

Inside this
issue:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR | 2 |
| WORKING WITH CSRAO | 2 |
| INVESTING IN OUR STUDENTS | 3 |
| LEARNING FROM THE PROS | 3 |
| FINGER FORUM | 3 |
| POSTCARDS FROM THE FIELD | 4 |
| THE REAL WORD | 6 |

Calendar of
Events

- Guest Speaker Series:
D'Arcy McPherson,
Cathy Southworth
- End of July—Students'
Summer Break Begins
- Sept. 3 - Part-time Pro-
gram starts
- October—Open House
Event

INTEREST GROWS IN CR TRAINING

Public press and marketing events are generating a flurry of interest in realtime court reporting from the general public.

In its second quarter, CCVS has seen a progressive increase in the number of consultations and assessments with prospective students. Much of the interest stems from recent articles and ads in local newspapers, as well as chats with people at the National Job Fair and Training Expo, and an Open

House event, which drew in over 60 interested prospects.

Thanks to the great support from Court Reporters attending both events, prospective students had the opportunity to see first-hand the abilities of professional court reporters and broadcast captioners,

At the Open House, Karen Peck, a court reporting instructor and professional court reporter, explained the

perks and job prospects of the court reporting industry. She fielded many questions about studying for success, entering the job market and working with agencies. Meanwhile, several court reporters worked in tandem to write from steno what Karen was saying.

Our prospective students came from a variety of career backgrounds and locations around southern Ontario. Some came from a

(cont'd on p. 5 CR Training)



CCVS and professional Court Reporters attend Open House to welcome prospective students

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Over the last three months, CCVS has been teeming with activity in all areas of the school. Most of our full-time students are racing towards the end of their Phoenix Theory Training, and getting started on speed building. What a great feat in only 4 to 6 months! Even more amazing, about a third of our full-time students completed theory in just 2 months. At the same time, seven new students joined us during our second quarter, and are getting accustomed to the virtual learning environment or catching up to the in-class pioneers.

To support our growing student population, our staff is also flourishing. Two veteran staff, Amber Ellis and Jennifer Baldwin, successfully completed the NCRA Court Reporter Instructor Certification. In addition, we have expanded the Marketing Department and are pleased to welcome Diana Harrop as our Marketing Manager. To develop our web presence and awareness in the general public, we welcome Jennifer Selk to the team. Finally, as we strive to meet the demands of online learning, we have also brought on an additional instructor, Helen Guri, whose creative abilities will be put to work to enhance the learning experience for distant learners.

These new additions, as well as the Open House and the CSRAO Conference that we hosted, are great signs of CCVS's growth. I hope you are inspired by the activity imparted in this edition of *For the Record*.



Executive Director, Richard Williams

WORKING WITH THE CSRAO

As the only post-secondary school in Ontario offering training in realtime court reporting, we strive to build our network within the industry. The Chartered Shorthand Reporters' Association of Ontario is a guiding force as we endeavour to design and deliver curriculum that meets the needs of budding reporters in this province. CCVS was pleased to host the CSRAO during its annual conference on June 7.

At the event, our students got their first opportunity to mingle with the professionals whose ranks they hope to join as early as January 2010. Thirteen of our 17 students made it to the event in which several speakers addressed various topics about and beyond the court reporting profession. Agency owner, Kim Neeson, facilitated a special session just for students to give them information from the employer's perspective.

Meanwhile, CSRAO Executive Affiliate Member and CCVS's Education Coordinator, Jennifer Baldwin, delivered the opening seminar to a crowd of 60+ participants. The conference had a great turn-out, thanks to organizer, Lisa Barrett, and other members who helped make the day a success: Teresa Forbes, Denise Agard, Karin Jenkner, D'Arcy McPherson, Mary Jane Corcoran, Cathy Southworth, and Anja Phillips.



The CSRAO is Ontario's Association for professional shorthand reporters.

