



Some people feel the rain. Others just get wet.

Bob Dylan
(1941 -)



To accomplish great things, we must dream as well as act.

Anatole France
(1844-1924)



It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it.

Aristotle
(384 BC - 322 BC)



IT'S A DATE

May 12
Last Day of Classes

May 26
Last Day of Exams

June 11
Golf Tournament
Hemmingford Golf and
Country Club

June 19
Convocation 2008
Place des Arts



Photo: Michelle Lee

Montreal Canadiens General Manager Bob Gainey chats with second-year Fine Arts student Karalee Davis at the 10th anniversary edition of Artists in Bloom. Daughter Anna, back to camera, stands in the foreground. The event raised more than \$7,500 for the Gainey Foundation.

ARTISTS CREATE BUZZ FOR GAINEY FOUNDATION

There was a buzz in the room from the moment the artists made their way to their easels. Not only was this the 10th anniversary edition of the event, the evening was made even more special with the arrival of Montreal Canadiens General Manager Bob Gainey, his daughter Anna, and her husband Tom Pitfield.

The Gainey family was in attendance because the proceeds of the evening's auction would go to the Foundation established in memory of Mrs. Cathy Gainey, who passed away in 1995, and Laura Gainey, who was lost at sea in December 2006.

Artists in Bloom continued on page 2...

DAWSON LAUNCHES SPACE



It was one giant leap forward for Dawson on May 1st as the much anticipated launch of the SPACE (Science Participating with Arts and Culture) multidisciplinary web-based magazine took place in the Reception Hall. Months of student collaboration brought this new site to fruition, and its first visitors were unanimous in their amazement at the quality and scope of the project.

SPACE continued on page 6...

COME SAIL AWAY



Political Science teacher Myron Galan is one of the sailing enthusiasts involved in the Mobility Cup.

If you thought that sailing was a sport beyond your reach, think again. In fact, there is an organization with ties to Dawson that ensures that this exhilarating activity is accessible to all. And while hopes for the Stanley Cup may have been dashed, there is another cup that Dawson may yet bring home. The Mobility Cup, that is.

Dawson English teacher and avid sailor D'Arcy O'Connor is a volunteer organizer of the Mobility Cup, an international competition of sailors with disabilities.

The five-day annual regatta will be hosted by the Association Québécoise de Voile Adaptée (AQVA) at the Pointe-Claire Yacht Club from August 25 to 29 and will welcome participants from as far away as New Zealand.

Dawson College is a proud sponsor of the event, contributing \$5,000 as a gesture in keeping with its mission statement objective "to

develop the role of the College as a community resource."

"I soon found myself competing"

Political Science teacher Myron Galan was hesitant to try adapted sailing three years ago when D'Arcy initially approached him, but once convinced, "I took to it fairly quickly, and soon found myself competing in the Mobility Cup in Ottawa." He has been sailing ever since, both competitively and recreationally.

Along with Myron and D'Arcy, a number of students from Dawson's Centre for Students with Disabilities will be volunteering at this year's event. If you are interested in AQVA events as a volunteer or participant, please contact D'Arcy at (514) 934-1861 and visit www.mobilitycup.org for more information about this year's regatta as well as archives from past events.

Artists in Bloom continued from page 1...

Starting at precisely 6 p.m. 24 artists from the Illustration & Design and Fine Arts programs began painting their canvases. For the next two hours, ideas came to life before the record crowd.

There had been some worry because the Habs were playing in Montreal that night, but the game did not affect attendance. The element of surprise and gratitude peaked when Bob Gainey entered the room, as everyone knew he probably needed to be somewhere else. He stayed for 40 minutes, chatting with the artists, other students, parents and employees of the College, before heading off to the Bell Centre.

Anna stayed at the event and spoke briefly before the auction, telling everyone that the Gainey Foundation was "honoured to be a

part of Artists in Bloom" and that her sister Laura, who was an artist herself, would have thoroughly enjoyed the event. Anna, who runs the day-to-day operation of the Foundation, encouraged all the artists to apply for grants through the Foundation to further their artistic pursuits. The website address is www.gaineyfoundation.com.

Buoyed by the words of appreciation from the Gainey and the high quality of the paintings themselves, the large crowd did not have to be prodded to bid. Auctioneer Rob Lurie, CTV news reporter, had several bidding wars on his hands throughout the evening that he handled with his usual dose of humour.

