

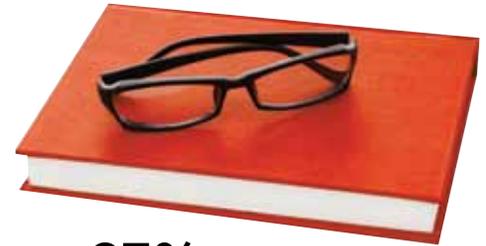
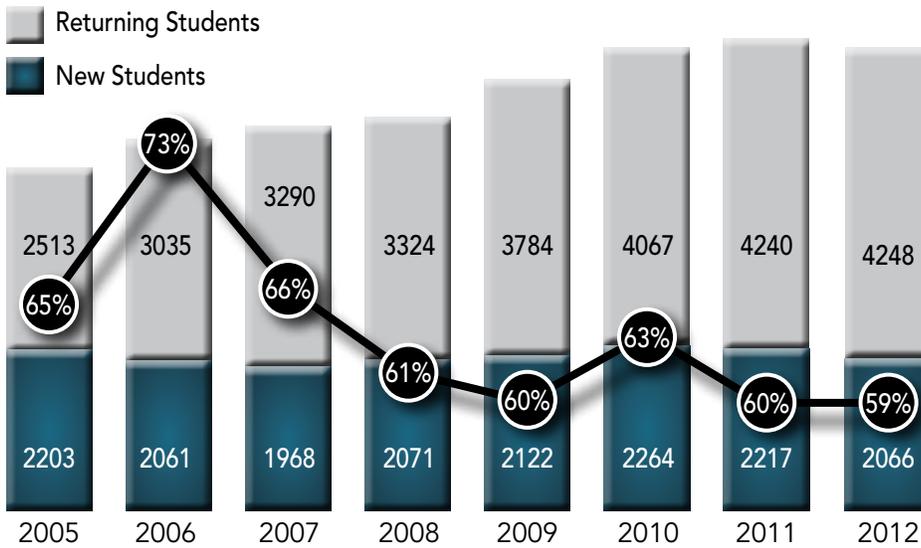


# 2012

## COMMUNITYREPORT

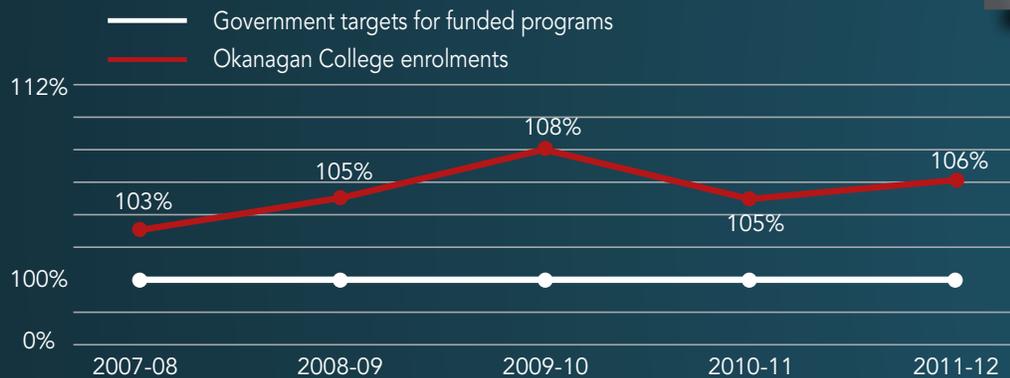


## Number of New and Returning Fall Semester Students and % Full Time



**97%**  
BBA Grads  
Employed

## Okanagan College Performance on Government Enrolment Targets



\* Graph compares actual full time enrolment to government targets



**Total Campus Space**  
75,220 m<sup>2</sup>

**First vocational  
classes offered  
in 1963**



In late 2012 the College launched version 3 of its mobile app, connecting students to important information such as their grades, schedules, and news.



Scanning this QR code will connect you to OC's mobile app.

# QUICKFACTS

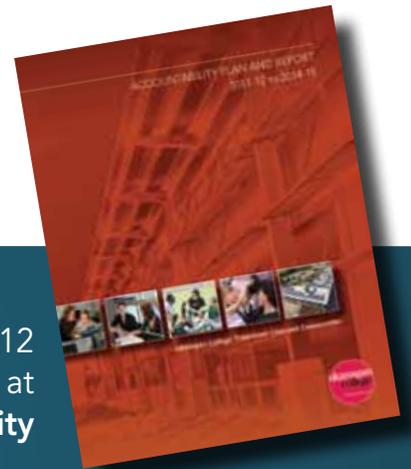
## Fall 2012 Student Demographic Statistics

Program Area	% Female	Average Age	Head Count
Arts	65%	23	1475
Foundational	62%	27	1202
Business	52%	25	1536
Office Administration	98%	32	177
Sciences	41%	21	531
Health	90%	26	422
Technologies	16%	25	344
Apprenticeships	6%	27	488
Foundation Trades	9%	26	139
Continuing Studies	79%	34	3627
<b>Okanagan College</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>9941</b>



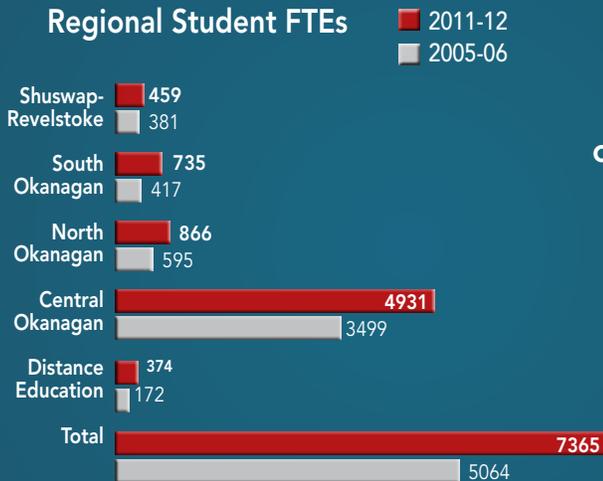
**15,378**

Number of Credentials awarded 2005-2012



Review the 2011-12 Accountability Report online at [okanagan.bc.ca/accountability](http://okanagan.bc.ca/accountability)

### Regional Student FTEs



Employee Headcount **1,235**



Annual Operating Budget  
**\$92,954,934** 2012-13



### Aboriginal Students 2011-12

Academic Year Headcount	1,426
Full Time Equivalent (FTEs)	744
% Female Students	56%

# a message...

## ...from the Chair, Board of Governors



This past year – 2012 – was my last full year as Chair of the Okanagan College Board of Governors. Having served three years in the capacity, I can only begin to tell you how much the experience has opened my eyes to the complexity of the post-secondary environment - regionally, provincially and nationally.

But my experience has also cast a light on the very simple truth that is at the heart of institutions such as ours: education is the most powerful tool we have as a society.

Over the course of the past years, I have spoken many times at convocations. More importantly though, I listened to many student speakers talk about their experience at the College and the impact it has had on them. I have had many brief and many not-so-brief discussions with our graduates as they crossed the stage and made the transition from students to alumni.

