

# OCULL Newsletter

February, 2008

## Inside This Issue

- 1 Message from the President
- 2 Copyright Challenges in  
Higher Education
- 5 Distance Education News
- 5 Professional Development
- 5 News from our Colleagues
- 6 CAUCE 2008
- 7 Executive Committee
- 8 Membership
- 10 Honorary Members
- 10 OCULL Retreat & AGM



## Ontario Council for University Lifelong Learning Newsletter – Winter 2008

The Ontario Council for University Lifelong Learning (OCULL) is a professional association for administrators and practitioners who develop and deliver degree and non-degree continuing education programs in Ontario universities. OCULL is an advocate for adult learners at Ontario universities, a collegial network, and a vehicle for professional development for its members.

The organization began with a meeting of Ontario university extension directors in 1959. In 1960, they formed the Ontario Departments of Extension and Summer Schools (ODESS), and in 1972, ODESS became the Ontario Council for University Continuing Education (OCUCE). In 1994, OCUCE became OCULL to reflect its role as champion of lifelong learning. OCULL provides a forum for the exchange of ideas about adult education, continuing education, and distance education in Ontario universities.

## Message from the President

As our longer days bring the promise of Spring, we are pleased to bring you our early Spring newsletter. Your OCULL Executive has established an ambitious list of priorities for the year. You will read about many of them in more detail throughout this newsletter, but I'll include a quick intro here.

Preparing our submission on the pending new copyright legislation to the Minister of Industry, the Honourable Jim Prentice, has been our primary focus since the Fall AGM. We are grateful to Giulia Forsythe for the extensive research she has done to bring us up to speed on the submissions made by our colleagues in AUCC, CAUT, and CARL, as well as the conversations ongoing through blogs such as that of Michael Geist, Canada Research Chair in Internet and E-Commerce Law. OCULL's submission will focus on our unique perspective concerning digital copyright as it relates to distance education. We hope to send you a draft of the letter within the next few weeks and you can read more about it in Giulia's column later in this newsletter.

*(continued on Page 3)*

## Mission of OCULL

OCULL promotes public recognition of university continuing and distance education as a major source of lifelong learning opportunities for adults in Ontario. The Council advocates for its constituency; builds partnerships with organizations, government and industry for the benefit of members and client groups; supports collaboration among members; and promotes professional development and excellent and equitable practice in adult education.

## Copyright Challenges in Higher Education

At the Fall 2007 retreat, OCULL hosted a knowledgeable panel that discussed a range of copyright issues relevant to distance and continuing education. The panel consisted of Natalie Giesbrecht, Distance Education Production Manager at the University of Guelph, Mariam Ahmed, Copyright Administrator at Ryerson University's G. Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education and Chabriol Colebatch, Copyright Officer for the C4, a consortium of universities in southwestern Ontario, including McMaster, Guelph, Waterloo, Western Ontario, Laurier and Windsor.

The panelists explained many relevant copyright issues, like the fair dealing exception, copyright ownership issues, and in particular the main limitations of the Canadian Copyright Act as it relates to distance and continuing education. Chabriol Colebatch highlighted the failure of the current Act to keep up with changes in technology and in particular, the Internet. She discussed recent attempts at copyright reform and encouraged everyone to review the upcoming amendments to the Copyright Act. The amendments are expected to include provisions relating to distance education and educational use of the internet.

A stir of interest was generated in the weeks that followed as Minister of Industry Jim Prentice put an amendment to the Copyright Act on Notice Paper on December 7, 2007. Legal professionals, researchers and educators have been very vocal in their concerns about this legislation. The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada ([AUCC](#)), Canadian Association of University Teachers ([CAUT](#)), Canadian Association of Research Libraries ([CARL](#)) and the Canadian Library Association ([CLA](#)) have all submitted formal position papers regarding copyright concerns of educators.

[Dr. Michael Geist](#), law professor at University of Ottawa created a Facebook group, Fair Copyright for Canadians. Membership grew exponentially in the weeks that followed and now boasts over 40,000 members.

