

NEWS RELEASE

Lethbridge College, SIAST expand corrections transfer credit options

Agreement enables Correctional Studies, Youth Care Worker grads to pursue corrections degree at SIAST Woodland Campus

February 1, 2008 – Lethbridge College and SIAST signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) today that enables SIAST to host the third year of Lethbridge College's Bachelor of Applied Arts in Correctional Studies at SIAST Woodland Campus in Prince Albert.

"One of the key issues facing Canada's post-secondary education sector is credit mobility. Today, SIAST and Lethbridge College are making a commitment to eliminate unnecessary barriers and to create new pathways to enable students to pursue their learning needs and career aspirations in the corrections field," says David Walls, SIAST senior vice-president, academic.

SIAST Correctional Studies and Youth Care Worker diploma grads receive transfer credit for the first two years of Lethbridge College's degree in Correctional Studies. Transfer credit was already in place for Correctional Studies students to take the degree at Lethbridge College. Today's MOU outlines the option to take the third year at SIAST Woodland Campus and defines the transferability of training for students in the Youth Care Worker program. Students spend their entire fourth year (two semesters) engaged

in a “directed field study.” They can choose to spend this study time at their current correctional institution or agency, or can be assisted to find a suitable workplace.

“Lethbridge College is pleased to be able to offer one of its premiere programs at one of Saskatchewan’s premiere post-secondary institutions,” said Jamie Hilts, dean of the Centre for Health, Justice and Human Services. “This is another link in the bond the two schools have forged during the years for the benefit of our students.”

At SIAST, there are currently 13 students registered in the Bachelor of Applied Arts in Correctional Studies program.

Lethbridge College, celebrating its 50th anniversary this academic year, offers some 70 career programs to more than 7,500 students. Chief among its programs are justice studies, environmental sciences, health sciences and business.

SIAST is Saskatchewan’s primary public institution for post-secondary technical education and skills training, recognized nationally and internationally for its expertise and innovation. Almost 12,000 students are registered in SIAST programs, which touch every sector of the economy; additionally, the organization draws more than 29,000 individual course registrations. It operates campuses in Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina and Saskatoon, and provides a number of courses and programs through distance education.

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Additional information about Lethbridge College can be found at www.lethbridgecollege.ca

Additional information about SIAST can be found at www.goSIAST.com