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ABE and ESL Tuition Changes

With the recent changes to Okanagan College charging tuition for AACP and ESL courses, please review the following information.

As long as students complete and submit an Adult Upgrading Grant (AUG) application and the Okanagan College Upgrading Bursary (OCUB) for their spring and summer courses, their tuition will be fully covered. Ancillary and other fees and expenses may be covered by AUG. However, some students may have to pay these fees and expenses on their own.

On March 4, 2016, an email message was sent to past and current students as well as new applicants to AACP and ESL. Future registrants in AACP courses will also receive this message.

We want to make this process as easy and as welcoming as possible for students. Our goal is to encourage students to enrol and to help them access the financial aid (AUG/OCUB) available. Staff and instructors should consider

the following:

- Assist students whenever possible. Financial Aid and Awards will hire one new employee for their Kelowna Office, and a part-time employee for each of the other campuses. Although these new employees will be hired as soon as possible, they will require training so any information we can provide students before sending them to the Financial Aid and Awards Office will be helpful. Therefore, please provide any help you feel comfortable in providing.
- If you can't help the student, refer them to Financial Aid and Awards. Email upgradinggrants@okanagan.bc.ca. In addition, inform students that if they are experiencing difficulty getting through to the Financial Aid and Awards Office (which may be an issue if the office is overwhelmed by student queries) give them your name and ask them to come back to you if this occurs.
- When possible, provide them with the latest ABE or ESL email sent to applicants and students.

Every campus needs to have AUG application/forms, including the OCUB application, available as paper copies in the campus administration office for distribution to students when they register in person.

Every domestic ESL or ABE student registering for ABE or ESL courses should be encouraged at the time of registration to complete the application form.



Okanagan College
Registrar's Office

www.okanagan.bc.ca/registrar

February 2016

Education Council News

Education Council did not meet in February but resumed its regular meeting schedule in March.

March 2016

New Programs

Viticulture Technician Diploma

A need has been identified by the B.C. grape-growing industry for workers trained in the viticulture sector. This diploma program will provide graduates with the opportunity to find immediate employment or ladder into related baccalaureate degrees.

Proposed date of implementation is September 2016.

Program Revisions

Aircraft Maintenance (AME) M-Licence

Admission requirements will be changed to align with the AME admission requirements established by Northern Lights College.

Proposed date of implementation is April 2016.

Automotive Collision Repair/Painting and Refinishing

The program will be given a new name and program description. An additional course will be added that is a two-week work term.

Proposed date of implementation is September 2016.

Studio Woodworking Certificate

The program will be extended by three weeks to provide students with additional time for their capstone project.

Proposed date of implementation is September 2016.

Infant Toddler Specialty Certificate

The addition of a new course will qualify graduates for a "license to practice" as an Infant/Toddler Educator. Proposed date of implementation is April 2016.

Pharmacy Technician Certificate

Admission requirements will be updated to include a section for applicants whose first language is not English.

Proposed date of implementation is April 2016.

Civil Engineering Technology Diploma, Electronic Engineering Technology Diploma, Mechanical Engineering Technology Diploma and Water Engineering Technology Diploma

The admission requirement of keyboarding skills of 20 wpm will be removed.

Proposed date of implementation is March 2016.

Sustainable Construction Management Technology Diploma

Courses will be revised and resequenced to integrate scheduling and cost control, increase content on Lean Construction and enable students to gain the computer skills needed in the early stages of the program.

Diploma in Writing and Publishing

The addition of courses will allow students more choice and opportunities to practice applied skills and training.

Proposed date of implementation is September 2016.

New Courses

- BIOL 120 - The Biology of the Grapevine
- GEOG 110 - The Geography of Viticulture
- VITT 130 - Introduction to Viticulture
- VITT 140 - Viticulture Technology

- VITT 150 - Vineyard Health and Nutrition
- VITT 160 - Irrigation and Trellis Systems for Vineyards
- VITT 170 - Vineyard Operations
- VITT 210 - Soil and Water Management
- VITT 220 - Grape Harvest Sensory Principles
- VITT 250 - Vineyard Management
- VITT 270 - Capstone Project
- CMNS 130 - Introduction to Digital Media
- IDST 101 - Resistance and Revolution in the Colonial Period
- IDST 102 - Resistance and Revolution in the Neocolonial Period
- IDST 201 - Strategies of Resistance and Revolution
- IDST 202 - Praxis of Resistance and Revolution

Course Revisions

- LIT 100 - Litigation Procedures
- ECE 233 - Practicum for Infant Toddler Specialty
- CHEM 112 - Principles of Chemistry I
- SCMT 123 - Construction Management - Scheduling
- SCMT 221 - Construction Management -Lean Construction
- FINA 201 - Introduction to Publication Design
- ENGL 206 - Publishing Best Practices and Copy Editing
- ENGL 207 - Web Development for Publishing
- ENGL 215 - Studies in Reading Film

The next regular Education Council meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2016. Details of EdCo approvals can be found at: www.okanagan.bc.ca/edco.

Please note that all new programs and all program changes require Board approval.

University Arts Open House

Join professors and students from University Arts at Okanagan College for an informal and informative open house on Tuesday, April 5 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the Atrium of the Centre for Learning, Kelowna campus, 1000 KLO Road.

Meet current professors and students, learn about how the university transfer system works, and get essential information about Financial Aid and Awards. Future students and parents are welcome! Come find out if OC is the right fit for you.

Please contact Steph Bodden sbodden@okanagan.bc.ca or 250-762-5445 ext. 4469 if you have any questions!

Social Committee is Seeking Your Input

How would you like to socialize with your colleagues outside of regular work hours? The Okanagan College Social Committee is a volunteer group of employees at the Kelowna campus who organize several events each year. We are looking for input into our next events, including the annual holiday party. Please take a moment to complete this [short survey](#) so we can organize events that appeal to you and your colleagues!

Deadline to Apply to Graduate

Please remind all students who are eligible to graduate they must submit an [application](#) to graduate by March 31, 2016. This year's Spring Convocation will be held Saturday, June 4, 2016.

The deadline to apply for the Vernon Convocation or Summer Convocation is April 30, 2016. These [ceremonies](#) will be held on June 27 and June 29 respectively.

Those planning to attend Spring or Summer Convocation ceremonies should check the box on the application form saying they will attend the ceremony.

The Trades Commencement Ceremony will be held at the Kelowna campus Friday, June 3, 2016 at 6 p.m. and those finishing their program before the ceremony are encouraged to [apply](#) and attend.

CRM Reminders

If you wish to use the Client Relationship Management (CRM) system to send out an email message to students, please keep in mind that all CRM requests, unless deemed an emergency, should be requested at least two weeks in advance. You can find the request form in your myOkanagan account > Employee tab > Requests and Notices > CRM Request.

Include as much detail as possible, in particular the section titled "To Whom is the email going?" This makes it much easier to complete your request in a timely manner.

March 2016

25-28 Easter weekend (College closed)

April 2016

3 OC Half Marathon

5 Arts Open House

7 It's a Wrap student appreciation event



Students at the Kelowna campus had the opportunity to visit with friendly dogs during the February Stress Buster event in the Atrium. The final event of the academic year takes place April 7 with It's a Wrap, the annual year-end event with food, drinks, games, prizes and a beach theme.