

## ADMINISTRATOR EMERITUS – 2012

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**Bill Gibson**

Dr. Bill Gibson, former vice-president of Academic Affairs at Capilano University, was honoured with an administrator emeritus designation at the May 17 Employee Recognition Awards program.

Bill joined the faculty of Capilano College in 1975 as a Biology instructor and spent the remainder of his career serving students and the university. After becoming a department head almost immediately, he later became chair of Natural Sciences, associate dean and then dean of Academic Studies. In July of 1995, he was appointed vice-president of Academic Affairs, a position he held until he retired in August 2006.

“I knew Bill in his last role at Capilano,” said one of his nominators. “He was an outstanding educator, colleague and leader. His door was always open as were his ideas. Bill constantly looked to the future direction of education and how Cap might anticipate and respond to changes he saw on the horizon. Always student focused, he supported faculty in their efforts to develop their skills and deans in their development of their programs.”

Yearly, Bill hosted a retreat where the academic leadership of Capilano would look forward and develop their priorities for the time ahead – some of it short term and much of it long term. He led discussions (that were often difficult) with fairness and respect.

Bill’s warmth and encouragement of all employees is legendary. He had that rare gift to inspire those around him to excellence and he always had the welfare of the students foremost in his mind. After many discussions about changes to programs and policies, Bill would always say “What will the students think of this?”

He brought the community together, led planning exercises that were inclusive, and kept us on course towards an ever-changing horizon. He was an exceptional leader for Capilano University.