In all instances the messages were focused on empowerment. New doors were opening for these beaming students, they were imbued with a very real and deserved sense of accomplishment.

Many of my colleague Board members have attended or participated in these ceremonies – they understand why they give their time to governance of the institution, and appreciate the reason that the College staff enjoy working with students.

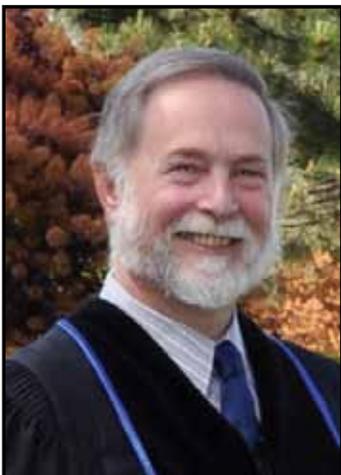
Reviewing 2012 from a College perspective will reveal a great number of achievements for students, staff and the institution. The most important thing from the Board of Governors' perspective is continuing to fulfill our mandate, which is to create access to the education and training that meets the needs of our students and communities.

Challenges are inherent in a world where demands exceed capacity to respond: it is certainly an issue we wrestle with in post-secondary education. We will never be able to do all we want, but we cannot stop striving to do just that. The reasons? The students and because we must use our most powerful tool – education - to its best advantage. We all benefit.



Lance Kayfish  
Chair, Okanagan College Board of Governors

## ..from the Chair, Education Council



Every year, British Columbia's government undertakes surveys of students who graduate from our province's public post-secondary institutions. Many questions are asked about satisfaction with education, about educational quality and relevance, and about employment outcomes or success in transferring to other institutions.

Each year, those survey results are incorporated into annual Accountability Reports submitted by the institutions to the province for public consumption.

While instructors, curriculum, facilities, and individual experiences all play an important role in determining the survey results, there is a contributing agent that is not always at the forefront of public attention: Education Council, one of the two governing bodies for Okanagan College.

Education Council (EdCo) – in conjunction with the Board of Governors – is responsible for developing and approving courses, programs, and policies that have much to do with the quality of the educational experience at our institution.

EdCo has been a part of Okanagan College since the College was created. Faculty members, support staff, administrators, and students meet monthly to review and approve new curriculum and academic policies. Supporting EdCo are a number of standing committees which provide a preliminary review of proposals, and hard-working support staff. More than 75 members of the

Okanagan College community meet to consider curriculum and policies.

The vetting process is rigorous: some proposals are accepted as presented, some require revision.

The overall goal is to ensure that the students who choose Okanagan College for their education and training have the best education and training that is available. Whether the students stay at the College for their degree, diploma, or certificate, or they're here to begin a journey which they complete elsewhere, EdCo sees that Okanagan College provides them the strongest foundation possible. EdCo sees the results of its work when we approve the graduands for graduation. (Trivia: A person is a graduand after completing all the requirements for a credential and becomes a graduate after the credential is awarded.)

Since between 91.8 and 99.1 per cent of our graduates surveyed were satisfied with their education at Okanagan College, we could surmise that our work is having an impact.

EdCo members believe our work is crucial to Okanagan College's mission of transforming lives and communities. We are proud of our curriculum and of the quality of graduates.



Rick Gee  
Chair, Education Council

# ...from the President

As I review the content of our annual report to the community, I marvel at our enterprise and the impact it has on the communities we serve. I hope you will end up sharing that perspective with me as you contemplate this review of 2012 at the College.

The most important community that we serve is that of our students. More than 20,000 individuals took advantage of the programs and courses that Okanagan College offered in 2012 – that's nearly five per cent of the total population of the region we serve.

That speaks to the reach and breadth of the educational opportunities that Okanagan College offers. From leisure interests to career-focused degrees and diplomas, the range is significant – more than 140 different programs and countless individual courses. Broad too is the range of reasons that students come to Okanagan College.

One constant through 49 years of providing post-secondary training in the region is our ability to help people gain the skills they need to launch them into careers or propel them further along their employment or educational paths.

We've found a way to express that simply: Okanagan College Works. It works for students, it works for employers, and it works for all the communities we serve.

As we prepare to begin celebrating our 50th year of providing post-secondary education, we'll be making much of the institution's history, accomplishments and achievements over the past five decades. Just as this report does, our celebrations will focus on the people stories that comprise that history and best summarize what Okanagan College is all about: transforming lives and communities.

I invite you to turn the pages and discover what some of those stories are for yourself.



Jim Hamilton, President  
Okanagan College





# Province commmits **\$28-million** to overhaul Kelowna Trades Facility

On Sept. 21 John Yap, Minister of Advanced Education, Innovation and Technology, announced \$28-million to fund a major renovation and expansion of the Kelowna Trades Training facility.

The project, which will come with a price tag of \$33-million and will span four years, will be the largest capital building project ever undertaken by Okanagan College. The overhaul of the existing site will set a new standard in the province; the College will be the first to undertake a renovation project of this size, age and diversity.

The renovation will cover 4,385 square metres of existing space. The expansion portion of the project will include design and construction of 6,264 square metres of much needed student space and innovative classrooms for trades programs specifically focused on skills development, training, technology and upgrading.

The Kelowna Trades Training facility has seen its student body more than double over the past 10 years, resulting in some students accessing their training off site through leased facilities. The new space will create enough room to welcome back all students who are currently training off site (more than 750 per year) as well as provide space to accommodate a growing number of students.

The College's growing reputation in the area of sustainable building piqued the interest of Diamond Schmitt Architects in Toronto. The national firm was awarded the building contract for the expansion, which has a goal of meeting a minimum of LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold standards. The project will also seek to be energy neutral.

Diamond Schmitt has managed projects for some of Canada's top post-secondary institutions. Public projects of note include the Ryerson Image Centre and School of Image Arts, the University of Calgary's Schulich School of Engineering, Queen's University's School of Medicine and the Kinnear Centre for Creativity & Innovation at the Banff Centre.



*John Yap, Minister of Advanced Education, Innovation and Technology, joined retired Okanagan College employees Bob and Steve Koehle at the announcement of the new Trades facility. The event was a homecoming of sorts for Bob, who was one of the first Trades instructors of the BC Vocational School (Okanagan College's predecessor) when it opened its doors in 1963.*

# Green building turns to gold

Late in 2012 Okanagan College's Centre for Learning in Kelowna was certified as LEED Gold by the Canada Green Building Council.

The five-storey, 6,852-square-metre \$28-million project, broke ground in 2006. The building was the first of its kind in the city to be designed and built to LEED Gold standards.

"The certification process was longer than anyone could have expected but it is a really important final piece of the Centre for Learning," said Steve Robinson, Director of Facilities Management for the College. "We designed and built the facility at a time when very few people were thinking along the sustainability path. We have had a few years to monitor the building's performance and have been so pleased with the technologies we utilized.

