

The Advisor

High School Counsellors' link to UCC

November, 1992

Kamloops, B.C.

Improving communication

Welcome to the first edition of *The Advisor*. It is our intention that this project will keep you apprised of what's happening here at UCC. Particularly, information about course and program changes that often take months to filter down to the secondary schools.

We will send Counsellors a newsletter every two months from November to May. This year, Deborah Huber, our International Student Advisor, has been charged with the responsibility of collecting information from within UCC Departments, writing

the articles, and working with our Public Relations Office to bring the Newsletter to you.

If *The Advisor* provides you with interesting updates and information about our institution—we will have accomplished our mission. Enjoy!

Greg Scriver
Assistant Director
Counselling Department Services

Updates

- It's with pleasure that we welcome to our Williams Lake Campus Lynda Wilson, the new Dean, and Francis Johnson, the new Coordinator of Services for First Nation Students. Lynda looks forward to building a strong linkage with regional high schools, identifying "high school students and parents" as her number one priority.
- We'd like to remind you that Raydene Erickson, our Williams Lake Counsellor spends one day per month at the 100 Mile Learning Centre advising students and interested community members. Call 395-3115 for an appointment.
- Academic Advisors from the main campus visit the Merritt Learning Centre monthly. We encourage prospective students to visit us for information on post

secondary programs and the prerequisites for admission. Call 378-2967 for an appointment.

- The Office Administration Program has 8 students enrolled in the Office Systems Specialist Certificate Program offered for the first time this September. The program teaches a combination of office skills and computer hardware and software knowledge. Graduates will find employment as computer resource persons, installing equipment and troubleshooting computer problems. With additional experience after graduation, students can go on to careers as microcomputer business systems analysts, consultants, technical support analysts, or

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Only at UCC you say...

For the 16 students enrolled in the new **Bachelor of Natural Resource Science Program** it will be 4 years before they graduate. Given the excellent job opportunities they are assured upon graduation, that's a good return for their time and educational dollars.

The new Bachelor of Natural Resource Science Program at UCC

The BNRS Program, offered in cooperation with the Open Learning Agency, responds to the need for professionals with a scientific background in all major resource areas. These professionals must not only have the scientific background, but also the communication and conflict resolution skills required to address the diverse number of interest groups involved in the complex environmental issues that face all of us. The demand for this expertise is evident in the strong support the program has garnered from industry and government.

UCC hopes to secure funding from these sources to offer optional cooperative education work terms that give students the advantage of hands-on experience in resource and ecology management, while introducing them to potential employers. This would extend the degree to 5 years for participating students. If funding for the coop portion becomes a reality, placement in the work terms will be competitive and determined by the availability of spaces. Students with appropriate summer work, however, can use that as part of their work term credit, even retroactively.

Students anticipate employment in forestry, planning silvicultural prescriptions or conservation management in fisheries or wildlife. Careers as varied as land-use planner, consultancy or operational forestry are open to graduates, as well as the opportunity to go on to masters programs in other fields.

High School students are encouraged to apply as soon as they have completed 50% of their Grade 12 (usually the interim report that comes out in January or February.) Students applying by the April 15th deadline will be admitted on the basis of g.p.a.

and an interview with the Program Coordinator.

Counsellors may wish to inform their students of the competitive nature of the program due to the limited number of spaces, and the need to maintain a high g.p.a. Prerequisite subjects include:

- Biology 12, Chemistry 12, Math 12 with at least a C+, and Physics 11.
- English 12 with 73% or level 4 on the L.P.I. or completion of English 060.

Students need to know that merely meeting the minimum requirements in these subjects does not guarantee admission into the program.

What attracts students to the BNRS?

The major attraction for Brenda Thomas is her interest in sciences, especially math, and her preference for working out of doors. She believes, as do all the students interviewed, that there are "loads of opportunities" after graduation due to the demand for integrated resource management professionals.