The paintings covered a wide variety of subjects from landscapes to animals to abstracts to portraits. There was something for all tastes. By the end of the night, when all 24 paintings had been auctioned off, the tally of receipts for the evening came to \$7,600.

Artists in Bloom was launched 10 years ago by Dawson's student ambassadors, the Blue Ring Society, and has raised nearly \$40,000 for different charities. In the past, funds have been donated to the Montreal General Trauma Unit, St. Mary's Hospital and Cedars-Sinai. It was once again a very successful event that has people coming back year after year to support worthy causes and to marvel at the immense talent of Dawson's young artists.

HATS OFF TO PHOTOGRAPHY ... AND TO ZOË!



Photo: Jennifer Delgaty

Young women laureates of the *Chapeau, les filles!* competition gather at the reception held in April, including Dawson's own Zoë Briscoe, back row centre, from the Professional Photography Program.

Chapeau, les filles! is becoming fertile ground to celebrate young women in the Professional Photography program at Dawson. For the second year in row, female students in the program have been honoured with the prestigious prize awarded by the *Ministère de l'Éducation, Loisir et Sport*.

This year Zoë Briscoe took the prize, with Jennifer Delgaty as a finalist. Last year, Emma Haute-coeur received the award. *Chapeau, les filles!* is now in its 12th year and was established to recognize the work of young women entering non-traditional fields like engineering, computer science, photography and industrial design, among others.

This competition helps women become familiar with the many career options open to them and provides support for those training for male-dominated trades and occupations until graduation.

Under the direction of the MELS regional offices, the competition is held throughout Québec, in public and private educational institutions at the secondary and college levels.

Regional winners are selected by committees made up of partners from the fields of education, employment and business.

More and more women are entering the field of photography, and Dawson's strong tradition in the art lends itself to the recognition of these talented young women.

A Tradition of Photography at Dawson College

Dawson has a rich history in photography. The program has been offered here since 1976, having begun as an intensive one-year course of study, evolving into day and evening AEC programs by 1981 and administered through Dawson's Institute of Photography.

In 1991, the three-year DEC program was implemented. Numerous modifications were made in the 16 intervening years to the content, techniques and skills taught, as well as to the facilities and resources, reflecting the industry's move from film to digital technologies.

In 2007, major revisions were made to the Professional Photography program, which were approved by the Board of Governors on the recommendation of Senate, that bring it in line with the newly defined Ministry objectives and standards, or competencies. The new program will be implemented in Fall 2008.

It is the last of all of Dawson's DEC programs to be defined by competencies. A big reason for the delay by the Ministry was the pace of changes in the photo industry over the past few years.

Working in Dawson's favour were the efforts of its exceptionally talented and perceptive faculty who were keeping up with the changes on their own, ensuring that students graduated with all the competencies they would need to be successful in the industry or qualified to pursue university studies in their chosen field.

Also working in the program's favour are the new, expanded facilities in the 1G wing made possible by the expansion of the Atrium and construction of the new theatre, and a very attractive and informative website managed by teacher Don Corman.

All these factors combined may have something to do with the fact the Professional Photography program has seen an unprecedented 80 per cent increase in applications: a bumper crop of talented photographers adding their vision to Dawson's long-standing tradition.



Friedrich Nietzsche would have been proud.

DAWSON PHILOSOPHERS UNITE!

A festive event held in Conrod's on April 17th drew a crowd for an afternoon of food, music and you guessed it: Philosophy.

The Philosophy department organized the gathering to celebrate the discipline while illuminating those unfamiliar with the field. It was an opportunity to reach students and faculty alike, to shed some light on the department and demystify courses offered at Dawson.

The Benjamin Deschamps Jazz Quartet broke from their entertaining set for a short speech by Director General Richard Filion, who recounted his discovery of philosophy which he then went on to study at university, and the important part it has played in his life and career.

Philosophy is a social conversation

One of the organizers, Susan Hoffmann, discussed the practicality of philosophy with some students in attendance. "Not all students can register for philosophy courses because of their program constraints, but they all have access to philosophy through the Humanities courses."

She went on to say that "students sometimes don't realize that philosophy is a social conversation, a dialogue. Once they discover this, they are more likely to gravitate toward the philosophy courses."

