



ASSOCIATION FOR CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION BC/Yukon

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Special Announcements

**Co-op Week declared in BC
March 22-26, 2010**

Association for Co-operative Education British Columbia / Yukon (ACE) is pleased to announce that March 22 – 26 has been declared “Co-operative Education Week” in a proclamation signed by BC Attorney General Mike de Jong.

ACE President Harriet Chicoine applauded the decision to formally acknowledge the Co-op model: “We are thrilled that Co-operative Education is receiving the recognition it deserves as a world class approach to meeting the goals of both post-secondary education and industry.”

GREETINGS FROM THE ACE PRESIDENT



It has been an exciting and active Spring for ACE BC/ Yukon.

VANOC - the experience of a lifetime! Thank you and congratulations to everyone who contributed their time and effort in

working with VANOC to not only secure co-op positions but manage the entire process for the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics. This was an outstanding example of how well we collaborate in promoting co-operative education.

The ACE board has been working diligently to promote excellence in Co-operative Education programs throughout the BC/Yukon region. To this end we were successful in having a proclamation signed by the Attorney General of B.C. recognizing March 22-26, 2010 as National Co-op Week. A signed proclamation has been sent to each of our member institutions.

We are also looking forward to many upcoming professional development events. The first will be our AGM and

Spring Professional Development session this May to be hosted by Vancouver Island University at their Nanaimo Campus. If you have not done so already, please be sure to register for this great opportunity to learn and exchange information with the leaders in co-op education-YOU!

In 2011, ACE BC/Yukon's biennial conference will be held on Vancouver Island with Norah McRae and Gloria Darroch as your conference co-chairs. Although this conference will take place on the island we encourage all ACE members to participate by volunteering for conference committees, presenting your research, conducting break-out sessions or facilitating workshops.

The call for membership renewal has gone out! Please remember to return your membership renewals to Andrea Giles as we look forward to another eventful and exciting year!

I look forward to meeting with all of you in May at our upcoming PD event.

Harriet Chicoine
ACE President

CO-OP THROUGH STUDENT EYES - ACE PD EVENT

Join us on May 13th for a special presentation from the ACE Research Committee, followed by a return of the popular 'SHOW AND TELL'.

The keynote speaker, Sandra Birrell, will present fascinating insights into the “student perspective” taken from her SFU Co-op Blog Research Project.

A BBQ lunch and the ACE Annual General Meeting will take place in the beautiful VIU gardens.

To register, please email Carole Hebden (hebden@tru.ca) by 4pm on Thursday, May 6, 2010.

Include the following details:

1. Any special dietary requirements
2. Ferry Terminal for shuttle service (Departure Bay or Duke Point)
3. Any Show and Tell items



Info for members of

Association for
Co-operative
Education

ACE Board of Directors 2009/2010

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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS! ACE CO-OP STUDENTS OF THE YEAR 2009

Mona Jalili - Simon Fraser University



Mona Jalili, a fourth year Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology co-op student, has been described by her co-op supervisor, Dr. Stephen Robinovitch as having "strong intellect, organizational skills,

scientific curiosity, drive and interpersonal skills", along with "a natural aptitude for laboratory-based and clinical research". These skills allowed Mona to play a key role during her co-op work term with the Simon Fraser University (SFU) Injury Prevention and Mobility Laboratory where she assisted with two research projects related to the prevention of falls and fall-related hip fractures in older adults. Her contributions included assisting with a successful research grant application (for \$1.5M over 5 years) and co-authoring several manuscripts and conference submissions. As Mona nears graduation, she hopes to continue with further studies in pharmacy, a path that became clear to her through her participation in the co-op program. She notes: "my co-op journey has made it possible for me to balance education, volunteering, regular religious activities and work as a researcher, while helping me to find the answer to "What do I want to do with my life?"



A special thanks to the Selection Committee who gave thoughtful consideration to all of the candidates. The committee is comprised of Leanne MacKenzie (Kwantlen, Chair), Natalie Erickson (SFU), Shawn Erickson (Kwantlen), Dana Wakabayashi (Douglas) and Pamela Welgan (UVic).

Katherine Williams - Camosun College



Katherine Williams, who recently graduated from Camosun College's Computer Systems Technology diploma program, obtained high academic achievement, impressive work integrated learning experiences and made ongoing contributions to both the college and co-operative education. She was nominated by Enquisite Inc, a software company for Internet advertising, where she showcased her ability to effectively learn new programming languages at an amazing rate. In her 4 months with Enquisite, she completed the programming of two critical applications – saving the company an estimated \$50,000 in development time and creating greater customer loyalty. During her 2 year program, her incredible 95% GPA lead her to receive department recognition for her academic success with two awards. She plans to bridge to

UVic to obtain a bachelors degree in Software Engineering, and is currently completing an internship with CanAssist, a small organization making technology more accessible to people with special needs. Thanks to all her co-op experiences, Katherine says "she is leaving the Camosun program feeling like a developer instead of a student."

An Honourable Mention was awarded to **Claire Doherty**, an Anthropology student from University of Victoria. Claire scored extremely high in the selection process and the committee would like to recognize her achievements.