In light of the importance of digital copyright, OCULL is also planning on submitting an official statement to legislators. The following summary is based on a report from the University of Waterloo's Distance Education Department, but it appropriately highlights the issues to distance and continuing education community in Ontario.

### Issues arising from nature of Universities:

- the time and resources required to acquire copyright permission is challenging because of course development constraints (i.e., professors have limited time to work on a course; support units have limited opportunity to work with professors; often, professors are not compensated for course development or are not compensated fully for the work required).

*(continued on page 4)*



## Message from the President (continued from page 1)

Planning is already underway for the OCULL Fall Retreat, to be held Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, once again at Wilfrid Laurier University. If you have any requests or suggestions for the retreat program, please do let us know. In the meantime, mark it on your calendar.

We're also busy working on OCULL's first ever commissioned research project.

OCULL member institutions have long benefited from the exchange of ideas and approaches across all areas of practice. Whether occurring through ad hoc questions, the DE community of practice, or the DE Committee, by far the most active area of exchange has been policies and processes related to distance education. Given this strong interest, OCULL is undertaking a survey of distance education policies and practices in Ontario universities. Our goal is to produce a report, somewhat of a 'state of the province' picture of DE, providing a powerful reference and resource document. We will be consulting widely as we generate the questions for the survey, and welcome all suggestions. Please send them to [karenmaki@trentu.ca](mailto:karenmaki@trentu.ca). We are also seeking potential researchers – ideally a practicum student in a M.Ed. program – to conduct the research on our behalf. We are hoping to have at least preliminary results available at the Fall 2008 Retreat.

Renewing OCULL's relationships with the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) and the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) is another of our priorities.

At our December meeting we were pleased to be joined by COU's Vice President, Policy and Analysis, Jamie Mackay and Lisa Rae, Research Analyst. As distance education and the non-traditional learner have in many ways become mainstream in post-secondary education, OCULL looks forward to keeping these issues top of mind with COU. We also look forward to having COU join us at another meeting this year and at our 2008 Fall Retreat. We have also been very fortunate to have Barbara MacPherson, Senior Policy Advisor, MTCU, join our Executive as MTCU liaison. With her long and varied experience at the Ministry, Barbara is a terrific resource for us all.

Finally, we will be reviewing the OCULL Constitution and By-laws over the coming months, to ensure that OCULL continues to represent and meet the evolving needs of our profession, our institutions, and the lifelong learners we serve.

Thank you to members of the OCULL Executive for 2007-08: [Lisa Fanjoy](#), [Giulia Forsythe](#), [Martha Ireland](#), [Cathy Kelly](#), [Richard Louttet](#), [Leslie Malcolm](#), [Kim Miller](#) and our Liaison Reps, [Sandy Hughes](#) (CAUCE), [Bettina Brockerhoff-Macdonald](#) (CNIE) and [Barbara MacPherson](#) (MTCU). Please feel welcome to contact us with your ideas. On a personal note, as I settled in to my new role at Trent and was tasked with developing a Distance Education program from the ground up, I found my OCULL colleagues from across the province to be a very willing and incredibly valuable source of information and ideas. We have an amazingly rich resource of expertise among our colleagues in OCULL. I encourage you to reach out, connect and get involved!

~Karen Maki  
President, OCULL



## Copyright Challenges (continued from page 2)

- there is no direct return on investment for professors, developers, and universities from the use of copyright materials (i.e., neither the professor nor the university “make more money” as a result of the use of copyright materials) and there is no way to offset the greater time requirements and costs associated with the use of copyright materials in any one course (i.e., compensation is fixed, tuition is fixed, course enrolment is often limited by other constraints, etc.)
- course development, especially for online or distance courses, represents a significant investment for a university, and if a copyright owner changes a work for which permission has been granted, or restricts its availability, this can severely compromise the future operation of the course, which may run for 3-5 years before being updated. If materials are out of distribution, securing or making copies is also a challenge.

### Costs

- in some cases, the costs for obtaining copyright and/or the royalties demanded are prohibitive; often there is little or no distinction made between royalties for commercial use of copyright material and educational use.