"We know the building is doing what it was designed to do," said Robinson. "We see it every day in our energy performance and in the efficiencies we can monitor. But it is very important to have the certification. Lots of organizations will build to LEED

standards and point to equivalencies as a measure, but for us, it was important to demonstrate that we did meet our goals. Perhaps it is inherent in our nature as a learning organization – it's kind of like writing that final exam. Earning our certification feels like getting the A we have been working toward."

The Centre for Learning is Okanagan College's first LEED certified building. The College will be pursuing Living Building status from Canada's Green Building Council for its Jim Pattison Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Building Technologies and Renewable Energy Conservation – a designation with standards that exceed those of LEED Gold or Platinum.



# Partnerships lead to enhanced regional aviation opportunities

Okanagan College took a large step toward helping meet the regional needs of the aviation industry early in February when it offered an intake of the Aircraft Maintenance Engineering Structures (AME S) program.

The program's development was a success in large part due to the tremendous support the College received from BCIT, who offered the program previously in the region. A strong partnership between BCIT and the College ensured the program delivery was smooth and effective for students and met industry demands.

The addition of the AME S program positions Okanagan College as the region's largest provider of aviation training. Programs in Commercial Aviation and AME Mechanics (AME M) are also available at the College.

"We took a great deal of care in ensuring the curriculum and training for this program were in-keeping with the current industry standards and had a significant amount of help from our partners at Flightcraft and BCIT," said John Haller, Dean of Trades and Apprenticeship at Okanagan College. "The result is a top-notch program that is in demand."

Flightcraft's Director of Human Resources, Grant Stevens, played an instrumental role in offering advice on behalf of the industry through the development phases of the program. He said that despite some industry closures, opportunities for AME S graduates are plentiful.

"There's really never been a better time to be involved in aircraft maintenance," said Stevens. "A significant number of graduates of Okanagan College's AME S program will be employed in the region."

Instructor Murray Palmer said every student who was interested in working in the region has now found work. Of the 16 graduates, 14 are now employed in the Okanagan. The others have moved to other locations in Canada to work closer to their homes.



*Bruce Fossen, a 46-year-old cattle rancher from Rock Creek, was one of 16 students who took part in Okanagan College's inaugural class of Aircraft Maintenance Engineer Structures (AME S) program. Fossen said a passion for aviation and the convenience of training in the Okanagan led him to the program.*



*English Professor Jason Dewinetz provides students with expertise in the fine art of setting type and letterpress printing.*

# Everything old is new again

## VERNON RIPS PAGES FROM THE PAST

The clarion call that Canada needs to boost its productivity, is resulting in some interesting niche markets for new workers, especially in Vernon.

While high tech continues to grab headlines across the nation, there is also an increased interest in some of the lost arts – including knowledge that was borne from an industry with an ancient and interesting past - printing.

Okanagan College opened the doors to “The Bunker” this academic year, providing students with an opportunity to see how printing was done long before the digital age.

One of the most impressive pieces of equipment in The Bunker is the Pearl No. 3, a massively heavy vintage press dating back to the 1960s and donated by Canadian poet Gary Geddes.

Now lovingly restored, access to the press and other equipment means students in the Writing and Publishing program are gaining experience with this somewhat lost art.

The first to benefit from the press will be the 2012 winner of the 3-Hour Short Story Contest Amanda Wex. The Grade 12 student from Salmon Arm will see her short story Cat’s Cradle published in a limited fine art edition by Kalamalka Press.

Type will be set by hand, students will then work on proofing and correcting the type, and then print the sheets. The last stage will be binding. All of this experience comes in addition to the computer-based training students receive throughout the program.

Dewinetz, who heads up design and production and is the proprietor of Greenboathouse Press, will assist students as they work on all the forthcoming titles to come out of Kalamalka Press.

# Demonstration garden gets ready to sprout



Students, instructors, and the Vernon community can expect to be harvesting big ideas along with organic produce come fall, now that the groundwork is virtually completed for the Demonstration Garden at the Vernon campus.

After years of planning and tilling the soil, literally, workers completed the first phase of the project – two new water pathways designed to showcase water conservation.

The pathways came thanks in part to a grant from the Okanagan Basin Water Board – one of many groups that have embraced this significant project that has a budget of \$71,000 with much of that going towards site infrastructure costs.

The Demonstration Garden is roughly 1.5 acres of gently rolling hillside on the Vernon campus. Once complete it will feature outdoor classrooms, a community garden, College test sites, a food forest, a butterfly garden, a greenhouse, and a compost area.

With the water pathways in place, the next stage of the project will be planting, in hopes to have everything ready for harvest in the fall of 2013.

“The aim of this garden is to create an educational space that promotes sustainable practices and ecological ventures in the Okanagan Valley,” said North Okanagan Regional Dean Jane Lister.

Community support and involvement is an integral part of the garden, which includes working closely with Kindale Developmental Association and other community and municipal partners.

This year, the College’s Innovation Fund supplied the group with \$3,000 in funding, which will go towards installing deer fencing to protect the garden, said committee member and chair of Interdisciplinary Studies Ann McKinnon.

“We haven’t started planting anything yet, but we’re hoping to have everything in place for next summer,” McKinnon said.



*Members of Okanagan College's Board of Governors, administration and representatives of the Downtown Community Campus committee toured the former site of the JL Jackson school in Salmon Arm in September.*

## Downtown a focus in Salmon Arm

Colleges and post-secondary institutions are recognized as important economic engines in many communities, but that message is coming through loud and clear in Salmon Arm, where area business people, members of the public and politicians are behind an initiative to develop a downtown campus in that community.

And Okanagan College’s Board of Governors has supported the idea of acquiring land; a necessary precursor to making the project happen.

In early 2012, the concept of a Downtown Community Campus was put forward by a committee of the Salmon Arm Economic Development Society, which also revealed

its preference for location, on a site belonging to School District 83.

In September, the DCC committee met with the Okanagan College Board of Governors and the result was direction to College administration from the Board to start looking at how the College might participate in acquiring the assets to help meet the long-term educational needs of the Shuswap-Revelstoke region.

Since that meeting, the School District has received provincial approval to sell the 12.3-acre site (formerly home to JL Jackson school). Title has to be transferred by March 31, 2014.

# Okanagan College Foundation

The year 2012 marked some significant milestones for the Okanagan College Foundation. The Foundation continued to deliver on its promise of advancing the power of education by engaging individuals and communities in contributing to Okanagan College.

A major achievement for the Foundation came as it surpassed its \$5-million fundraising goal for the Jim Pattison Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Building Technologies and Renewable Energy Conservation with a \$2.5-million commitment from the Jim Pattison Foundation.

Work is continuing on fulfilling the Pattison Foundation's commitment, which provides for an additional \$2.5-million in matching funds for the Centre.

These additional funds will contribute to future opportunities for students to learn at the Centre in Penticton.

And just as donors have continued to recognize the value of the investment in the Jim Pattison Centre of Excellence, so has the design and green building community. The building continues to earn awards and receive acclaim in publications and at conferences around the world.

