

• Campus Connection

Mount Saint Vincent University

October 17, 1988

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Dr. Bennett constructs math designs with project funding

Dr. Frank Bennett of the math department is making a name for himself and the Mount through his breakthroughs in constructing Mendelsohn designs, a type of combinatorial block design used in scientific and statistical experiments. His work has drawn a great deal of interest world-wide, including collaboration with Distinguished Professor Zhu Lie, a mathematician at Suzhou University in the People's Republic of China. Dr. Bennett has been invited to speak in China twice - at Suzhou University for the Third Chinese Combinatorial Conference in April of 1987 and at the International Conference in Tunxi City in August of 1988.

Dr. Bennett's research, entitled "The spectrum of a variety of combinatorial designs, Latin squares and quasigroups", is funded through a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) grant, supplemented by a \$2,500 Mount internal award.

Now, professor Zhu is here on campus for two months, working with Dr. Bennett on a part of this project. They met in 1983 at a mathematics workshop at

Simon Fraser University and began their collaboration following a mathematics conference in Baton Rouge in 1984. "We realized that we had enough in common that we should be working together," comments Dr. Bennett. "Collaboration is very important for the exchange of ideas," adds professor Zhu, who regards his research leave from Suzhou University as "an opportunity for us to really work, and discuss different and new ideas."

"I advocate that communication, collaboration and interaction are necessary in mathematics - and other fields," notes Dr. Bennett. "I don't know whether or how we would have come as far as we have, had we not met at the 1983 conference." He points out that funding from NSERC and the Mount has made travel to conferences and workshops possible. "It might not be possible without the grants to develop the kinds of combinatorial designs we investigate. If the research committee hadn't decided to supplement my NSERC grant I might be many years behind in my work."

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Sauvé visit postponed until spring '89

Governor General Jeanne Sauvé's visit to the Mount, originally scheduled for Oct. 27 and 28, has been postponed to early April. Rideau Hall has advised the Mount that the announcement of a general election on Nov. 21 has made it necessary for the Governor General to restrict public engagements during this period.

Her Excellency's rescheduled visit to

the Mount, the first week of April, will be highlighted by her national address to the Women of Canada and a black-tie dinner in her honor.

Madame Sauvé has agreed to lend her name to the Mount's new Initiative for Women in Science, that consists of the Jeanne Sauvé Chair for women in Science and a Women in Science Centre.

No Fall Convocation this year, but it's under study

One of the main discussion points at the October 3 Senate meeting was regarding the possibility of a Fall Convocation.

The following motions were carried:

1. In light of the existing financial constraint, and recognizing the desire of the university to properly celebrate the

awarding of degrees to its graduates, it is moved that the Senate not convene a special Fall Convocation this Fall; and 2. Moved that the question of establishing a regular Fall Convocation be referred to the Senate Executive Committee for submission of recommendations to Senate in January 1989.

Review deadline for NSERC postgraduate scholarships



Dr. Reginald Stuart, dean of humanities and sciences, has assumed responsibility for the review process for Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Postgraduate Scholarships. The scholarships, valued at \$12,500 and tenable for 12 months, are available to students planning to undertake a program of study and research leading to a higher degree in one of the many fields supported by NSERC. In addition, award-holders undertaking their studies in the fields of engineering or computer science will receive a supplement of \$1,000 over a 12-month period.

Faculty are asked to identify eligible students and encourage them to pick up a form in Dr. Stuart's office, Seton Room 319. Completed applications must reach Dr. Stuart's office by Thursday, Nov. 10. A selection committee will, in turn, review applications to meet NSERC's deadline.

