Two New Bridging Programs
Now students graduating from Civil and Mechanical Engineering Technology can stay in the Okanagan and complete a full degree in their field.
After receiving hands-on training through the Engineering Technology programs at Okanagan College, students will be able to continue into the bridge programs at the College and, after completion, enter into second year, second semester of the Civil or Mechanical Engineering Degree programs at UBC-Okanagan.
Intakes for both programs begin in September.

Elections Going Online
Through collaborative efforts of IT Services and the Registrar’s Office, elections for seats on Education Council and the Board of Governors will be conducted online starting this fall.
Historically, voter turnout - especially for student elections - has been very low. Sometimes less than two per cent of eligible voters cast their ballots. Increasing the convenience of voting will hopefully increase turnout for all representative groups: students, faculty, vocational instructors, and support staff.
Voting will take place in everyone’s myOkanagan account. You now see a new tab in your account titled ‘Elections.’ It shows you elections-related information and once the voting period starts, it will show candidates standing for election and you can cast your ballot(s). You will only be able to cast your ballot for elections you are eligible to vote in.
Security of the election process and confidentiality of votes have been a priority during the development of this custom-designed application. In fact, anonymity and security are much greater than during the old, paper-based, in-person election process.
The call for nomination for the next elections has begun, so consider running for one of the two Education Council seats up for grabs in this by-election. And look for the new ‘Elections’ tab in your myOkanagan account.

For questions or concerns, please contact:
Inga Wheeler, Chief Elections Officer
Office of the Registrar
iwheel@okanagan.bc.ca
Reach Out

News from the Registrar’s Office (Kelowna)

Education Council did not meet this month but will meet October 4, 2012. Watch for EdCo updates in next month’s edition of Reach Out.

New How-to Videos
There are five new how-to videos available for students to view on the College YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/user/OkanaganCollege
Check out How-to find Your Account Balance, How-to Print your T2202A Tax Receipt, How-to Order Official and Unofficial OC Transcripts, and How-to Order OUC Transcripts.

Changes in Student Services
There have been some recent changes in the Student Services office.

Tanya Tarlit has returned from her maternity leave and will become full-time Student, Graduate and Co-op Education Coordinator, taking over from Lyle Howlett who has recently retired.
Jamie Morrow, who was Tanya’s maternity leave replacement, has returned to the School of Business as a Program and Event Coordinator.
Jill Watson has joined the Student, Graduate and Co-op Employment Centre team three days a week and continues as an Education Advisor for the remaining two days.
Michelle Somerville has joined Student Services Tuesday to Friday as an Education Advisor.
If students or employers have any questions in regards to employment, please have them contact the Student, Graduate and Co-op Employment Centre at coop@okanagan.bc.ca or call 250-862-5412.
If students need assistance with advising, please have them contact the Welcome Centre at 250-762-5445 ext. 4119 or toll free at 1-877-755-2266 to book an appointment.

Number System a Success
Students and staff at the Kelowna campus all agree the new number system used during registration and the first week of classes was a success!
First-year students appreciated the chance to take a number and, instead of standing in a long lineup, being able to leave and have their photo ID done, pick up books or enjoy a coffee during the Jump the Lines event August 16.
Returning students also appreciated the opportunity to avoid hour-long lineups by taking a number and returning to the Registrar’s Office when their number came up on the number boards placed in the Pit and above the office doors.
This system will continue to be used during peak periods when there could be very long lineups at the Registrar’s Office.

Recruiters Gear Up
The recruitment team is set to kick off their busy season September 24 with the beginning of the Post-Secondary Institution (PSI) B.C. tour. Recruiters will be on the road until late October or early November visiting high schools throughout B.C.
This year recruiters are also expanding their recruiting efforts to Alberta. Leslie Bogula from the Salmon Arm campus will be attending the Alberta Employment and Career Fair.
During September and October, each campus will be hosting a breakfast or luncheon for high school counsellors. At these events, recruiters will be updating counsellors on what’s new at Okanagan College.

Staff Update
The Registrar’s Office is pleased to announce Kim Naumann was the successful candidate and will continue in her position as Communications Technician.
Previously she was full-time auxiliary in this role.

September 2012

14 Stable enrolment date, last day to submit a grade appeal to the Registrar’s Office for Summer Session II, last day to register for a Fall semester course, last day to drop a course, last day to change course registration status from audit to credit, last day to request a waiver of medical/dental insurance

20 Fouth Annual Youth Exhibition Powwow

25 Board of Governors meeting

26 Rec Fest (local rec services/demos)

October 2012

4 Education Council meeting

8 Thanksgiving Day (no classes)

26 Last day to withdraw from a course without academic penalty, last day to change registration status from credit to audit
Kim Naumann
Communications Technician, Registrar’s Office

Describe a typical day: A typical day for me can be anything from taking photos and interacting with students at events to producing how-to videos for the student portal or working with our CRM system. I’m lucky in the fact that my job is very diverse. This year was the first year the Registrar’s Office implemented the number system. I was out front handing out numbers and answering questions before students entered the office. I also update the website and myOkanagan. I’m always learning something new within the Registrar’s Office.

Favourite part of your job: This past year I had the opportunity to work on videos showcasing various programs and each of the four campuses. I really enjoyed meeting students and learning about their stories and how they came to Okanagan College.

Hobbies outside of work: Anything outdoors! In the summer I like to go paddling, hiking and rock climbing. In the winter I go cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. When I’m stuck indoors I enjoy baking, cake decorating, sewing and knitting.

Dream vacation spot: I’m hoping to take a trip to Hawaii next year. I really loved Thailand when I was there five years ago and would like to go back and explore even more. I would also really like to go on an African safari one day. I actually don’t think there’s anywhere I don’t want to go... I love travelling, exploring and learning about other cultures.

How long have you worked at Okanagan College: It will be one year in October.

Future plans: Hmmm retirement? That won’t be happening for many years... I’d like to buy a house within the next year.