



# acifa

Alberta Colleges & Institutes Faculties Association

## Faculty Circuit November - December 2012

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### ACIFA 2013 Annual Spring Conference

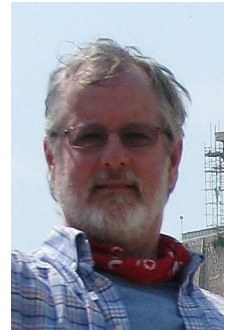
May 26 – May 28, 2013  
at the Chateau Lake Louise

**REGISTRATION  
NOW OPEN**

See Page 3 for details!

## President's Message

by Doug Short



My hope is that everyone had a true vacation over the Christmas break and that each of you is refreshed for the term ahead. The value that each of you provides to your students, your institution and the province is immeasurable, however some bureaucrat is likely to try to do it. I would like to offer my thanks to the ACIFA office staff for diligently keeping our association on track.

We recently had a very successful ACIFA sponsored Post-Secondary Education Symposium, led by our past-president, Dr. David Hyttenrauch. These meetings have been bringing together students, faculty, administrators and politicians from across Alberta to work on a common vision for post-secondary education. Our recent discussion focused on the Government's introduction of results based budgeting and what it might mean to resource allocations in our institutions. No one is quite sure, although we did seem to agree that the establishment "indicators" or common outcomes for the educational sector would be useful. To this end a group was established to refine the following "results, goals and priorities for PSE":

- Long-term vision of citizen development: whole person, whole life benefits
- Liberal education: diverse, problem-solving, critical-thinking skills
- Pure research: foundational, innovative, risk-taking
- Applied research: commercial applications and community development
- Individual, Community, Regional (and yes Economic) Benefits: quality of life measures
- Access: equity, geography, diversity, mobility
- Quality
- Affordability

Another exciting result, I believe to some extent from these gatherings, is that the students have initiated a conference on post secondary education for later in February of this year. The **Ignite Conference** (February 21 and 22, 2013) will be held on the University of Alberta – Main Campus and the students are looking for our participation. More details can be found at <http://digitalmedia.su.ualberta.ca/ignite/>.

We continue to seek out a meeting with our Government Minister and are collaborating with CAFA in this endeavor. Additionally we continue to participate in discussions to ensure the sustainability of our defined benefit pension plans. I hope to see and talk to more of you in the new year.

## Introducing: Martin Marshall, VP Professional Affairs



I am married with three adult daughters who are all in college or university. Only 2 courses remain between me and my MEd in Distance Education from Athabasca University.

I was born in Castor Alberta, raised in Rimbey, Alberta and went to Royal Roads Military College in Victoria in 1974. I graduated from RRMC in 1978 with a BSc in Physics and Physical Oceanography and continued my career as an Air Navigator in the Royal Canadian Air Force until 1995. When I left the military I got involved with the local fire department in Alix Alberta and through that connection have been working Emergency Medical Services in Alberta since 1996. I was hired as a Paramedic instructor for Portage College in 2007 and have been the coordinator for all Prehospital Care programs since October 2008. Over the years I have been an

FCSS Director, Recreation Director, Councilman, Adult Education Instructor, Volunteer Firefighter and EMS service Manager.

I am on working groups affiliated with the Alberta College of Paramedics, and the Canadian Medical Association. I was elected VP of the Portage Faculty Association in 2010 and have been on the Professional Affairs Committee since then. I have accepted the role of VP Professional Affairs and look forward to working with the Executive until spring when the position comes up for election.

## 2013 ACIFA Conference – Keynote Speaker

John Acorn was born in Edmonton, Alberta, in 1958, and has been fascinated with animals his entire life. He still lives in Edmonton, with his wife, Dena, and their two young boys Jesse and Benjamin.

John is perhaps best known as the writer and host of the television series "Acorn, The Nature Nut," a family-oriented, how-to-be-a-naturalist show. He also hosted "Twits and Pishers," a travel show for bird watchers, and is the video host for the galleries of the Royal Tyrell Museum. John has written 17 books, including many well-received field guides. These days, John teaches at the University of Alberta and is actively involved in entomological research, focusing on the biodiversity of various groups of Alberta insects, the insects of sand dune environments, and the ecology of introduced species. He continues to write for, and lecture to, a general audience.

John is the recipient of NSERC's Michael Smith Award for Science Promotion, the University of Alberta's Distinguished Alumni Award, two "Rosies" (as Best Host, in the Alberta Motion Picture Industry Awards), and two nominations for Canada's national television award, the Gemini. The Royal Society of Canada, Canadian Society of Zoologists, and Entomological Society of Alberta have all recognized his contributions to public education.



*Information about John's presentation will be available in the Jan/Feb Issue of Faculty Circuit!*

# 2013 ACIFA CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

The Registration Form for the **ACIFA 2013 Annual Spring Conference** can be found Online at:

<http://event-wizard.com/2013ACIFAConference/0/register>



## Early Bird Registration Draw:

All paid registrations received by **March 1, 2013** will be eligible for an early bird prize draw of **\$250.00!!**



Payments for Registration and Meal Tickets may be made by **Cheque, Paypal, or Credit Card.**

Payment will be accepted only after Online Registration has been completed.