Connie Roesler feels that one of the strengths of the program is that it was "designed with the help of industry to ensure that graduates meet the needs of prospective employers." Although she thinks the proposed co-op option is a "great factor," Connie is not sure if she will take advantage of it since it will lengthen the program by one year.

Joel McColl, whose background includes work in agriculture, logging, and guiding, cites the integrated approach of the program as a significant feature. He likes the incorporation of conflict resolution skills that will enable him to "interact with a lot of different environmentally-focused groups," and the opportunities for working internationally.

Postscripts From The Edge

This section of *The Advisor* is intended to answer questions you may have, or defog areas that cause Counsellors the most concern. To this end I need your help in identifying where those difficulties lie, and invite you to call or fax me with those burning questions. It is likely that the question you ask is of common concern. We hope that the Resource Binder we provided at the Counsellors' Conference is a major source of information, but in the event that additional clarity is sought, you may find it here.

Here is a sample of what I have in mind.

Question: *Dear Deborah, could you demystify the second language policy so I can advise my students?*

Answer: Dear Counsellor, if the second language policy seems mystifying, that's because it is. Essentially it's this:

1. High school students **going directly to UBC, SFU, or UVIC** must have an approved second language grade 11; **however**, if they are doing a B.A. or .B.F.A. at UBC, then they must complete a second language grade 12 during their first year.
2. Students going **directly to UCC** do not require a second language for admission; **however**, if they wish to complete a B.A. at UCC, they must have the equivalent of, a second language grade 11 and 12 by the end of their second year to insure entry into third year. Currently our B.A. is offered in cooperation with UBC and students are subject to the same rules as UBC students. When UCC offers its own degrees, as it hopes to do, this policy may change. Until that happens the following rules apply:
 - a. Students with Grade 10 French or less require: French 100/101 **and** French 110/120.
 - b. Students with Grade 11 French require: French 110/120.
 - c. Students with Grade 12 French meet the second language requirement and should be congratulated on their foresight.
 - d. Students with another language other than French should contact the Admissions office or the Coordinator for Modern Languages.

Careers Trends

Employment prospects for ecologists in the next decade are better than average as solutions to our present and future environmental problems are sought.

Ecologists study the interaction of living things in their natural habitat and the impact of man upon these. They may collect data by studying soils, animal and plant species, conducting field and laboratory research, or look at the growth and quantity of plant life to assess the effects of natural and synthetic changes on plant growth. They might also examine local animal species to determine nutritional levels and population size. Data gathered from these kinds of studies is then analysed using statis-

tical methods to prepare reports on the environmental impact.

A Bachelor of Science degree in biology, a Bachelor of Natural Resource Science, or a related science is usually required to enter ecology, although a diploma in a relevant field may be enough for employment in some areas. A master's degree or PhD. is needed to work as a research scientist.

Students with proficiency in math and science, and interested in resource management may find a career as an ecologist rewarding. Incidentally, of the 16 students in the Bachelor of Natural Resource Science program, 11 are women—further proof that "Women Do Math".

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Updates

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systems trainers in a variety of organizations. Prerequisite information can be found in the Office Administration admissions packages in the Counsellors' Resource Binder.

- Academic Advisors look forward to meeting with Counsellors and students during our High School Liaison Visits slated November 24th to December 10th. We believe that our new liaison format will provide better service for you and your students.

Tell us what you think

Since, the purpose of *The Advisor* is to inform counsellors, your suggestions will ensure the relevance of the newsletter to your needs. Please rank the following items from 1 (highest priority) to 9 (lowest priority) according to you interest.

- ☐ Information on changes in prerequisites—advising issues and transferability of courses.
- ☐ UCC Degree programs
- ☐ Career/Technology programs
- ☐ Applied Industrial Technology programs
- ☐ Admission and Registration Information
- ☐ Calendar of UCC Events
- ☐ UCC program highlights—employment prospects, current salaries and further education opportunities.
- ☐ Careers of the future
- ☐ Other _____



This questionnaire can be mailed or faxed to: Deborah Huber, UCC Box 3010, Kamloops, B.C., V2C 5N3, Fax: 371-5513