CCVS is grateful to the following people and organizations who sponsored our students' attendance at the CSRAO conference:

DENISE AGARD

JOHN GODDARD

ANGELA GUNN

ANGELA JANSSEN

KARIN JENKNER

D'ARCY MCPHERSON

NEESON & ASSOCIATES

NIMIGAN MIHAILOVICH REPORTING

TORONTO COURT REPORTERS

BONNIE VAN DER MEER

VICTORY VERBATIM

TERRY WOOD

INVESTING IN OUR STUDENTS

The cost of higher education in Canada has been a concern for many students. Students at CCVS are no different. Some have part-time or full-time jobs in addition to their personal responsibilities. Nevertheless, they are dedicated to achieving their educational goals and pursuing a career that will grant them financial rewards in the end.

As we increase our capacity, we will also be looking for alternatives to help stu-

dents manage their financial commitments and time dedicated to school.

Scholarships and work opportunities related to court reporting are among the items that we hope to bring to the attention of our students.

One example is the Bob Crockett Memorial Scholarship, which is managed by the CSRAO. The award is granted once

(Continued on p. 5 *Student Finances*)



Six students successfully completed the final Phoenix Theory Test—time to celebrate!

LEARNING FROM THE PROS

Now into our sixth month at CCVS, we have already heard from a range of informative and interesting speakers.

Gael Hannen of the Hearing Foundation of Canada highlighted the value of CART and captioning services to an ever-growing hearing-impaired segment of our society.

Karin Jenkner and Teresa Forbes presented the lifestyle of a world-traveling reporter, one who meets interesting people and reports for the highest courts.

Denise Agard and Terry Wood painted the picture of a home-based captioner, accept-

ing the toughest challenges, yet doing so from the comfort of home.

We listened to, and “cracked up” with chiropractic doctor David Koivuranta. He brought to our attention the health risks of the profession, and provided the latest injury-preventative techniques.

The guest speakers at CCVS provide greatly appreciated motivation and information to the students. Their experience and wisdom have made us hungry for the challenge of realtime reporting.

- Jason Wall



Pioneering student, Jason Wall, talks about the pros who've come to CCVS.

THE FINGER FORUM

Reading steno is great practice for mental development. What is your level?

Beginner:

/PHAEUBG/TH-/PHO*S/OF/KWROUR/P-P/SEFL/-RBGS/TPR-/THAT/S-/HR-/THR-/S-/TPR-/KWROU/-FPLT - Ralph Waldo Emerson

Beginner/Intermediate:

/WH-/KWROU/R-/TPHAUT/PRABGT/-S/-G/-RBGS/-RPL/-RBGS/SPH-PB/SPHAEUR/S-/PRABGT/-S/-G/-RBGS/SKW-/WH-/KWROU/PHAOET/HEUPL/

HAOE/WEUL/WEUPB/-FPLT - Ed Macauley

Advanced:

/PWHRAOEFB/EUPB/KWROUR/S-FL/-RBGS/PWAOE/STRAUPBG/-RBGS/SKW-/TPHEFRB/TKPWEUFB/UP/TPHOE/PHAT/R/WHA*UT/SURBGS/-Z/R/-FPLT/KWROU/R-/A/KH-FPL/SKW*L/O*EFRB/KPH-/TH-/TKRED/-D/AUB/ST-BG/-LZ/-FPLT - Brad Gerrard

-Kim Brown



Kim Brown, a very promising student, finished Phoenix Theory in record time.

POSTCARDS FROM THE FIELD

Veteran Reporter, Lisa Barrett, tells us an excerpt in the life of a court reporter.

In July 2007, I left my own reporting firm to “see the world” and get the most experiences out of my profession. To get started, I had previously emailed Merrill Corp. WordWave Asia asking if any interest in contracting a Canadian reporter existed. Merrill required reporters to use Eclipse software and be NCRA certified with both a CRR & RPR, as well as to have a work visa for Hong Kong and Asia. Luckily I fit the bill.

Merrill emailed me on a Thursday morning in August to offer a realtime assignment in Singapore the next week. Having turned Merrill down three times previously, I thought they might just “give up on me,” so I accepted the assignment.

Ironically, my trip was cancelled - and rebooked. In between those events and with only one day to get my clothes and equipment organized, I received an order for an expedite transcript late Friday afternoon. Nevertheless, by early Saturday morning and with little time to spare, I was off. Five hours to Vancouver, ten

hours to Korea, 8 more hours to Singapore. Wow... I didn't know it was THAT far!

