

**February 17, 2010**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **A Magical Opportunity for North Island College Students**

North Island College has partnered with the University of California, Riverside and Disney International College Programs to offer our students the opportunity to work, earn and learn at the “most magical place on Earth.”

Representatives from Disney and the University of California, Riverside will be at the Comox Valley campus on March 9<sup>th</sup> to talk to students and community members about the University of California Certificate and the [Disney International College Program](#). This 6.5 month certificate program is offered through NIC’s International Education Department in partnership with University of California, Riverside, and blends academic course work through the University of California with a supervised paid internship at *Walt Disney World* Resort in Florida.

Participants in the program have the opportunity to gain real-world experience, learn valuable business concepts and develop transferable skills while working for one of the most highly respected companies in the world. The Disney experience is currently offered to NIC Business Administration, Tourism and Hospitality, and Culinary Arts students. However, Culinary Arts applicants require US sanitation certification prior to acceptance. Upon completing the program, students earn either a Certificate in Management or Hospitality and Tourism Management from the University of California, Riverside, and credit towards their NIC credential.

“This is an exciting multi-national opportunity for our students,” states Treena Nadon, NIC’s Employment Service Advisor. “This program offers an experience beyond the work and academic components. The students will be living and working with students from up to 72 different countries. The life experience and cultural knowledge they acquire will be difficult to match – a true once in a lifetime opportunity.”

Any current students, prospective students, parents, high school counsellors, and community members interested in learning more about this program are welcome to attend Disney’s presentation on Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> in the Stan Hagen Theatre, from 10:00-11:30 am. Following the presentation, a Disney representative will interview

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applicants that have been pre-screened by NIC. "We hope that many of those interviewed will be admitted into the program," explains Mark Herringer, NIC's Executive Director of International Education. "If all goes well we'll have NIC students beginning the program in July."

To qualify, interested North Island College Hospitality and Business students must:

- Be at least 18 years old;
- Have completed a minimum of 15 credits at NIC and be eligible to undertake the NIC internship portion of their academic program;
- Be in good academic standing with a minimum GPA of 2.0;
- Be recommended by appropriate North Island College faculty;
- Have the financial means to pay for the program costs;
- Have a can-do attitude and an open personality; and
- Be willing to share a bedroom/dorm space.

Applications for the 2010 Summer Session are available from Treena Nadon in the Employment Resource Centre at either the Campbell River campus (Room C203) or Comox Valley campus (Puntledge Hall, Room 120). Applications must be submitted to Nadon no later than Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.

To find out more about the Disney International College Program please visit their website at [www.disneyinternationalprograms.com](http://www.disneyinternationalprograms.com) or contact Treena Nadon at [treena.nadon@nic.bc.ca](mailto:treena.nadon@nic.bc.ca).

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