



## PRESIDENT'S Summer Message

by Tom Tomassi

*Where does the time go?* Another academic year is over and like you, I am looking forward to some rest and relaxation. Given the circumstances specific to this year—“Collective Bargaining”—I am hoping that my R&R will materialize.

The College is moving forward with their 20/20 plan and although there are valuable undertakings to this plan, I have some serious reservations should the College go forward and implement all that is proposed. To be specific about a couple of the issues in the plan, I very much like the idea that all students at GBC will have field experience to bring with them by the time they graduate. On the other hand, I have some serious reservations with regard to having 25% of our delivery on-line. Although the College has been delivering courses online, it was never of this magnitude. One of the questions that I have which the College has not been able to answer has to do with privacy in your teaching. What I mean by this is that a faculty teaching on-line should expect to have the same type of privacy as a faculty who is teaching in the classroom. I sincerely hope that all of us will give some serious thought to this plan and ensure we give feedback whenever possible on issues that have an effect on our working conditions here at the College.

As you well know, we are into negotiations for our next Collective Agreement and we are presently at the table negotiating face to face with management. The Union Bargaining Team has laid out our proposals, but as of the time of writing, management has not fully tabled all their items. We are looking forward to get the colleges to agree to improvements in present language and give our partial-load employees some stability to their employment. It is our Local's wishes that the Council approaches this round of negotiations differently than it has in the past and that they not table concessions that may in fact precipitate the necessity for the team to ask for a strike mandate. I have every confidence in our Bargaining Team—that they will do the right thing for the faculty that they represent right across the system. Please stay tuned for updates that will be coming your way on a regular basis.

It is with mixed emotions that I announce the retirement of Damian Wiechula and Jennifer Stellings. I believe that most, if not all of you, know Damian and Jennifer

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and the incredible hard work that they have both put into the Local. Damian, as the Chief Steward has represented the interests of the bargaining unit members, through the Grievance process and as Co-Chair of the CWMG. Prior to being Chief Steward, Damian served as the Treasurer of the Local. Jennifer as the 3<sup>rd</sup>. VP/Secretary has been the catalyst in creating the Local Newsletter as we know it to be today, as well as taking the lead in ensuring that a web site was created for our Local—for this we will be forever grateful to Jennifer. I feel a personal sense of loss that they are leaving George Brown College and Local 556. At the same time, I am extremely happy for them both as they move on to new adventures. Damian and his wife Judy, plan to do much more travelling, I think a cycling trip through Africa is in the not too distant future. As you may know Jennifer is a very talented artist and I am certain that is the path of her post-GBC career. In fact, Jennifer is currently having an exhibition of her photography at the *Espresso Mi Vida* café in the Junction (Pacific at Dundas West). The show is up for the entire month of June. Why not drop by and check it out? As well, I believe travelling is very much on the horizon for herself and her husband Alan. I hope you join me in congratulating both Jennifer and Damian on their retirement and wish them both the best that life has to offer.

It is true that once one door closes, another one opens and in this case, I hope you will join me in welcoming JP Hornick as our new Chief Steward. I believe that JP brings all that we need—and then some—to fulfill her role as Chief Steward. JP is currently one of the members of our Bargaining Team. We are looking forward to hearing from her and the team on a regular basis during this round of bargaining. Welcome JP.

I am happy to report that the Annual General Membership Meeting went quite well. As I mentioned earlier, JP Hornick was elected as 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vice-President/Chief Steward and Ed Larocque was re-elected as 1<sup>st</sup>. Vice-President/Treasurer. The Financial Statements for the year 2011/2012 were approved, as was the budget for the Budget Year 2012/2013. Discussion ensued on many different issues, one of which was the appointment of a Chancellor for George Brown College. There seemed to be concern vis à vis what this individual's roles and responsibilities are. There was a motion put forward by one of our faculty for the Local to approach the College to create a Professor Emeritus award for a retired faculty member and cooperatively develop the criteria and benefits for the position. We also held the draw for those who submitted their alternate email address and the winners were: \$200 HBC Gift Card—Joanne Gellatly and \$50 Ruth Chris Steak House—Chris Carron. Brad Gajria from Johnson Insurance also provided three door prizes which were won by: Taras Gula, Sai Vemulakonda and Lauralynn Tomassi.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for supporting the Local in carrying out its functions. On behalf of your Local Executive, I wish you and your loved ones a safe, restful, happy and healthy summer. *Cheers, Tom ▼*



# Blended Evaluation Factors on Your SWF

by Ed Larocque

The Collective Agreement spells out the evaluation factor you should receive if you are doing Essay (.030), Routine or Assisted (.015), or In-Process (.0092) type of evaluation. It does not however, provide you with the evaluation factor you should receive if your course requires more than one type of evaluation and feedback. What it does state is that “*where a course requires more than one type of evaluation and feedback, the teacher and the supervisor shall agree upon a proportionate attribution of hours. If such agreement cannot be reached the College shall apply evaluation factors in the same proportion as the weight attached to each type of evaluation in the final grade for the course.*”