By Monday, I mastered Singapore's subway system, found my way to Merrill's office, and met the friendly people who had been e-mailing me for a few months. They gave me a “daily subsistence allowance” to cover cab and meals for the duration of the trip.

The job itself was a U.S. Deposition. Four lawyers were present. Only one of them was hooked up to realtime, the Singaporean lawyer, Nicholas Lau, who was extremely nice. The U.S. attorneys from Chicago weren't particularly friendly or nice. On Thursday of that week, they asked if I could fly to Jakarta, Indonesia on Saturday.

Upon arrival in Jakarta, we were greeted by a man who took all of our passports. I guess the witness who was being deposed had some connections because we were whisked through Customs with no questions asked. Hmm... some corruption, perhaps?

I awoke very early the next morning to assure myself

that all things were in place for the realtime job.

At 9:30 the appointment started. Mr. Lau hooked up his realtime when immediately I got an “access violation error” message, which completely froze my computer. I shut everything down, re-booted and tried again. This is one of those moments in court reporting when you start seeing spots in front of your eyes and get dizzy as your pulse starts racing and you break out in a sweat. Later, I figured out that the hub wasn't getting enough “juice” to provide the realtime as a result of the power conversion.

Mr. Lau, fortunately, was the only one who had requested realtime. He agreed with the rough draft being provided. Thank God! Besides my laptop frying, losing all my files or having a writer failure - THIS was the worst thing that could happen in a reporting job. Remember - if this ever happens to you - to make sure your hub is powered.

Well, that's it for my Singapore trip. I look forward to telling you about Bermuda, Germany and wherever else court reporting takes me.....



Lisa Barrett is a realtime court reporter

“I left my own reporting firm to ‘see the world’ and get the most experiences out of my profession.”



Singapore is a business hub for Asia.

STUDENT FINANCES

(Continued from p. 3, Investing)

a year to a student member of the CSRAO who has achieved 80 words per minute in shorthand. Other qualifications apply and the information may be requested from the CSRAO.

This year, some of the money for the award was collected through a silent auction during the CSRAO conference in June. Several donors provided gift

baskets, gift certificates, computer accessories and more.

Finding and presenting such awards will become a mainstay for CCVS. But we will not only concentrate on these options.

Currently, we offer a student-referral program to our students as well. Through this program, students have the chance to receive financial rewards for every person whom they introduce to

the school and who enrolls. \$200 is awarded for full-time enrollment, \$100 for online or part-time enrollment. Full details about these incentives are available from the Marketing Manager.

As we move forward, we will be working with our associates in the industry to come up with student funding options that may help contribute to the continuation of their studies.

CCVS and the CSRAO would like to recognize the silent auction donors who contributed to the Bob Crockett Scholarship Fund:

**LISA BARRETT
RON CURRIE
CAROL DENMAN
TERESA FORBES
LARRY GAVIN
NEESON & ASSOCIATES
NIMIGAN MIHAILOVICH**

CR TRAINING

(continued from p.1)

legal background while others were looking for a change in career. Slightly more female than male prospects attended; however, the presence of our own student body demonstrated that this career is viable for both genders.

We were fortunate to have in attendance members from our advisory board, which consists of judges, court reporters and other legal professionals. Their presence spoke loudly for the proliferation of the court reporting profession.

In addition, other suppliers were able to talk with

prospects about the hardware and software options for a working steno writer, again showing that court reporting is a technologically-advancing and vital profession. Our appreciation goes out to everyone who made these events successful.



Pro Reporter, Karen Peck, and CCVS Exec Director, Richard Williams, explains the expectations of CR Training as Karin Jenkner captions in realtime

FUN TIMES AT CCVS

Although students spend the majority of their time focussed on skill building and academic learning, we have arranged other activities to help lighten the mood and turn their attention to peer bonding.

In the spirit of learning about Current Events, stu-

dents and instructors attended the Hot Docs Film Festival and learned about the political workings of a little-known country called Turkmenistan.

During breaks, students have gathered together for pizza lunch and homemade strawberry pies.

To celebrate the summer break, students will be participating in a neighbourhood scavenger hunt.

Students are encouraged to have fun while they learn, and ideas to make their time enjoyable are welcome.



Scene from "Shadow of the Holy Book", a movie from the Hot Docs Film Festival (Picture from the Hot Docs Website)

