





Conference PROGRAMME

Contents:

Conference overview schedule	3
Monday & Tuesday Day at a Glance schedules	4 - 5
Town Map & Welcome Messages	6 - 7
Conference overview description	8 - 9
Sunday May 25 & Monday May 26 in detail	10 - 24
Tuesday May 27 in detail	25 - 32
Wednesday May 28	33



Alberta Colleges & Institutes
Faculties Association

acifa

Serving college & technical institute faculty

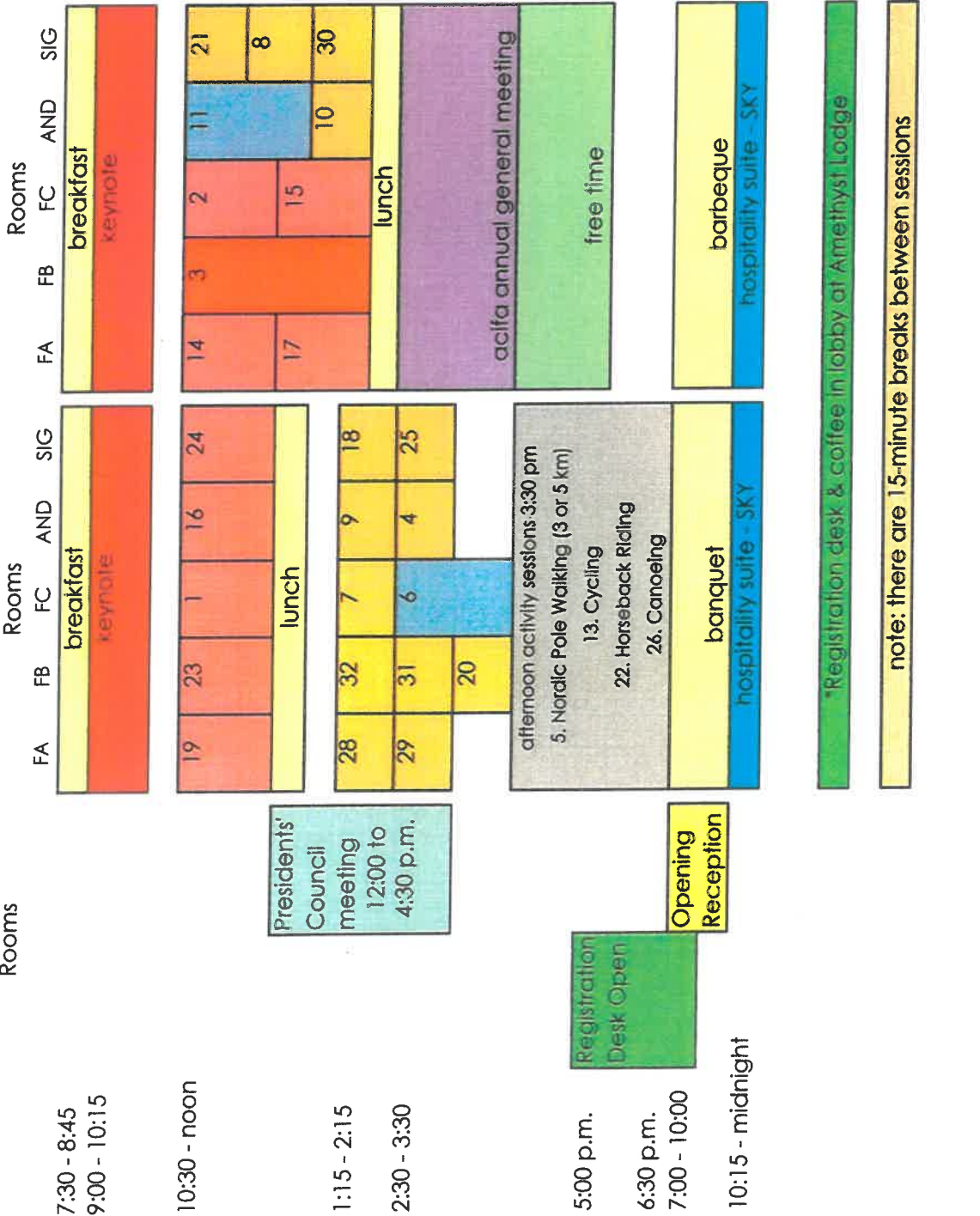
ACIFA 2008 Conference Schedule Overview

Wednesday
May 28

Tuesday - May 27

Monday - May 26

Sunday - May 25



7:30 - 8:45
9:00 - 10:15

10:30 - noon

1:15 - 2:15
2:30 - 3:30

5:00 p.m.
6:30 p.m.
7:00 - 10:00
10:15 - midnight

ACIFA 2008 Conference - DAY AT A GLANCE

Monday - May 26

	FA	FB	FC	AND	SIG	
7:30 - 8:45	breakfast					Room Names: FA - Forest A FB - Forest B FC - Forest C AND - Andrews SIG - Signal SKY - Skyline
9:00 - 10:00	keynote					
10:30 - noon	19	23	1	16	24	
	lunch					
1:15 - 2:15	28	32	7	9	18	KEY <div style="background-color: #ffffcc; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">60 min.</div> <div style="background-color: #ff6600; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">90 min.</div> <div style="background-color: #66b3ff; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">120 min.</div> <div style="background-color: #ff6600; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">180 min.</div> <div style="background-color: #ff6600; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Plenary</div> <div style="background-color: #cccccc; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">activity</div>
2:30 to 3:30	29	31	6	4	25	
		20				
	afternoon activity sessions 3:30 pm 5. Nordic Pole Walking (3 or 5 km) 13. Cycling 22. Horseback Riding 26. Canoeing					

* Banquet starts @ 7:00 pm at the Jasper Activity Centre*



90-minute sessions: 10:30 am – noon

- [19] The Teacher/Traveler in Retirement
- [23] Using the Smart Notebook in Classes
- [1] Pedagogies of Engagement: a Conversation About Good Teaching
- [16] It's the 21st Century: Do You Know Where Your Program Is?
- [24] Chapter Markers: An Enhancement for Video Podcasts



60-minute sessions: 1:15 pm – 2:15 pm

- [28] She Tells Good Stories, eh? A Call to Recognition of Native Literature's Aesthetics
- [32] The Wiki Classroom
- [7] Essential Skill+Course Content=Successful Work Ready Learners
- [9] The Impact on Instructors of Changing to a Trimester System
- [18] Is the Medium Still the Message?



