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Changes to Release of Information Process

Students are now able to file their release of information (consent) through their myOkanagan account which will enable OC employees who need to access consent on behalf of students to check and/or modify students' consent to release information. This release only applies to information contained in Student Academic Records. Many departments will continue to have their own release of information forms; for example, Disability Services and Counselling.

Previously, applicants would submit a consent as part of their online application. A problem occurred when a parent completed the application for their child and put their own name as the authorized person for that student's account. The student may have been unaware there is a consent on file.

Students will now be able to add, view and change the consent on file through the self-serve option on the Applicant and Student tab of their myOkanagan account. An updated paper form will be available if required, but all applicants and students will be encouraged to use this self-service option instead.

OC Employees who need to look up the consent on file for students will be able to do so through the Employee tab in their myOkanagan accounts.

Consent Check, which employees will use to find this information, can be found in the OC Express channel under the Students heading. After entering the student's ID number, a list of those who have permission to receive personal information will appear. Clicking on "check" next to each person will provide details on what information is allowed to be released. Employees who need to add a consent for a student will also see a Consent Admin link in the same area.

Previously, consents were stored in Banner but this information has been transferred out of Banner and moved to the new system in myOkanagan.

Training has been given to staff who use Consent Check and Consent Admin. The Registrar's Office is currently working on FAQs around consents and release of information procedures, which will be available soon. Users can reference the following PDFs about [Consent Admin](#) and [Consent Check](#). For questions or training, please contact the Registrar's Office.

Apply Now Page Updates

Visit the [Apply Now](#) web page in Become a Student and you'll see a fresh new look! The easier to use page shows applicants exactly how to apply, step by step. Other features you'll find include: easy to find links to apprenticeship, continuing studies and international pages, a list of important application dates, and a clear Help section.



Okanagan College
Registrar's Office

www.okanagan.bc.ca/registrar

May 2014

Education Council News

Education Council did not meet in May but will resume its regular [meeting schedule](#) in June.

Scheduling Office News

2014-15 schedule

A draft of the 2014-15 Academic schedule for Kelowna - and for the first time Penticton, Salmon Arm and Vernon campuses - has now been released for review by Deans, department chairs and scheduling representatives. AACP/ESL room assignment for all campuses has also been part of the scheduling process for the first time.

Feedback is currently being gathered from departments, with a deadline of May 14 at 4 p.m. for changes to be incorporated into a final draft, set to be released May 23. Scheduling changes are submitted through Scheduling Requests by department chairs. We are still working towards publishing the 2014-15 schedule online in ClassFinder for all campuses by May 30.

The coordinated scheduling process has been a huge undertaking and the transition from manual to coordinated scheduling will continue to evolve over the next few years as we gather further feedback and improvements. If you have any questions about how the process works, please do not hesitate to contact [Alison](#)

[Beaumont](#). Please note, there may be a delay in response while we are processing changes to the draft schedule.

Summer Session

Summer Session I started May 5. Reminder to professors and instructors to check their Summer Session I and II schedule days, times and rooms. If you notice any errors please contact your department chair to submit a scheduling change request.



Stable Enrolment and Examination periods 2014-15

Stable enrolment is the last day to add a class in each semester. At this point we know which course sections are running and any additional sections have been added to the timetable. After stable enrolment occurs we open up room bookings that use general academic space for CS courses and event bookings. Bookings during the final examination periods are prohibited until rooms have been booked (this is usually six weeks after the semester start.) Also, please be mindful of exam periods when planning events as noisy events will not be permitted to take place in areas that could affect student success. You can find important dates for all program areas in the College Calendar or by clicking [here](#).

Fall Stable Enrolment

Friday, September 12, 2014.
Examination Period: December 9-17.

Winter Stable Enrolment

Friday, January 16, 2015.
Examination Period April 17-25.

May 2014

- 8 Experience OC - Vernon
- 9 Last day: to receive a refund of tuition fees for course drop, register for a Summer Session I course, drop a course without a withdrawal being recorded, change course registration status from audit to credit
- 19 Victoria Day (no classes)
- 23 Last day to submit a grade appeal to the Registrar's Office for the Winter semester
- 29 [Jump Start](#) Engineering Technology Information Session and campus tours (Kelowna)
- 30 ClassFinder available
- 31 Deadline to file an intent to re-enrol

June 2014

- 3 [Jump Start](#) Advising Session (Vernon and Penticton), campus tours (Penticton)
- 10 [Jump Start](#) Advising Session (Vernon, Penticton and Salmon Arm), campus tours (Penticton)
- 11 [Jump Start](#) Advising Session (Kelowna)
- 20 Classes end for Summer Session I
- 24 Last day for submission of final grades for Summer Session I, [Jump Start](#) Advising session and campus tour (Kelowna)

Leslie Bogula

Recruitment and Events Coordinator, Shuswap Revelstoke Region

Describe a typical day: There really is no typical day! That's one of the things that keeps this job fresh after a few years in it. I visit high schools weekly, meet with parents, adult learners, business owners, and colleagues. I answer questions, strategize with people on how to enter school, plan with my department and drive a lot. I do a little travelling outside the region, including Alberta and B.C., and a lot within it!