STRATEGIC PLAN CONSULTATION OFF AND RUNNING

It started with a retreat in January for the Director General's Group to discuss how to tackle the next generation of the Strategic Plan. Four months later, the College is well into the consultation process that will result in the formulation of the Strategic Plan 2009-2014.

So far, Director General Richard Filion and Academic Dean Bob Kavanagh have met with the chairs and coordinators of all three academic sectors for 90-minute meetings that put on the table the College's Mission Statement, the existing Plan's Vision Statement and themes. After some introductory remarks to frame the document institutionally and academically, the question, where do we go from here? is put to the participants.

Lively, collegial and thought-provoking discussions have ensued. Each sector has arrived with its own set of concerns and priorities, but it has been invigorating to hear the level of engagement and commitment to the College common to all the meetings.

The overriding themes of the meetings so far have centred on faculty renewal and retention, promotion of career/technical programs, resources, professional development, support to programs and to students, and our links to external bodies and communities.

The next step in consultation involves three general assemblies that have been called to gather opinions from the three groups of employees. The Director General and Academic Dean have met with the Association of Dawson Professionals, and will meet with support staff on Thursday, May 22 from noon to 2 p.m. in the Boardroom and with Dawson Faculty on Friday, May 23 from noon to 2 p.m. in Room 4C.1.

Strategic Planning continued on page 6...

INAUGURAL ANASTASIA DE SOUSA MEMORIAL AWARD TO BE GIVEN AT CONVOCATION



Honour Her Memory

*If you are graduating this year,
you can apply to become
the first recipient of the
Anastasia De Sousa Memorial Award*



Pick up forms to apply at:
• 2nd Floor Info Desk
• Awards Office 2E.7
• Financial Aid 2E.8B
• Services for Students with Disabilities 2E.8A
• Student Services 2E.5 & 2E.6
• Counselling 2D.2
• Advising 2D.4

Deadline: noon, Wednesday, May 14, 2008



www.dawsoncollege.qc.ca
or contact
Craham Weiss (514) 931-8733 ext. 1214

In keeping with a promise made to her family, the first disbursement of the Anastasia De Sousa Memorial Award will be made on June 19 at Place des Arts during Convocation.

The award will be given to a graduating student who exemplifies the qualities Anastasia lived by during her short life: enthusiasm, ambition and perseverance in the face of hardship.

The award is not based uniquely on academic performance, but on the attainment of a DEC despite having had to overcome serious obstacles.

More than \$120,000 was raised in Anastasia's name after the tragedy of September 13, 2006.

It is today a fully endowed fund that will generate enough revenue to award two prizes in her memory per year in perpetuity, one at graduation and one in-course scholarship.



Sally Nelson

A MILESTONE FOR SALLY NELSON

During a year of milestones for Dawson, Sally Nelson (English) celebrated one of her own. Sally was honoured on the occasion of her 80th birthday with a gathering in an intimate setting in the Reflections room in 4E.

It would be difficult to find someone at Dawson who had not worked with Sally in some capacity, and even more difficult to find one not touched by the level of commitment and professionalism she brings to everything she is involved in.

Hired as one of the first teachers at this new CEGEP in 1969, Sally has engaged the minds of a few thousand students as well as her peers', through her English classes, her extracurricular involvement, and her work on committees and governing bodies.

In an article in *The Plant* recently, Sally spoke about the early days of Dawson, saying that because everything was new back then, including the teachers, the age gap between teachers and students was smaller than what it is today. It made for an interesting dynamic.

"We took everybody in and gave them all the opportunity in the world to change their world."

Sally can take credit for expanding the intellectual horizons of countless students over the year, and a number of colleagues, on this journey through time.

Happy Birthday, Sally.

BUDDING PHOTOGRAPHERS START IN TEEN YEARS

This summer will once again find budding teenaged photographers roaming the grounds finding that perfect image. The Centre for Training and Development will offer *f/start*, a camp that teaches Montreal teenagers about the art of digital photography.

The program was started three years ago by three professional photographers: Kate Hutchinson, Guillaume Simoneau and Harlene Weijs. They came up with the idea, packaged it and taught the classes.

"The first year was successful and hugely appealing for the students who enrolled in the courses," said Nadia Bissada, Manager at the Centre for Training and Development. "Due to that appeal, we ran the program again the following year."