2-hour session: 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm

- [6] Thirteen Moon on a Turtle's Back - Appliqué & Edge Beadwork Pendant



60-minute sessions: 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

- [29] Samarpan Meditation: Merging the Past and the Future Into the Present
- [31] Educating Internationally Educated Nurses
- [4] Who Teaches the Teachers?
- [25] Recent Directions Concerning Your Pension



60-minute session: 3:45 pm – 4:45 pm

- [20] Controversies in Science from the New General Education Program



activity session - 3-hour session: 3:30 pm – 6:30 pm

- [26] Canoeing with Master Voyagers



activity sessions - 2-hour sessions: 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm

- [5] Nordic Pole Walking - 5 or 3 Kilometre Walk
- [22] Horseback Riding Jasper Trails
- [13] Discuss Bridging the Divide - With Judy and George on a Bike Tour of Jasper

ACIFA 2008 Conference - DAY AT A GLANCE
Tuesday - May 27

	FA	FB	FC	AND	SIG	
7:30 - 8:45	breakfast					Room Names: FA - Forest A FB - Forest B FC - Forest C AND - Andrews SIG - Signal SKY - Skyline
9:00 - 10:00	keynote					
10:15 - 11:45	14	3	2	11	21	
noon - 1:30	17		15		8	
1:30 - 2:30	lunch					
2:45 - 4:45	acifa annual general meeting					
4:45 - 7:00	free time					

KEY
60 min.
90 min.
120 min.
180 min.
Plenary
activity

- 🌸 **full-morning session: 10:15 am – 1:15 pm**
 [3] Photoshop Basics for Digital Photography
- 🌸 **2-hour session: 10:15 am – 12:15 pm**
 [11] The Universal Aspects of Learning: A Context for Zoetic Skills
- 🌸 **90-minute sessions: 10:15 am – 11:45 am**
 [14] Teaching as the Practice of Wisdom
 [2] Pedagogies of Engagement: a Conversation About Good Teaching
- 🌸 **60-minute session: 10:15 am – 11:15 am**
 [21] Are Your Students Learning in Spite of Your Lecture? What is the Ultimate Aim of Education?
- 🌸 **60-minute session: 10:15 am – 11:15 am**
 [8] Teaching and Learning for Success
- 🌸 **90-minute sessions: noon – 1:30 pm**
 [17] Asia Past and Present - Third World and First World Experiences
 [15] Information Literacy & the 21st Century Student
- 🌸 **60-minute sessions: 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm**
 [10] Scribblecasting as a Teaching Tool
 [30] Samarpan Meditation: Merging the Past and the Future Into the Present

enjoy your free time in the mountains
 Tuesday afternoon



Welcome Messages

It is very fitting that Jasper is the location of the ACIFA 2008 Conference this year with the theme being "Bridging the Divide". Lakeland College is very pleased to be acting as host for the conference this year, and Jasper is the perfect setting to gather with old friends from past ACIFA Conferences and to meet new ones. The professional development that goes on at these conferences is outstanding! The weather forecast looks good, the sessions are in place, and the evening entertainment is outstanding, so we know that you will have a great time!

I hope following your sessions you will find time to relax. I know with an atmosphere like this and with your expanding knowledge base that you will find this year's conference to exceed your expectations. Most of all, I hope you meet and network with new people and return home with renewed energy and enthusiasm.

You are now in Jasper, the jewel of the Great Divide, here's your pass to have a fantastic time!



Neil Maclean

Lakeland College Faculty Association President

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the 2008 ACIFA Conference: "Bridging the Divide". This is the 24th annual ACIFA Spring Conference.

These are exciting days for ACIFA. Our involvement in the recent provincial election through our partnerships with Public Interest Alberta and the "Imagine Alberta" campaign, plus our contributions to the government's "Roles and Responsibilities" initiative, and our work on the designation issue, along with our recent invitation to join the Canadian Association of University Teachers are some symptoms of the impact ACIFA has on post-secondary education in Alberta. This depth of experience is reflected in the wonderful program which Lakeland College Faculty Association has prepared for us, a program of inspiring speakers, growth enhancing workshops and renewing recreation. I hope you are looking forward to it as much as I am.



Dave Purkis

Alberta Colleges and Institutes Faculties Association President

Overview

registration desk

- The registration desk will be in operation for the duration of the conference (hours will be posted).
- Opens @ 5:00 pm on Sunday, May 25.
- Each conference delegate receives a conference t-shirt and bag (pick up @ the registration desk).
- Throughout the conference the permanent location of the desk will be in the **LOBBY of the AMETHYST LODGE.**
- If you have any questions or need any help, assistants will be on hand to come to your aid.
- Coffee will be available & displays are set up here.
- For sessions with limited capacity, sign-in sheets will be located here.

Sessions

- Concurrent sessions will take place in the **Forest A. Forest B. Forest C. Andrews. and Signal rooms of the AMETHYST LODGE. Outdoor sessions convene in the lobby of the AMETHYST LODGE.** All sessions are scheduled for Monday morning and afternoon, and Tuesday morning.
- There are 15-minute transition breaks between each session.



hospitality suites

- On both Monday and Tuesday night there will be an opportunity to visit with your colleagues during the hospitality suites, starting at 10:00 p.m. and

located in the **Skyline Room. lobstick lodge.**

- A **silent auction** for the **Alberta Public Post-secondary Education Trust Fund** will also be located here, both Monday and Tuesday.

ACIFA Annual General Meeting

- Takes place in the **Skyline Room. lobstick lodge** on Tuesday between 2:00 and 4:00 pm.

collective assemblies

Multi-Purpose Room. Jasper Activity Centre

is the location for:

Keynote Addresses, Monday breakfast, lunch & banquet, Tuesday breakfast, lunch & barbeque, and Wednesday breakfast



recreation time

- Activity sessions will take place concurrently on Monday afternoon, starting at 3:30 p.m. There will also be free time available in the late afternoon on Tuesday to take time on your own to enjoy the mountains. Information on local activities will be available at the registration desk.



the Barbeque takes place:

- Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm at the Multi-Purpose Room, Jasper Activity Centre.

Sunday May 25

NOON – 4:30 pm Presidents' Council Meeting
Skyline Room, Lobstick Lodge

5:00 pm Registration Desk opens
Lobby, Amethyst Lodge

7:30 – 10:30 pm Welcome Reception
Forest ABC Room, Amethyst Lodge

Monday May 26

7:30 -8:45 am Breakfast
Multi-Purpose Room, Jasper Activity Centre

9:00 – 10:00 am keynote speaker
Multi-Purpose Room, Jasper Activity Centre



Keynote Speaker: Brian Thwaits

Brain Trainer, Learning & Communications Expert, and Author
Brainspeaker Inc.

He's knowledgeable, engaging, provocative. And he's very funny.

Brian Thwaits is a dynamic and immensely entertaining 'brain trainer', a learning and communication whiz with a wealth of experience in both the public and private sectors. He first demonstrated his flair for performance as an award-winning educator and is now an acclaimed professional speaker who engages both the hearts and minds of his audiences -- so they leave his presentations with sidesplitting laughter and heads bursting with ideas.

