

the Connection

INSTALLATION ISSUE



Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax, Nova Scotia

October 20, 1986



Colorful ceremony marks the installation of new president

Representatives from 41 universities and colleges across Canada were present at the installation of Dr. Naomi Hersom as the seventh president and vice-chancellor of Mount Saint Vincent University on Saturday, October 4.

The colorful ceremony was held in the Seton Academic Centre auditorium, following which degrees, diplomas and certificates were conferred on more than 125 Mount students.

Following Dr. Hersom's investiture, greetings and salutations were presented by representatives of other universities, the Association of Commonwealth Universities, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, Association of Atlantic Universities, the Sisters of Charity and the faculty, alumnae, students and staff of Mount Saint Vincent University.

A reception followed in Rosaria Centre after the convocation ceremonies.

Risk taking and responsibility

An address by Dr. Naomi Hersom on the occasion of her installation as seventh President and Vice-Chancellor of Mount Saint Vincent University.

It is a temptation to take this as an occasion to address those issues that are so prevalent in our universities across Canada today — issues that revolve around budgets, sources of funding, technology, and the relationship between higher education and the economy. These are important issues. The need to support research and teaching, the needs for space and equipment in our universities are pressing. But I choose not to focus on these today. Although pressing and vitally important, such needs must be placed in proper perspective.

I believe it is important for us first to affirm our purpose as a university and to develop a clear sense of what we should be. Without a strong sense of direction we will very easily dissipate our energies. We could lose our distinctiveness as the only university in Canada committed primarily to the higher education of women, to enable them to participate fully and to be free to contribute much along with men in our society.

This distinctive role for Mount Saint Vincent University stems from its earliest history. We must take particular care now not to drift from it. I say this because it appears that there is a dangerous trend for women and men to take for granted the gains hard won by our predecessors who worked and struggled long to ensure that women would be recognized as persons with intellectual capacities and ideas; to ensure that women would have access to opportunities to use these abilities and to be fairly rewarded.

Our original purpose must continue to shape the course for the future of this university. It must be evident in the programs we provide for our men and women; in the focus of our scholarship through research and teaching; in the service we provide to all of the people of this province; this region, and throughout Canada; and in the ongoing opportunities we make available to ensure that no barriers exist for women's access to higher education; that no barriers exist for women's entrance to every sphere of public and professional concourse where women's talents and interests so ably fit them to contribute.

—Strong Heritage—

We affirm this sense of direction based in the strong heritage that is ours at Mount Saint Vincent University. The Sisters of Charity who founded this university were women of great vision and great determination. Theirs was a strength of spirit and commitment that enabled them to

make the dream of creating a university to open the doors of opportunities for women into a reality. Theirs was the vision to do this at a time when relatively few such opportunities existed anywhere, and they did so here in Halifax, in Atlantic Canada.

Theirs also is the legacy of the catholic tradition which today invites us to examine the dimensions of our lives together as responsible members of this university community and as concerned citizens of the much larger world community. Such an inheritance should not be allowed to dissipate. It must be reinvested in ways that grow with time, and in ways that will expand and strengthen the vision of what the Mount can, and will be. In the development of ideas and in the search to discover knowledge through the disciplines and various fields of study, there will always be deliberately selected starting points, sets of presuppositions and assumptions.

Within the tradition of this university there is freedom to acknowledge as one of those starting points, the place of the Transcendent in all of life; there is an invitation to take the Transcendent into account in our scholarship; there is encouragement to explore the meaning of life together here and for all humanity. It is an immensely rich heritage of faith, and one we must not lightly set aside.

At the Mount we are encouraged to explore this heritage through formal studies, through the deliberate examination of ethical concerns, through participation in campus ministry and through such events as the Seton Lectures which are held annually, (an opportunity open to us all during the coming week).

—Recognize Women—

As one who has engaged in the study of organizations, I have observed that those who write about organizational theory are often as guilty as scholars in any of the disciplines who search for elegantly parsimonious explanations of phenomena. At one point organizational theorists thought that a general systems theory based on a biological model would best illumine our thinking about the ways organizations are formed, grow and mature, and eventually die off or renew themselves. Although that theory may be somewhat out of favour now, there remains merit in the attention it focuses on the tendency in any organization such as this university, to become static, to



Dr. Judith Gold, Chair of the Mount's Board of Governors, assists Dr. Naomi Hersom with the president's robes.

maintain its state, to resist change. The results can be disastrous. If all of the forces within the university were to be completely counterbalanced, we as a university would lose opportunities to take new directions within our mission, and might very well lose the thrusts so valiantly defended in the past.