Please order meal tickets in advance. Meal tickets will **NOT** be sold at the registration desk, as meal numbers must be reported to the hotel in advance of the conference.



Delegates are responsible for their own accommodation arrangements:

@ **Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise**

BOOK via phone: 1 866 540 4413

ask for the ACIFA Conference RATE and indicate the nights you are staying  
**Chateau Lake Louise has a booking deadline of April 25, 2013**

**Please note that a \*non-refundable\* room deposit (of first night plus tax) will be charged by the hotel 45 days prior to the event.**

For the most up-to-date information about all things Conference, visit:

<http://www.acifa.ca/acifa2013>

## Submit your presentation at the 2013 ACIFA Conference!

Benefits of pursuing the opportunity to present at the 2013 conference in beautiful Lake Louise:

- Conference Registration fee reduced by \$100.
- Presenting at the beautiful Chateau Lake Louise.
- Opportunity to network with colleagues from across the province on the concepts and ideas presented in your session.



## Call for Submissions

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**Alberta Colleges & Institutes Faculties Association  
2013 Annual Spring Conference - May 26 to May 28, 2013**

### **Theme Strands:**

-  The Social Face
-  The Future Face
-  The Factual Face
-  The Face of Music
-  The Academic Face
-  The Administrative Face

Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise

*hosted by the Medicine Hat College Faculty Association*



**MEDICINE HAT  
COLLEGE**

## **Submission Deadline February 11, 2013**

- **SPACE IS LIMITED SO PLEASE APPLY EARLY.**
- You will be notified by mid-March about the status of your proposal.
- Sessions will be scheduled for Monday, May 27 and Tuesday, May 28, 2013

\*The **Call for Submissions form** is available through your Faculty Association office and on the ACIFA website ([www.acifa.ca](http://www.acifa.ca))

# Western Regional Conference of Faculty Associations

October 11-13, 2012

Hosted by the University of Manitoba Faculty Association, Winnipeg, Manitoba

Report by: **Lynne Honey**, Grant MacEwan University Faculty Association

I was pleased to represent ACIFA at the Western Regional Conference. It was an energizing meeting with a great deal of frank conversation about issues that impact all of us in higher education. The Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) is the unifying body for all attendees at this meeting but the meeting was more than just a way for CAUT to gather and disperse information. It involved a lot of discussion about the front-line issues facing all of us, and further discussions about strategies to deal with some of the more pressing issues. ACIFA was also represented at the meeting by Aimee Skye (MacEwan) and Scott Murray (Mount Royal). Our group was fortunate to have a fair bit of conversation time with Wayne Peters and Jim Turk who are the president and executive director, respectively, of CAUT.



Here are a few of the highlights of the conference, in terms of issues that are most pressing for ACIFA member institutions:

- 1) The global trend toward 'management' of higher education
- 2) Government intervention in labour relations, restricting the power of collective bargaining units
- 3) Corporatization of academic institutions
- 4) Exploitation of contract academic staff
- 5) Threats to academic freedom
- 6) Why faculty members are surprisingly bad at defending labour rights, and what we need to do about it

For a copy of the full report, please e-mail Lindsey at the ACIFA Office: [lindsey.gilbert@acifa.ca](mailto:lindsey.gilbert@acifa.ca)

**How does your ACIFA  
membership benefit you?**

?

[www.acifa.ca/about/what-acifa-does](http://www.acifa.ca/about/what-acifa-does)



## 2013 Award For Innovation in Teaching

*The aim of the Award for Innovation in Teaching is to recognize and encourage the use of innovative and creative teaching methods and design which lead to improved student learning.*

*This province-wide award attracts both recognition and a financial award of \$1,500 for the faculty member or team and \$500.00 for the faculty member's faculty association. Certificates of Commendation will be awarded to the two runners-up.*

### **Eligibility**

The Award is open to all ACIFA members. The nomination may be for an individual or a group/team. Nominations for the Award are made by colleagues with the consent of the innovator(s). Nominations must adhere to the *Format for Applications* below.

An innovation which has already received this Award cannot be resubmitted the following year. Innovations which have been unsuccessful but have received a Certificate of Commendation are eligible for resubmission, within the context of the guidelines, the following year.

### **The Nomination Process**

Each participating ACIFA member association will conduct a nomination and selection process at the local level, in accordance with the guidelines in this document, to select **up to two nominees** to be submitted to the ACIFA Awards Committee. The ACIFA Awards Committee, established by the Professional Affairs Committee of ACIFA, will select the winner of the award from nominees put forward by each of the participating local faculty associations.