Kate Hutchinson returned in the second year to coordinate the camp and act as lead instructor, and was joined by professional photographers Nancy Kendle and Peter Berra. All three instructors will be involved in this summer's camp.

The instructors bring a lot of expertise that they share with the students. Each class has three instructors and 20 students, so the students receive a lot of attention and high quality training.

The camp also includes a weekly exhibition where students have a chance to showcase their works and gain experience in organizing an exhibition.

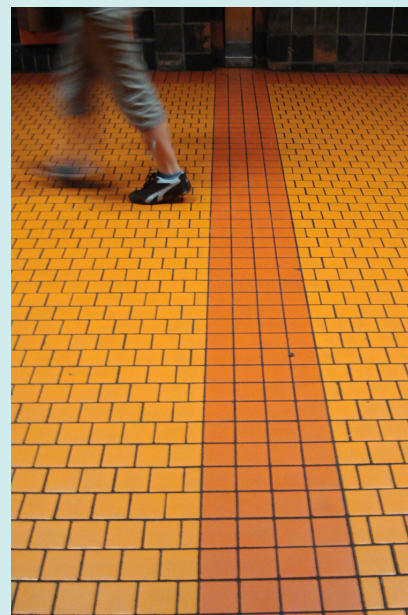
f/start has been a learning process for the instructors as well. The first year included darkroom training, whereas in the second year, all the classes dealt with digital photography.

"We faced a challenge with that transition," said Kate Hutchinson. "In our first year, the students loved working in the darkroom, and they found it magical. But we had to give up the darkroom in our second year.

"The challenge with teaching digital photography is that we still have to teach students the basics of how the camera works, such as how shutter speed and aperture affect the image."

The instructors were up to the challenge, and the reaction after the second year was also very positive. Parents get the biggest kick from their children's work, and reported back on how enthusiastic the teenagers were to be learning a new way of looking at things.

This year's camp includes two additional courses: Advanced Week, designed for students returning from previous years (or who complete Digital 1 and Digital 2 this summer), and Parent and Child Week where parents take the class with their children and learn about photography together.



Just one example of an *f/start* project.

The outlook for both courses looks good, and everyone involved in the program is eager for it to begin. *f/start* may well have the ability to bridge the communication gap between parents and teenagers.

The *f/start* program runs July 7 to August 15. For more information about the sessions, consult the website at www.dawsoncollege.qc.ca/photocamp or call (514) 933-0047.

All in attendance were treated to a video montage documenting the work that went into each step of this effort. From the html coding to the logo creation to the content creation, the audience got an insider's look at the process that brought the webzine to its current state.

Under the advisement of faculty members Joel Trudeau, Ken Milkman, Aaron Krishtalka, and Grant Brown (ret'd), a team of over 40 students designed, built and populated this site with art, video, and articles covering topics from the arts and the sciences. According to managing editor Dimitri Poliderakis, SPACE "blurs the gap between programs" as it successfully encompasses subject matter that would otherwise be addressed in a science forum or an arts forum.

In the first edition, SPACE's articles range from a discussion about the beauty of math, to the physics of superheroes and the science of music and the brain, plus proposals for 21 comprehensive assessment ideas. Future editions will include reviews, articles, blogs, curated exhibitions, and interactive features.

International Readership

The articles and artwork are all student created aside from a selection of articles from teachers. The student contributors or "Spacers" as they refer to themselves, have hopes that the site will attract Dawson readers, but insist that the nature of the webzine could easily attract an international readership.

One of the founding Spacers, Marie McCulloch stated that "though the CEGEP system effectively forces us to choose between science and the arts, SPACE helps bridge the gap by allowing students with interests in both areas to have a forum in which to express and discuss these interests." This sentiment was echoed by other Spacers, eager to explore topics that wouldn't necessarily be addressed in their courses.

For a taste of SPACE, visit their site at <http://space.dawsoncollege.qc.ca> or click on their icon on Dawson's homepage.



DAWSON GOLFS

Last month's Discover Dawson newsletter highlighted the College's annual golf tournament as an ideal day out for beginner and expert golfers alike. The tournament was promoted at Dawson's Spring Barbeque on May 6th, where CTV's Lori Graham hosted the station's noontime weather broadcast (which was sunny and warm) live from Dawson's west grounds.

