we're all entering the season for more all-round personal reflection, recreation (re-creation!) and growth. Best wishes from the Teaching and Learning Centre for a rejuvenating season.

And when the legends of the fall semester come to mind again, be sure to take advantage of some of these Teaching and Learning Centre resources and programs:

- "The First Class": Module 5 for instructors on first class strategies for creating a positive, active learning environment from day one.
- The "Orientation Checklist" for coordinators and instructors alike so that we start the new year right.
- "CATs": Simple, highly effective Classroom Assessment Techniques for getting formative feedback, early, often and objectively from learners so that we focus as a united faculty on the quality of learning that's occurring.
- The Pre-Service Instructor Training Program (August 11 - 22, 1997) and the Instructional Skills Workshops (Daytime or Saturdays and evening sessions in the last week of August) for new and experienced instructors.

Call us at 7071 or 8107, or drop into N202 with questions, requests or suggestions with regard to our professional growth both as individuals and as a community of instructors. ♦♦

*Editorial
continued from page 1*

boots and mitts and hats) gives us a whole new perspective.

For those people who broke with tradition and rejuvenated themselves by taking, their holidays in the fall or winter and who will carry on classes and operations throughout the summer—thank you for holding down the fort. You have at least two advantages: you will come to SAIT and leave SAIT in daylight and you will have time, we hope, to plan your next cold weather escape.

So to all of you out there in SAFAland, anticipate, enjoy, and savour every moment of the glorious spring and summer. Squeeze as much as you can into your brief respite. Collect the memories and experiences that will strengthen and invigorate you upon your return. Have a great holiday! ♦♦

MORE Spell Check Bloopers

(Comic relief while marking papers.)

Items on a list of business expenses:

- busness tax
- fiance/bank

From a resume...

I am experenced in accounts payable & receivable management.

I am encolled in the Accelerating Business Management Program.

Counsellor/Instructor Exchange



Judy Murphy from the Counselling Department has arranged an employment exchange to Mount Royal College this year. Judy is exchanging with Dr. Mitch Clarke who is a psychologist with extensive experience in working with persons with disabilities. Judy will assume Dr. Clarke's teaching duties in the Rehabilitation and Social Work programs at Mount Royal College, and Dr. Clarke will counsel students with disabilities and will co-ordinate disabled services at SAIT. The exchange will take place in the fall semester. Dr. Clarke will be available at Judy's local (7013). Judy will be at SAIT until June 25 and will return in January 1998. ♦♦

New Dean for the Applied Arts & Sciences Department



Patrick (Pat) Martens

Effective July 1, 1997, the new Dean for the AA&S Department will be Patrick (Pat) Martens.

Pat comes to SAIT from Olds College where he has been employed since 1989.

His initial employment at Olds was as an instructor teaching pre-calculus, calculus, physics, statistics, accounting, computers and local government. He is currently Liberal Arts Coordinator at the college and in that capacity continues to teach and is coordinator of campus-wide timetable and campus-wide training. Prior to joining Olds, Pat held a number of positions as principal, assistant-principal and teacher in various junior and senior high schools in Manitoba and Alberta.

