



acifa

Alberta Colleges & Institutes Faculties Association

Faculty Circuit

November - December 2011

President's Message

by David Hyttenrauch



Hi everyone,

Welcome to a new edition of Faculty Circuit – and while I'm on the theme of welcomes, there are some significant ones to offer this month. First, welcome to **Kerri Green** in her expanded role as ACIFA's Senior Administrative Officer. Kerri's energy and enthusiasm, and her contributions to conference and meeting planning and admin support have been greatly appreciated over the years. Her expanded role now includes overall administration of ACIFA's office and our major activities, including communications, the conference, and our various meeting cycles. Next, welcome to **Lindsey Gilbert**, new to her role as Administrative Officer. Lindsey, originally from New Brunswick, has provided admin support to the ACIFA office since September 2011 and has demonstrated real dedication to learning our organization and its systems while meeting our administrative needs. I also want to acknowledge and thank **Arlene Hancock**, who provided substantial support with our

financial systems this fall. And as ever, thanks to **Terry Sway** for carrying forward so much of the essential work of ACIFA in support of members.

The third welcome is very exciting. We heard last week the **Faculty Association of Red Deer College** will be returning to ACIFA beginning in April 2012, coinciding with our new budget year. We're look forward to renewing the collegial conversation and sharing perspectives as FARDC's members join us for the spring Presidents' Council and conference. In the midst of continuing uncertainty about budgets it's critical to have a unified voice and a forum to share our experiences in post-secondary education. I would particularly like to thank Sally Stuart, President of FARDC, and my ACIFA Executive colleagues, for shepherding us all through a complex conversation and decision.

At this fall's Presidents' Council I presented the results of the ACIFA Vision Survey conducted last winter. The survey will help shape some important conversations going forward, including drafting a vision statement that will reflect member values of integrity, dedication, respect, and professionalism in support of student learning as supportive, engaged, compassionate and creative educators. ACIFA's strength is its ability to speak with a common faculty voice, advocating for excellence in post-secondary education. As a whole, we now have a clearer picture of strengths and gaps in our communications, activities and services. I finished the presentation with a set of recommendations for ACIFA's future:

1. Draft new vision and mission statements to reflect the themes identified in the survey.
2. Revitalize and relaunch our communications platforms: *Faculty Circuit* and *acifa.ca*
3. Prepare a Strategic Plan to align our activities with mission, vision and priorities.
4. Expand partnerships, develop effective working relationships, and report on accomplishments.
5. Rotate some meetings among local campuses.
6. Develop a process for determining the content, goals and strategies for liaison and advocacy: common issues, common voice.
7. Better communicate the access to retiree benefits as a quality-of-life issue.
8. Evaluate whether ACIFA should develop or contract professional training for members.
9. Determine the appropriate organizational structure: staff expertise, Exec roles, Presidents

The full presentation is available on request: dhyttenrauch@mtroyal.ca

Wishing you the best for the holidays, and for 2012,

David

Merry Christmas
and Happy Holidays!



From ACIFA

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Call for Submissions

Alberta Colleges & Institutes Faculties Association 2012 Annual Spring Conference – June 3 to June 5, 2012

theme strands:

Commit to...students, self, colleagues, and profession. Ex. Topics in growth, energy, motivation, leadership, encouragement, enhancement, renewal, and retention.

Connect through...programs for one's institution, one's community, & the global collective. Ex. Topics in Trades, Arts & Humanities, Sciences, Business, Education, Travel studies, ESL, First Nations, Technology & Social Media, E-Learning, etc.

Collaborate with...community, other educational institutions, industry/private sector, and government to explore partnerships that provide new and progressive educational opportunities. Ex. New program development, Employment, Research, Publication

Let's Celebrate...our success, our students' success, and our potential for continued innovation, creativity, and excitement leading to educational excellence!

* Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge *

hosted by the Grande Prairie Regional College Academic Staff Association



*The **Call for Submissions form** is available through your Faculty Association office and on the ACIFA website (www.acifa.ca). Concurrent sessions run on Monday, June 4 and Tuesday, June 5. Deadline for submissions is **February 17, 2012. Space is limited so please apply early.**

Submit your presentation for the 2012 ACIFA Conference!

Benefits of pursuing the opportunity to present at the 2012 conference in beautiful Jasper include:

- Conference Registration fee reduced by \$100.
- Presenting at the beautiful Jasper Park Lodge.
- Opportunity to network with colleagues from across the province on the concepts and ideas presented in your session.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

The conference registration form for the ACIFA 2012 Annual Spring Conference can be found online at <http://www.event-wizard.com/ACIFACONFERENCE2012/0/register/>

Registration Deadline : May 1, 2012

Early Bird Registration Draw: All paid registrations received by April 1, 2012 will be eligible for an early bird prize draw of \$250.00.