If you're interested in playing a friendly game of golf for a good cause with your friends, family and colleagues on June 11 at the Hemmingford Golf Club, please visit the Dawson website and click on the Golf icon. We hope to see you there.

More general assemblies will take place next year leading up to the final report in June 2009.

An advisory group is being struck to manage all the information gathered. Membership includes representation from Senate and the Board, who have already elected their members (Leslie Barker as Chair of Senate, Gail Edwards and Ted Irwin, and Katia Opalka, graduate representative to the Board, respectively), three faculty members, one support staff, one professional, one student, the Director General, the Academic Dean and two other members of management, and four College resource people (Shirley Jorgensen, Katherine McWhaw, Louise Paul and Donna Varrica).

A website will round out the consultation process. In it, employees are asked to fill out a survey to gauge the effectiveness of the last Plan and to identify areas of concern for the next one. It will also include documents with questions about shaping our future, a link to the existing plan, a list of meetings, and notes to accompany those meetings.

The website is accessible via the home page icon on the Dawson website for The Strategic Plan: The Next Generation.

MUHC SEPTEMBER 13TH PROJECT

The September 13th Project is now in its second phase and the research team is soliciting the participation of faculty, staff and administration. Students have been surveyed since early April and the team now hopes to get a strong response rate from Dawson employees.

The study, described in detail in the February issue of Discover Dawson, is a collaboration with the MUHC. It seeks to establish an effective intervention plan that can be used in the event that another institution needs guidance in dealing with a comparable incident.

As a Dawson employee, you may receive a letter inviting you to complete the survey, which can be completed at Dawson or on-line. The letter will include a username and password that will give you access to the on-line survey.

Employee participation is voluntary, but the information provided is essential to the project and will be completely confidential.

For more information, please call (514) 931-8731 extension 6000 or visit the website at www.dawsoncollege.qc.ca/share

A BUSY TIME FOR PROGRAM SERVICES AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Office of Program Services and International Development, headed by Donald Walker, regroups the College's activities in program development and implementation, program revision, program and institutional evaluation, linkages with industry and other institutions on the local and international level, academic policies, AEC programs and the Centre for Training and Development.

The following is a snapshot of the important work that has gone on since Fall 2006 that in some way or other touches every part of the College's work:

3D Animation and Computer-Generated Imagery

Dawson College consulted with the Cégep du Vieux Montreal as well as various film and game studios in order to bring an additional program offering to its Creative and Applied Arts sector. The addition of the 3D Animation and Computer-Generated Imagery Program will provide students with a new career choice in a very exciting field.

First Nations Social Science Program

In October of 2006, following the First Nations Socioeconomic Forum held in Mashteuiatsh, the federal and provincial governments announced support for the initiative of creating a post-secondary educational institution in Québec. Subsequently, Québec's *Ministère de l'Éducation, Loisir et Sport* (MELS) confirmed the details of its support for the project.

In November 2006, Dawson College and the Cégep de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue, signed an agreement with FNEC which states that both colleges will support FNEC's efforts in the creation of a First Nations post-secondary institution.

Program Services worked with its partners to develop the First Nations Social Science program to be offered in the Fall of 2009.

Biomedical Laboratory Technology

The Biomedical Laboratory program underwent a revision based on the results of its own proactive ongoing evaluation. The pharmacology course can be taken online while students are on internship and the procurement stage is now a discrete component of the program.

Professional Photography

The Professional Photography Program was revised in the Fall 2007 to comply with the change to a competency-based approach. The first cohort will begin in Fall 2008 (see article on page 3).

Social Science

The Social Science Program was revised in the Fall of 2007 to incorporate a Graduation Profile that enables students to take two Mathematics courses. The revision also included changes to the International Business Studies thematic Profile, and the introduction of new courses.

Electronics Engineering Technology

The Electronics Engineering Technology Program was revised in the Fall of 2007, and the first cohort will begin in Fall 2009. The Program was revised to comply with the change to a competency-based approach.

Liberal Arts

The Liberal Arts Program was revised in the Winter of 2008 as a result of the modifications made to the Social Science Program the previous Fall.

Industrial Design

The Industrial Design Program was revised in the Fall of 2007 to change the order of two courses. This change allows students who may be missing the Physics 534 course which is required for admission to the Program, to be admitted to a *session d'accueil* in their first Fall term.

