



First Year Experience www.kwantlen.ca/fye
Supporting student transition, success and community

The Update: July 2005



Orientation Programs

Our first annual “Connect@Kwantlen” events in 2004 were well-received, with approximately 450 new students in attendance. Evaluations were positive; nearly 100% said they would be recommending it to new students in 2005. As of July 7th, we already have 640 students registered for Connect 05 at the end of August.

January Orientation Sessions were offered and we expect to build on that tradition as well.

Building our integrated approach to Orientation, summer 2005 **StartUp** sessions are well underway, hosted by Educational Advising; these half-day sessions are offered to prepare students for webreg, and also involve Counsellors and the Registrar’s office.

We are offering our first **Parent Orientation Evening** on Monday August 29th (Surrey) with great anticipation.

Student Leadership Development

The 2004 Orientation Student Volunteer Team was the beginning of a new avenue for student leadership at Kwantlen. Training for the 2005 team commences in July.

YourPath@Kwantlen (November 04)

FYE combined with Advising, Counselling & Community Liaison to host a two-day event combining program info sessions, booths, and career counseling/advising drop-in services. About 400 (2/3 students, 1/3 prospective students) attended the event and utilized multiple features of the event.

As a welcoming and pride-building initiative, FYE provided Kwantlen clothing and mugs as door prizes for the March campus visit project (prospective students).

FYE Awards: Two ACP students moving on to university studies were awarded \$500 Awards in November 04; 2005 will see new FYE Student Leadership Awards as well.

Announcing: The First Year Passport

Brand new for 05-06, the Passport is a pilot project launched to encourage student activities that are likely to promote enjoyment of education, success and retention.



Volunteers at Connect@Kwantlen 04

UNIV 1100 (3 cr) Introduction to University/College Studies

Fall 2005 will see the initial offering of seven sections. Content includes: Extended orientation to expectations & services, academic skills for post-secondary success, academic research & writing, career & educational planning, and personal management skills.

The FYE Website: New Design

Check out the new FYE site—we’re getting high usage, and are fortunate to have a p/t web developer, “Levi” Orban. Watch for new features to support student transition.

A colleague from elsewhere Emailed to say, “I see that you folks are doing fantastic things with your UNIV 1100 course. I’ve looked at the web links ... (and all of the web support for first year students). I’m at once envious and inspired.”

FYE Sponsored Clubs

The past year brought the addition of History and Sociology/Anthropology clubs, as well as a new Circle K Service Club. Watch for great things ahead!

Research: Math Retention & Success

Approximately 300 students in 1st year math courses received a Learning and Study Strategies Inventory (LASSI) with interpretation by Counselling faculty. Analyses revealed five scales predictive of their final course grade. Reports will be completed in the fall, with recommendations for intervention likely to improve first year success rates.

The SPARK Program

This is our early-access program for Surrey high school students unlikely to proceed to post-secondary. Of the first 50 students accepted, 46 are still with the program; the first cohort enters Kwantlen full-time in the fall. Spring of 05 saw the provincial gov’t pledge substantial support, allowing us to add a second high school to the program for January 06.

Good news! As of September, FYE will have an office in Surrey D106B, with a part-time Program Assistant for administrative support.

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Visit the website for more information: www.kwantlen.ca/fye