

Faculty Association

Date: March 9, 1979

To: OPEN HOUSE VISITORS

From: Capilano College Faculty Association

Welcome to Open House! We are pleased you are joining us in celebrating the College's Tenth Anniversary. During the next two days, some of you will be meeting Capilano College faculty members; many of you have met us already - in classes or in community activities - over the past decade. But, for those of you who haven't, we hope this will be an opportunity for you to get to know us and to learn what the Faculty Association is, whom it represents, what it does and what its goals are.


The Capilano College Faculty Association came into being February 5, 1969 at a meeting at West Vancouver Secondary School where the College was located temporarily. Nineteen instructors attended that meeting. By Wednesday, March 12, 1969, the Association had its first constitution and bylaws. The faculty recognized early that an organization or collective voice was necessary to ensure educational excellence and to provide optimum learning conditions. In November 1973, shortly after the College's move to the Lynnmour Campus, the Faculty Association was certified as a Trade Union; as a Union, we regulate the relations between the College Board and instructors, counsellors, librarians and lab supervisors through collective bargaining. Moreover, as members of the Union, we are obliged, by mutual interest and concern, to protect the quality of education, professional standards and the future of the comprehensive community college.

Over the past ten years, there have been significant changes in Capilano College - in location, in administration, and in the number of the faculty, (today, close to 300 faculty are employed in offering and teaching programs throughout the College Region). Regardless of change, the Faculty Association has remained committed to its original objectives: to promote, maintain and defend independence of thought and teaching; to advance the professional status of the teaching faculty of Capilano College; to help define, foster and implement the role of Capilano College as a post-secondary educational

institution and to seek effective representation on all committees, boards and other bodies dealing with policy matters concerning members of the Union. We are committed to maintaining and promoting a salutary educational climate at Capilano College. We do this through serving on the Instructional Board, the Principal's Advisory Committee, Student Appeals, Placement Review, Health and Safety, Physical Planning, Mediation Procedures, Professional Development and Working Conditions Committees and a myriad of other bodies. Furthermore, faculty have an interest not only in the welfare of the College as an institution but also in the wellbeing of their students. Hence, we worked with students to obtain a central campus (Lynnmour) rather than to continue holding classes in church basements and various locations throughout the North Shore and we have fought concertedly against provincial cutbacks in educational funding.

The Faculty Association is proud of its members. The creative, diverse, superior programs offered by the College reflect the thought, commitment, time, and energy faculty have spent in both teaching and developing them. Unique programs of study such as the Music Therapy Programs, Legal Assistant, Labour Studies and Career Alternatives Programs and innovative courses such as self-paced learning packages in Chemistry and Political Science are just a few of the contributions of Capilano College instructors. Faculty competencies range from internationally-noted biologists to world famous artists. Members' accomplishments and activities include scaling Mount Waddington, sailing the Pacific (in a dugout or single-handedly), authoring books, and publishing a well-known North American literary review, The Capilano Review. In other words, individually and collectively, we hope we serve as catalysts for beneficial change and progress within the community while protecting the economic and working conditions of our colleagues.

Now that we have introduced ourselves, we hope you will remain friends and remain interested in what's happening at Capilano College - a goal we all have in common is to maintain the "community" in Community College. On behalf of the Faculty Association, I hope you enjoy OPEN HOUSE.



Wanda Tilley, President,
Capilano College Faculty Association