Thwaits has been featured in various media including radio, television, newspaper and magazines and is the author of *The Big Learn: Smart Ways to Use Your Brain*. Thousands of people from all walks of life have experienced his unique and thought-provoking take on learning, thinking, memory, creativity and communication skills.

Thwaits' sessions cleverly combine the latest information from the disciplines of brain research, learning theory and the communication field to suggest innovative and practical approaches to issues we face in the workplace, in the classroom, and in our personal lives.

Programme – sessions



Monday morning

 90-minute sessions: 10:30 am – noon

[19] “The Teacher/Traveler in Retirement”

Judith Dutton; NC. Lecture (90 min.):

Forest A Room
Monday, May 26th
10:30 to noon

This presentation is meant to explore an option for retirement that combines continuing teaching (but with a difference), and travel. It is very difficult to be financially prepared for retirement. In fact, in today's economic climate, all that travel one planned for their retirement could be impossible on just the retirement income. Even if one is financially prepared, it can be even more difficult to be emotionally prepared. This presentation is aimed at those who want to continue to be very active, who want a change from what they are doing now, and who want to travel.

In this presentation Judith looks at the benefits of studying TESL (Teaching English as a Second Language) for all teachers, especially those not currently involved in it. It offers professional teachers a way of using their teaching expertise, while exploring other cultures and lands after retirement. There is the benefit of learning new ways of helping your current ESL students, while preparing for your new lifestyle.

There is frequently both an intellectual and physical decline that plagues retirees, especially those who do not remain active. The “Use it or lose it” doctrine is especially true after age 60.

With retirement in mind, Judith answered a call from the English as a Second Language department of NorQuest College to travel to Guatemala and work with the Ministry of Education of that country in preparing school teachers to teach English. They wanted in particular, ways of encouraging

students to practice speaking English, not to just read it. Judith is not an English teacher, she teaches nursing, so this would stretch her teaching capabilities.

First, Judith took a TESL (Teaching English as a Second Language) course at NorQuest College. There were unexpected immediate benefits to this course. As an expert in her subject, but not in teaching, Judith learned a great deal about teaching itself, something that she has brought into her own classes.

The course finished at 4 PM on Tuesday. On Wednesday, at 6 AM Judith was on a plane to Guatemala to do her "practical experience". In the presentation she wants to explore the benefits of traveling this way. You get to explore, from the inside, a new country. By being involved with the people you learn a great deal more about the culture than you ever could as a visitor.

Teaching English as a Second Language can involve travel, and some countries, such as Japan pay quite well for English teachers. Even if the pay is low, you can still afford to stay in places that you could not afford on a retirement income. There are some travel opportunities, such as the trip Judith took to Guatemala, that only involve a summer, so a teacher can use it for a working holiday even before retirement.

Judith will present both her experiences in Guatemala, with the hope of inspiring other teachers to give it a try, and to present TESL as an alternative to a "quiet retirement". It has opened a whole new world to Judith, and she no longer dreads the boredom of "puttering around the house" in her retirement.

This presentation looks at a teacher's own past, as an instructor, and their future as a person using their teaching expertise to teach English, something that simply by speaking it for many years, one has become an expert in. The presentation will link one's own past, to one's future as a retiree.

[23] "Using the Smart Notebook in Classes"

Jeff Hamilton; Lethbridge C. Workshop (90 min.):

Forest B Room
Monday, May 26th
10:30 to noon

Are you tired of watching and creating PowerPoint slides? Have you been looking for a tool that provides more flexibility and student interaction? Join Jeff for a session where you'll get to play with the new Smart software including Notebook, screen recorder, and more. Make your online and face-to-face classes interactive, engaging, and pedagogically superior.

When Jeff returned to teaching after providing technology support to faculty for a number of years, he had experience with a wealth of tools. From these tools he searched for one that would take advantage of using technology in teaching without giving in to the shock and awe. Jeff tried a note program, a journal type application, a plain word processor, a brainstorming tool, and many others. All were good at certain aspects of what he wanted in the classroom but lacked the whole package. Then, Jeff discovered Smart Notebook. It has been around for a long time but has often been associated with only a SmartBoard. He started using Notebook with just a mouse but quickly progressed to using a wired tablet and finally to the ultimate, an Airliner. This has proven to be an awesome combination in the classroom that allows for flexibility, engages the students with interactive slides, and helps reinforce good teaching.

This session will describe briefly the progression of tools explored but will mainly focus on using the Smart applications to provide an engaging learning experience for the students. Participants will "play" with some of the tools and then will create a model lesson together.

Participants are asked to bring their own laptops

- maximum 30 participants
- a sign-up sheet will be available at the registration desk

[1] "Pedagogies of Engagement: a Conversation About Good Teaching"

Jim Parsons; University of Alberta. Lecture (90 min.):

Forest C Room
Monday, May 26th
10:30 to noon

How do post-secondary teachers engage students in learning? What new pedagogies are supported by research? What practical activities can post-secondary teachers use in their classrooms? What walls exist between teachers and learners, and how can a teacher help break down those walls? Finally, what foundational philosophies ground successful post-secondary teaching?

Jim Parsons is a teacher, a teacher educator, a writer and a researcher. He has been teaching at the University of Alberta for 32 years. During that time he has written more than 60 books – many specifically about teaching. His latest book, *Celebrating School Improvement*, won the 2007 ATA Research Award, and is the synthesis of six years of extensive research with teachers that highlights how teachers can improve student achievement and organizational improvement.

The presentation "Pedagogies of Engagement" outlines successful practices for teaching at the post-secondary level. It addresses the five key questions listed in paragraph one. Finally, it gives opportunities for those who attend to talk about their successful practices and to learn from each other. Those who attend and participate in this presentation will leave with practical ideas that will help them engage their students in learning, help improve their own institutions, and work with other colleagues to build stronger institutions. Topics covered include successful professional development, leadership, site-based research, and organizational culture.

[16] "It's the 21st Century: Do You Know Where Your Program Is?"

Alan Boykiw; SAIT. Lecture (90 min.):

Andrews Room
Monday, May 26th
10:30 to noon

Experience how a collaborative curriculum analysis transformed a program from a list of courses being taught to a program map with sequenced learning outcomes in a project-based environment.

Educators face a constant challenge as they attempt to bridge the divide between teaching and learning to create a meaningful dialogue between teachers, learners and content. We act with good intention as we incorporate new knowledge, methods, and technology into our programs

hoping to fulfill the promise that students will get smarter after their time with us. This is usually done in an isolated manner and over time even an initially well crafted program becomes a fragmented experience for students.

Our program was developed over time from our teaching perspective as we made what we thought were enhancements. In an analysis session we came to the realization that the intent of our program was getting diluted. It became clear that what was needed was to determine 'what our graduates would be able to do' after their time with us to lead our improvement process.