In 2012 the Okanagan  
College Foundation  
distributed **\$723,744**  
to **693** students

## AWARDS ROLL IN FOR JIM PATTISON CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE (2012)

- International Architecture Awards' Green GOOD DESIGN Award from the prestigious European Centre for Architecture Art Design and Urban Studies and The Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design
- Canadian Green Building Award – Sustainable Architecture Building (SAB) magazine
- Energy Award - Illuminating Engineering Society
- Top Vision Award – Illuminating Engineering Society
- Leadership Excellence – Fortis BC
- Conservation – Fortis BC



# Okanagan College works for local winery owner

If there is one message that seems to resonate with alumni, industry partners and advocates of Okanagan College it is that the College Works.

It works for students and the employers who hire College graduates. It works for employees, who benefit from opportunities to enhance their education and training and develop their professional skills. It works for the region and larger economy, providing job-ready graduates who are equipped to help meet the skilled labour shortage.

Bobby Gidda is a good example of how Okanagan College works. The 27-year-old owner of Volcanic Hills Estate Winery is an alumnus, a former employee, and a major contributor to the regional economy.

Following in the footsteps of his father, Bobby enrolled in Okanagan College's School of Business in 2003. Four years later he graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration with a specialization in Management and a whole host of course work in areas such as hospitality and restaurant management, human resources, and accounting.

"I chose the College because at the time there was a lot of buzz about the kind of results the students were producing in competitions. I knew that I wanted a practical and hands-on approach to my education and the College could provide that. It turned out to be the best decision I could have made.

"Knowing that I wanted to run a small business in the Okanagan it just made sense to begin my education in my own community. The professors at the College have experience in the region. They understand the community and the knowledge they bring to the classroom by way of example is invaluable to someone who wants to run their own business."

Near the completion of his studies Bobby and his father made the decision to launch a new winery – Volcanic Hills. Throughout the start-up process, which took a few years, Bobby found work in Okanagan College's Finance department where he put his newly acquired business education to good use.

Never taking his eye off the prize of being his own boss, Bobby took advantage of additional programs at the College that would prepare him well for his foray into business.

Working at the College by day and studying at the College by night, Bobby earned certificates in Wine Sales and Winery Assistant programs. He took courses in food safe, forklift operation, and first aid in preparation of becoming the kind of employer who can do just about any job required by the business.

Volcanic Hills launched in the spring of 2010. In just two years the business has established itself as an award-winning winery, taking home accolades from Naramata to California and as far away as France.

It hasn't been an easy road for Gidda but the results have been incredibly rewarding. The young business owner was profiled in Maclean's magazine in the fall 2012.

"The best part about running my business is that I am my own boss. I get to make the important decisions. I get to choose what I believe is going to be right for my business. Even when I make a mistake, it was my decision and mine to learn from."

## Alumni Association reaches out to members

In 2012 Okanagan College's Alumni Association reconnected with more 65 former students through a workplace drop-in program called Okanagan College Works.

Connecting with nine employers in the region, all of whom have multiple Okanagan College graduates running their businesses, the Alumni Association took the time to visit and share a cup of coffee with each of these employees.

While each of the alumni stories are unique, there is a constant theme that emerges through these visits – the common denominator is that Okanagan College graduates are making a significant impact within our region. They are using their skills, knowledge and training to power local businesses and to fuel the economy.

## In 2012 the Alumni Works program visited the following employers:

Capri Insurance Kelowna  
Capri Insurance Vernon  
FH&P Lawyers  
HSBC - Kelowna  
Pushor Mitchell  
Sun Rype  
Valley First  
Voyager RV  
Vineyard Networks



# Entrepreneur in Residence – Raghwa Gopal

## MENTORING, DEVELOPING, CREATING

In a region where the economic backbone is largely made up of small businesses, learning how to thrive as an entrepreneur is vital.

Okanagan College's expanding relationship with local entrepreneurs gives students personal access to leaders in various fields - like this year's Okanagan School of Business Entrepreneur in Residence – Raghwa Gopal.

A successful entrepreneur and an example of the region's growing presence in the tech sector, the co-founder of Vadim Software comes by his role naturally.

Gopal is a Certified Business Coach and Certified Executive Coach, and also sits as a member of the advisory committee

for the College's Bachelor of Computer Information Systems degree program. He's the president of the Okanagan Angel Network and over the years has mentored students with Enactus Okanagan College (formerly known as SIFE).

"The most common question I get from students is whether it's harder to start a business today than say one year ago," said Gopal. "My answer to them is that there are so many more programs and funding available now, like Enactus and Accelerate Okanagan. These things didn't exist few years back."

Gopal is the fifth person to hold the title of Entrepreneur-in-Residence. Former residents include: Mel Kotler, Doug Manning, Ed Hall and Bill Redmond.

## Venture Okanagan gases up MiTaxi concept

When two Okanagan College students originally from South America made their pitch last fall to a room full of 60 accredited investors at the Venture Okanagan Forum, they had no idea what would happen. It was only the fifth time for the forum, which has been organized and run by the volunteer members of Enactus (formerly SIFE Okanagan) twice a year since 2010.

Alejandro Valcarcel, from Columbia, and Ivan Blaconi Gonzalez, from Mexico, knew their idea was needed. But convincing investors about a product designed for another continent was another matter. They took the risk, and revealed the stark truth behind MiTaxi – a smartphone app that riders could use to check whether a taxi is registered before they take a ride.

"Taxis are regularly used in South America, but they're also often part of criminal activity," Valcarcel said. "When people step into a taxi, they could be at risk of being targets for assault, robbery, even sexual assault."

The MiTaxi smartphone would act as a "bread trail" Gonzalez explained, and help reduce the risk for riders should something go awry.

The judges gave them the green light, and for the first time since Venture Okanagan started, the winning concept walked away with a \$5,000 cash prize plus consulting services from the Forum's sponsor Grant Thornton.

"Now they're almost ready to launch a business that I believe will be hugely successful," said Okanagan College's Raghwa Gopal who helped the two students figure out how to commercialize their concept.

Since Venture Okanagan launched in 2010, more than 150 entrepreneurs have submitted their business plans for consideration, with entries coming from throughout the Okanagan, and elsewhere in B.C.



*Alejandro Valcarcel (left) and Ivan Blaconi Gonzalez hope their new smart phone app MiTaxi will make Central and South America a safer place for both locals and tourists.*

# Enactus Okanagan College students reap national rewards

If business schools across Canada ever wondered where Okanagan College was, they certainly know now.

The year started strongly when Enactus Okanagan College (formerly known as SIFE Okanagan) became the first team ever to take charge of the Western Canada regional competition, placing first in three categories – Financial Literacy, Entrepreneurship and the Go Green challenge.

The judges were impressed with the variety of programs that ranged from Dollars and Sense, which helps support adults living at or below the poverty level, to Farmbag – launched in Penticton and expanded to the Central Okanagan – which aids with local food distribution from farm to plate.

From there it was on to the nationals, where 24-year-old Bachelor of Business Administration student Lauren Strang receiving the Project Manager of the Year award at the 2012 ACE (Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship) national Exposition for her work on the Young Entrepreneur program.