### **Selection Criteria**

- The extent to which the innovation has had a practical outcome that improved teaching, learning, curriculum design, and/or assessment.
- Evidence of student satisfaction and learning outcomes.
- Evidence that the innovation was successfully integrated into the total learning process for the relevant course of study.
- The potential for the innovation to be applied to different fields of study
- The extent to which the innovation made effective and efficient use of resources.

### **Format for Applications: 2-3 page limit plus appendices**

Please provide information in the following format:

1. Innovator/project team details: name(s), position, and college/institute
2. A description of the innovation
3. The rationale for implementing the change
4. The outcomes of the innovation
5. The wider application of the innovation in post-secondary education
6. Names and signatures of two nominees
7. Any supporting documentation to be attached as appendices

**Please submit application electronically via email.**

**(continued on page 7)**

(Continued from page 6)

### **Judging Panels: provincial and local**

Five members, elected on an annual basis from and by the Professional Affairs Committee of ACIFA, will select the final award winner and up to two runners-up from the nominees submitted by the local faculty associations. The local faculty association judging committees are to be selected and structured by the local faculty association as they deem appropriate for their association.

### **Mutual Obligations**

The ACIFA Awards Committee will award the winner of an Innovation/Creativity Award in Teaching with:

- An announcement in the ACIFA newsletter
- \$1,500.00 made available to the winner and another \$500.00 to the winner's faculty association
- A formal presentation at the ACIFA Annual Conference
- Coverage of expenses for the winner to attend the ACIFA Annual Conference to receive their award.

The Award winner will be expected to:

- Attend the ACIFA Annual Conference to accept the Award
- Agree to submit for publication in the ACIFA newsletter a description of the innovation and its successful implementation before the end of the year in which the Award was won.

### **Application Dates**

Applications must be submitted to the faculty member's faculty association by the date set by the local faculty association. Each Association's selection process must be completed in time to submit their nominee to ACIFA by **February 22, 2013**.

The ACIFA Awards Committee will make the final decision by the third week of April to allow sufficient time to arrange for the recognition of the winner at the ACIFA Annual Conference.

*The 2013 award is sponsored and administered by  
The Alberta Colleges and Technical Institutes Faculties Association  
Johnson Inc. Insurance  
And  
The Alberta Public Post-Secondary Education Trust Fund.*



Paul Norris of SAIT, Winner of the 2012 Award for Innovation in Teaching, poses with his award. You can read more about Paul's innovation, which involves posting lecture information online using Youtube and screen capture, in the Jan-Feb Issue of Faculty Circuit!

# You could win a snowblower!

As a member of ACIFA, simply call Johnson and request a no-obligation home and/or auto insurance quote by February 28, 2013 and you'll be automatically entered.

**1-800-563-0677**  
**www.johnson.ca/acifa**



**acifa**

Group ID code: BI

**JOHNSON** 

Home and Auto Insurance

Home and auto insurance is available through Johnson Inc., a licensed insurance agency. Policies are primarily underwritten by Unifund Assurance Company (Unifund). Unifund and Johnson Inc. share common ownership. Eligibility requirements, limitations and exclusions may apply. Contest runs from November 1, 2012 to February 28, 2013. No purchase necessary. Contest is open to ACIFA members who are residents of Alberta. Those already insured through the ACIFA/Johnson Inc. home and/or auto insurance program are automatically entered. Chances of winning depend on the number of entries received. Winner must correctly answer a skill-testing question. One (1) Snowblower is available to be won in the contest (approx. retail value is \$1,500). For full contest details visit [www.johnson.ca/acifa](http://www.johnson.ca/acifa) CAT.10.2012

## Member Associations

Alberta College of Art and Design Faculty Association  
 Bow Valley College Faculty Association  
 Grande Prairie Regional College Academic Staff Association  
 Grant MacEwan University Faculty Association  
 Keyano College Faculty Association  
 Lakeland College Faculty Association  
 Lethbridge College Faculty Association  
 Medicine Hat College Faculty Association  
 Mount Royal Faculty Association  
 NAIT Academic Staff Association  
 NorQuest College Faculty Association  
 Northern Lakes College Faculty Association  
 Olds College Faculty Association  
 Portage College Faculty Association  
 Faculty Association of Red Deer College  
 SAIT Academic Faculty Association

The views expressed in Faculty Circuit are those of individuals and do not necessarily reflect ACIFA's policies and positions.

Please address all inquiries and submissions to:  
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## Upcoming ACIFA Dates

February 8, 2013	Executive Council	Edmonton
February 9, 2013	Presidents' Council	Edmonton
March 22, 2013	Executive Council	Edmonton
March 23, 2013	Professional Affairs Committee & Negotiations Advisory Committee	Edmonton
May 4, 2013	Executive Council	Edmonton
May 26, 2013	Presidents' Council	Chateau Lake Louise
May 28, 2013	Annual General Meeting	Chateau Lake Louise
May 26 – 28, 2013	Spring Conference	Chateau Lake Louise

## Join the Conversation!

**FACEBOOK :** <http://www.facebook.com/ACIFAcA>

**TWITTER:** <http://www.twitter.com/ACIFAcA>