To assist, I have prepared the chart on page 3, which takes into consideration every possible combination of evaluation and feedback and provides you with the appropriate factor. Please take some time to review it to ensure that you are receiving the appropriate evaluation factor. If you are not sure, or have any questions, please ask a steward, or call the Local 556 Union office at ext 2200. ▼

Please refer to  
*SWF Blended  
Evaluation Factors Chart  
on next page (page 3)*

SWF Blended Evaluation Factors

Reference to determine ratio of Essay (0.03) and Short Answer (0.015)

By Ed Larocque Nov. 2011

Eval. Factor	% essay	% short ans.	Eval. Factor	% essay	% short ans.	Eval. Factor	% essay	% short ans.
0.03	100	0	0.0249	66	34	0.0198	32	68
0.02985	99	1	0.02475	65	35	0.01965	31	69
0.0297	98	2	0.0246	64	36	0.0195	30	70
0.02955	97	3	0.02445	63	37	0.01935	29	71
0.0294	96	4	0.0243	62	38	0.0192	28	72
0.02925	95	5	0.02415	61	39	0.01905	27	73
0.0291	94	6	0.024	60	40	0.0189	26	74
0.02895	93	7	0.02385	59	41	0.01875	25	75
0.0288	92	8	0.0237	58	42	0.0186	24	76
0.02865	91	9	0.02355	57	43	0.01845	23	77
0.0285	90	10	0.0234	56	44	0.0183	22	78
0.02835	89	11	0.02325	55	45	0.01815	21	79
0.0282	88	12	0.0231	54	46	0.018	20	80
0.02805	87	13	0.02295	53	47	0.01785	19	81
0.0279	86	14	0.0228	52	48	0.0177	18	82
0.02775	85	15	0.02265	51	49	0.01755	17	83
0.0276	84	16	0.0225	50	50	0.0174	16	84
0.02745	83	17	0.02235	49	51	0.01725	15	85
0.0273	82	18	0.0222	48	52	0.0171	14	86
0.02715	81	19	0.02205	47	53	0.01695	13	87
0.027	80	20	0.0219	46	54	0.0168	12	88
0.02685	79	21	0.02175	45	55	0.01665	11	89
0.0267	78	22	0.0216	44	56	0.0165	10	90
0.02655	77	23	0.02145	43	57	0.01635	9	91
0.0264	76	24	0.0213	42	58	0.0162	8	92
0.02625	75	25	0.02115	41	59	0.01605	7	93
0.0261	74	26	0.021	40	60	0.0159	6	94
0.02595	73	27	0.02085	39	61	0.01575	5	95
0.0258	72	28	0.0207	38	62	0.0156	4	96
0.02565	71	29	0.02055	37	63	0.01545	3	97
0.0255	70	30	0.0204	36	64	0.0153	2	98
0.02535	69	31	0.02025	35	65	0.01515	1	99
0.0252	68	32	0.0201	34	66	0.015	0	100
0.02505	67	33	0.01995	33	67			

THE GREEN CORNER

# the Roof is Alive!

by Jill Edmondson

Toronto currently has more than 100 public and privately owned buildings with “green” roofs, and many more are being planned. The idea of a green roof seems logical enough: Use creativity and innovation to enhance open, empty, or erstwhile unused spaces in order to benefit the environment or the community.

In essence, a living roof is one that is covered in or has a significant amount of vegetation, not simply in pots or flower boxes, but actually growing in a layer of soil (with layers of drainage, irrigation systems, waterproofing and such) on the roof.

Green roofs can be both fun and functional. The living roof at the YMCA near Yonge and College

has more than 600 m<sup>2</sup> of gardens, fountains and a running track. The Crescent Town Community Centre on the Danforth uses its 600+ m<sup>2</sup> for meetings and seminars, and has space for growing food and herbs. Crescent Town also plans to implement solar hot water collectors and rain barrels.

In the not-too-distant future, the Financial District will be seeing a new kind of green. The TD Centre has a 2000 m<sup>2</sup> living roof in the works. The entire roof will be covered in Creek Sedge Grass, an indigenous perennial that can grow in shade.

In addition to the more obvious and immediate benefits of green roofs—such as reducing heating and air conditioning costs, or providing a place for recreation and relaxation—living roofs nurture the Earth in many ways. For instance, green roofs can help to filter contaminants out of the air and out of rainwater, they can increase agricultural space, and they can provide habitats to a wide variety of species.

With equal parts ingenuity and planning, there appears to be no limit to the number of ways in which a roof can become a living, useful space.



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## Please Remember

### In Preparation for Bargaining...

Send Local 556 an email with your:

- Name
- Status (Full-time or Partial-load)
- Division/Department
- Campus
- Private, secure (non GBC) email
- Private (non GBC) phone number

Send the info to:

[opseu556@gmail.com](mailto:opseu556@gmail.com)

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