

Blow Your Horn



"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 Marilyn Anderson



First Place Winner
"Psycho Sheila's Super Sonic Scrub" a sadistic dentist and her "fireman" assistant

Manikin Dress-Up Contest

by Marilyn Anderson
Health Sciences

For the past several years, the Dental Assisting students have participated in a manikin dress-up contest. The students work in teams to decorate their operatories and manikins. (The manikins are not full body dummies/mannequins; rather, they are simply head "manikins" normally used for the simulation of dental procedures.) The staff feels the activity promotes teamwork, develops organizational skills, and helps to relieve the stress of a heavy academic semester. Besides, it's lots of fun!

The event is co-ordinated by Barb Peterson (Dental Assisting program). This year

Randy Bryska (Health Sciences), Larry Evenson (Information Technologies), and Georgina Kiraly (Teaching and Learning Centre) had the formidable task of judging.

Since the contest is scheduled around Halloween, the results are quite ghoulish. Entries this year included "Dr. Rough's Dentistry", "Laser Dentistry 2005", "Viva Las Vegas" (Elvis not only lives, but practices dentistry), "Wranglin' Drifters", and the "Little House of Horrors".

Entries are judged on originality, effort, audio-visual effects, and student participation in the presentation. This year first place was awarded to Sheila

Jones, Renee Poettcker, Adrienn Kapusy, Sheila DeKlerk, and Laurel Wright for "Psycho Sheila's Super Sonic Scrub" which depicted a sadistic dentist and her "fireman" assistant. "Little House of Horrors" took second place and "Caveman Dentistry" took third place.

If you missed it this year, watch for it next year. Friends, family, students, and staff (even the CBC came this year!) are invited. Come down and see what sweet little dental assistants are really like.

(Editor's note: What does your department do to promote student morale? Let us include an article about your activity in Safagram.) ♦♦

Haul-A-Day Spellchecker

(Two bee red under the missile toe)

Deer Virginia,
Yes, their is a Santa Clause.

Jingle belles, gin gull bells, jingle awl the weigh.
Oh, watt fun it is to ride inn a won horse open slay.

Twas the knight be four Christmas and awl threw the house
Knot a creature was stirring, naught even a mouse.
And I herd hymn eggs claim as he road out of cite
"Marry Christmas to awl and to awl a good knight."

Wee wish ewe a Marry Christmas
Whee wish ewe a Mary Christmas
We wish you a Merry Christmas
And a Happy Knew Year. ♦♦

Spell Check Bloopers

Found in some recent resume's and cover letters

- * The knowledge that I contain would be an asset
- "interpenetrating data"
- "handled customer esquires about the product"

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EDITORIAL

This TOO Is Real

You've heard the words of wisdom...maybe uttered them yourself: "Out in the real world, things are different."

The implication, of course, is that instructors and students are out of touch with the way the world works, are avoiding living in the real world, and are wasting taxpayers' money. Learning isn't *real* work, is it. Facilitating learning doesn't *really* qualify as work, does it.

Well. Who basks on the academic lawn anymore? Isn't it time to challenge the implication that we're not working in a real, productive world?

The reality of economic, demographic and technological change has deeply altered SAIT. But more than that, the so-called real world has come to *realize* the absolute value of learning and its emerging importance as a profitable activity in the workplace. Learning isn't a

preparation outside of life: it's becoming a challenging way of life and giving rise to, among other things, "the learning organization"!

So don't let anyone get away with suggesting that if you're learning and helping others to learn, you're not living in the real world. As the US Secretary of Labour said, "There aren't two worlds — education and work. There is one world — life. Learning by hands-on participation...should be at the core of our educational perspective." It's at the core of ours, and we should be proud. Really. ♡



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 preceeding 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.

FAQS

Frequently Asked Questions

by Heather Sagan, SAFA Administrator



FAQ: When is John Schmale, SAFA President, available for appointments/meetings?

A: As well as fulfilling the role as SAFA President, John also carries a teaching load in the Auto Diesel Department. He is in class every morning from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

Always looking after the interest of his constituents, he arrives at the SAFA office just after 12:00 and is available by phone, by booking an appointment or just dropping in.