The program runs in Penticton, Vernon and throughout the Central Okanagan for Grade 7-12 students interested in learning what it takes to run a business. Under Strang's leadership, the Central Okanagan program grew from 50 to 76 teams with 209 students taking part from 18 schools in School District 23.

Enactus Okanagan College took many of the top 10 spots at the nationals, including first place in the Canadian Let's Can Hunger campaign, and fifth place nation-wide. The team also placed well in the green category (sixth), and entrepreneurship (eighth). Competing teams came from across Canada, among them – Ryerson University, the University of Calgary, the

University of Alberta, Simon Fraser University, Brandon University and many others.

SIFE also gained attention from the Business Development Bank of Canada for its efforts. The BDC selected the team for its work enhancing the Young Entrepreneur Competition and provided it with a \$2,500 BDC SIFE Entrepreneurs First! Project Fund.

The SIFE Okanagan team celebrated their success by taking part as observers of the SIFE World Cup, held in Washington D.C.

By year-end the team was onto a new challenge – gaining practical experience in marketing strategy when the parent organization made the decision to rebrand the non-profit into Enactus – standing for entrepreneurial, action, and us.

The new name highlights the role student leaders (guided by both academic advisors and business experts) take in sharing their classroom skills by creating real solutions for people in the community.

"Enactus is a more powerful name for us," said Adrienne Renaud, a third-year business student and vice president of marketing for Enactus Okanagan College. "We're about taking action. We don't just sit around and come up with ideas, we make things happen."



Members of the Enactus Okanagan College team travelled to Washington D.C. to observe the SIFE World Cup. From left: Adrienne Renaud, Monika Jassi, Ryan Lancaster, Brittney Weatherill, Paven Sekhon, Drew Vincent, Thomas Arrowsmith, and Ryan Ruybal.

# Excellence, perseverance, and dedication

## TEACHING BY EXAMPLE

It takes a certain kind of professional teaching expertise to make an impact in the 21st century.

Where once neophyte students arrived primed with an inbred respect for academics and authority, today's students are about "show us, don't tell us."

The result is a generation of both students, and teachers, who don't just talk about what needs to be done, but apply those skills themselves in an active – and sometimes very public – way.

So when the larger world takes notice, students can't help but pay attention. In today's vernacular, that gives Okanagan College street cred.

In Okanagan College's 2011-12 Accountability Plan and Report, students reported they were overwhelmingly satisfied with the quality of instruction that they received. Those with diploma, associate degree and certificate students? reported 96.4 per cent satisfaction, apprenticeship graduates 96.9 per cent satisfaction, and Bachelor degree graduates 98.2 per cent satisfaction.

Kelsey Serwa, better known to millions as the World Ski Cross Champion from Kelowna, B.C., is one of those students who echo those results.

"It makes a real difference to be in a place where instructors are helpful," she said, just months before she captured the first gold of the World Cup season in women's ski cross in Italy this December.

Off the slopes, the 23-year-old takes classes at the College in a wide range of disciplines.

"I like the smaller classes because you don't feel intimidated asking questions," she said. "The teachers give you the guidance you need, but you're really working independently."

A number of faculty members distinguished themselves this past year – among them English professors Dr. Alix Hawley, Frances Greenslade, Dr. Sean Johnston and Okanagan School of Business Professor Dr. Kyleen Myrah. CBC Radio listeners from across the country got used to hearing Hawley's name as she made her way up the list in the coveted CBC Canada Writes Short Story prize for her work *Tentcity*.

Hawley started out alongside her colleague Dr. Sean Johnston, who also made the long list with his story *What About How Blue the Sky Is?*

By the end of the contest, Hawley was named one of four runners-up (selected from more than 3,700 entries) and received

\$1,000 from the Canada Council of the Arts. It was a welcome reward for taking the time to re-work her story with help from her colleagues after entering it for the first time the year prior.

The trend toward excellence in creative writing also showed itself in the success of Frances Greenslade's book *Shelter*, which was one of the finalists for the prestigious Ethel Wilson B.C. Book Prize, landed on the 10-book shortlist for the Ontario Library Association's 2012 Evergreen Awards, plus made the leap over the pond to Britain making a splash at their largest retail book chain – Waterstones – as one of the best books of 2012.

Meanwhile, the Association of Canadian Community Colleges chose Dr. Kyleen Myrah as one of three outstanding teachers of 2012.

The ACCC Teaching Excellence Award honoured Myrah with a Silver Award for dedicating more than 10 years to "developing an awareness of business with a social conscience," particularly through her work founding SIFE Okanagan, now Enactus Okanagan College.

It's no wonder then that Myrah was also granted the President's Award at the College's newly established Employee Excellence Awards.



Frances Greenslade



Dr. Alix Hawley



Dr. Kyleen Myrah



Dr. Sean Johnston

# College honours employees with new awards



## EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE OKANAGAN COLLEGE

In 2012, Okanagan College established the Okanagan College Employee Excellence Awards, designed to recognize contributions made by employees to the overall growth and development of the College and through that, the community it serves.

Two selection committees review the nominations, with the exception of the President's Award, which is reviewed, determined and awarded at the discretion of the President.

### RECIPIENTS FOR 2012

#### President's Award

*This award recognizes outstanding service and commitment to the College over a sustained period of time that has enhanced the reputation of the institution, and established effective and supportive working relationships within and beyond the organization.*

**Dr. Kyleen Myrah**, Okanagan School of Business Professor, Kelowna

#### Innovation Award

*Awarded to an employee or team that has developed innovations and initiatives from original ideas or made unique adaptations to existing programs, processes or concepts.*

**Michael Orwick**, Okanagan School of Business Professor, Kelowna

#### Key Directions Award

*Awarded to those who demonstrate aspects of the College's Strategic Plan – engagement, learning and teaching, student transition, collaboration and partnership, and sustainability.*

**Surandar Dasanjh** – Library Services, Penticton

#### Leadership Award

*Awarded to those who exhibit exceptional leadership qualities including: vision, shared responsibility, effective communication, and integrity.*

**Donna Lomas**, South Okanagan Regional Dean, Penticton

#### Scholarly Activity Award

*Designed to recognize the scholarly activity of an individual or research team in the areas of scholarship, research and creative activities.*

**Frances Greenslade** – English Professor, Penticton

#### Service Excellence

*Two awards granted each year to non-teaching employees who have gone beyond their regular duties and responsibilities.*

**Mike Minions** (Individual)  
– Educational Technology, Kelowna

**Rick Montagnon** and **Dave Sandberg** (Group)  
– Facilities Management, Kelowna

#### Strong Start Award

*Recognizes a new employee who has made a significant positive contribution during his or her first two years with the College.*

**Yvonne Moritz** – Dean of Science, Technology and Health

#### Teaching Excellence Award

*Three awards granted each year to individuals with instructional responsibilities who have exhibited consistent excellence in teaching and who have had a significant impact on student learning and academic growth and success.*

**Geoffrey Couper** – Culinary Arts - Kelowna

**Carl Doige** – Chemistry - Vernon

**Melissa Munn** – Interdisciplinary Studies – Salmon Arm





# HOOTSUITE'S HOLMES HONOURED AS DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

## Ryan Holmes

One of the biggest names in social media today – Ryan Holmes, CEO and founder of HootSuite – was honoured in 2012 as Okanagan College's Distinguished Alumni Award recipient.