The goal of this lecture is to share our journey of moving from a teaching content delivery perspective to a focus on building a measurable learner-centred program curriculum. We discovered the power of a conversant and collaborative process involving both internal and external people. This has resulted in a program map that teachers, students and stakeholders can navigate and own. Documentation of our process will be provided to demonstrate how we assessed course relevance, industry perspective and teaching practice to inform a recalibration of the teaching and learning environment of our program.

[24] "Chapter Markers: An Enhancement for Video Podcasts"

Brian Lloyd; MHC. Demonstration (90 min.):

Signal Room
Monday, May 26th
10:30 to noon

Chapter Markers can be a tremendously useful addition to a video podcast. Come and learn how to add chapter markers to your video podcast.

Mobile learning is often viewed as the empowering of students so as to allow them access to their lectures whenever and wherever the desire. Video podcasting is a key component of mobile learning. Students can be even more empowered with the addition of Chapter Markers to a video podcast. This demonstration will show how easy it is to add chapter markers to a video podcast and will address the usefulness of chapter markers to the student. We will also examine some of the problems that can arise when the video is subsequently encoded for other devices such as iPhone and iPod Touch. Open discussion during the demonstration is encouraged.

Organic chemistry is a very complex and visual course. The student often has difficulty assimilating the volume of material presented in the stand lecture period. The idea was to free the student from the confines of the lecture period allowing them to access the lecture as often as necessary, and when and wherever it was advantageous to the student. RSS feeds and video podcasting along with the availability of PSP's and more recently the video iPod all have contributed to making mobile learning a reality for the student. The scribblecast, "video podcast", has empowered the student to have unrestricted access to the organic chemistry lecture in an unprecedented manner. This innovation represents a tiny first step into the future as we move beyond distance learning and electronic learning into the realm of mobile learning.



Lunch

NOON – 1:00 pm

Multi-Purpose Room, Jasper Activity Centre



Lunch Greetings: **Penni Stewart** **President, Canadian Association of University Teachers**

Founded in 1951, CAUT is the national voice for academic staff. Today, representing 55,000 teachers, librarians, researchers and other academic professionals and general staff, CAUT is an outspoken defender of academic freedom and works actively in the public interest to improve the quality and accessibility of post-secondary education in Canada.



Lunch Greetings: **Bill Moore-Kilgannon** **Executive Director, Public Interest Alberta**

Bill Moore-Kilgannon is the Executive Director of Public Interest Alberta. Prior to joining Public Interest Alberta, he worked in Ottawa as the Director of Campaigns and Communications of the Council of Canadians from 2001 – 2004 and he was the Executive Director of the Parkland Institute at the University of Alberta from 1997 - 2001. He was the coordinator of the Global Visions Festival from 1992 – 1997 and is also a documentary video maker (most recent production is a video about the music, art and theatre of street children in Nicaragua). Bill studied Canadian and Latin American history, political science and economics at the University of Alberta and l'Université de Sherbrooke, and speaks French and Spanish. Bill also worked as a forest fire fighter in Alberta.

ACIFA is a founding member of Public Interest Alberta, a broad coalition of groups working together to advocate for public institutions, public services and public spaces in Alberta.

Programme – sessions continued



Monday afternoon

 60-minute sessions: 1:15 pm – 2:15 pm

[28] “She Tells Good Stories, eh? A Call to Recognition of Native Literature’s Aesthetics”

Brenda Campbell; NLC. Lecture (60 min.):

Forest A Room
Monday, May 26th
1:15 to 2:15

This session considers the aesthetics of Native literature and the call for pedagogy that utilizes ethnographic method in order to understand the protocols of excellence that inform such an aesthetic.

The great diversity of cultures and languages in North America has been subsumed under colonialism and policy. In this sense, many authors of First Nations ancestry question the need for national identity, and call instead for grounding in particularism. The aesthetics of literature are not the same as the conventions of literature. Yet, these very conventions often block, or misinterpret appreciations of aesthetic excellence. I suggest that literate academics have an oral-tradition disability, and thus do not recognize the protocols and formal elements valued by participants of this literature. A call for an ethnocriticism whereby the critic is obligated to research and understand her topic is integral to successful First Nations literacy criticism. Both Native and non-Native protocols are historically particular, and postcolonial analysis allows for a thorough consideration of ground. The writing the speaking styles of Native and non-Natives have led to the call for dialogic analyses. Close textual readings are grounded by knowing something about First Nations peoples and politics. Broadening the canon then is an anthropological project, a position of the social scientist in relation to humanities texts.

[32] "The Wiki Classroom"

Alex Bruton; MRC. Lecture (60 min.):

Recipient of the ACIFA 2008 Innovation in Teaching Award

Forest B Room
Monday, May 26th
1:15 to 2:15

Calls are being made around the world for new approaches to education on the premise that we have entered an information society characterized by:

- ❖ Technology-savvy students who learn more by absorption and experience than by reading a training manual or attending a course;
- ❖ A shift in the focus of creativity from generating original content to the timely rip/mix/burn-style reshaping of existing content;
- ❖ Increasing requirements for interdisciplinary work carried out by teams across functional and institutional boundaries;
- ❖ New ways of organizing knowledge in society and in the educational sector; and
- ❖ New forms of teacher and learner interaction enabled by innovative technologies (such as Web 2.0) and new approaches to copyright (such as Creative Commons).

In response to these changes, teachers are being encourage to shirt their practices from the traditional teacher-centered transfer of subject-area-focused knowledge to the development of open educational resources and practices that teach students the skills required to learn, collaborate and build knowledge on their.

Let Alex walk you through his experiences in these new directions as he presents how he set up the Wiki Classroom.

[7] "Essential Skills + Course Content = Successful Work Ready Learners: Integrating Essential Skills into the Classroom"

Laurel Madro, Erin Haines; BVC. Workshop (60 min.):

Forest C Room
Monday, May 26th
1:15 to 2:15

This is a practical, interactive session where instructors can take home some teaching ideas, materials, resources and strategies for teaching Essential Skills. Resources such as the TOWES Test and the ESO (Essential Skills On-line) will be reviewed.

Often the goal of an adult learner in the college system is to find gainful, meaningful employment as quickly as possible. Preparing the learners with the technical or academic skills is one part of the equation.

The second part is giving them the strategies and skills to work such as;

- find and use information
- continue to learn once they are on the job
- navigate documents
- problem solve and think critically

- work with others
- accurately and efficiently do their jobs

The goal of this session is to give instructors some ideas, materials and resources they can use to teach these strategies so learners are not just ready but confident to enter the workplace. We all are faced with the challenge of completing our already full curriculums so the focus of this session will be how to teach what you are already teaching and integrate various strategies such as; skimming and scanning, identifying key words, navigating different types of documents, recycling new terminology, using idioms etc. Preliminary results of a research project where the **TOWES** (Test of Workplace Essential Skills) and **ESO** (Essential Skills On-line) were used to train and assess Essential Skills in foreign trained professionals will be discussed.