The tendency to rest on our laurels is tempting. The tendency to forget the historical reasons for the need for special action on behalf of women can too easily be reinforced by taking achievements gained for granted, leading to neglect and lack of resolve. Women and men who are not being informed now about our society and its past will be ill-equipped to contribute significantly to a strong future for women and thereby to a stronger society for all. Mount Saint Vincent University's role must continue to emphasize its leadership in recognizing women in every sphere of scholarship and professional preparation and in its efforts to enhance the lives of women everywhere.

Mount Saint Vincent University takes justifiable pride in the gains it has made in the field of women's studies and women's education. The first Chair of Women's Studies in Canada was established at Mount Saint Vincent University. The publication of *Atlantis* and *Communiqué* at Mount Saint Vincent University have become internationally-recognized avenues for the dissemination of research findings related to policies and to issues of special significance to women. The provision of counselling services, special academic support services, and classes scheduled at times and places that accommodate women students in particular, has long been a practice at the university.

But there is more to be done. The field of feminist scholarship is moving now into another stage. Feminist scholars, both women and men, are analyzing the content and modes of inquiry within each of the disciplines and fields of study and asking questions about the ways knowledge is being defined. In a

recently completed study (Thibault, 1986) compelling evidence has been produced revealing an historical denial of women's participation in the world of ideas and in the discovery of new knowledge. This denial of participation is challenged in the exhibition of the works of art now showing in our Art Gallery entitled "In Her Place." (May I invite all of you to view the evidence for yourselves when you come to the opening of the showing this evening.)

It is not sufficient simply to "add women and stir." We must move into the heart of the university in its teaching and scholarly functions if we are to continue to be in the forefront of higher education for women.

—Expectations—

It is clear, too, from the recent report of the Science Council of Canada that we, along with other universities, must extend our efforts to provide the appropriate facilities, programs, and support systems that will encourage more women to study the sciences and mathematics.

Significantly, the particular professional preparation programs offered at the Mount are those that are vital to the task of removing barriers for women from their earliest years into maturity. Research on families and schools, and on those enterprises specifically engaged with serving the public in many different ways has helped to enlarge the expectations held by women for themselves at every stage of their lives, and the expectations held for them by others — whether those others are family members or employers or policy makers in government.

The Mount has contributed to many of the changes that have taken place in Canada and abroad by pointing up ways to raise aspirations and to remove the limitations on prospects for women through our curriculum, our scholarly activities, our services, and the role models we provide.

We can, we must do even more.

In all areas within our curriculum there are opportunities to investigate whether or not we have taken sufficiently into account the contributions of women in every field of study and in the professions; whether or not we have removed sexist bias in our discourse and in the language of the classroom; whether or not we have eliminated sexist bias in our research designs and in the accounts and interpretations we prepare as a result of that research. We must be consistent. We still have much work to do to develop curricula and to structure our programs in ways that recognize women and address women's ideas and then put these into perspective through our teaching and research.

It is not enough that we strive for justice for women if the system of justice itself has been blindfolded by its past. If injustice itself has been

accorded the status of right actions in a society, then there must be a voice on behalf of those affected by such injustice. Mount Saint Vincent University has been, and should continue to be an active, effective advocate.

I believe that greatness in a university is not attributable to size or length of years alone. Rather it is to be found in four distinguishing qualities. Firstly, it is to be found in the quality of the contributions a university makes to realms of knowledge, and to the ways this knowledge affects the lives of the people who are its graduates, and through them, the fabric of the society it serves. Mount Saint Vincent University is relatively small and comparatively young as a university. Our determination to be an excellent undergraduate university is not inappropriate or foolish. It grows in part out of the special significance the Mount accords to women and to scholarship and to the actions informed by that scholarship. It is reinforced in the lives of our faculty and students and staff on campus, and in the lives of our alumnae everywhere.

