

COCA NOTES

Volume 1, Issue 1

April 2001

Congress of Canadian Student Associations (CCSA)

Calgary, Alberta

I'm sure that you have received your registration for the CCSA Conference to be held in Calgary, Alberta Thursday June 7 to Tuesday June 12, 2001. Five organizations will converge on Calgary to share and compare all that we do. This conference will be Hosted by the University of Calgary Students' Association and the Mount Royal College Students' Association. The conference will include the following organizations, **AMICCUS-C** (The Association of Managers in Canadian College, University Student Centres), **MoneyCon** (Leadership training for Financial members of Student Associations), **CART** (Canadian Academic Round Table- pertains to academic issues facing institutions across Canada), **SuperCon** (Leadership development for Student Leaders), and of course last but not least **COCA**.

Hope to see you in Calgary!

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Message from the Chair

It's been a very long year so far. The majority of the Boards time has been taken up with the CCSA conference. Much time and effort has been put forth by John Bowers at Mount Royal and Greg Curtis from the University of Calgary. Thank you to both of you!

You will see in this pre conference edition of COCA Notes, that our focus is to advise you of possible changes to the organization that will be voted on at the Annual General Meeting in Calgary. We ask you to review all of the information and ask questions if you need clarification. This will make the AGM run smoothly.

The Board has been working on numerous projects this year. An outline of some of the items are as follows;

1. Due to increased costs and inefficiencies, we have proposed that the Board size be reduced. We propose that there will be one representative from each region and 1 associate rep. This will enable equal representation and reduced costs for board meetings.
2. Due to the extra demands on the board, we have given our Head Office Administrator direction to purchase officers liability insurance. This will protect the board members in the future.
3. We are in the process of redesigning and retooling our Web site. We hope to make both items more user friendly and aesthetically pleasing.
4. We continue to work on the Conference Protocol. In the future, the board will take a more active role in running the National Conference.
5. We have received and accepted the resignation of Uniropa Getaway Vacations as associate members of COCA.

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I wanted to take this time to apologize on behalf of the board for the lateness of COCA Notes. Due to unforeseen circumstances we were unable to meet timelines as we had hoped. In particular, I wanted to apologize to our associate members who took the time to type a report and submit it. Special thanks goes to Lisa Luscombe from UBC for being the Editor of COCA Notes for the past 2 years. She resigned her position in November of 2000.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you for your support of COCA. At the end of this National conference, I will finish my term as chair. Thanks to my fellow board members and to Earle Taylor for being a great support during the year.

Richard Anderson

COCA Chair

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COCA LIST SERVE

COCA@senecac.on.ca is for everyone to use. It currently has 137 delegates and 99 associate emails. So if you have a question and need an answer quickly, this is the place to get it.

COCA.associates@senecac.on.ca is for associates only. So associates if you need to ask somebody a question about something and are concerned that the school delegates may see it, then this is the place for you.

COCA.delegates@senecac.on.ca is for school delegates only. So if students are looking for an answer from anywhere in Canada, but don't feel that the associates need to know, this is for you.

COCA.eastern.delegates@senecac.on.ca

COCA.central.delegates@senecac.on.ca

COCA.western.delegates@senecac.on.ca

These are regional list serves for people looking to contact that region only.

In case anyone is unaware what a list serve is, it is basically an email list. You send a message to the address of the list serve, and everyone on that list gets a copy of your message. Please make use of the service, it can be a great tool for COCA members. Remember to please keep comments professional as there are a lot of people on this list.

Thanks and cheers!

Dave Mol

If you know someone who should be on the list but is not, please contact me and let me know.

Dave.mol@senecac.on.ca

FreeFone

As of October 25, 2000 FreeFone is now called **LynkTel**. As some of you may be aware, COCA has made an exclusive agreement with LynkTel to install state of the art video and computer imaging telephones on campuses. This provides free telephone service to all students on your campus, and you receive the following benefits, free local calling, \$2,000.00 per year per phone and a % of advertising, benefits to COCA, \$1000.00 per phone.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our members. We hope that you will take advantage of it. For more information, contact Martin MacDonald at 416-620-0505 or email at martin@lynktel.ca

Changes in the Programming Field

There have been some changes in the programming field this year. Effective October 26th, 2000 Gary Clarke is no longer programming at Memorial University. Gary however has continued in another role for the University. Best of luck to you Gary!

Also, Robert Tomas is no longer programming for York University. Jeff Zeoller has taken over and we wish him the best of luck.

Pam Tagle has left UBC and last but not least, Craig Cardif has left the University of Waterloo to assume the programming job at the University of Ottawa.

Best of Luck to all of you!

Join the COCA Board of Directors

Many thousands of people have asked me how they can be apart of the COCA Board. It involves some office hours and 2 board meetings throughout the year. If you are interested, you should be aware of the following,

- 1) You require written permission from your Student Association to run. You are required to have a copy of this permission at the National Conference.

- 2) Your Student Association should be aware that your regular office hours will be affected. You are required to attend 2 board meetings. One is immediately following the National Conference (June 13-15) and the other one is around Christmas time. COCA will pay the cost (within reason) to change your flight if elected.
- 3) Your Student Association must be willing to send you to the National Conference next year. Even though you may not be returning as a Student or Programmer, this is still a requirement.

If you have any further questions, feel free to contact Earle Taylor or your regional representative.

Would you consider hosting a regional or National Conference?

Have you always had the yearning to host a conference on behalf of COCA? Are you looking for that extra challenge in your everyday mundane job. Then we have the answer for you!

Consider hosting a conference for next year. Information booklets are available at the Head Office. The board and the regional reps will take a more active role in assisting you with the conference.

If you are interested, you must submit a proposal to the COCA Board prior to the National Conference.

Head Office Report-Earle Taylor

Changes in our Membership

Recently, we received a message from Richard Anderson informing us that two of our members have left the schools at which they worked. One of the people mentioned was new to campus programming and consequently, new to COCA. But the other name Richard spoke of (**Gary Clarke**) was a founding member of COCA and it seemed appropriate to take this time to speak about changes in our membership and to recognize an individual who have years of service to the industry and to COCA itself.

Recently, we have seen many long standing members leave the industry and COCA is never quite the same after they move on to new challenges. Pete Stanbridge, Tristin Chipman, Chris Thompson, Wayne Hepburn, Scott MacKay, Donna Suttie, Emmanuel Patterson, Andrew Wadden, Carl Scholsser and Pam Tagle are just a few of the names that come to mind.

But it came as a real shock to hear that Gary Clarke would no longer be working for the Student Association of Memorial University of Newfoundland.

Gary had worked there for as long as I can remember and was seen by many as an institution himself. When COCA was founded in 1982, Gary Clarke was there offering insight and guidance to the organization. Since day one, Gary never missed a national conference and served on the Board as many times as anyone would care to count. Clearly COCA was important to Gary and he valued the time he had at the National to hear stories, both good and bad, from his fellow programmers.

COCA has changed once again with Gary Clarke's leaving campus programming. We will miss his keen sense of fair play and his uncanny knack for calling it like it is. We are sorry to see him go and wish him the best in his future endeavors. Good luck Gary!

Earle Taylor

COCA Executive Administrator