PR advisory board holds its first formal meeting



Board members include (back row, left to right): Carla Gates-Morris, Thorne Ernst & Whinney; Michelle Gallant, Corporate Communications Limited and Mount PR graduate; Tom Cooney, Mobil Oil; Kathryn Bindon, Mount vice-president (academic); Judith Scrimger, Mount pr department chair. (Centre): Paul Costello, Continental/Golin/Harris; and Janet (Thomson) MacMillan, William F. MacArthur & Associates and Mount pr graduate. (Front row): Lily Corewyn, Federal Business Development Bank. Absent from the photo are: Patrick Brownlow, Health and Welfare Canada; John Musser, Dow Chemical Canada Inc.; and Sharon Paul, Abitibi-Price Inc.

A Professional Advisory Board has been established for the public relations degree program. Appointed by President Hersom in the summer, the board's 11 members represent a cross-section of geographical and sector interests. As Judith Scrimger, public relations department chair, explains, "We have members with significant corporate, government, consulting and non-profit experience. They are also well tied into the two major professional associations - the Canadian Public Relations

Society and the International Association of Business Communicators."

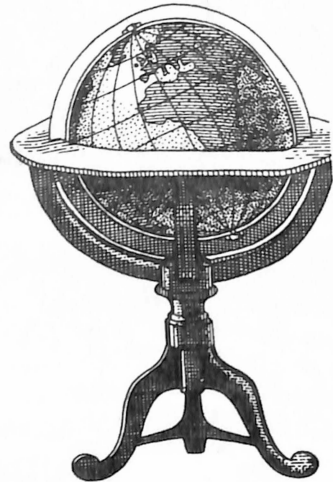
At its first formal meeting on Sept. 28, the board determined its priorities for the year, namely: providing assistance in fund raising for scholarships and equipment and in attracting faculty and guest lecturers; providing advice on marketing the degree on a national level; and developing the co-operative education option, particularly with regard to attracting more corporate employers.

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Do your Christmas shopping early this year by ordering Christmas cakes from the Multiple Sclerosis Society. These two-pound light or dark fruit cakes are Maritime-made, of excellent quality and are priced at \$9 each. They are individually-wrapped in cellophane and packed in a decorated tin. Proceeds go to multiple sclerosis research and patient services. To order your cake(s) phone Maureen Primeau, personnel secretary, at ext. 284, by Oct. 28. Cakes will be delivered early in December, with payment collected at that time.

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Thirty students and three faculty advisors will be selected from across Canada to participate in the Leeward & Windward Islands Seminar 1989 sponsored by World University Services Canada (WUSC). The four-five week itinerary in July and August will include exposure to development projects, group and individual research, travel to several islands, cultural events and leisure activities.

The deadline for student applications was Oct. 15, but anyone interested could contact Ruth Jefferson, campus ministry, immediately.

Faculty applications should reach the WUSC national office by Nov. 5. For information and application forms call Pat Butler, administrative assistant to the vice-president (academic) at ext. 127.

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An Adult Children of Alcoholics workshop/retreat is planned for Nov. 4-6 at the Renewal Centre, Mount Saint Vincent Motherhouse. The workshop/retreat will focus on addictions within ourselves, families, community and ministry. Fees are \$20 for the workshop, \$65 for room and board. For information or registration call the Renewal Centre at 453-3434 during office hours.

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The Canadian Federation for the Humanities is holding a National Forum on the Un/Under-Employment of Humanities Graduates and the Development of New Professional Opportunities, in Ottawa, Nov. 3-6. The Forum will address difficulties faced by humanities graduates in finding related employment, and practical suggestions for turning the problem around. Areas of discussion include the preparation of humanities graduates, university structures and needs, careers outside academia, and hiring and training policies of business and government. More information and a limited number of registration forms are available through the office of the dean of humanities and sciences, ext. 344, or by calling the Canadian Federation for the Humanities in Ottawa at (613) 236-4686. The original registration deadline of Oct. 17 has been extended, but you're encouraged to register as soon as possible.