[9] "The Impact on Instructors of Changing to a Trimester System"

Jan Grier, Jean Edmonson; BVC. Lecture (60 min.):

Andrews Room
Monday, May 26th
1:15 to 2:15

Bow Valley College recently implemented a trimester system. What implications were there for faculty? What was done to prepare for this change? What could have been done differently?

In September of 2006, Bow Valley College moved from a semester system (the past) to a trimester system (the present). Other institutions are contemplating similar changes (the future?) and therefore faculty and administrators from these institutions may be interested in our experiences in the Academic Foundations department.

The dean asked us to conduct research into the effects of the new system on instructors. In the spring of 2007, we interviewed approximately half of the instructors in the department, compiled their answers, drew conclusions, and made recommendations. We asked about impacts on teaching, non-classroom responsibilities, and personal time, as well as about supports provided and needed.

We will describe the process of our research and our findings. Some of our findings were expected, but there were also unforeseen and significant repercussions of the new system.

We present our examination of the preparation for change, the implementation of change, and, in particular, the impact of change on the instructional staff. Moreover, we address what BVC did well, what is problematic, and what other institutions could consider to ease such a transition.

There will be time allowed for questions and discussion at the conclusion of the session.

[18] "Is the Medium Still the Message?"

Marv Machura; NC. Lecture (60 min.):

Signal Room
Monday, May 26th
1:15 to 2:15

What would Marshall McLuhan say? Enter this lively discussion on media, culture, education, and learning to find out.

Today we are more media-dependent than ever before, for both teaching and learning. But do we really understand how media is affecting our teaching and learning? It's been nearly fifty years since McLuhan declared that the "medium is the message." In his wide-ranging theory, he said that we shouldn't study just the content and the how-to of media: the important changes are in how media predicates changes in human relations and patterns of thought.

This session looks back on some of McLuhan's theories and applies them to current media with a focus on classroom learning and teaching.

It is important to step back from the day-to-day struggle with learning and teaching to see the bigger picture of how the media of communication continue to exert a heavy hand on all that we do. Understanding media, as McLuhan has said, is "like explaining water to a fish."

 **2-hour session: 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm**

[6] "Thirteen Moon on a Turtle's Back – Appliqué & Edge Beadwork Pendant"

Margaret Louise Cardinal; NLC. Activity Workshop (120 min.):

Forest C Room
Monday, May 26th
2:30 to 4:30

Learn two types of beadwork as you complete a 9 cm X 5 cm leather bodied turtle, using size 6 glass seed beads. Hands on step-by-step instruction, power point presentation, storytelling (of past & future teaching lessons) and discussion are all inclusive to workshop

This tutorial illustrates two forms of beadwork the appliqué and overcast edge work on smoked tanned moose/deer hide. Step-by-step instructions using size 6 seed bead and clear illustrated handouts will be given. You will create a beaded turtle suitable as pendant to wear around the neck. This turtle will have an opening at the back to store your small keepsakes. Learn how beads have changed the aboriginal art forms through discussion, power point presentation and story telling.

- maximum 25 participants, there will be a sign-up sheet at the registration desk
Please note that there will be a beading kit fee of \$4.00 per person

 **60-minute sessions: 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm**

[29] "Samarpan Meditation: Merging the Past and the Future Into the Present"

Kumud Acharya, Kirti Acharya; NLC. Activity (60 min.):

Forest A Room
Monday, May 26th
2:30 to 3:30

In this fast paced world, the body, the mind and the intellect are constantly under pressure and demand to perform at its peak capacity. The pace never slows down.

For self-preservation it is very important that we learn to slow down and relax and meditate. Discussion of benefits of general meditation will be introduced. Participants will all take part in a 35-minute meditation (a non-activity!) followed by a short discussion.

Free meditation CDs will be distributed to those who wish to continue the meditation process at home. (This meditation is not affiliated with an particular religious group but follows the techniques as advised b Sri Baba Swami, India.)

[31] “Educating Internationally Educated Nurses”

Margo Sanders, Alexis Young; NC. Lecture (60 min.):

Recipient of the ACIFA 2008 Innovation in Teaching Certificate of Commendation

Forest B Room
Monday, May 26th
2:30 to 3:30

This session speaks to the ways NorQuest College is working to help meet the ever-increasing demand for nurses in the province of Alberta.

This session will demonstrate how the college has clearly articulated the learning needs of the Internationally Educated Nurse and the programs that were developed as a result. The educational journey of the IEN, including the challenges the nurses face, the various approaches NorQuest College has developed to assist with these challenges and the future opportunities that are evolving for this cohort will be discussed.

The benefits for all the partners of this innovative and collaborative approach to teaching will be examined.

[4] “Who Teaches the Teachers?”

Trudy Kwong; GMC. Lecture (60 min.):

Andrews Room
Monday, May 26th
1:15 to 2:15

‘Teaching Circles’ are a way that teachers can learn from one another; learning new material, techniques, and teaching activities, and learning to support one another in this high-stress profession. Trudy will talk about how those of us in the circle have learned to be better teachers, and how we can teach ourselves to continually learn.

As we begin to teach our students, we sometimes forget to use resources to help us continue to learn, ourselves. In this extremely demanding profession, we often find ourselves reinventing the wheel, learning slowly—and often the hard way—lessons that we could be learning from one another. Trudy formed a ‘Teaching Circle’ aimed at avoiding exactly that pitfall. Members have been sharing resources: lecture notes for common courses, favourite (non-copyrighted) exam questions, tips on resources (videos and activities) that have worked particularly well or particularly poorly in past classes. Plans for the Winter 2008 term include a session on effective use of instructional technology.

This presentation involves:

- a) a discussion of the formation of a 'Teaching Circle'. For Trudy's group, support from our institution in general, and our department in particular, were paramount.
- b) a demonstration of the website members are currently building as a venue for professional sharing of resources. Instructors can submit their resources for sharing and access resources posted by others. It seems that perhaps we don't have to continually reinvent the wheel.
- c) a discussion of our frequent failure to provide one another with professional support. Through our Circle, we have discovered that we often fail to provide one another with the sort of 'debriefing' support that is desperately needed in such a high-stress profession...and it doesn't have to be that way.

[25] "Recent Directions Concerning Your Pension"

Doug Short; NAIT. Lecture (60 min.):

Signal Room
Monday, May 26th
2:30 to 3:30

ACIFA's representative on the Stakeholder Consultation Group (advisory body to LAPP Trustees) will walk participants through key factors relative to their retirement, provide an update on Local Authorities Pension Plan activities, and discuss the offerings of other benefit packages. Your comments and questions will be welcomed.



