

# School of Transportation Newsletter

The **FUTURE** of **LEARNING**

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Issue CXI



## SoT Student Focus Group



A SoT student focus group meeting was held on Monday, October 18 at 11:30-12:30 p.m. The meeting included fourteen class representatives from a variety of programs and five staff members (Dave Samalea, David Weatherhead, Darryl Ormiston, Rita Raper and Jaimini Randev). The purpose of these meeting is to gather information and suggestions in order to enhance the students' experiences at Ashtonbee Campus. The student representatives were provided with several updates and follow-up activities to previous focus group meetings. These included: an update on the status of our request regarding an advanced green light at Ashtonbee and Warden in order to ease the bottle-neck for drivers turning north onto Warden; the soon to be functioning traffic lights at the Ashtonbee Campus entrance; the well received addition of microwaves in the cafeterias in both buildings; and the school's continuing focus on ensuring a respectful environment at Ashtonbee Campus so that all students feel that they belong.

Additional issues raised by the students were: the observation that some students continue to smoke in non-designated areas; the long wait lines at the OSAP office; the need to iron out some wrinkles associated with the newly installed Q-Matic system; overcrowding at the bike rack; increasing the availability of the gym; the need for more bursaries; the shortage of benches at exits; and the condition of washrooms. Suggested solutions were put forward and will be processed through the Campus Users' Committee.

A detailed discussion was held regarding the Respect Campaign. The students agreed that while some students' inappropriate attitudes could be very difficulty to change, all students need to demonstrate behaviour that is respectful of all students regardless of race, gender and sexual orientation. The students also appreciated hearing that the staff had placed a special focus on ensuring that appropriate behaviour is reinforced and that inappropriate behaviour is identified and dealt with through immediate intervention(s).

The next meeting of the next School of Transportation Student Focus Group will be held within the next two months.

*Wheels & Wings*

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[centennialcollege.ca](http://centennialcollege.ca)

# ONTARIO COLLEGES INFORMATION FAIR—2010



The annual Ontario Colleges Information Fair was held on Tuesday, October 19th (9:30 a.m.—7:00 p.m.) at the Direct Energy building at Exhibition Place. 9:30—7 pm. The event welcomed eight to ten thousand high school students from the GTA. This is this year's first opportunity to get information out to the students and our School of Transportation team was there to deliver that information, answer questions and allow students to actively engage in operating our interactive Pedal Power Hydraulic Device (constructed by a team of Centennial staff and students led by Tim Allen).

Then event also provided with an opportunity to inform the community of two upcoming events: **DISCOVER CENTENNIAL** (Morningside Campus on Saturday, November 20) and the **SCHOOL OF TRANSPORTATION OPEN HOUSE** for high school students (and their family members) to be held at Ashtonbee Campus (Saturday, Dec. 4, 11 a.m.—2:00 p.m.)

Our thanks to the School of Transportation team (led by Darryl Ormiston): **Josh James, Marco Pollo, Dave Samalea, Steve Lamb, Ahad Hoosein, Dave Chyznak and Dennis Mott.**

## Centre for Students with Disabilities (CSD)

The CSD (Centre for Students with Disabilities) at Ashtonbee Campus has a team of professionals ready, willing and able to support you in achieving success in your programs. If you are among the many students who need some form of assistance due to a disability, please contact Lynda Kingsland (Room A111, ext 7252). Do it as soon as possible so that accommodations can be in place early enough to ensure success in meeting the learning outcomes of the program. The CSD serves as an advocacy centre for students, ensuring that they have the educational access required for successful completion of their program or course requirement. The staff is specially trained to work with students with disabilities who either identify themselves or are referred by faculty members or outside agencies.

### RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CSD:

- To assess the individual needs of each student who has self-identified, and negotiate required accommodations based on the student's documentation;
- To prepare an "Individual Student Profile" (ISP) as required. These ISP's will outline the nature of the disability, and suggest classroom accommodations, strategies for success and the assistance to be provided by the CSD;
- To provide and/or facilitate the accommodations and services negotiated with the student;
- To assist students in developing self-advocacy skills.