### Logistics and Relationships with Copyright holders

- tracking down copyright holders, requesting copyright, making payment, maintaining and updating it for thousands of pieces of material in hundreds of courses requires extensive time and resources; this is compounded by several factors:
  - finding the correct individual/company from whom to seek permission can require extensive investigation; publishing companies listed may not be the current rights holders often copyright will be restricted or of limited duration, requiring constant upkeep
  - challenges of dealing with multiple contacts: e.g., all government works do not fall under the ACCESS agreement and permission must be requested through the appropriate publisher or through the government division
  - copyright holders are not compelled to respond/respond in a timely fashion; response rates can be unpredictable, wreaking havoc with planning and scheduling
  - it is not unusual to not hear back from copyright holders even after several requests,
  - instructor may get verbal agreement from the publisher but will not be able to get it in writing, and
  - even if one hears back it can be months after the request went out; leaving professors and course developers in limbo about what to do with the course
  - it is almost impossible to get responses from large companies
  - a course using a major work can be jeopardized or require major reworking if copyright is refused for that work on a subsequent re-offer

### Challenges to students

- copyright restrictions often decrease the flexibility and efficiency we can incorporate into course delivery;
- when copyright permission is not obtainable or affordable, students are sometimes asked to pay for alternative ways to access material (e.g., rent a film commercially).
- when copy-protected resources are not used because of cost or logistical issues, it is important to recognize that this has a negative impact on learning; in cases where the resource would be ideal in achieving the learning outcomes of the course, the impact on students is significant.

*(continued on page 8)*



## Initiatives, Committees and Programs

### Standing Committee on Distance Education

This committee has been part of OCULL since 1991. The committee is comprised of representatives from each member university that chooses to participate. It supports the aims and objectives of OCULL, with emphasis on distance education research, programs and advocacy among and by Ontario universities. It is also responsible for maintaining the Distance Education Canada course database, in conjunction with colleagues at Canadian Association for University Continuing Education and the university hosting the database.

The next meeting dates are:

Tuesday, March 11 @ 11:00am

Tuesday, April 8 @ 11:00am

If you would like to attend, please contact Lisa Fanjoy at [lfanjoy@wlu.ca](mailto:lfanjoy@wlu.ca)

## News from our Colleagues

Martha Ireland, Program Manager, Prior Learning and Competency Systems, Gateway for International Professionals (The Chang School), lead researcher Joy Van Kleef and two co-authors recently released three publications: *Quality Assurance in PLAR: Issues and Strategies for Post-secondary Institutions – Volume I*, *Quality Assurance in PLAR: A Guide for Institutions – Volume II* (also available in French), and *Quality Assurance in PLAR: An Annotated Bibliography – Volume III*. All documents are available at [www.cirl.org](http://www.cirl.org) and presentations can be arranged through Martha Ireland. This project was funded by the Canadian Council on Learning.

## Professional Development Opportunities

### Continuing Studies at Western Hosts 55th Annual CAUCE Conference

On May 27-31, Continuing Studies at Western will host the 55th Annual Conference of the Canadian Association for University Continuing Education (CAUCE). The theme of CAUCE 2008 is **university-community engagement**. While the concept and practice of university-community engagement are not new, institutions of higher learning and the communities in which they are located are increasingly examining and undertaking mutually beneficial collaboration as a way to address pressing societal issues. ...

*(continued on page 6)*

### CNIE - Canadian Network for Innovation in Education

The Canadian Network for Innovation in Education (CNIE) is proud to present its inaugural conference: **Reaching New Heights: Learning Innovation**, hosted by Athabasca University to be held in Banff, Alberta, which is located in Banff National Park, from April 27 – 30, 2008.

Created in 2007, CNIE is the result of a merger of the Canadian Association for Distance Education (CADE) and the Association for Media and Technology in Education (AMTEC). CNIE is a national, bilingual association committed to excellence in the development, promotion and use of technologies, practices and policies that foster enhanced access to learning for all students in all contexts, especially in K-12 and post-secondary education.