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OF INTEREST OF

The Campus Ministry is holding a Community Prayer for Peace service in Our Lady of Wisdom Chapel, Evaristus Hall, on Monday, Oct. 24 at 4:30 p.m. Guest speaker Madupe Oduyoye of Nigeria has had an extensive career in communication and publication, including scripture translation. Sponsored by the Ecumenical Forum of Canada, Oduyoye will also be giving a talk on "Human sexuality and marriage in today's Yoruba culture" for the Religious Studies 310 class, 9:05-9:55 a.m., Oct. 24 in Rosaria 401.

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Volunteers are needed to help with the Seniors' Hot Lunch Program, Thursdays at Rockingham Community Centre (a short walk from the Mount). Jobs include meal preparation from 9 a.m. to noon, table setting from 10-11:30 a.m., meal service from noon to 12:45 p.m., and clean-up from 1-2 p.m. Volunteers receive a free lunch on the days they work. For more information call Thelma at 421-7766.

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According to Statistics Canada's advance report on education, women will hold 50.5 per cent of the 438,000 places in undergraduate programs in 1988-89 - compared to 49.5 per cent in 1986-87. At the graduate level, women hold 41 per cent, a slight improvement over the previous year.



United Way Campaign

CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, ARTS AND POLITICS

**November 18 & 19, 1988
in Halifax, Nova Scotia**

activists
pacifists
feminists
old maids
wicked witches
shrews
bleeding hearts
prudes
battle-axes
nags
hags
sisters
amazons
women's libbers
organisers
cat/alysts
crones
furies
lunatics
dissidents
subversives

Getting together: Friday, Nov. 18, 8 p.m. "Voicing Dissent", a panel chaired by Wilma Needham, faculty, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, at Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, 5163 Duke Street.

Saturday, Nov. 19, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. workshops and presentations, at Seton Academic Centre, Mount Saint Vincent University. Organized by Dr. Marguerite Andersen, Distinguished Chair in Women's Studies, Mount Saint Vincent University. Admission is free, but advance registration is necessary for those wishing lunch on Saturday (\$3).

Call for program details or registration: 443-4450, extension 172

CAMPUS CALENDAR

Now

Faculty deadline for January textbook orders to the bookstore

Oct.17-20

MACKINNON LECTURES Atlantic School of Theology. For more information call 423-2747.

Oct.20

INTRAMURAL WOMEN'S BADMINTON 3:30-4:30 p.m., Vincent Hall Gym

Oct. 23

SOCCER NSAC at MSVU, 1 p.m., Chebucto Field

Oct. 24

COMMUNITY PRAYER FOR PEACE SERVICE 4:30 p.m., Evaristus Chapel

HALF-PRICE AEROBICS MEMBERSHIP for the term starts today

PR board continued from page 3

"With public relations programs now established at McGill University and the University of Winnipeg, it's important that we maintain a national profile in order to attract high quality students. I'm sure the advisory board will help us do that," comments Scrimger.

Board members also met with faculty, students and administrators at a reception the evening before their meeting.

Bennett continued from page 1

In 1982 Dr. Bennett completed the construction of Mendelsohn triple system (blocks made up of three elements). He and professor Zhu have completed construction of perfect Mendelsohn designs with block size four, and are currently working on block size five. In Mendelsohn designs, the blocks are ordered cyclically (i.e., in a block containing four elements - say, a,b,c and d - the elements would be ordered: ab,bc,cd and da). The designs have practical applications in several areas, including the design of experiments on antibiotics using a circular plate around which the specimens are placed.

Update on pay equity

Vivian Jennings, director of human resources at the Isaac Walton Killam Hospital for Children, has been named volunteer chairperson for the Review Committee for Position Evaluation. The committee will hold its first meeting on Nov. 4, to establish procedures for the formal appeals portion of the pay equity study. Once the study is finalized all employees will be advised of these procedures.

Campus Connection is published weekly by the Public Relations Office, Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3M 2J6. Copy should be submitted to Room 205, Evaristus Hall, by Monday noon one week before the Monday of publication. Editor: Charmaine Gaudet, ext. 339.