Favourite part of your job: The sheer variety really works for me. I love helping people by providing information and a friendly face. Sometimes the look of relief on someone's face when they receive a solution just makes my day.

Hobbies outside of work: Hobby farming, motorcycling, kayaking, hiking with my dogs.

Dream vacation spot: Anywhere with clear water to swim in, sunshine and sand.

How long have you worked at Okanagan College: Since October 2005



2014-15 Calendar

The 2014-15 [Calendar](#) has now been published online. If your browser is still showing the 2013-14 Calendar, simply refresh your page and the new one will appear.

Jump Start Begins This Month



This month Jump Start sessions will begin for all new students coming to Okanagan College this Fall. This series of events helps prepare new students as they make their transition to College. Sessions include advising, registration, how to access financial aid and campus tours.

The first session will take place at the Kelowna campus with the Engineering Technology Information session Thursday, May 29 at 5:30 p.m. Other sessions will follow throughout June and July. Visit okanagan.bc.ca/jumpstart for the full schedule.

Incoming students are encouraged to attend these sessions.

User-Friendly URLs

Become an expert at navigating around the College website with some of these user-friendly URLs. For example: www.okanagan.bc.ca/aboriginal.

/aboriginal	/ceremonies	/distance	/international	/programs
/admissions	/classfinder	/dualcredit	/it4students	/reachout
/advising	/convocation	/edtech	/jumpstart	/recreation
/alumni	/coop	/educationcouncil	/library	/registrar
/apply	/counselling	/equivalencies	/moodle	/registration
/askanadvisor	/counsellors	/events	/news	/socialmedia
/askus	/courses	/exams	/orientation	/studentservices
/becomeastudent	/cs	/feepayment	/parking	/studyabroad
/calendar	/CSCertificates	/financialaid	/payperprint	/summer
/campusstores	/csreg	/forms	/PNUR113	/testing
/campustour	/dates	/helpdesk	/policies	/transfercredit
/careerfair	/disabilityservices	/housing	/probation	/tuition
				/waitlist

Program Showcase

Electronic Engineering Technology Diploma

If the thought of building your own robot to help with real-world situations appeals to you, you could be a good candidate for the Electronic Engineering Technology (ELEN) program at Okanagan College. During the program, students design and build their own OC Bot - a robot - over three courses.

Of course there are other reasons to take this program: the great employment outcomes, the opportunity to bridge to the engineering programs at UBCO or the University of Victoria, the advantage of learning on the latest equipment and the chance to learn from faculty who are active in the industry.



Dan Lang

"Due to the reasonably small class sizes, it felt as though we could have a conversation with the instructor about course materials as it was presented, instead of passively being lectured to," says Dan Lang, a graduate of the program who is currently working on his engineering degree at UBCO. "We could, and very regularly did, ask if something could be explained another way or in a way we could more easily relate to. This line of questioning did pose an extra challenge to our instructors, but they always exceeded our expectations because they were themselves so knowledgeable."

"Instructors are a great help all the time," says current student Brad Niezen. "They encourage us to push ourselves to the limits." Niezen has also had the opportunity to be paid while he is in school and is guaranteed a job when

he graduates through the Canadian Armed Forces Subsidized Education Plan. Okanagan College's Electronic Engineering Technology program is accredited through this plan. Niezen's tuition, textbooks and rent costs are all paid for. In addition, he receives a salary that starts at \$33,000 while he's still in school.

Another benefit to this program is the hands-on approach to learning. Students have the chance to work with soldering equipment and even a printed circuit board machine. In their last semester of studies, students choose to design and build whatever they want during the final project.

Students also have the opportunity to compete on a provincial and national level through the Skills B.C. and Skills Canada National competitions that take place annually. James Webber will be representing B.C. at the Skills Canada National Competition this June after earning gold at this year's Skills B.C. competition. In fact, in the past few years, an electronic engineering technology student from Okanagan College has been on the podium every year, earning either first, second or third place, according to Nadir Ould-Khessal, chair of the Electronic Engineering Technology program.

Job prospects are good, says Ould-Khessal, with the baby boomers retiring and many companies moving to the use of electronics. According to Lang, "I know of others in my graduating class that work in labs, on naval vessels, design and maintain industrial systems and work for utilities, as well I am sure there are numerous other employment opportunities for ELEN grads."

According to Webber, salaries range from \$24-25 per hour to start. After a few years in the industry, average salaries are approximately \$6,500 per month, says Ould-Khessal. Students are being hired by companies such as B.C. Hydro, Fortis, Telus, the Ministry of Transport as well as many local Okanagan companies, meaning graduates can stay in the Valley if they choose.

Applicants to this program should be very strong in math. One of the challenges in this program, as most students and graduates will attest to, is the intense workload. Students take six courses per semester and are in class for about 30 - 34 hours each week.

To learn more, visit okanagan.bc.ca/electronics or view the program description in the Calendar.



James Webber at the Skills B.C. competition