Registration for the 2008 CNIE-RCIE conference is now open.

Please visit the website for more details:

<http://www.athabascau.ca/CNIE-RCIE/english/>

See page 10 for details of the OCULL Annual Retreat & AGM



## CAUCE 2008

More and more universities are even establishing units that have fostering university-community engagement as their specific mission. Continuing education has been and continues to be central to university-community engagement. Indeed, in the October, 2006, CAUCE Bulletin, Wes Koczka, then President of CAUCE, advocated for a national university-community engagement strategy, having observed the following: "As learning institutions, we are expected to create opportunities for our citizens to engage with our institutions in a meaningful, thoughtful, and purposeful manner."

The **CAUCE 2008 Conference Planning Committee** is accepting proposals for concurrent sessions on university-community engagement that correspond with the following three conference tracks: university-community engagement in teaching and learning, university-community engagement in research, and university-community engagement in administration. **The deadline for submissions is March 31.** Full requirements for session proposals and an abstract submission form are available on the CAUCE 2008 website: <http://www.cauce2008.ca>

Online registration has already begun. **The deadline for early bird registrations is April 30.** More information is available on the aforementioned CAUCE 2008 website.

The opening keynote address will be delivered by **Sally Armstrong**, who is an Amnesty International award winner, a member of the Order of Canada, a documentary filmmaker, a teacher, an author, a human rights activist, and a contributing editor at *Maclean's* magazine.

### News from our colleagues cont'd...

**University of Waterloo Distance Education** is very pleased to welcome Aldo Caputo to the team as the new Associate Director.

Aldo joins us from University of Guelph's Teaching Support Services unit, where he has held various roles since 1996. Most recently, Aldo managed their Learning Technology and Courseware Innovation unit, and was previously the Manager of Faculty and Instructional Support. Aldo has also taught as a sessional instructor, and has an MA in Learning Sciences (Northwestern), a BA in English & History (Western), and a Diploma in Education (McGill).

We are very excited about the rich experience that Aldo brings to our team and look forward to his guidance as we continue to build our online course offerings. Aldo comments, "I'm really excited to be joining the Distance Education team. University of Waterloo has an excellent reputation in DE and I'm hoping to build on that as well as explore new ways to enhance the online learning experience for UW students."



## Initiatives

### Eastern and Southern Ontario Distance Education and Training Network

On Tuesday, January 29th representatives from 27 Ontario universities and colleges met with Luc Comeau, Executive Director of the Network and his staff, as well as senior representatives from MTCU and Contact North for the first face-to-face working session of the Network. The result of a 7.4M investment on behalf of the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, the goal of the Network is to increase access to post-secondary education for Ontarians in rural and remote areas. Five centres have already been established, in Hawkesbury, Kincardine, Madoc, Orleans and Wallaceburg, with ten more to be introduced by 2010.

At the working session we were presented with a proposed 3 year work plan, budget and governance structure for the Network. After considerable discussion, consensus was that we needed a smaller working group to consider the governance structure in further detail. Karen Maki will represent OCULL on this

working group, whose first meeting will be held in March. We will feature further updates on the OCULL website, and in the next issue of our newsletter.

### Your 2007-08 Executive Committee

**Past-President** – Cathy Newell-Kelly  
University of Waterloo

**President** – Karen Maki  
Trent University

**Vice-President** – Giulia Forsythe  
Brock University

**Secretary** – Martha Ireland  
Ryerson University

**Treasurer** – Leslie Malcolm  
Lakehead University

**Chair, Distance Education Committee** – Lisa Fanjoy  
Wilfrid Laurier University

**Member-at-Large** – Richard Louttet  
Nipissing University

**Member-at-Large** – Kim Miller  
University of Western Ontario

**CAUCE Representative** – Sandy Hughes  
Wilfrid Laurier University

**CNIE Representative** - Bettina Brockerhoff-Macdonald  
Laurentian University

Thank you to our hard working executive members for their focus and vision.

