

Anne Sado Tribute

by Georgia Quartaro

While we are honouring all our retirees, past and current, we want to make special note of one upcoming retirement as Anne Sado prepares to complete her time as President late this summer. Anne came to the college in 2004, so many of us have spent a substantial portion of our time at the college while Anne has been President.

Through the time you have been President, Anne, George Brown has become a much larger college, with twice as many students, new and renovated facilities, and expanded partnerships. Greater opportunities for students have been created, with degrees, new programs, and chances for study abroad. There is an increased awareness of the diversity within the college and the city and the need for the college to be a welcoming place for all students and staff.

No presidency is without challenges as well as triumphs, and you have certainly had a number of both – including unexpected challenges this week. While the past year stands out in particular, there have certainly been many over the past 17 years. I'm not going to enumerate them other than to note that Hemingway described courage as "grace under pressure" – you have consistently been gracious and there has been lots of pressures!

While I am speaking on our collective behalf, I am going to take this opportunity to say how much I personally appreciate the support and attention you have given to programs and initiatives that are dear to my heart, such as the Augmented Education programs, Indigenous Studies and Services, the December 6th memorial, and the PEN writer-in-residence project, among others. I am comfortable doing this because I am sure other people at this event have their own lists of things that have been especially meaningful to them that you have supported and helped to flourish. Your interest and involvement in initiatives across the college has been notable –enabling many of us to feel that you cared deeply about things that were important to us. Of course, that list includes this

Retirees' Association, and we greatly appreciate the support you have given us as it has developed.

As you noted in your retirement announcement, the college is not an easy place to leave. In addition to the many relationships created over time, engagement with the purpose and values persists. As most of us will attest, one continues to be interested in what and how the college is doing –and you have already said that you know you will continue to be interested, too.

We look forward to welcoming you as a member of the George Brown College Retirees Association. We wish you time with your family and more frequent dinners in your own dining room [which has probably happened more often over the past year than the previous 15 combined]. We hope you can look ahead to travel, to lots of golf, and to continuing roles on boards and committees that express your values. We wish you good health and happiness and look forward to having you join the rest of us for events from time to time. Congratulations – and thank you!