 **60-minute session: 3:45 pm – 4:45 pm**

[20] "Controversies in Science from the New General Education Program"

Gerry Cross; MRC. Lecture (60min.):

Forest B Room
Monday, May 26th
3:45 to 4:45

 **afternoon activity sessions: 3 hour session 3:30 pm – 6:30 pm**


[26] “Canoeing with Master Voyagers”

Dave Purkis; NLC and Paul Hawthorn; PC. Activity (3 hours):

Outdoor Activity
Monday, May 26th
3:30 to 6:30

Embark on a journey filled with remarkable scenery along the Athabasca River from a canoe in this half-day session lead by master voyagers Paul Hawthorn and Dave Purkis. Canoes, paddles, and lifejackets will be provided for participants. Participants are advised to wear layers of warm and waterproof clothing, in the event of rain.

- maximum 20 participants
a sign-up sheet will be available at the registration desk

 **afternoon activity sessions: 2 hour sessions 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm**

[5] “Nordic Pole Walking – 5 Kilometre Walk”

Paul Laille; NAIT. Activity (120 min.):

Outdoor Activity
Monday, May 26th
3:30 – 5:30

Personal health, while working and in retirement, is essential to enjoying life. In this session, participants will be provided with a set of Nordic walking poles, adjusted to your height for proper technique. An experienced presenter will lead you on this 5 kilometre walk through the picturesque trails of Canmore. Nordic walking increases the heart rate, builds upper body strength and burns more calories as compared to normal walking. Its physical benefits include a whole body workout and increased cardio-vascular health. A 3 kilometre option is also available.

Participants should have a pair of sturdy walking shoes and outer wear suitable for the day's weather. Poles will be provided.

- maximum participants TBA at registration desk
a sign-up sheet will be available at the registration desk

[5] “Nordic Pole Walking – 3 Kilometre Walk”

Robert Kinsky; NAIT. Activity (120 min.):

Outdoor Activity
Monday, May 26th
3:30 – 5:30

If the sound of a five kilometre walk leaves you with some feelings of trepidation, there is an option of a shorter Nordic walk. This will vary from the other walk only in length, 3 kilometres instead of 5.

Participants should have a pair of sturdy walking shoes and outer wear suitable for the day's weather. Poles will be provided.

- maximum participants TBA at registration desk
a sign-up sheet will be available at the registration desk

[22] "Horseback Riding Jasper Trails"

Ranch Manager; Pyramid Riding Stables. Activity (120 min.):

Outdoor Activity
Monday, May 26th
3:30 to 5:30

- maximum 20 participants
a sign-up sheet will be available at the registration desk

[13] "Discuss Bridging the Divide – With Judy and George on a Bike Tour of Jasper"

George Haeckel, Judy Grattan; SAIT. Activity (120 min.):

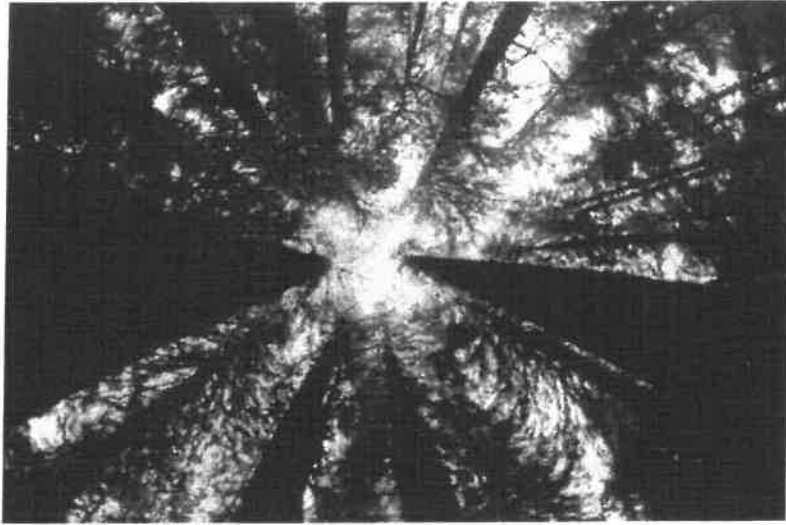
Outdoor Activity
Monday, May 26th
3:30 to 5:30

Join Judy and George for an opportunity to discuss topics based on the conference theme while exploring the Jasper area on a bike. The group will be riding on roads, which for the most part will be paved. The ride will be of the order of 20 km with some hills, although we are not planning to ride up any mountain passes.

This session is intended to support the concept of 'wellness for faculty'. Physical wellness has a direct impact on our mental wellness and our ability to successfully adjust to the ever-changing environment in our institutes. We hope that by participating in our session, some of the faculty will take part in a physical activity, meet with colleagues in a less formal setting and discuss mutual challenges and opportunities. We would like to promote physical activity as a means to help cope with the stresses that we see in our classrooms and our institutes.

Participants should bring their own bike and be prepared for an outdoor activity in the mountains.

- maximum 25 participants
a sign-up sheet will be available at the registration desk



Monday evening

7:00 pm – 10:00 pm dinner banquet
Multi-Purpose Room, Jasper Activity Centre

Activities include:

- ACIFA 2008 Award for Innovation in Teaching
- Presentations to ACIFA Executive, and additional presentations.

Monday evening entertainment

8:30 pm – 10:30 pm live band
Multi-Purpose Room, Jasper Activity Centre

Detour BAND



10:15 – midnight hospitality suite
Skyline Room, Lobstick Lodge



Keynote Speaker: Andrew Nikiforuk

Journalist, Author & Investigator of Social and Ecological Impacts

For the last two decades Andrew Nikiforuk has written about energy, economics and the west for a variety of Canadian publications including Walrus, Maclean's, Canadian Business, Report on Business, Chatelaine, Georgia Straight, Equinox and Harrowsmith.

In the late 1990s he investigated the social and ecological impacts of intensive livestock industries for the Calgary Herald and recently wrote a position paper on water diversion in the Great Lakes for the University of Toronto's Munk Centre (2004).

Last year he completed a major series on peak oil for CBC Radio as well as a lengthy investigation on coal bed methane for Report On Business Magazine and Canadian Business magazine. He currently does an investigative biweekly environmental column for the CBC, and writes a monthly column for Canadian Business on energy issues (Full Disclosure). In his spare time he edits a newsletter for landowners on oil and gas issues in the Canadian West: *The Land Advocate* (www.landadvocate.org).

Nikiforuk's journalism has won seven National Magazine Awards since 1989 and top honors for investigative writing from the Association of Canadian Journalists. His dramatic Alberta-based book, *Saboteurs: Wiebo Ludwig's War Against Big Oil*, won the Governor General's Award for Non-Fiction in 2002. His latest book, *Pandemonium*, examines the impact of global trade on disease exchanges and has received widespread national acclaim. He is currently writing a book about the tar sands.

Nikiforuk and his wife and three sons, Aidan, Keegan and Torin, live in Calgary, Alberta. Whether speaking or writing about melting glaciers, educational shams, peak oil, or the destruction of the boreal forest, Nikiforuk has earned a reputation as an honest and provocative voice in Canadian journalism.