FAQ: Can faculty members be contacted as a group on e-mail?

A: We are now able to send e-mail messages to all faculty, as a group, who have an e-mail address (or vax account). The e-mail address for the faculty group is faculty@sait.ab.ca

The e-mail address for the SAFA office is safa@sait.ab.ca

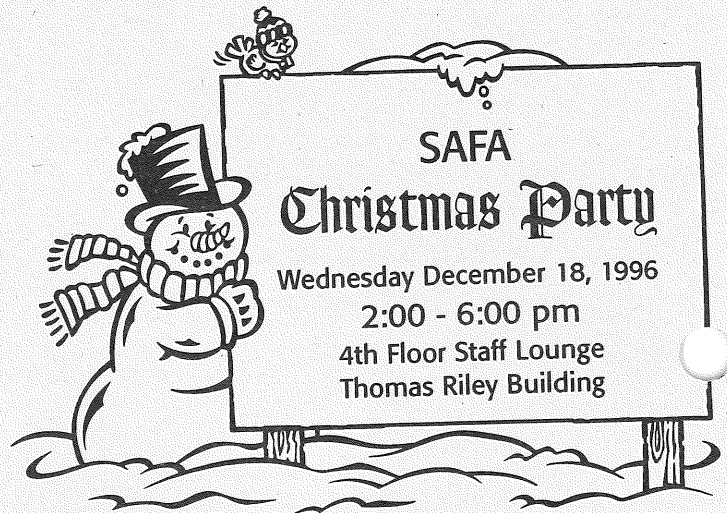
FAQ: Are casual/hourly instructors eligible for benefits when they accumulate a certain number of teaching hours?

A: At present, casual/hourly instructors are not eligible for a SAIT benefits plan. However, SAFA is working with a group of instructors conducting a survey to determine what benefits are required. We are hoping to get a group of approximate 100 people to participate.

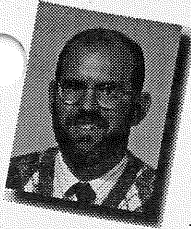
By the time this goes to press, the letter and survey should have been distributed. If you have not received a letter and survey regarding benefits and are interested, please contact the SAFA office. We are interested in hearing from you.

FAQ: Does SAIT still have a computer purchase plan?

A: The computer purchase plan has been extended to May 31, 1997. Participation is limited to full time permanent faculty. The plan is intended to provide assistance to employees in the purchase of a microcomputer or major upgrade to a computer currently owned. For a list of suppliers and more detailed information, please contact Chin Yu in Purchasing at 8817. ♡



Library Updates



by
Dave Weber
Sait Educational Resources Library
N204 (8408)

- ⇒ Preliminary work is underway for the installation of the Library's new automated system in 1997. Conduit and wiring are being installed to support the PC based SIRSI Unicorn Library System. This system is currently in use at the University of Calgary. Centralization of database access will be one of the greatest benefits. At the moment, researchers must use an array of different terminals and PC's to access CD-Roms, Internet, the Sait Library catalog, and other services.
- ⇒ The latest CD database to go into service at the Library is "Petroleum Abstracts." This University of Tulsa database offers worldwide research coverage of topics ranging from oil and gas production to alternate fuels for the period 1986 to 1996. The Library is also previewing "Dunn and Bradstreet's Canadian Key Business Directory" and the "Encyclopedia of Associations." These two previews are available in J214. All three services replace hard copy Library reference sources.
- ⇒ Decentralization of Library service is foremost in our plans for growth. We anticipate a large increase in the number of distance learners. Electronic storage and distribution of information will be the optimum method for serving these clients. To meet this new demand, we are increasing our presence on the Internet by developing a series of library subject guides in conjunction with our catalog and other library information service on the SAIT home page. The guides not only introduce information sources found in the Library, but also link the searcher to home pages related to the guide topic from all over the world. Guides are being produced for each program at SAIT. You will be able to get an overview of materials available by accessing the Library Home Page.

The library of the future will be less of a physical space open at set times, and offering information from print sources. Instead it will be an information broker identifying, and assisting researchers in the use of electronic resources found locally and internationally. ♦♦

Spell Check Bloopers

(Comic relief while marking papers.)

