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NEWS RELEASE

Associate VP leads integration of educational technology

New position will ensure seamless integration of educational technology

October 3, 2005 – SIAST has appointed an accomplished academic leader and respected educator to the newly created position of associate vice president, electronic learning and technology. Barb Bremner, most recently SIAST's dean of community services, assumes her new duties this week.

"Educators today need to approach learning both from within and beyond the classroom in response to technological and economic change," says Claude Naud, SIAST's vice president, programs. "Barb's extensive contributions to online learning, coupled with experience in education administration and curriculum development make her ideally suited to spearheading the planning, coordination and integration of educational technology in all facets of teaching and learning at SIAST."

As associate VP, electronic learning and technology, Bremner leads a team of senior professionals responsible for the development and integration of educational technology, including library services, at SIAST. Her responsibilities also include international activities and applied research.

"Taking a strategic, integrated approach in technology adoption will create tremendous opportunities and increase benefits," says Bremner, adding, "The development of this more integrated unit will serve to enhance SIAST's responsiveness to student needs. The key to making technology integration seamless for faculty, staff and students, while also ensuring the greatest return on investment, is through institution-wide planning."

Born and raised in Prince Albert, Bremner has graduate and undergraduate degrees from the University of Saskatchewan. She is currently pursuing doctoral studies at the University of Calgary. Bremner has been employed with SIAST since 1982 in various faculty and instructional design capacities. Before assuming the role of dean of community services, Bremner was director of SIAST's Virtual Campus. In that capacity, she played a key role in positioning SIAST as a leader in e-learning.

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 27,000 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 SIAST can be found at www.goSIAST.com