Holmes is known worldwide as the brains behind the multi-million dollar social media management powerhouse HootSuite, and it all started with his studies at Okanagan College's Vernon campus.

"I attended Okanagan College because it allowed me to run my business, which was then a paintball field, while working towards a degree," said the 37-year-old Holmes, who grew up in Vernon.

Holmes founded the Vancouver-based company Invoke Media, which developed HootSuite in 2009. HootSuite has since become the global leader in its field with nearly five million global users, including corporations like McDonald's and PepsiCo using its web-based dashboard to monitor their social media communication on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and others.

# College honours best of



## Lane Merrifield Honorary Fellow

Lane Merrifield, one of the Okanagan's best-known entrepreneurs, exemplifies key attributes of an Okanagan College Honorary Fellow; chief among them are innovation, passion and leadership.

Merrifield is the co-founder of Club Penguin, the Internet's largest virtual world for children, served as executive vice president of Disney Online Studios and recently founded FreshGrade, a cloud-based educational assessment tool.

His projects have won numerous awards including a Webby, BAFTA, and various Parent Choice Awards. During his time at Club Penguin, Merrifield was instrumental in developing the company's philanthropic channels, resulting in millions of dollars being donated to a wide variety of charitable organizations.



## Janet Shaw Honorary Fellow

Longtime Oliver resident Janet Shaw was honoured for her advocacy in post-secondary education as well as her dedication to volunteerism. Shaw led Okanagan College's Board of Governors in the role as Chair from 2006-09 and previously served Okanagan University College's Board in the role of Vice Chair.

Highly respected among her colleagues both on the Board and within the College, Shaw is known for her contribution to developing the College's Board governance model.

The former registered nurse also served as mayor and as a councilor for the District of Logan Lake. She has been involved in a number of volunteer organizations and is the current president of Desert Valley Hospice Society.

# AWARD-WINNING CHEF, JON GARRATT HONOURED AS YOUNG ALUMNI

## Jonathan Garratt

One of the region's best-known young chefs was celebrated by the Alumni Association as its top pick for the 2012 Young Alumni Award.

Chef Jonathan Garratt completed his Professional Cooking apprenticeship program at Okanagan College and went on to obtain his Red Seal.

Garratt came to prominence earlier in 2012 when he organized more than 80 junior chef volunteers to assist in the Canadian Culinary Association's 2012 Gold Medal Plates Competition held, in part, at Okanagan College.

Shortly afterwards, he was named one of two young chef ambassadors with the World Association of Chefs Society (WACS). And it was only a few years ago that he had athletes eating up what he dished out at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

Garratt has worked his way through a who's who of Kelowna restaurants, cooking in the kitchens of Old Vines, Bonfire Grill, Cabana Grille, and Waterfront. In 2008 he became the junior president of the Okanagan Chefs Association, and in 2009 became the Western Junior rep with the Canadian Culinary Federation.



## the best with awards



## Yasmin John-Thorpe Honorary Fellow

Well-known in the South Okanagan as a writer, literacy advocate, and philanthropist, Penticton-native Yasmin John-Thorpe was recognized for her contribution to literacy.

As co-founder of Penticton Writers and Publishers, she also coordinates the Raise-a-Reader program in the South Okanagan and organizes the annual British Columbia Youth Writers Camp in Penticton. Her efforts to promote literacy in the province earned John-Thorpe the BC Community Achievement Award in 2010.

The Okanagan College alumna is a respected author, having written several children's stories. John-Thorpe served as the Honorary Co-Chair of the \$5-million Campaign for Okanagan College's Centre of Excellence in Penticton. In 2005, she and her husband Rick contributed \$250,000 to establish a scholarship fund for students entering Okanagan College and UBC's Okanagan campus.

## WILLIAMS' SERVICE TO COLLEGE RECOGNIZED

Catherine Williams, a retired Okanagan College employee with more than 34 years of service, was recognized for her dedicated service to the institution and her community when she took home the Distinguished Service Award.

Williams spent more than a decade ensuring the health and safety of thousands of students and staff in her role as safety officer. The award is bestowed on former employees who have given outstanding service to the College and the community and who exemplify the College's mission of transforming lives and communities.

While at the College, Williams devoted a great deal of her personal time to volunteering for the Emergency Social Services, working alongside Beryl Itani during such momentous events as the Okanagan Mountain Park fire and later the West Kelowna fires.





Greg duManoir

# From human body to body politic

## Research expands at Okanagan College

One of the key undertakings for 2012 was to further the research agenda at Okanagan College, particularly research that benefits the local community. The College received standing from both NSERC (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council) and SSHRC (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada) in 2011, providing greater access to research funding.

Early in the year, Human Kinetics professor Dr. Greg duManoir was invited to take part in a 25-member team of international researchers who spent three weeks in the spring of 2012 at the Ev-K2 CNR Research Pyramid Station located near Everest Base Camp.

Funded by both NSERC and Canada Research Chairs under the direction of UBC's Okanagan campus, the aim was to study the effects of oxygen deprivation (known as hypoxia) and lower blood flow to the brain and vital organs at high altitude.

duManoir tracked the experience for the world to see in his blog Mountain of Data, and – like other team members – offered up his own body to science as part of the experiments.

The international team was made up of students and experts from around the world including Cardiff Metropolitan University in Wales, Universiteit Twente in the Netherlands, the University of Oregon and the University of Otago, New Zealand.

Data collected will be used to assist scientists in understanding conditions such as sleep apnea. Some of the research findings will be delivered at the International Hypoxia Symposia 2013.

Also conducting research this academic year was Lee Cartier who received a \$25,000 grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) to conduct his study Rural Entrepreneurship and Industry Competitiveness: Value-Chain Innovation in the Agricultural Products Cluster since 2006.

His research will examine the region with a macro-economic focus, looking at local agriculture as an industry cluster. Cartier, a professor in the Okanagan School of Business, became curious when he noticed that agriculture outpaces overall economic growth in the Okanagan when it is viewed as a cluster of industries.

“I know I’m going to find innovation there, but what’s driving it?” he said.

The research is being conducted with assistance from Okanagan Villa Vineyards, which operates The Vibrant Vine winery in Kelowna.



Meanwhile, Dr. Lynn Sparling, a professor in the College’s Okanagan School of Business, also received SSHRC funding to conduct research into barriers to growth and confidence levels for both male and female entrepreneurs throughout B.C.

This project is being carried out in partnership with the Vancouver-based Forum for Women Entrepreneurs and Women’s Enterprise Centre, which has offices in Kelowna, Vancouver and Victoria.

