



Gisela Sootsmeyer at work in the chemical technology lab.

Technology student leads busy life

Gisela Sootsmeyer will graduate this spring with a diploma in chemical technology after four years as a part-time student at the Brampton Campus of Sheridan College.

Gisela is one of two women in the graduating class and an "outstanding student", according to Ralph Beaty, chairman of the Applied Science and Technology Division. "She has had A's or A pluses all through her years as a student here."

While disproving the hoary old adage that women and technology don't mix, Gisela still has plenty of time for her two daughters, 8 and 10 years old.

Her husband, manager of Central Machinery Ltd. in Toronto, is in full agreement with her plans.

"We both know that with this diploma, I'll get a better position when I begin to work," Gisela said. Although she hasn't begun to look for a job, Gisela anticipates no problems.

Chemical technology, in which Gisela is enrolled, is a three-year program. The first two years concentrate primarily on routine lab techniques. Students may graduate after two years as chemical technicians trained to work under supervision.

The third year of the course turns from lab techniques to the study of management and supervision, chemical engineering, independent research, research reports and quality control. The year provides graduates with potential to progress from a starting position as a technician to supervisor or independent researcher.

Gisela chose to study part-time, having been admitted to the second year of the program because "I didn't want to rush into a job". As she is also a full-time wife and mother, she wanted time daily to be with her family.

Each graduate of the program must, in addition to classroom studies, complete a year long research project presented at year's end in a 30 to 40 page report.

Gisela's project concerns the Anaerobic digestion of sludge and cellulose... familiar to most people as a method by which methane gas is produced from sewage. The gas can be used as a heat source and as fuel. Gisela spends an average of two hours a day monitoring the experiment in addition to her classes and duties at home.

She has encountered no problems connected with being a woman in technology. "I have always been treated as an equal".

Mike Galda, another graduate in the program, said about the women, "They're as good as any man."

Linda Gougeon is the other female member of the class. A 20-year-old full-time student, as far as she is concerned, she says, "I've been treated like one of the guys."

The students' work and projects are more important to them than anything else. Mike is engaged in the phosphate analysis of rivers and streams; Linda's project is entitled: "The molecular weights of gases by vapor densities and surface tension of liquids."

Applied Science and Technology

'Integration' will be focus at new Brampton Campus

Integration of related applied science and technology disciplines will be the focus at the new Brampton Campus.

Dave Olive, Director of the Applied Science and Technology Division wants to emphasize the vertical and horizontal integration of studies. "Each discipline

will be able to see what the other is doing, since most of the lab activities will be very visible," said Olive.

This will be apparent in most areas, including the one-year animal care program recently put under the technology wing and the art fundamentals program, which will be sharing some of the facilities with technology.

"After nine years, we are very much looking forward to our new facilities located at the southeast corner of McLaughlin Rd. and Steeles Ave. W.," said Ralph Beaty, Chairman of the ASTD.

"For the first time we will have labs designed as labs, in very specialized spaces. The architects have specifically designed these facilities with our educational philosophy in mind," continued Beaty.

Another significant improvement will be to provide animal care students with direct access to the biosciences lab. The animal centre is currently housed in a portable behind the campus on Church St.

"It may not be known that graduates of the animal care program with Grade 13 chemistry, may be admitted to the second year of the chemical technician program," said Beaty.

Also, after two years related industrial experience, graduates of the three-year technology and two-year technician programs can be certified by the Ontario Association of Certified Engineers' Technicians and Technologists.

The AS&T division is also seeking approval for a full-time one-year hearing aid specialist program. This is currently being offered as a 180-hour part-time class.

The hearing aid specialist program is open to anyone with a secondary school graduation diploma and is aimed at training and educating responsible people in the retail, measurement, and adaption of hearing devices.

The specialist will diagnose, select and apply proper devices, as well as provide a certain amount of counselling for the patient's psychological adjustment.

Olive clarified the diagnostic aspect of the course which will be conducted by members of the medical profession. "Patients suffering from a hearing disorder will be referred to the specialist, who with the use of audio-metric devices, can determine the extent of the hearing problem and select and fit an appropriate aid."

A necessary pre-requisite for membership into the Hearing Aid Association is successful completion of this program. In co-operation with the association, the college will be preparing a special brochure outlining the program which will consist of approximately 10 courses.

The Applied Science and Technology Division will also introduce a food science elective and is seeking ministry approval for a life science elective as well.

Sheridan College President John Porter further emphasized that women in technology are considered by the college administration to be an extremely important factor in the new campus identity.

"It is hoped that women will be encouraged to enter technology fields that have been previously male dominated. We want to provide a new look toward women in various occupations," Porter added.

Employment opportunities for men and women after graduation are essentially equal since jobs are paraprofessional and usually don't involve particularly heavy or physical work. Beaty claims that female graduates from previous years have obtained good jobs related to their course of study at Sheridan.

It should also be mentioned that the college has two very popular short color films: "Women in Technology" and "Careers in Technology", the latter produced in co-operation with 16 Ontario community colleges, which are available for public and secondary school viewing, free of charge, simply by contacting the Brampton Campus on Church St. at 459-7533 or Information Services, Oakville Campus, 845-0430.



Director Dave Olive

Students process information by means of logic circuits

"Project Digilog" could make life easier for everyone.

A digilog — short for digital logic — is a problem-solving device which operates on the same principle as a computer in that it uses the same kind of circuits.

Its creator is Sheridan Brampton Campus electronics instructor Roy Adams. He built the digilog last summer, and added an instructional notebook for a total self-learning package.

"The device resembles a very complicated switchboard," said Adams. Wires are connected to 16 terminals which in turn are connected to an integrated circuit. Instructions are given on the board on how to set it up. "By operating a series of switches, we receive signals. The difficulty comes in learning what the signals can do," he explained.

The digilog describes several logic functions and determines the application. "We see it as a viable electronics substitute for mechanical devices which are used now for washing machines and sewing machines, among others."

"We've used the digilog for readouts on our F.M. receiver. The machine was also responsible for developing the switch in the flashing marquee lights used for the college theatre production, "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," he said.

Adams has had requests from industry to buy the digilog, but, he said, "we're not in the manufacturing business. Right now we're using it as an educational training apparatus in the classroom."

The digilog is relatively portable and Adams hopes to give demonstrations in local high schools as an example of a sophisticated program and application in learning.

