

Nov. 8, 2010
Issue CXII



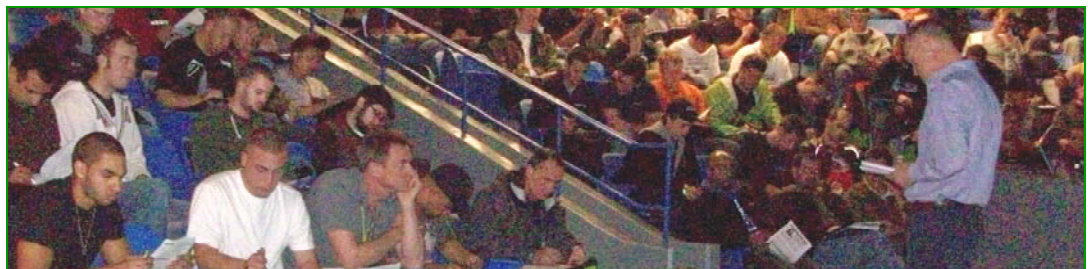
Wheels & Wings

SoT WELCOMES APPRENTICESHIP STUDENTS



Anderson Brooks (left), Samira Amin (centre) and Tayyabah Hassan (right) prepare for the School of Transportation Centennial Welcomes event for our new Apprenticeship students at Ashtonbee Campus. Anderson and Tayyabah are both work study students who help our Transitions Team prepare and run events for our new students. Samira Amin, Student Transitions Coordinator, works with a fabulous group of staff and students to hold various first year student events such as Centennial Welcomes, Post Secondary Fairs, Service Fairs and various transitional work shops. Her goal is to prepare our new students with the resources and tools needed to achieve academic success as a Centennial Student.

With five intakes spread out over the year, the School of Transportation keeps Samira and her team busy. The October 25th intake welcomed over 300 apprentices.



We're on the Web!

See us at:

centennialcollege.ca

Auto body Students Tour Businesses



In order to provide the students in the auto body repair techniques program, Professor Paulo Santos rented a coach bus and took over fifty students on tour of three businesses in the GTA. The purpose of this field trip was to have the Techniques auto body program students, experience how auto body repair facilities operate during normal working hours. The first stop was in Erin, Ontario at Boot Hill Automotive Resurrection that specializes in automobile restoration, the second stop was in Mississauga, Ontario at Lyon's Auto Body that specializes not only passenger vehicles, but also collision damaged heavy trucks. The third stop was at 427 Auto Collision in Etobicoke which is one of the largest collision repair facilities in Canada.

Apprenticeship Career Connections Fair



Apprenticeship Liaison Officer, Darryl Ormiston, and Coordinators Dave Weatherhead and Dave Samalea represented Centennial's School of Transportation at the Apprenticeship Career Connections (International Centre) which was hosted by the Peel Halton Workforce Development Group.

Along with SoT's new display booth, the ever popular pedal powered hydraulic life device (manufactured by a team of SoT students and faculty led by Tim Allan) provided an excellent interactive experience for the hundreds of guests at the event.

The **School of Transportation** at Ashtonbee Campus will be hosting its own...

OPEN HOUSE ON SATURDAY, DEC. 4TH

(11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.) for all interested students (family members are welcome). This event will be preceded by the Discover Centennial Event scheduled for Saturday, November 20th at the Morningside Campus.



Jennifer Leith, Vice President

Student and Community Engagement

A survey was conducted from May 21 to May 31, 2010 to get at the heart of graduating students' experiences at Centennial. The key questions we wanted to ask were: have we prepared students for career success? Have we prepared them to make a meaningful contribution in our society?

Overwhelmingly, the answers to those questions were 'yes'.

An online survey was sent to 3728 students who were poised to graduate last spring. 1217 students replied, a 33 % response rate which is above average for online surveys, especially one conducted at this time of year. Using Skip Downing's work on student success and retention as a framework for the survey, we asked students about Centennial's influence on their ability to self-reflect, to think critically, and to view themselves as people who have a meaningful contribution to make in our society. We also asked about Centennial's success in giving them the skills and networking opportunities they need to launch a successful career.

This is what our Graduates told us about their experience at Centennial:

92% said that they learned a lot about themselves that will help with their careers.

87% told us that they learned a lot about themselves that will help in other areas of their lives.

90% say they are now clearer about their career goals.

90% said they now have the skills they will need to get started in their careers.

88% said that their ability to think clearly and thoughtfully to solve problems improved.

91% indicated that they are now more open to learning new ideas and skills.

87% feel that they now have the skills they need to make an important contribution in society.

88% told us they are now aware that they have an important contribution to make in society.

89% said that they made personal and professional connections at Centennial that they will value throughout their lives.

The students were also given an opportunity to write comments, and over 800 did so! Here are a few:

"Life changing"

"More than great"

"In truth, I cannot say enough about my experiences at Centennial"

We surveyed our professors to identify successful practices that promote student success. Here are some responses !



How do you provide feedback to students?

“Most faculty within the department (almost 100%) use Blackboard with the sections and courses they teach. Announcements are posted as needed, grades are posted in a timely fashion after the completion of term tests, final exams, and any assignments that have been assessed. Current Course Outlines are available throughout the entire semester. This provides the students with immediate, accessible feedback at their convenience. We can track to see when students are visiting blackboard and some of the days and times are quite interesting to say the least. For example: It is not unusual to see students accessing a Grade or Notes at 2:00 AM or 3:00 AM on any given day during the week.

Course Outlines are updated every semester and approved every semester. Course Outlines are covered with each class on the first day of classes as well as being posted on Blackboard as previously mentioned. Within the course outline, specific outcomes, EES, attendance procedures, program policies and specific marks for each type of assessment are included. We feel this provides the students with clear goals and information from the very first day that we are together.”

Professor Dave Auchterlonie, Coordinator of (Auto)Motive Power Program

“Students get feedback on their progress through marks being posted on Blackboard. In our department we give students the total picture four times through the year in print format. There are also many informal discussions that take place with regard to marks, attitude, and the student’s overall progress. I also ensure that I engage in Reflective practice for myself.”

Professor David Weatherhead, Coordinator of the Canadian Tire MAP.

“Teaching of the practical classes involves communicating what is acceptable and what is not acceptable in real time. In addition, students are required to hand in project written reports for grading. Handouts on questions/discussion items dealing with the practical activities are give to students in order to reinforce their knowledge and assess their abilities. Students are encouraged to ask questions at all times.”

Professor Michael Davidson, Aerospace.

JOIN US (All students, staff and faculty are welcome)

Monday, Nov. 22, 2010

(11:30—12:30)

HAROON SIDDIQUI

(Toronto Star Editor Emeritus)

**“RESPECT—ADDING DIVERSITY
TO YOUR TOOLKIT”**

ASHTONBEE AUDITORIUM

Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2010

(12:30—2:00)



CARLOS ANDRES GOMEZ

(“Truth-telling visionary”)

**“BEHIND THE MASC—DEFINING
MASCULINITY”**

ASHTONBEE AUDITORIUM