Our next meeting is March 4, 2008. If you have issues that you would like the Executive to address on your behalf, please contact Martha Ireland and ask that your issue be put on our agenda. Martha can be reached at mireland@ryerson.ca

### News from our colleagues cont'd...

#### News from the Centre for Continuing Education, Laurentian University

Jean Dennie was hired October 1, 2007 to replace Ruby Gervais, who retired at the end of June 2007, in the capacity of Academic Advisor and Program Manager responsible for Spring-Session on-campus, off-campus on-site initiatives and the Marketing/Promotion of CCE and all of its offerings. Jean is currently in the process of reviewing our marketing and promotion plans from the last couple of years and exploring new promotional initiatives with the aim of attracting more part-time non-traditional learners (i.e. first-generation) from North-Eastern Ontario as the full-time enrolment in our courses levels off. We welcome Jean to our team and he can be reached either via email at [jdennie@laurentian.ca](mailto:jdennie@laurentian.ca) or via phone at 705-675-1151, ext. 3942.

We have also just officially launched a Virtual Community (<http://luvc.laurentian.ca/>) for our Distance Education students which includes a Virtual Learning Commons set-up by providing students with a password protected one-stop area where they can access not only academic but also study skills and counselling services. We were able to develop this site in partnership with the Elearning Team at Laurentian University and with funding provided by FedNor a federal regional development organization in Ontario).



## OCULL Membership – 2005-2006

We are particularly pleased to have seventeen institutional members in 2007-2008. This represents 80% of Ontario's 21 Universities.

Our membership includes representatives from the following Ontario Universities:

Brock University  
Carleton University  
University of Guelph  
Lakehead University  
Laurentian University  
McMaster University

Nipissing University  
University of Ottawa  
Queen's University  
Ryerson University  
Trent University  
University of St. Michael's College

University of Waterloo  
University of Western Ontario  
Wilfrid Laurier University  
University of Windsor  
University of Ontario Institute of Technology

We are pleased to also have an individual subscriber from  
**Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre**

If you are interested in joining OCULL, we offer three different levels of membership. Institutional membership (\$250 annually) is open to Ontario universities that are members of the Council of Ontario Universities. Each university has one vote, vested in the head (dean or director) of the central continuing education, extension or lifelong learning unit. Members of continuing education units in professional faculties and other areas of the universities are invited to participate in the membership held by their institution.

Subscriber membership: (\$60 annually: non-voting) is open to associations, agencies, and individuals associated with, or interested in, post-secondary continuing education.

Honorary memberships: (non-voting) may be conferred from time to time by OCULL on individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to university continuing education in Ontario

## Copyright Challenges (continued from page 4)

### Technology

- current copyright legislation and mechanisms are out of date with respect to technology
- converting from one format to another is problematic; publishers are often more reluctant to have a work available in a digital format, even though more and more this is how content is being delivered for courses; this has a dampening effect on innovation and pedagogical effectiveness.
- making formats accessible (e.g., captioning) requires explicit permission in some cases, adding time and expense to this important and required process.

### Complexity of the legislation

- instructors and developers often lack access to in-house legal counsel/expertise to decipher the more complex situations; e.g. public domain, royalties, six principal criteria for evaluating fair dealing; what constitutes "fair dealing" in teaching when current legislation only mentions private study, criticism, review or news reporting.

If you have further comments to add, please email Giulia Forsythe at [gforsythe@brocku.ca](mailto:gforsythe@brocku.ca) or join our communities of practice at <http://webct.wlu.ca>



## News from our colleagues cont'd

**Ryerson University's G. Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education's** Internationally Educated Social Work Professionals (IESW) Bridging Program, was recently recognized by the Ontario Association of Social Workers (OASW) as leaders in the social work community for 2008. Each year, two individuals or organizations from the social work profession in Ontario are recognized and profiled during National Social Work Week, taking place in March. (The name of the other winner for 2008 has not yet been released.)

