



Report On Part-time Degree Studies

In January 2004, Dr. Ken Norrie, VP Academic, asked MAPS Executive Director, Jackie Osterman and, then, Director of the Centre for Continuing Education, Dale Schenk to examine the area of lifelong learning and part-time study at McMaster and to submit a report for the *Refining Directions* Committee. *Directions* is a series of planning documents used by the University to direct change and growth. *Refining Directions* is the name given to the exercise of examining the results of past *Directions* driven planning and the fine-tuning of further actions.

In late summer of 2004 former Part-time Studies Coordinator, Tina Horton joined the team. Then, with the departure from Mac of Dale Schenk, Social Sciences professor, Geraldine Voros, agreed to lend her expertise and knowledge to the process. With the team then complete, the assessment began in earnest. The scope of the report covers part-time undergraduate degree studies. The new Director of Continuing Education, Tracey Taylor-O'Reilly, is examining the equally important Certificate and Diploma programs. The report was completed this summer and was sent to the Refining Directions Committee.

The news was not good.

To establish a baseline for success the team looked to the Government of Canada's 2002 report *Knowledge Matters: Skills and Learning for Canadians*; the Ontario Government's *Rae Report*; and the University's own statements in the *Refining Directions* report. Common to all three documents were the ideas: that now more than ever people need access to post secondary education; that anyone who has the aptitude should have access to post secondary education; that it is important to be an inclusive community; that attention needs to be focused on how adult learners will enter post-secondary education.

In the past, McMaster's Office of Part-time Degree Studies was excellent at reaching out into the community to those people outside of the university culture and identifying their needs. The report describes how over the years decisions were made that slowly dismantled the Part-time Degree Studies Office. Most recently the position of Program Coordinator, Part-time Degree Studies, has been eliminated and most of the administrative activities and budget have disappeared. What is of great concern to the team is that these last **"decisions have been made without university-wide consultation and appear to be based solely on budget con-**

siderations." This is not an example of the teamwork that is stated as valuable in McMaster's *Refining Directions* document.

The bottom line is **"given the fact that the Part-time Degree Studies Coordinator position has collapsed and the budget removed, there is now no voice to these issues."**

There has been no response yet to the many recommendations in the report. When the response is forthcoming, we will let MAPS members know. Please keep checking the website. We will be posting the report and the reaction to it there.

Tina Puchalski

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The Latest from CCE



It's back to school time! With all the youngsters snapping up school supplies and back-to-school outfits, it's no wonder that adults share in this excitement with lifelong learning plans of their own! CCE has eagerly welcomed back students, and opened the door to many new faces. Most fall courses are now in full swing, but we do have new program initiatives and course offerings all the time. Check out our website for the latest news. Here are a few announcements and highlights:

NEW SCHEDULE, NEW CLASSES & NEW COURSE LOCATION!

As a follow-up to our student survey, CCE has scheduled and printed a course timetable for the entire year – including Fall '05, Winter '06 and Spring/Summer '06. This will assist students in planning their year of study. CCE students should have received a copy of this timetable in the mail, but please give us a call or drop by if you need any additional copies. As always, our course timetable is available on our full-service website at www.mcmastercce.com.

CCE is excited to offer the following new courses this year. Check back as we are always adding more!

Not-So-Secret Gardens: Great Children's Books – For Adults!

Screenwriting II: Beyond the Rules

Introductory Financial Accounting – Distance Education Version

Communications – Distance Education Version

Introductory Management Accounting – Distance Education Version

Intermediate Management Accounting – Distance Education Version

Human Resources Management – Distance Education Version

In order to better serve students in the Burlington/Oakville area, CCE is holding a few of its business classes at the Bay Area Learning Centre in Burlington. The BALC is located on 860 Harrington Court (just off Harvester Road) and is a partnership centre featuring a continuum of education, training and human development services. Check our timetable at www.mcmastercce.com for a listing of courses offered in the Burlington location.

FACILITY RENTALS

Interested in holding a meeting or training session at McMaster's Downtown Centre?

CCE's Downtown Centre includes fourteen classroom/meeting rooms and two computer labs. Rooms can accommodate 6 to 125 participants. CCE's two computer labs utilize Windows XP operating system and Microsoft Office 2003 Professional. Audio-visual equipment and services are available. On-site catering is also available.

