

REPORT TO NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS
April 2018

OFFICE OF GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Field School Departure Sessions

Submitted by Cathy Mutis

The Cebu field school pre-departure meeting took place on April 3, 2018 for the eight students leaving for the Philippines on May 1, 2018. In addition, the Crete field school pre-departure meeting took place on April 6, 2018 for the 13 students that will depart for Greece on May 1, 2018! One student will be departing for the Copenhagen exchange in Denmark on April 26, 2018.

Spring 2018 Orientation

The spring 2018 orientation for incoming international students is fast approaching. NIC is currently expecting approximately 60 students to attend the event on April 25, 26 and 27, which will include general activities such as campus tours, introductions to Canadian culture and working in groups. On April 27, students will enjoy a day field trip to Elk Falls Provincial Park.

STUDENT SERVICES AND REGISTRAR

Peer Tutoring

Submitted by Erin McConomy, Peer Tutor Coordinator & Writing Support Faculty

Our peer tutoring program has continued to be robust this semester with 32 active tutors, primarily at the Comox Valley Campus, but also at our Port Alberni and Campbell River campuses. These tutors have had over 600 student appointments as of the first week of April. By far the busiest tutors are in business and math, but our English, nursing and trades tutors are keeping busy as well.

We will be continuing the peer tutoring program going over the spring and summer semesters this year. Ten returning and one new tutor are already lined up to tutor between May and August giving us coverage in virtually all of the courses being offered in these semesters.

Student feedback on their experiences with peer tutoring have been consistently positive, including the following:

"Great to review concepts and refresh memory, love to walk through concepts step by step. Extremely valuable."

"The peer tutoring program has greatly helped me with courses that I was having a bit of trouble in."

Writing Support

Writing Support has been consistently busy since the middle of January. The faculty providing writing support have seen students from all different courses and disciplines, and both international and domestic students. We have had approximately 600 student appointments to date and an occupancy rate of 75% consistently through late February, March, and early April.

Our online writing support offered through the WriteAway consortium has also been busy this semester. We have seen 107 submissions from NIC students this semester, which is a 175% increase over last year in the same period. It is also a strong 1/15 of the total submissions from the 15 participating institutions across BC (which include much larger institutions like the University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, British Columbia Institute of Technology, Vancouver Community College and Douglas College).

Both of these writing supports for NIC students will also be available for the 2018 spring and summer semesters.