

# FRIENDS OF BCCAT

\* DAVID LEEMING\*



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## Meet David Leeming

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Professor Emeritus, Mathematics & Statistics, University of Victoria,  
and former member of BCCAT's Council (2000-2006) and the  
Transfer & Articulation Committee (1996-2006).

David first became acquainted with the BC Transfer System when he joined the Math Articulation Committee (now known as BCcupms) in 1971. Throughout his career, he has remained an active champion for teaching and research and an advocate for student mobility as vital for enabling post-secondary success. As a member of the the Council and BCCAT's Transfer & Articulation Committee, he contributed to key discussions and projects, as a proactive and focused supporter of student transfer and articulation in BC.

[Check out David's Story...](#)

# David's Story

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My first introduction to transfer and articulation in BC was when I was asked to be the representative for the University of Victoria at the Math Articulation Meeting at Douglas College in December 1971. As a relatively new faculty member in the Mathematics Department at UVic my focus was on teaching and research. At that time, I was only vaguely aware of some of the smaller post-secondary institutions in BC.

This experience opened up a whole new aspect of the academy. There were students who would have to transfer to a university to complete their undergraduate degrees. There were colleagues at other institutions that were intent on assisting these students to succeed after making the transition. This was not a career-boosting endeavour. It would not get one promoted through the academic ranks. But it was a worthwhile enterprise and the people involved all had a common purpose: to help students make as seamless a transition as possible. I was hooked!

I have attended virtually all of the Math Articulation (now called the BCcupms) meetings right up to and including the most recent meeting in May 2019. My involvement with BCCAT included six years on the Council and many years on the Transfer and Articulation Committee (ten as its Chair) mentored through the Irish charm and wit of the incomparable Finola Finlay (BCCAT's Associate Director, Transfer & Articulation).

The growth of BCCAT came about gradually and reflected the changes in the BC post-secondary system as they occurred. Under the impressive leadership style of BCCAT Executive Director Frank Gelin came the quiet evolution of the organization. Improvements were made to the transfer system such as a focus on research, block transfer arrangements and the flexible pre-major. BCCAT is the model that other provinces are emulating in setting up their own 'CATs'. The value of BCCAT as a part of the post-secondary system and the resulting mobility that it provides students cannot be overstated.



The Math Articulation Committee--now known as the BC Committee on the Undergraduate Program in Mathematics and Statistics (BCcupms)--first met in 1967. This group continues to actively forge flexible pathways for learners. David is a dedicated, long-running member (from 1971 to the present day.) For more information, see [www.bccupms.ca](http://www.bccupms.ca)

Pictured above: Members of BCcupms at their 2017 meeting, celebrating 50 years!

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Pictured: (Left) David with his BCCAT Lifetime Achievement Award at JAM 2015. (Above) David enjoying quality time at a wine-tasting with his son, Robert.

#### DAVID'S AWARDS:

- 2003-2004 Faculty of Science Excellence in Teaching Award
- 2005 Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences Education Prize
- 2006 University of Victoria Community Leadership Award
- 2015 Franklin Gelin Lifetime Achievement Award (BCCAT)



#### BC Council on Admissions & Transfer

In 1989, BCCAT was established by the provincial government to facilitate transfer and articulation. BCCAT oversees the BC Transfer System, enabling links between post-secondary institutions, the education ministries, and the public and private education sectors.

[bccat.ca](http://bccat.ca) [bctransferguide.ca](http://bctransferguide.ca) [info@bccat.ca](mailto:info@bccat.ca)