Delegates are responsible for making their own accommodation arrangements @ The Jasper Park Lodge

➤ **book via phone: 1-800-441-1414, ask for the ACIFA conference RATE and indicate the nights you are staying**

Alberta Colleges & Institutes
Faculties Association **acifa**
Serving college and technical institute faculty



2012 Award For Innovation in Teaching

The aim of the Award for Innovation in Teaching is to recognize and encourage the use of innovative and creative teaching methods and design which lead to improved student learning.

This province-wide award attracts both recognition and a financial award of \$1,500 for the faculty member or team and \$500.00 for the faculty member's faculty association. Certificates of Commendation will be awarded to the two runners-up.

Eligibility

The Award is open to all ACIFA members. The nomination may be for an individual or a group/team. Nominations for the Award are made by colleagues with the consent of the innovator(s). Nominations must adhere to the *Format for Applications* below.

An innovation which has already received this Award cannot be resubmitted the following year. Innovations which have been unsuccessful but have received a Certificate of Commendation are eligible for resubmission, within the context of the guidelines, the following year.

The Nomination Process

Each participating ACIFA member association will conduct a nomination and selection process at the local level, in accordance with the guidelines in this document, to select **up to two nominees** to be submitted to the ACIFA Awards Committee. The ACIFA Awards Committee, established by the Professional Affairs Committee of ACIFA, will select the winner of the award from nominees put forward by each of the participating local faculty associations.

Selection Criteria

- The extent to which the innovation has had a practical outcome that improved teaching, learning, curriculum design, and/or assessment.
- Evidence of student satisfaction and learning outcomes.
- Evidence that the innovation was successfully integrated into the total learning process for the relevant course of study.
- The potential for the innovation to be applied to different fields of study
- The extent to which the innovation made effective and efficient use of resources.

Continued on next page

Format for Applications: 2-3 page limit plus appendices

Please provide information in the following format:

1. Innovator/project team details: name(s), position, and college/institute
2. A description of the innovation
3. The rationale for implementing the change
4. The outcomes of the innovation
5. The wider application of the innovation in post-secondary education
6. Names and signatures of two nominees
7. Any supporting documentation to be attached as appendices

Judging Panels: provincial and local

Five members, elected on an annual basis from and by the Professional Affairs Committee of ACIFA, will select the final award winner and two runners-up from the nominees submitted by the local faculty associations.

The local faculty association judging committees are to be selected and structured by the local faculty association as they deem appropriate for their association.

Mutual Obligations

The ACIFA Awards Committee will undertake to award the winner of an Innovation/Creativity Award in Teaching with:

- An announcement in the ACIFA newsletter
- \$1,500.00 made available to the winner and another \$500.00 to the winner's faculty association
- A formal presentation at the ACIFA Annual Conference
- Coverage of expenses for the winner to attend the ACIFA Annual Conference to receive their award.

The Award winner will be expected to:

- Attend the ACIFA Annual Conference to accept the Award
- Agree to submit for publication in the ACIFA newsletter a description of the innovation and its successful implementation before the end of the year in which the Award was won.

Application Dates

Applications must be submitted to the faculty member's faculty association by the date set by the local faculty association. Each Association's selection process must be completed in time to submit their nominee to ACIFA by **February 24, 2012**.

The ACIFA Awards Committee will make the final decision by the third week of April to allow sufficient time to arrange for the recognition of the winner at the ACIFA Annual Conference.

*The 2012 award is sponsored and administered by
The Alberta Colleges and Technical Institutes Faculties Association
Johnson Inc. Insurance
and
The Alberta Public Post-Secondary Education Trust Fund.*

Member Associations

Alberta College of Art and Design Faculty Association
Bow Valley College Faculty Association
Grande Prairie Regional College Academic Staff Association
Grant MacEwan University Faculty Association
Keyano College Faculty Association
Lakeland College Faculty Association
Lethbridge College Faculty Association
Medicine Hat College Faculty Association
Mount Royal Faculty Association
NAIT Academic Staff Association
NorQuest College Faculty Association
Northern Lakes College Faculty Association
Olds College Faculty Association
Portage College Faculty Association
SAIT Academic Faculty Association

The views expressed in Faculty Circuit are those of individuals and do not necessarily reflect ACIFA's policies and positions.

Please address all inquiries and submissions to:

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Upcoming ACIFA Dates

February 3, 2012 – Executive Council – Calgary
February 4, 2012 – Presidents' Council – Calgary
March 23, 2012 – Executive Council – Calgary
March 24, 2012 – Professional Affairs Committee and
Negotiations Advisory Committee
– Calgary
April 14, 2012 – Executive Council – Edmonton
June 3, 2012 – Presidents' Council – Jasper Park
Lodge
June 5, 2012 – Annual General Meeting – Jasper Park
Lodge
June 3 – June 5 – Spring Conference – Jasper Park
Lodge