Found in some recent technical reports:

- You can find your position using sin and cosine laws.
- The cause for the interference is the different path lengths of the signal which intern confuses the receiver.
- Unable to find anything that was naturally shinny, I proceeded to compromise.
- Mines have other wells on the site ether for drinking water or for dewatering.
- Many repairs are being preformed in a half fast manner.

Counsellor Behind Bars!

by Judy Murphy

The Old Post Office (for those who have been at SAIT long enough to remember), has now become the office of Disabled Student Services. SAIT's longest lasting counsellor, Judy Murphy, can now be found there along with SAIT's Visual Language Interpreters and Captioners.

Along with providing counselling services to students with physical, sensory and learning disabilities, Judy has been working to increase access to the increasing numbers of deaf and hard of hearing students coming to SAIT.

Two specific projects that Judy has initiated have been the installation of the first public pay Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD) in an Albertan post secondary institute (funded jointly by a grant from Campbell McLaurin Foundation and AGT) and the development of captioning support for deaf students. The TDD is located outside the Library on the

second floor of the Senator Burns Building.

Interpreter services have been offered to support Deaf students at SAIT for several years, but this year SAIT became the first Post Secondary Institution in Calgary to offer Captioning/Real time note taking to deaf students who require this service.

Captioners (who can type 200+ words per minute) type everything said in class and transcribe information onto computer discs for the student. Court Reporters are hired as captioners through a joint project with SAIT Disabled Student Services and the Calgary Captioning Group. Captioning and Interpreter services are all paid for by special funds from Alberta Advanced Education and Career Development (Vocational Rehabilitation for Disabled Persons). You can reach Judy at local 7013 to learn how disabled students succeed. ♦♦

NEW RESOURCES

WWW Navigating/Searching/Job Search Modules



by Art Schlenker
Applied Arts &
Sciences

Two sets of hands-on instructional modules are now available for Internet or would-be Internet users.

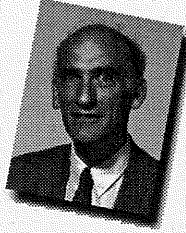
The first module set ("Navigating with Netscape" and "Searching with Netscape") is geared for the new or relatively inexperienced Internet user. The two-module package provides the basics of "getting around" in the World Wide Web and efficiently searching for information on selected topics.

The second module package ("Researching the

Job Market On-Line", "Researching a Potential Employer On-Line", and "Posting Your Resume On-Line") should be used by job-seekers who want to tap into the vast resources of the World Wide Web and Usenet News in their job search process. These modules provide exercises for actually locating and researching potential employers as well as instructions and sites for posting a resume on the Internet.

The modules are available in the Bookstore in the "Computer" section or from Art Schlenker (8558) in N308F in the Senator Burns Building. Total cost for all five modules is about \$9. ♦♦

Evolution of the TLC's Work



by David Pike,
Teaching and Learning Centre

When instructors of SAIT courses discover the TLC's resources for refining instruction and improving the quality of learning, they often express a) regret that they'd been too busy to drop in before now or b) surprise that they hadn't heard of our existence. Instructors working cross-sectionally with instructors to meet common teaching and learning goals!

Here's how the Centre has been evolving and adding services since opening its N202 door with an Olympic Legacy Fund grant for a faculty initiative:

- 1993 Peer assistance with individual teaching challenges
- 1994 Professional development programs and print resources
- 1995 Instructional Skills Workshops

- Facilitator Development Workshops
- Teaching and Learning Modules (11)
(Adjuncts to Pre-Service Instructional Training)
- Consulting to SAIT projects

- 1996 Custom Workshops to Facilitate the Work of Instructional Teams
- Key Roles in Process Development and Piloting
- Program Quality Assurance
- Prior Learning Assessment
- DACUM

- Instructional System Support Network
- 1997 Continuation of all valued and funded services to individuals, groups of instructors and the SAIT community.

Bring your curiosity, your questions or suggestions to the TLC or call coordinators Georgina Kiraly (7071) and David Pike (8107).