Tuesday May 27


7:30 -8:45 am Breakfast
Multi-Purpose Room, Jasper Activity Centre

9:00 – 10:00 am keynote speaker
Multi-Purpose Room, Jasper Activity Centre

Programme – sessions



Tuesday morning

 3-hour session: 10:15 am – 1:15 pm

[3] "Photoshop Basics for Digital Photography"

Ray Rasmussen, Chris Olsen; LC. Workshop (180 min.):

Forest B Room
Tuesday, May 27th
10:15 to 1:15

Digital camera equipment routinely produces images that are flat, and lacking contrast, color vibrancy and sharpness. The digital files contain the information needed to provide good quality, high contrast and vibrant colors and sharp images but they have to be enhanced with color management software. Ray Rasmussen introduces digital enthusiasts to the power of Photoshop. This hands-on, beginner-level workshop is aimed at users that want more contrast and color vibrancy and sharpness from their digital images. Participants will be coached in basic techniques for managing adjustment layers, and using the 'curves' program as a tool for refining their digital photos. While participants should not expect to master the Photoshop software in this session, they will have a feel for the importance of color management and will be provided with information about how to engage in online learning.


Equipment:

Participants are welcome to bring their own laptop computers if they already have Photoshop CS-3. Images are provided for demonstration and work, but a portion of the workshop can be dedicated to participants working on a favorite photo. A basic knowledge of computers and the Windows operating system is assumed.

Background:

Ray Rasmussen is an award-winning photographer, teacher and environmental advocate. He is a prolific web publisher, and collections of his superb images can be seen at <http://raysweb.net/photography/>. Chris Olsen instructs Environmental Sciences at Lakeland College. Contact Chris Olsen (chris.olsen@lakelandcollege.ca) for more information.

- maximum 20 participants
a sign-up sheet will be available at the registration desk

 **2-hour sessions: 10:15 am – 12:15 pm**

[11] "The Universal Aspects of Learning: A Context for Zoetic Skills"

Stefan Sikora; MRC. Lecture (with ongoing discussion) (120 min.):

Andrews Room
Tuesday, May 27th
10:15 to 12:15

This presentation addresses the question of how *all* human beings learn and develop. A portion of this discussion will focus on examining the classroom implications of this model (UAL) with respect to *the necessity of 'failure'* in achieving success in the overall learning process.

This presentation concerns itself directly with the conference strand of 'Teaching and Learning', specifically with the topic of how human beings (indeed, all living things) learn and develop over time. A portion of this discussion will focus on examining the classroom implications of this model (the Universal Aspects of Learning), especially with respect to what can be best termed *the necessity of 'failure'* for the achievement of success not only in the overall learning process but also within the more general and individual development of what can be best described as a '*zoetic skill set*'. Further discussion will center on the critical role of the teacher as model and facilitator of both the *learning process and personal responsibility*.

With respect to the goals and objectives in this discussion, it is hoped that participants will see a more direct relationship between classroom learning (schooling) and general learning (education), recognizing how the skill set acquired in one transfers directly to the other. Further, it is hoped that participants will deepen their understanding of how critical a role the factors of '*patience*', '*compassion*' and '*general classroom atmosphere*' play in the development and enhancement of all genuine learning.

 **90-minute sessions: 10:15 am – 11:45 am**

[14] "Teaching as the Practice of Wisdom"

Peter Vogels; GMC. Lecture/Activity - Discussion (90 min.):

Forest A Room
Tuesday, May 27th
10:15 to 11:45

There is a tendency in post secondary education to separate and objectify terms such as *teaching* and *learning*. This has the potential of limiting our understanding of what transpires in the classroom. This workshop explores wisdom traditions that challenge ways of thinking that fragment and depersonalize the learning experience. Workshop participants will be given the opportunity to discuss key concepts from various wisdom traditions and apply them to their teaching practice.

Post secondary educators have a daunting task in helping students prepare for the demands they face in today's world. Students face complex social and ecological problems that require unique

and creative solutions. The apparent intractability and persistence of these serious problems calls upon educators to reconsider what it means to *teach and learn*.

In many respects the same cultural dynamics that have led to the problems we face today are also deeply embedded in our understanding of the educational experience. Post secondary education is built upon a world view that objectifies education in a way that fragments and depersonalizes the learning process. Teaching and learning become objects to be manipulated and analyzed which in turn limits our understanding of what actually transpires in the classroom.

When we limit our understanding of what transpires in the classroom we fail to grasp the great potential inherent in the learning process. Wisdom traditions such as Buddhism, Taoism, Hinduism etc. offer unique perspectives that help us understand the education as a dynamic lived experience. This suggests that the relationship between teacher-student, teaching and learning are "always already" reciprocal, mutually interdependent and subjective in nature.

In this regard teaching and learning are not seen as mutually exclusive but part of the greater process called life. Student and teacher are seen as allies who are engaged in a psychological, emotional and spiritual process that requires them to make moral choices about the way they lead their lives. Throughout this process the wisdom associated with humility, openness and empathy surface and the opportunity for new ways of being and acting emerge.

In this workshop I plan to briefly identify some of the key wisdom concepts that wisdom traditions have in common. I then plan to share a number of quotes/sayings/parables from the wisdom traditions that relate to teaching and learning. Workshop participants will be given the opportunity to explore how these concepts can be applied in their teaching practice.

[2] "Pedagogies of Engagement: a Conversation About Good Teaching"

Jim Parsons; University of Alberta. Lecture (90 min.) (encore presentation):

Forest C Room
Tuesday, May 27th
10:15 to 11:45

How do post-secondary teachers engage students in learning? What new pedagogies are supported by research? What practical activities can post-secondary teachers use in their classrooms? What walls exist between teachers and learners, and how can a teacher help break down those walls? Finally, what foundational philosophies ground successful post-secondary teaching?

Jim Parsons is a teacher, a teacher educator, a writer and a researcher. He has been teaching at the University of Alberta for 32 years. During that time he has written more than 60 books – many specifically about teaching. His latest book, *Celebrating School Improvement*, won the 2007 ATA Research Award, and is the synthesis of six years of extensive research with teachers that highlights how teachers can improve student achievement and organizational improvement.

The presentation "Pedagogies of Engagement" outlines successful practices for teaching at the post-secondary level. It addresses the five key questions listed in paragraph one. Finally, it gives opportunities for those who attend to talk about their successful practices and to learn from each other. Those who attend and participate in this presentation will leave with practical ideas that will help them engage their students in learning, help improve their own institutions, and work with other colleagues to build stronger institutions. Topics covered include successful professional development, leadership, site-based research, and organizational culture.

 **60-minute session: 10:15 am – 11:15 am**

[21] "Are Your Students Learning in Spite of Your Lecture? What Is the Ultimate Aim of Education?"