# Wine, food and tourism

## New director focuses on economic triumvirate

Okanagan College has taken a significant step toward investing in program development for one of the most widely recognized economic sectors of the Okanagan – wine, food, and tourism.

With 90 per cent of B.C.'s vineyards located in the Okanagan-Similkameen, and tourism as one of the region's prime growth industries, combined with an increasingly sophisticated taste for innovative cuisine inspired by locally grown and crafted products, the College could see it was time to bring these education programming sectors together.

As such, Okanagan School of Business professor Jonathan Rouse was appointed to the new role of Director of Wine, Food and Tourism following a year spent developing a vision and strategic direction in these areas.

"The opportunities, diversity and creativity we have within the College and the Okanagan Valley are so immense and there is such interest around our focus and commitment to building something unique right here in the Valley," said Rouse, who came to the College in 2010 after spending four years as the Dean of Hospitality and Business at Vancouver Community College.

The position includes a half-time role as Associate Dean of the Okanagan School of Business.

“Since 2007 more than 3,000 students have taken Okanagan College courses in wine, food and tourism throughout the region.”

## Investment in learning

Okanagan College continued its commitment to the advancement of learning with the continuing appointment of Dr. Jayne Brooks as Director, Learning and Teaching.

Brooks served as interim director while the position was in development and continued as new programs were established for the Institute for Learning and Teaching (ILT).

Designed to provide employees with the latest developments and techniques in post-secondary education, learning and teaching, the ILT has created a Teaching Guide along with three certificate programs:

- Learner-Centred Instructor
- Service and Support in a Learner-Centred Organization
- Leading in a Learner-Centred Organization

Through the work of the ILT, the Learner-Centred Instructor program is now an established transfer credit course in the B.C. Provincial Instructor Diploma program.



# Studying in China

a first class experience

Okanagan College's School of Business opened the doors to China this year with the successful piloting of its Study Abroad Exchange program at Linyi University in the Shandong province.

Two third-year students –Karen Bulmer and Danae Garcia – spent three months at Linyi teaching English to a handful of the 34,000 full-time students that attend the university, located south of Beijing.

"It was the greatest experience of my life. I miss it, I dream of it still, and wish I was still there," Bulmer said.

The experience provided the two women with a realistic view of China just as the country is emerging as a major economic player on the world stage.

Through teaching, work experience, and study, the students gained an appreciation of Chinese cultural and business practices, all while learning in a "rural" community with a population of nearly 10-million.

"I think it was a really good opportunity to see what China is all about because they're definitely emerging as a big part of Canada's future and our markets here," said Garcia, who took a Mandarin language course while at Linyi.

The Study Abroad Exchange is designed for students enrolled in their third year of the Bachelor of Business Administration program. It took seven years of relationship building, involving business professor Dr. Yunke He and Dr. Heather Banham, to launch the Linyi pilot.

Now with Linyi in place, this latest agreement brings the number of Study Abroad Exchange partnerships to 22 institutions around the world, including 13 in Europe and three in Oceania.



Okanagan College Study Abroad Exchange students Karen Bulmer (above, third from right) and Danae Garcia (right photo, middle) became the first students at Okanagan College to take part in a Study Abroad Exchange to China, which included teaching English at Linyi University and touring the city.



# International Students

In addition to receiving Exchange students, Okanagan College also welcomes students from various countries around the world as part of its international program development.

In the Fall of 2012, Okanagan College had 353 International students attending from 40 countries. The largest contingents of international students in 2012 came from China, Japan, Jamaica, India and Saudi Arabia.

In addition, international students also attend intensive English immersion programs and study tours, which added another 569 students for the 2011-12 academic year.



*Every year international students at Okanagan College participate in a wide number of events and activities on campus such as the Chinese New Year and International celebration, an event that showcases cultural performances from around the world.*

## The global reach of Okanagan College

Okanagan College has a long tradition of building relationships with post-secondary institutions around the world. Through its Okanagan School of Business, Okanagan College has Exchange Partnerships in place with the following institutions. (Exchange students pay their fees to their institution of origin.)

### AUSTRALIA

- Swinburne University of Technology

### AUSTRIA

- FH Wien University of Applied Sciences of WKW
- University of Applied Sciences

### CHINA

- Linyi University

### CROATIA

- Zagreb School of Economics and Management

### ENGLAND

- University of Hertfordshire

### FINLAND

- JAMK University of Applied Sciences

### FRANCE

- ESPEME International Business School
- INSEEC
- Ecole de Management de Normandie