This award first began in 2003 when members of the Public Relations Committee, an advisory committee of the OASW, decided that the social work profession needed more opportunities to recognize leaders in the field who inspire, initiate, and innovate, and for programs that are never static, but stretch, respond, and have a social impact.

In the past, previous recipients of this prestigious recognition were individual social workers. This year, OASW has expanded their category to allow organizations to be selected.

Previous recipients include:

### 2007

- Sonia Pouyat, Executive Director of the Family Counselling Centre in Brantford
- Laurel Rothman, Director of Social Reform at Family Service Association of Toronto

### 2006

- Angela Townend, Clinical Program Manager at Catholic Family Services of Durham
- Rose Piacentino, worked for five years in the Trauma/Neurosurgery Unit at St. Michael's Hospital and spokesperson for Into the Light Foundation, a foundation established in honour of Louise Russo, which was created to help bridge the gap between government support and the cost of crime

### 2005

- Dr. Akua Benjamin, Director of the School of Social Work at Ryerson University
- Cheryle Partridge, social work educator in the Native Human Services Programme at Laurentian University and an Anishinaabe-Kwe (Ojibway woman) from Wasauksing First Nation, near Parry Sound

### 2004

- Judy Finlay, Chief Advocate of the Office of Child and Family Service Advocacy
- Peter Dudding, Executive Director of the Child Welfare League of Canada

### 2003

- Jeanette Lewis, Executive Director of the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies
- Hugh Drouin, spent almost 40 years as a social worker and has seen the anchoring of social work in legislation, the professional association becoming stronger than ever, and the growth of social work into a very well respected and accepted profession

For more information:

<http://www.oasw.org/en/publicsite/aboutworkers/swleadersprofile.asp>



## OCULL honorary lifetime membership is awarded to:

- Long standing members of OCULL (10 years or more) with considerable achievements and contributions to the Continuing Education profession in Ontario, primarily outside their own institution.
- Members of the OCULL Executive with outstanding contributions to the activities and priorities of the Council over several years and having promoted the advancement of Continuing Education provincially.
- An individual who has made outstanding progress and took a crucial leadership role to initiate Continuing Education at an Ontario institution and was also an active member of OCULL.

### Notes

- The lifetime honorary membership is normally awarded to someone no longer serving directly in Continuing Education at an Ontario university.
- The lifetime membership is normally given at an annual general meeting, but could also be awarded at another special occasion.
- Further, only under exceptional circumstances would an honorary membership be awarded posthumously.

### Nomination

- To nominate someone for Honorary Membership to OCULL, complete the online Honorary Nomination Form found on the OCULL Website.

### Process

- The executive will serve as the nominating committee and the past president will serve as chair of the committee.
- Normally, in the spring of every year, the past president will request nominations for honorary membership from the membership. Members will be asked to complete the OCULL honorary member nomination form and submit it by the end of May.
- The executive will consider the nominations and make a determination by the end of June allowing sufficient time to contact the nominee and to make the necessary preparations to honor the member. Normally not more than one member would be honored each year.

## OCULL Fall Retreat & AGM

Mark your calendar for our 2008 Annual General Meeting.

**October 16 & 17, 2008**  
**Wilfrid Laurier University**  
**Waterloo, Ontario**

Our planning committee is putting together an exciting line-up of sessions. Watch our website for information this summer. We look forward to seeing you there.

**It's a GIRL!**



*Adair Catharine Jean Scott-Fleming*

### **OCULL is delighted to announce...**

Mary Scott and her husband Graham Fleming welcomed Baby Adair Catharine Jean Scott-Fleming into the world on February 28, 2008 at 2:01 p.m. (after a mere 24 hours of labour) Little Adair weighed in at 8 lbs., 13 oz. Both Mom and Adair are doing just fine!

## Submissions to the Newsletter

We want to hear from you! Are you involved in a project that is innovative, exciting and new? Is your unit or institution doing something to foster best practices in lifelong learning that you want everyone to know about? We would be very happy to publish your news and stories in our Fall/Winter newsletter. Please contact [Richard Louttet](#) or [Giulia Forsythe](#) for more information.

