

Dear Returning Student,

Welcome back to your next study term! By now, you've had some time to review your performance from your last semester and to examine where your strengths and weaknesses were. You are likely feeling a little excited to find out more about the upcoming courses and the teachers you will have.

But have you taken the time to think about what tools will allow you to be as successful as you can be in the upcoming school semester? Most people think that intellectual ability, good organizational skills, and adequate finances are the key to academic success. They are right, of course, but this is an incomplete picture – one of the most important aspects required to succeed is: people!

In a recent study, college graduates ranked "*personal contacts with students*" and "*personal contact with faculty and staff*" as the two most important factors contributing to a successful and satisfying college career. The 2,300 students surveyed put these factors ahead of "*financial resources*", "*career goals*", "*social life*" and even "*health*".

At Algonquin College, we believe that your personal connections with other people who work and study in our college community, both peers and staff, are essential to your college experience and to your future work life. We back up that belief with services made available to you with this very idea in mind, such as academic advising, financial aid, etc.

Please pay particular attention to the registration dates and process information, as this will help you address your registration needs in a timely fashion.

Note also that in addition to the MSDNAA, which most of you have already benefited from, we have been able to negotiate with the College's New Technology Store discounted pricing and special academic licensing for software some of you may require (depending on your program of study), namely VMWare 5 for Windows and Panda Platinum Internet Security 2005. As always, your course professors will go over any hardware and/or software requirements specific to their courses (if any) during the first week of classes.

Finally, I would also like to point out that your program coordinator acts as your academic advisor and is available to talk to you about your academic issues, career or personal concerns. They can also refer you to other resource people at the College. As a reminder, your program coordinators are listed below. Feel free to contact them via email if there is something that you would like to discuss.

0006X Computer Engineering Technology – Computing Science	Robert Allison	T307d	coordsci@algonquincollege.com
0150X Computer Systems Technician	Pat Ouellette	T307k	coordcst@algonquincollege.com
0178X Computer Engineering Technology	David Haley	T307e	coordeng@algonquincollege.com
0336X Computer Programmer	Owen Walker	T307f	coordcp@algonquincollege.com
3002X Internet Application Programmer	Jérôme Mizon	C205	coordiap@algonquincollege.com

Good luck with your studies in this upcoming academic term.

Sincerely,

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