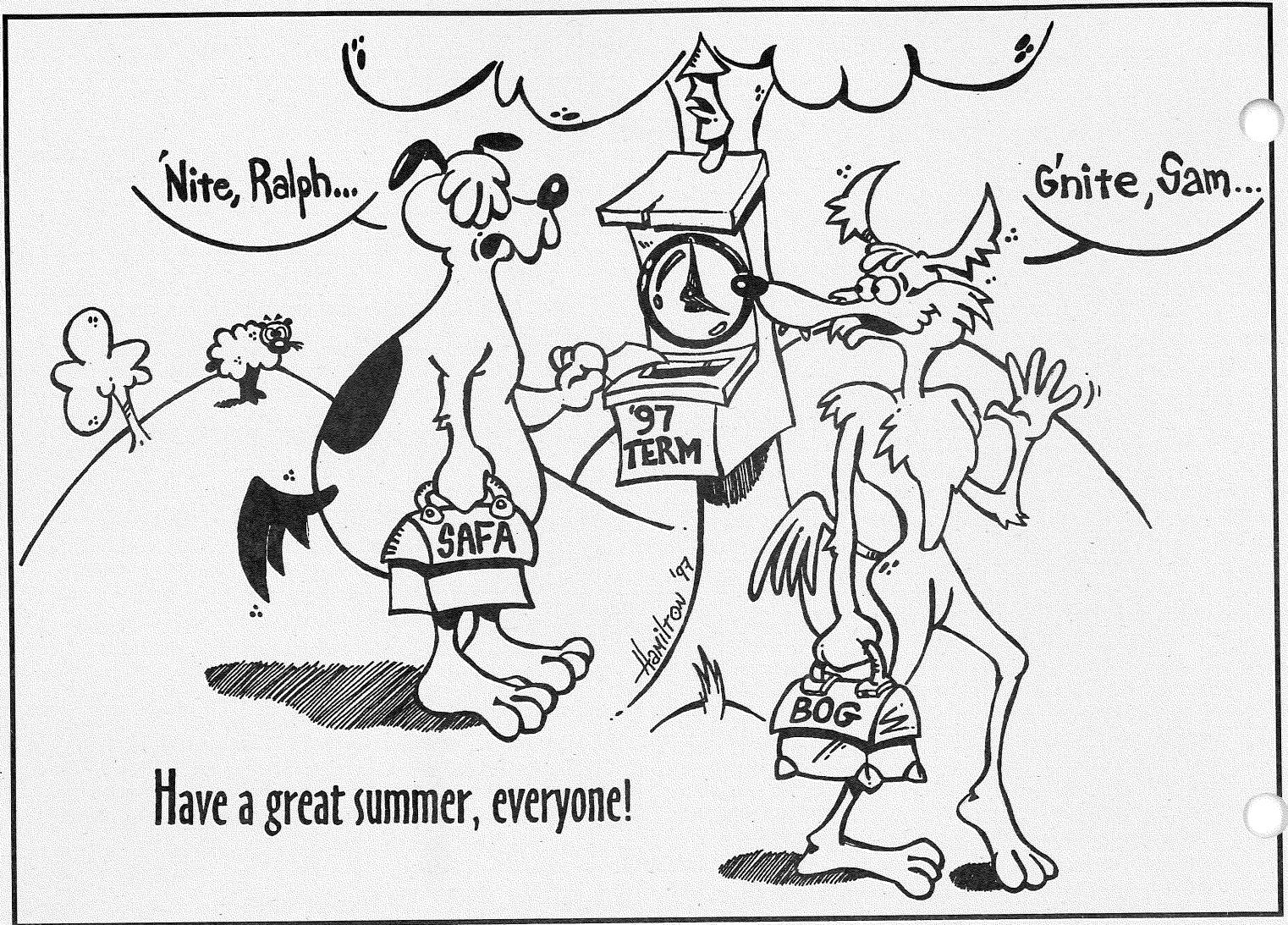
Pat has a B.Sc. major in Zoology and Microbiology and minor in Mathematics and Physics; a B.Ed. in Educational Administration; a M.A. in Educational Administration with addi-

tional courses in education and teacher supervision; and is currently working toward a PhD. in Educational Leadership. He was awarded the NISOD Medallion for Teaching Excellence in 1995 and has just been advised that he has been awarded the medallion for 1997.

In his early years at Olds College, he was President of the Faculty Association and served as Chair of the Faculty Negotiations Committee.

Pat has recently completed the Facilitator Training for Zenger-Miller and is an EDUIISO 9000 facilitator.

Pat will be in the Dean's office June 9 to 20th inclusive and will then be back to Applied Arts & Sciences on July 1st. ♦♦



Have a great summer, everyone!

*Blow Your Horn
continued from page 3*

Duchak envisions great potential for the Centre. "Once word gets out that journeyman upgrading and the latest technology are available, I believe the Centre will sell itself in North America. It will generate a tremendous amount of business for SAIT."

The training facility will also provide advanced training for company employees who require specific training or upgrading to meet industry needs. The Centre will produce highly-trained students and prospective future employees. Grads trained at the Centre will require less on-the-job training which will save companies time and money. ♦



David Pike, Irene Langille, Bonnie Benoit
Betty Hersberger, Luda Paul, Kay Hunter, Heather Sagan

The staff of the Safagram committee would like to wish all faculty a great Summer. (Try not to take your work with you).



Election Results

The SAFA Election results for President, Directors for Divisions A, B & C are as follows:

President:
Barry Pratt

Secretary/Treasurer
Abdel Bassyouni

Directors Division A:
Dennis Boghean & Dick Simons

Directors Division B:
Irene Langille & Jan Nyholt

Directors Division C:
Mark Kolodziej & Roger Wilhelm

Past Representative:
Ed Logue

Thank you to all faculty members who let their names stand for nomination. ♦