Ashtonbee Computer labs are an excellent support for today's technician in training. Today's automotive technology makes the computer a mandatory part of every technician's tool-kit.

## STUDENT ACCESS TO SoT NEWSLETTER

The SoT Newsletter is published every two weeks and is available to all SoT students. You can access it in a variety of ways: ask your professor to forward it to you via email, ask your professor if it is posted on Blackboard, go to the School of Transportation pages on Centennial web-site (click on "Newsletters" to access past editions); and/or read current editions that are posted in each Departmental office and on the display board outside the Dean's office (C108). Suggestions for the newsletter can be emailed to the Dean's Office: ([jrandev@centennialcollege.ca](mailto:jrandev@centennialcollege.ca)).

## Professionally Speaking...(Professor Lan Wong)



*Professor Lan Wong is a proud graduate of the Centennial College Aerospace program and currently into her second year as a full-time faculty member. Her experience in the industry was in corporate aviation, aircraft maintenance-avionics, service and installation. Once licensed, Professor Wong move into Quality Assurance as an avionics inspector of Mid-Canada Mod Center at LB Pearson Midfield. "I am very happy to have shifted my focus in this industry to teaching and training and very pleased to have joined the team at Centennial", says Professor Wong.*

### How do you promote a respectful learning environment in your classroom?

"Perhaps one of the most important things that I do is to lay down the ground rules on the first day. Communicating my expectations of the students in the class to conduct themselves as adults and to take responsibility for their actions and their part in the interactions they have with classmates and professors. My expectation that all students stay focused on the learning tends to help set a tone from the start. Maintaining the environment is a day to day endeavour and I approach it no differently than turning the lights on when entering the room. I don't hesitate to give reminders of inappropriate conversation or behaviour and am sensitive at all times to concerns brought to my attention and to address them as directly as possible. I do not single out individuals where possible but address concerns of this nature to the class as a unit. I also encourage the students to support each other and each other's learning."

### How do your students get feedback on their progress?

"One of the ongoing tools I use is a series of questions on material I've covered to date, asked of each and every student and where a student is unable to answer, the question is re-directed to the class for input. I find that this is a useful tool in that it allows the students to individually mark their progress and level of knowledge against that of their classmates and my expectations of their knowledge base on an ongoing basis. I also use quizzes and in class exercises which are not intended to contribute to final evaluation but rather as a learning aid and marker of progress."

### What are some of the special items in your classroom/lab with which your students get an opportunity to work?

"Students work with equipment and tools on an ongoing basis which they will be required to have developed skills used in the industry. These include millimeters, breadboards, oscilloscopes, electrical components, power generator test bench, avionics test equipment (both ramp and bench), mock-ups, radio panels and serviceable aircraft parts."

## Haroon Siddiqui to Address Ashtonbee Campus



Toronto Star Editor Emeritus **Haroon Siddiqui** will be visiting Ashtonbee Campus on Monday, November 22, 2010 at 11:30 a.m. in the Ashtonbee Auditorium. He will deliver a 40 minute talk on "**Equity—Adding Diversity to you Toolkit**" followed by a twenty minute Q and A. Mr. Siddiqui's insights and experiences in local, national and international affairs as they relate to global social justice issues will be of special interest to students, faculty and support staff committed to Centennial's signature learning experience.

## SoT OPEN HOUSE for HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

### ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS (AND FAMILY MEMBERS)

INTERESTED IN THE SCHOOL OF TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM OFFERINGS ARE INVITED TO AN

### OPEN HOUSE ON SATURDAY, DEC. 4 (11 AM—2 PM)

AT ASTHONBEE CAMPUS (WARDEN AND ASHTONBEE)

View the SoT video (2 minutes) by clicking [here](#)