We are conveniently located in downtown Hamilton at 50 Main Street East at the corner of Hughson and Main Street. Restaurants, hotels and numerous pay parking lots are within the immediate area.

SATURDAY OFFICE HOURS

To serve our students better, CCE is now open during selected hours on Saturdays. Dates and hours are as follows:

September 10-September 24
8:30am-1:30pm

October 1-December 19
8:30am-12:30pm

Centre for Continuing Education
50 Main Street East - Downtown Centre, 2nd Floor
905.525.9140 x24321, conted@mcmaster.ca

~Attention Social Sciences Students ~

When selecting your courses for the 2005-2006 Session, in addition to your regular course load, consider registering in a **tuition free***, **non-credit course**** designed to help with your career.

SOC SCI 2EL0 INRODUCTION TO CAREER PLANNING THROUGH EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Facilitated by career consultants, this course will engage you in a variety of hands-on exploration activities to provide you with a strong foundation for career and education planning. You will better understand the skills you have acquired in your academic studies, extra curricular activities, and summer jobs; and how this relates to making occupational choices and job searching. You will be introduced to tools, methods, and resources that will facilitate your decision making now and in the future.

- Register on SOLAR***
- Sections are limited to 25 and will be offered both Term 1 and Term 2, during the day, evening, and even on Saturdays.
- You must complete SOC SCI 2EL0 to be eligible for consideration for an internship.

Course Overview (Each session is two hours.)

- Week 1:** Course introduction and internship information.
- Week 2:** Examine the connection between personality and career choices.
- Week 3:** Look at your interests, skills and experiences in relation to the world of work.
- Week 4:** Identify occupations that fit with your skills, knowledge, interests, values, and talents.
- Week 5:** Tour Career Services (GH/110) and see the variety of career planning and job search resources.
- Week 6:** Enhance your resume and cover letter and practice network and interview skills.
- Week 7:** Discuss your Career Portfolio and create a personal action plan for the future.

* MAPS students must pay a \$35 fee in order to register for this course. This fee must be paid to Cristina DeSilvio, Career Development Coordinator, KTH 102 Monday to Friday from 9am to 11am, and 1pm to 4 pm. Cheques must be made payable to "McMaster University".

**This course will appear on your university transcript as a pass or fail. You must attend six of the seven lectures to pass.

*** When MAPS students have paid the fee, restrictions will be removed so that they may register for the course on SOLAR. Usually, this process takes from 24 to 48 hours during regular business hours.

Information (including dates/times for the course offerings) is available at
www.socsci.mcmaster.ca/EE/ee_course_2EL0.cfm

For further information, contact Cristina DeSilvio at desilvc@mcmaster.ca, 905-525-9140 x23228.

McMaster Association
of
Part-time Students

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Office Hours

Monday to Thursday 9:30am to 8:30pm
Friday 9:30am to 2:00pm

MAPS Executive Board

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Athletic Fees

Did you know that your athletic fees entitle you to access to the Ivor Wynne Centre? For no extra fee you have access to the change rooms, lockers, showers, (convenient if you are biking to McMaster) and saunas (if you need to rent a lock or towel, there is a charge). You can swim for free (see pool schedule), use the gyms and courts, and sign out equipment like basketballs.

Special classes and The Pulse (the fitness centre) have extra fees. Brochures are available at MAPS, MUSC 234.

For more information go to www.athrec.mcmaster.ca

MAC ID & Passwords

This is just a few words of advice for MAPS students. MAC IDs and Passwords are now an integral part of your life at McMaster. It is important that you have access to them at all times now. There is nothing more frustrating than needing to register, access WEB CT, contact a professor, etc, and not being able to because you have forgotten your MAC ID or password; and trust me, I see it happen all the time here in the office. Countless students have had to walk all the way across campus to T13 to have their password reset, when they really didn't have the time to. To help avoid this frustration please:

1. Endeavor to remember your MAC ID and password, even if in the past you only used them once a term.
2. When setting up your three questions (used to reset your password) choose or create questions that ask only one thing. Do not give yourself multiple items to choose from as it makes it easy to forget what you chose.

Don't forget the MSU's Union Market!

They have low prices, fair-trade coffee, and lots of groovy music!

**It's on the main floor of the Student Centre
by the North doors.**

Open until 9:30pm Monday to Thursday

Open until 6:00pm Friday