Program Evaluation

In the Fall 2007 semester, the Social Service Program evaluation that was started in Winter 2006 was completed. The report demonstrated that the program has both strengths and weaknesses and 20 recommendations were drafted by the Social Service Program Evaluation. The report was reviewed by Senate in November 2008 and recommended to the Academic Dean.

The Mechanical Engineering Technology Program evaluation was completed in Winter 2008. The evaluation report will be submitted to Senate for the June meeting.

The College's Institutional Student Evaluation Policy (ISEP) was evaluated as mandated by the Commission d'évaluation de l'enseignement collégial (CEEC) as part of a province-wide evaluation of all policies related to the evaluation of student achievement. This evaluation involved the collection and analysis of a large set of data including almost 1,500 student surveys, 126 teacher surveys, 36 Chair and Coordinator surveys, 662 course outlines, program and department annual reports, and interviews with administrators, professionals, and support staff.

The Industrial Design Program is undergoing a program evaluation in the Fall of 2008. Program Services has been working with the Program to develop an Evaluation Plan. The Plan will be completed this spring.

Program Services continued on page 8...



Wilson Wong

NEW ASSISTANT DEAN IN SCIENCE, MEDICAL STUDIES AND ENGINEERING

Wilson Wong rounds out the triumvirate of new assistant deans. Wilson took up his post at the end of February in the Science, Medical Studies and Engineering sector.

He has a diverse teaching background in the areas of business, commerce, social science, computer science and mathematics. He has taught at Champlain College (Lennoxville campus), Vanier College, and here at Dawson in an AEC program. His Master of Business Administration and Bachelor of Commerce degrees are from Concordia University.

Wilson continues to play an important role in serving community needs as an educator and has founded groups such as the Educational Alliance for Science & Technology.

Asked why this new position was such a good fit, he said: "The ability to collaborate with a diverse student population, an animated faculty, and an experienced support team are critical points in this job."

"My first Dawson experience was at the Selby campus and second experience was in 2005 when Dawson hosted the 23rd edition of the Bell Montreal Regional Science &

Technology Fair, which is an event run by a not-for-profit organization that I founded. Since then, I have met with Dawson students who participate in my other competitions, like robotics, and they often praise its faculty and the school."

Program Services continued from page 7...

Centre for Training & Development

The academic year 2007-2008 was a busy year for the Centre. In addition to its regular offerings of language, art and technology courses, the Centre introduced new courses and workshops, and increased its total number of registrations compared to last year.

The Centre was also involved in:

- Designing and offering to CEGEP students from Kahnawake Community a non-credit French course specifically designed for their needs.
- Supporting Human Resources in providing computer applications training to Dawson support staff.
- Providing administrative and marketing support to the Confucius Institute in Quebec.
- Planning the third offering of the Photography summer camp (f/start) for teenagers (*see article page 5*).

AEC Programs

In the 2007-2008 academic year, the AEC division staff was responsible for the implementation and support of 11 new AEC cohorts. The division also supported seven cohorts that started in the previous year.

Video Game Level Design

In March 2008, a new program in Video Game Level Design was offered for the first time at Dawson in collaboration with Emploi-Québec.

This high quality program is being offered at Ubisoft Campus located on Notre-Dame Street West.

Dawson shares the campus facilities with other institutions offering courses in the Video Gaming field such as Cégep de Matane, Université de Montréal and Université de Sherbrooke.

International Development

In October 2007, the Confucius Institute in Quebec was officially opened.

This partnership between Dawson College, the Université de Sherbrooke, and Beijing Normal University has as its mandate to make Quebecers more aware of the Chinese language and culture and to promote a better understanding of our two nations.

The grand opening was attended by Jean Charest, the Premier of Québec, the Chinese Ambassador to Canada and other dignitaries.

The College is also in the process of developing joint projects with Chinese institutions in the areas of Interior Design, Industrial Design and Mechanical Engineering Technology.

In the Winter term of 2008, students from France were welcomed into our Business Administration and Computer Science Programs as part of an exchange program offered with the *Office Franco-Québécois pour la Jeunesse* (*see April issue of Discover e-Newsletter*).

Several Dawson students also took advantage of this opportunity to study in France for one semester.

Report prepared by Program Services



The **Discover e-Newsletter** is produced by the Public Relations Office.

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