FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
VANCOUVER, BC – 23 June 2008: They used to compete for students. Now they share those students along with a recent Award of Excellence from the Canadian Association for University Continuing Education (CAUCE) for their Network Administration and Security Professional program.

Offered in partnership between the University of British Columbia (UBC) Continuing Studies and the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT), the program is an example of how two competing institutions can unite to offer a joint program that better addresses the market’s needs and draws on the strengths of each school.

“At one time, BCIT and UBC both offered excellent but competing programs in this area. As a result, students were often forced to decide between two desirable choices and this was not serving the students’ best interests,” explains Ken Takagaki, Acting Vice-President of Education at BCIT. “By offering a joint program, students now benefit from the strengths of each institution and take pride in being associated with both.”

Designed for students with some prior experience in information technology, the Network Administration and Security Professional (NASP) program develops students’ skills to manage, plan and secure the network infrastructure of an enterprise. The 11-month, full-time program is delivered in a combination of hands-on computer labs, intensive classroom lectures and supervised projects, and features business skills development and an eight-week practicum. Upon completing the program, students are prepared to write nine top IT industry certification exams from Microsoft, Cisco, CWNP, CompTIA and Linux Professional Institute.

“I liked the fact that it was a joint offering. That puts a lot of weight behind it,” says Hugo Slabbert, NASP program graduate. “One of the most important things in choosing the program for me was that, in addition to a certificate from these two institutions, the program focused on industry standard credentials.”

CAUCE is a professional organization whose mission is to enlarge the scope and quality of continuing education opportunities throughout Canada. The Award of Excellence recognizes innovation and excellence in program development as judged by a committee of professional peers from across the country.

To find out more about the Network Administration and Security Professional program, visit www.bcit.ca/cas/htp or call 604-412-7788.

- 30 -

Media Contact: Jennifer Mielguj; Tel: 604-822-8600; Email: jennifer.mielguj@ubc.ca