



150 years from *Normal*

Education Insider

October 2007

- **Dr Roger Slee** took on a new position in the Institute of Education, University of London. The position presented a great opportunity for Roger to pursue his research goals, as well as reunite with his family in London. We wish him the best.
- Dr. Anthony Masi, the Provost, appointed **Jamshid Beheshti** as the Interim Dean until May 31, 2008. An Advisory Committee for the Selection of a Dean of Education was created. A motion was passed at our September 24th Faculty Council meeting that each academic unit would have one representative and that the two alternates would be from the two largest units, i.e., DISE and ECP.
- **Anita Nowak**, the Faculty Development Officer, has taken a new position with the Study. The Development and Alumni University Relations will be recruiting shortly a new senior Development Officer for the Faculty.
- In our undergraduate programs for the academic year 2007-2008 we have 462 **newly admitted students** and another 73 interfaculty transfers and readmits for a total of 544 students. This is an overall increase of 7% over last year. We should be proud of the caliber of our students since less than half of the applicants to our undergraduate programs were offered admission to the Faculty.
- These new students were welcomed to the Faculty at orientation and at the fourth annual welcome info day and lunch. Personnel in eleven kiosks were on hand to provide information and assistance to the students. Special thanks to **Antonella Nizzola**, our new Career Advisor and Recruitment Liaison person, who helped organize this successful event.
- The **WOW Lab** located in room 356 is a new initiative in elementary and high school level science education lead by Dr. Brian Alters, Tomlinson Chair in Science Education. The project will develop three-dimensional science and math teaching technologies for teaching science with desired high levels of student excitement and amusement, to result in higher motivation, interest, and increased learning for Canadian students. The work of this project will be shared by students and faculty. The Project Manager, Siara Isaac, is currently a Master's student in McGill's Chemistry Department. After completing her chemistry degree within this semester, she intends to apply to McGill's Faculty of Education's PhD program. The Lab has recruited three graduate students and one undergraduate student to develop activity prototypes and framework for assessment. Over the next five years, an additional four to seven Education graduate students will be recruited to work in the lab to assist with piloting materials and prototypes, consulting on pedagogy, and advising on curriculum issues.

The WOW Lab is participating in the 150th Anniversary Open House on Saturday, October 20th, so please drop by the 6th floor exhibition room to see a demonstration of the levitating train.

- **Dr. Victoria Talwar** and her research will be featured in an upcoming article in the New York Magazine as well as a chapter in a book on cutting edge research in child development. Ashley Merryman and Po Bronson, authors of several non-fiction books whose work has appeared in Time Magazine, Washington Post and New York Magazine, shadowed Dr. Talwar and her students for three days in September, observing their research studies to learn more about children's understanding of lies, truth and promises as well as the development of children's honesty. The article featuring Dr. Talwar and her research will appear in New York Magazine in early 2008.
- **Joe Kincheloe's** and Peter McLaren's new book: *Critical Pedagogy: Where are we now?* has been nominated for an outstanding human rights book award by the Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Bigotry and Human Rights.
- It is with great pleasure that the Faculty announces that **Mr. Manuel De Jesus Lucio** has been awarded one of the Principal's Prize for Administrative & Support Staff. This award comes with a gift of \$5,000, which will be presented to him at our next convocation, and his profile will be recounted in the McGill Reporter.

We would like to thank Manuel for his loyal and selfless service to the Faculty, and to all those who nominated and supported this application, particularly Lise Winer and Anthony Paré.

- About a year ago, the University allocated two buildings, 3661 Peel Mansion and 3715 Peel Coach House, to the Faculty in exchange for the space at the ground floor of McLennan building, where the **School of Information Studies** is located presently. The University, as part of its recently commissioned Master Plan, is determined to convert the ground floor of the McLennan building to a student services area, and has requested that SIS be relocated. This move is welcomed by the Faculty, which further consolidates Education in the McTavish / Peel precinct. After much discussion and consultation in the Faculty, a motion was passed at our September 24th Faculty Council meeting endorsing the relocation of SIS to 3661 Peel Mansion. The project is slated for completion sometime in Spring 2009.

- A preliminary audit report by the Office of Planning and Institutional Analysis, shows that the Faculty has a 25 percent space deficit, particularly in the graduate student area. The Coach House at 3715 Peel will be available in summer of 2008, and we are considering various options for this space, including one ECP clinic, research commons, graduate learning commons, First Nations and Inuit Education, and a multi-literacies research space. Please forward your suggestions to your representatives on the **Faculty Space Committee** (Catherine Guastavino, Donna-Lee Smith, Elizabeth Wood, Marisa Terrenzio-El Jaoui, Bruce Shore, Samantha Ryan, Chantal Castonguay, Jessica Toste, Sandra Chang-Kredl, Jamshid Beheshti, Patricia Jackson).
- The **Faculty Web Advisory Group** met on September 24 to discuss Faculty's website. Over the past year, Damara Chojecki, graduate student at SIS, has developed a new information architecture for the Faculty's website. Currently, Sarah Newitt, graduate student at SIS, with the help of the McGill Web Service Group is implementing the new information architecture. We are anticipating a new and improved Faculty website in January 2008. Carole Grossman is our new Faculty Web Content Manager, and Jim Harris is the Faculty Web Technical Manager. Each unit has a designated web coordinator, who will be the contact person for the unit working closely with Carole. Please forward all your suggestions to a representative on the Faculty Web Advisory Group (Doreen Starke-Meyerring, Fiona Tam, Anne Farray, Steven Shaw, Patricia Jackson, Carol Grossman, Jim Harris, Jamshid Beheshti).
- A reminder: **Fall convocation** will be held on Friday, November 9, 2007 in Place Des Arts. The convocation for Education is at 10:00 A.M. Forty students in our B.Ed. and BSC-Kinesiology undergraduate programs and thirty-two students in our Continuing Education programs will be graduating. Faculty members are encouraged to attend.