

New position at college familiar to Crisp

BOBBI-SUE MENARD
CONTRIBUTOR

As the new Dean of Science, Technology, and Health at Okanagan College, Dianne Crisp is excited to be stepping into a role that is tailor made to her qualifications and interests.

Crisp took up her new position Aug. 4, 2009, and has spent the first few months getting to know both the students and the college, as well as her new home in the Okanagan.

Prior to moving to Okanagan College, Crisp was the associate dean at Kwantlen Polytechnic University in Richmond.

The reputation of Okanagan College helped encourage the move for her, says Crisp.

"Okanagan College is known as one of the best colleges in the system," she says.

Her new job encompasses a range of programs at Okanagan College, and Crisp says she feels right home in almost



Diana Crisp

every new area of responsibility.

She began her academic career at a college and became an EEG technologist.

From there, Crisp returned to school to receive credentials in human service work before attaining an undergrad degree at UBC.

Eventually, her academic portfolio was completed with graduate degrees in the area of neuroscience at SFU.

"I attended a college myself," says Crisp. "The portfolio at Okanagan College of-

fers a broad range of opportunity for students."

One of Crisp's main areas of focus is program development.

"We are working on understanding the full gamut of needs and meeting those needs with programming."

Sustainability and green issues will be a part of that program development, she says.

As Okanagan College has a strong history of taking cues from industry and creating relevant programming, Crisp is looking forward to maintaining that strength.

"We want to make sure we are meeting the needs that are out there so students are ready and prepared to enter the workforce."

Meeting students and colleagues has been a large and welcome part of the transition process for Crisp, who equally looks forward to the professional development opportunities Okanagan College offers.

The institution has a rich set of options for staff to pursue during their careers.

The adventure of exploring and falling in love with communities has been a continuous thread of Crisp's life.

She originally immigrated to Canada from London, settling in Trail in 1975, a community she became instantly smitten with.

Should Crisp get a few

moments away from program development, exploring the Okanagan is something she is looking forward to pursuing in her leisure time.

"Once you get here (Kelowna) you can't leave, it is a marvellous place to be."

As an avid Dragon Boat-er, she is looking forward to the upcoming summer season and hopes to find the time to fit in a sailing lesson or two.

Now you can use the Internet to add your own non-profit event to the Capital News Stuff to Do.

Simply go to kelownacapnews.com, look for the calendar and click on Add Event.