### GERMANY

- Berlin School of Economics and Law
- FH Worms University of Applied Sciences

### JAPAN

- Nagoya Gakuin University
- Ritsumeikan University

### MEXICO

- Universidad Internacional
- Escuela Bancaria y Comercial

### SOUTH KOREA

- Sun Kyun Kwan University

### SPAIN

- Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

### SWITZERLAND

- University of Applied Sciences

### THE NETHERLANDS

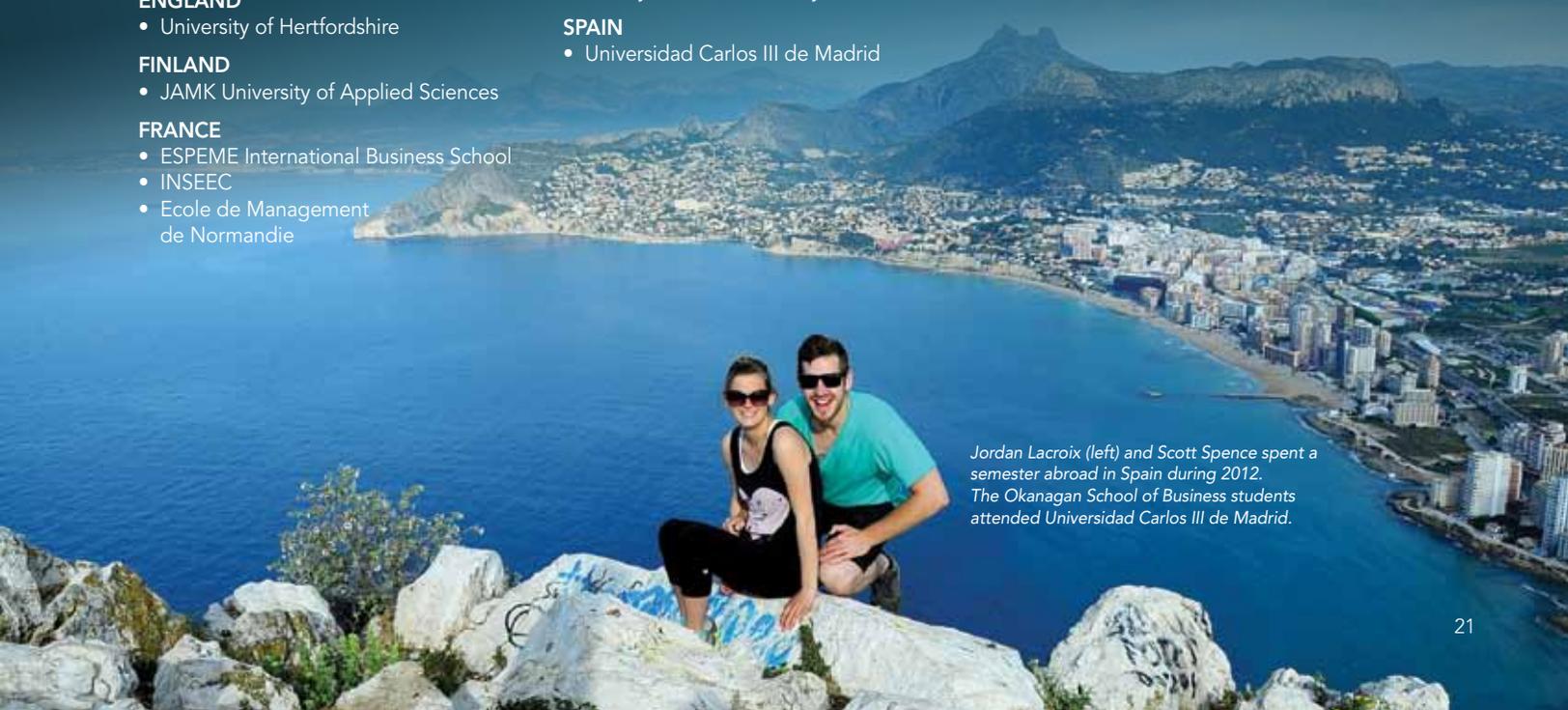
- HZ University of Applied Sciences

### USA

- Northern State University, South Dakota

### NEW ZEALAND

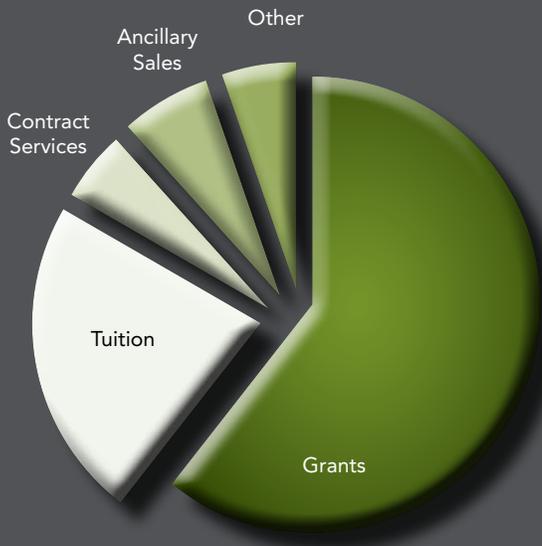
- Unitec Institute of Technology



*Jordan Lacroix (left) and Scott Spence spent a semester abroad in Spain during 2012. The Okanagan School of Business students attended Universidad Carlos III de Madrid.*

# The Financial Year in Review

## REVENUE



## Income Statement Summary Year ended March 31, 2012

	\$	\$
<b>Revenue sources:</b>		
Grants	57.5	55.6
Tuition	21.7	20.9
Contract Services	4.8	7.3
Ancillary Sales	5.8	5.7
Other	5.0	4.2
	<u>\$ 94.8</u>	<u>\$ 93.7</u>

### How they were used:

Salaries & Benefits	65.5	63.5
Supplies & Services	23.6	24.2
Capital & Reserve	5.7	6.0
	<u>\$ 94.8</u>	<u>\$ 93.7</u>

March 31, 2011

## ASSETS



## Balance Sheet Summary As at March 31, 2012

	\$	\$
<b>Assets:</b>		
Capital Assets	94.0	92.4
Cash & Investments	16.7	24.5
Other Assets	5.9	4.0
	<u>116.6</u>	<u>120.9</u>
<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Long Term Debt	5.6	5.9
Accrued Payroll Benefits	12.7	12.1
Accrued Liabilities & Other	10.7	16.6
Deferred Contributions	77.0	76.2
	<u>106.0</u>	<u>110.8</u>
<b>Net</b>	<u>\$ 10.6</u>	<u>\$ 10.1</u>
<b>Represented by:</b>		
Unrestricted Surplus	8.7	8.7
Restricted Surplus	3.2	3.3
Investment in Capital Assets	11.4	10.2
Unfunded Accrued Payroll Benefits	(12.7)	(12.1)
	<u>\$ 10.6</u>	<u>\$ 10.1</u>

# The Governing Bodies of Okanagan College

## Okanagan College Board of Governors 2012

Lance Kayfish, Chair  
Tom Styffe, Vice Chair  
Michael Conlin (term ended July 2012)  
Bill Cooke  
Connie Denesiuk  
Brian Hughes (term ended January 2012)  
Rick Gee (Ex officio)  
Jim Hamilton (Ex officio)  
Doug Manning  
Michael Marino (term ended June 2012)  
Sunddip Nahal  
Yvonne Pinder  
Lianne Rozniak  
Ross Saunders (term ended June 2012)  
Loretta Swite-Ghostkeeper  
Laura Thurnheer  
Zach Webster  
Javid (Jingwei) Wu

## Okanagan College Education Council 2012

Rick Gee, Chair  
Michelle Nicholson, Vice Chair  
Ardeh Anderson  
Barry Antoniow  
Jim Barmby  
Corey Bransfield  
Terrena Buck  
Jessica Callin  
Sandra Friesen  
Reema Gidda  
Jim Hamilton (Non-voting member)  
Andrew Hay  
Allan Hickey  
Robert Huxtable  
Ayla Kilic  
Terry Kosowick  
Melissa Kuse

Charlotte Kushner  
Alf Leimert  
Andy Li  
Leanne Mallory  
Rebecca Marchand  
Siri Marken  
Karen Matthews  
Drew McGillivray  
Ann Marie McKinnon  
Michael Mitsch  
Jane Muskens (Non-voting member)  
Sunddip Nahal (Non-voting member)  
Nancy Noble-Hearle  
Todd Redding  
Heather Schneider  
Damian Weir  
Inga Wheeler



okanagancollege  
1963 – 2013

# Share Your Story

and help mark 50 Years of higher learning in the Okanagan

When the B.C. Vocational School opened its doors to students of the region in 1963 on KLO Road in Kelowna, it marked the beginning of the Okanagan College story. It is a story that many people share in, especially the tens of thousands of alumni and staff (former and current) who have attended and made the institution what it is.

Beginning September, 2013, Okanagan College will honour that milestone with events, activities, and promotions, and we want your help.

Tell us your story so we can really paint the picture of Okanagan College, OUC, and the B.C. Vocational School over the past five decades. Funny, life-changing, anecdotes, inspirational stories, humorous memories – we're after all that and more.

From the mouse-infested barracks in Vernon that served as a campus, to the prof who always had extra time to help a student in need; the friends you met and kept for decades, the achievements and accomplishments . . . the all-nighters and the ski trips: we want those stories!

And we're making it easy to give them to us. Visit our website at [www.okanagan.bc.ca/50stories](http://www.okanagan.bc.ca/50stories) and type your story or call (250) 862-5460 or 1-800-836-5499 and leave a recorded version of it.

