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NIC Offers First Year Engineering Students Competitive Advantage

North Island College is excited to offer first-year engineering students a head start towards completing a Bachelor of Engineering degree at the University of Victoria.

"What we are offering our students is a course by course articulated transfer arrangement," explains Dennis Lightfoot, NIC's Mathematics and Science Instructor. "It works much better than a block transfer for students who are returning to school, have families and jobs or need to upgrade. They can do as many or as few courses as they like, in any order, over any time period and still complete the transfer to UVIC. It provides so much flexibility."

The Math and Sciences Department has been working closely with UVIC to make this transfer arrangement a reality for NIC engineering students and their timing could not have been better. "NIC approached us just as we were beginning our curriculum development process," states LeAnne Golinsky, Admissions/Advising Officer for the Bachelor of Engineering/Bachelor of Software Engineering Program at UVIC. "Their interest in coming on board was ideally timed. The new courses they have developed will allow seamless transfer into our second year."

NIC's courses in English, Math and Mechanics were approved for transfer early in the process, leaving Lightfoot to focus on the projects component. He proposed a new Introduction to Engineering Design course to match UVIC's revised curriculum, which recently received approval from the University of Victoria. Lightfoot proudly elaborates, "Our new projects course meets UVIC's brand new criteria, putting NIC first year engineering students ahead of everyone else."

Engineering opens a world of opportunities in design, analysis, project management and other jobs involving strong problem-solving skills. Engineering graduates are well-prepared for work in design, analysis, information technology, project management, and other careers requiring a combination of strong problem solving and creativity.

In 2009-2010, over 2,000 students took university transferable courses at North Island College. Students studying at North Island College pay much less tuition than those going directly to a university while earning the exact same credits. With smaller classes and personalized instruction in

both class and lab, NIC's first-year Engineering program is a great way to begin your journey towards an exciting career.

The complete first year engineering program will be offered at NIC's Comox Valley campus, while selected engineering preparatory classes will be offered at the Campbell River and Port Alberni campuses. For further information, please contact a Student Advisor at 1-800-715-0914 or visit our website at www.nic.bc.ca.

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