Ken McKee; NAIT. Lecture (60 min.):

Signal Room
Tuesday, May 27th
10:15 to 11:15

Is not teaching about encouraging students to work on their own, at their own pace, investigating applied problems, with confidence? How would this happen in classes with ability spreads from zero to one hundred? Is it possible to produce computer software materials that result in the transfer of information at 'warp speed'?

Alfred North Whitehead states, "Education is the acquisition of the art of the utilization of knowledge." He further suggests that students ideally would experience the joy of discovery in what he termed the "Romantic Stage" of education or the stage of first apprehension – "a ferment stirring in the mind". This leads to the "Precision Stage" or analysis of facts in a systematic order. From these facts the final "Generalization Stage" occurs – a return to romanticism but with well-defined techniques.

How can we, as educators, best direct students so that they may passionately acquire the "art of the utilization of knowledge?"

The phrase "when will we ever use this?" originates from students' truthful concern with the lack of connectedness to Life. If each of us individually looks at how we learn, there is much that can be derived and taken into the classroom. We want to learn about things that we are interested in, that affect us directly, and importantly, at our own rate so that we create many continuous successes. To create a "ferment in the mind of a student", requires the same type of self-guided, self-paced, passion.

Ken will reveal results of his twenty years of experimentation in his computer classes with these ideas.

 **60-minute session: 11:30 am – 12:30 pm**

[8] "Teaching and Learning for Success"

John Van Leeuwan; SAIT. Lecture (60 min.):

Signal Room
Tuesday, May 27th
11:30 to 12:30

This presentation will review the learning process, define student/instructor/institutional success, and address some common problems encountered. A short group discussion on common problems will be included.

 **90-minute sessions: noon – 1:30 pm**

[17] “Asia Past and Present – Third World and First World Experiences”

Robin Tizzard, Gwen Wheeler; PC. Workshop (90 min.):

Forest A Room
Tuesday, May 27th
noon to 1:30

Coincidentally, in the summer of 2007, two wandering instructors, Robin Tizzard and Gwen Wheeler travelled on separate vacation excursions to Cambodia, Vietnam and Japan. The result of their touring is a visual experience of third world and first world Asian experiences. Join Gwen and Robin as they bring their pictures and stories of the ancient past and the optimistic future to the ACIFA Jasper Conference.

Their presentation compliments the conference theme of “Bridging the Divide” as they explore the diversity of First and Third World cultures and communities. These ancient and post- modern societies present the complex dichotomies of Past and future.

Through the use of two simultaneous PowerPoint presentations and travel anecdotes, we compare and contrast the lives of the people from these Asian nations of Cambodia, Vietnam and Japan.

[15] “Information Literacy & the 21st Century Student”

Marion Fowler; KC. Workshop (90 min.):

Forest C Room
Tuesday, May 27th
noon to 1:30

Are most post-secondary students Information Literate? What are the challenges for teaching, learning, and maintaining this skill? This workshop will explore the concepts of information literacy, and strategies for incorporating information literacy into learning today.

Today's Learners have a variety of information sources available to them. Advances in technology have increased access to information on global levels.

Objectives

1. Briefly review information literacy.
2. Identify what is happening in the classroom today.
3. Explore what skills students need to become information literate.
4. Share ideas to develop strategies for incorporating these skills into the classroom environment.

Advances in technology and the availability of information have impacted upon both teachers and learners. With access to a variety of information sources from all over the world, being information literate is becoming a necessary competency to manage the challenges of the workplace and daily

living. Even though many learners are often motivated by experiential, and self-directed learning this is not enough. The problems many students face are:

- not knowing where or how to locate information,
- how to manage and analyze the sources of information,
- how to evaluate and critically determine if the information is valid or appropriate
- what to do with the information

The challenge for Teachers of today is to develop strategies that keep students motivated and engaged while, developing their skills to become competent in the areas of Information Literacy.

 **60-minute sessions: 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm**

[10] "Scribblecasting as a Teaching Tool"

Brian Lloyd; MHC. Lecture (60 min.):

Recipient of the ACIFA 2008 Innovation in Teaching Certificate of Commendation

Andrews Room
Tuesday, May 27th
12:30 to 1:30

Scribblecasting is the merging of the virtual whiteboard with the video podcast, which can provide students with portable access to lecture materials creating a truly mobile learning environment. This session will explain the fundamental goals of scribblecasting and its purpose and relationship to the standard classroom lecture. It will also touch on the concept of mobile learning and its evolution from distance and electronic learning.

Organic chemistry is a very complex and visual course. The student often has difficulty assimilating the volume of material presented in the stand lecture period. The idea was to free the student from the confines of the lecture period allowing them to access the lecture as often as necessary, and when and wherever it was advantageous to the student. RSS feeds and video podcasting along with the availability of PSP's and more recently the video iPod all have contributed to making mobile learning a reality for the student. The scribblecast, "video podcast", has empowered the student to have unrestricted access to the organic chemistry lecture in an unprecedented manner. This innovation represents a tiny first step into the future as we move beyond distance learning and electronic learning into the realm of mobile learning.

[30] "Samarpan Meditation: Merging the Past and the Future Into the Present"

Kumud Acharya, Kirti Acharya; NLC. Activity (60 min.) (encore presentation):

Signal Room
Tuesday, May 27th
12:30 to 1:30

In this fast paced world, the body, the mind and the intellect are constantly under pressure and demand to perform at its peak capacity. The pace never slows down. For self-preservation it is very important that we learn to slow down and relax and meditate. Discussion of benefits of general meditation will be introduced. Participants will all take part in a 35-minute meditation (a non-activity!) followed by a short discussion. Free meditation CDs will be distributed to those who wish to continue the meditation process at home. (This meditation is not affiliated with an particular religious group but follows the techniques as advised b Sri Baba Swami, India.)

Lunch

1:30 –2:30 pm

Multi-Purpose Room, Jasper Activity Centre

Tuesday afternoon

2:45 – 4:45 pm ACIFA Annual General Meeting
Skyline Room, Lobstick Lodge



4:45 – 7:00 pm Free Time

Tuesday evening

7:00 pm Barbeque at Multi-Purpose Room, Jasper Activity Centre

**musical stylings by
the Lawrence Brothers**

10:15 – midnight hospitality suite



Skyline Room, Lobstick Lodge

Wednesday May 28

8:30 -10:30 am Breakfast
Multi-Purpose Room, Jasper Activity Centre

Conference Wrap Up

- draws
- presentations
- closing comments

Thank you to ACIFA member faculty associations & other contributors for their donations to:

the Silent Auction for the Alberta Public Post-secondary Education Trust Fund

- In operation since 1995, the Trust Fund provides funding to provincial award programs and a range of PD activities.

Thank you for coming to the Conference. See you next year!



ACIFA 2009 will be in CANMORE

at the



hosted by

Alberta College of Art & Design Faculty Association