—Taking risks—

The poet Yeats wrote, "In dreams lie responsibilities." The dreams we dream for Mount Saint Vincent University are essential if we are to achieve greatness as a university. Our dreams call us to the task of taking up the responsibility of transforming them into realities. They lead us to risk entering into new ways of thinking, to risk challenging the status quo, to risk sacrificing our comfortable ways on behalf of others, to risk unpopular actions in support of justice and peace and the well-being of all and of women in particular, to risk all of these in spite of opposition, or indifference, or fear of penalty. They take us well beyond a too-facile notion of academic freedom; they challenge us to the task of assuming that high academic responsibility which is partner to such freedom.

Secondly, this university's aspiration to greatness is also to be found in its regard for all who become students at Mount Saint Vincent. We make no unnecessary distinctions among students on the basis of age or on the basis of an arbitrary definition of course loads, even though such a policy may be costly for us because of certain funding arrangements. We at Mount Saint Vincent University are, I believe, a sort of microcosm, a laboratory for the universities of the future in Canada. We are experimenting with ways to extend accessibility to a university education for women and men who are confronted with the twin barriers of geography and time-consuming responsibilities in the work place or at home.

Similarly, we are working out career provisions for faculty members who

for various reasons, are on assignments currently described as "part time." In both cases Mount Saint Vincent University is demonstrating that old myths about quality and excellence are evaporating in the light of the outstanding achievements of part-time students so-called, and in the recognition earned by part-time faculty in teaching and research.

Growing out of our concerns for women's education has emerged a way of providing effectively for all — women and men and children — people whose needs are associated with life in a changing world. A willingness to take a radical approach to solving problems and an openness to the use of the available technology have demonstrated in our comparatively small setting what can be done to take a university into the twenty-first century.

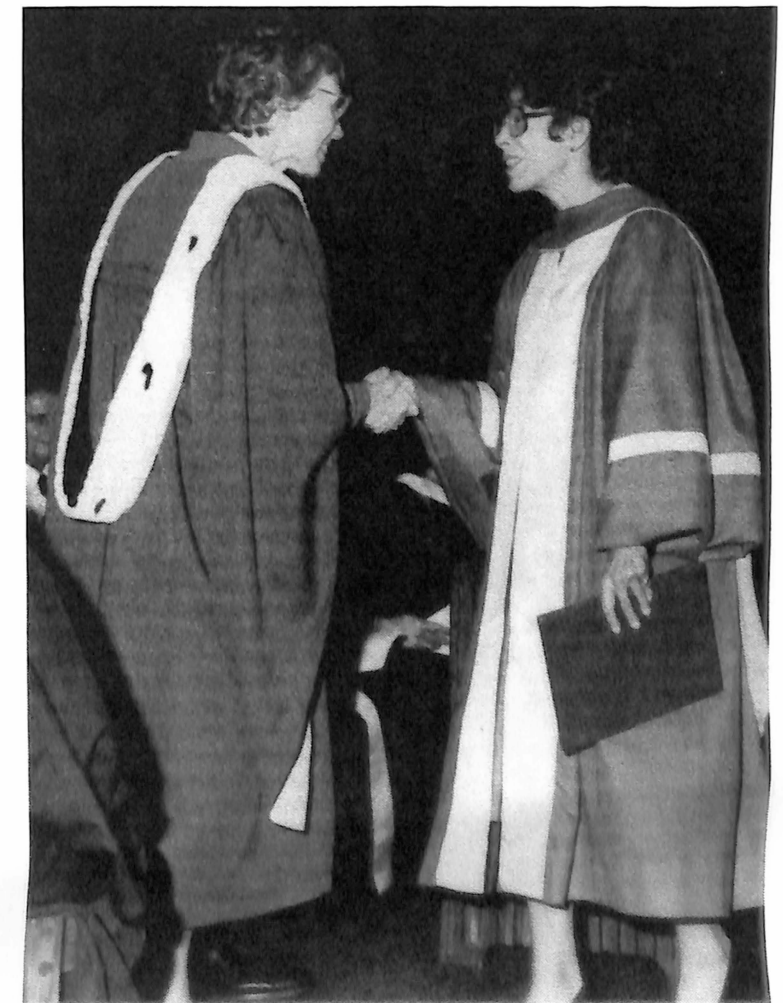
—Nurturing role—

Thirdly, the Mount's pursuit of the quality of greatness as a university is characterized by a high regard for the importance of students as individuals. Whether such recognition is fostered in class in person, or is mediated electronically (through distance education programs), or is supported

through many different kinds of services and activities provided by all members of staff, it is seen to be the key to the development of students' confidence in themselves as educated persons in their own right. The priority assigned to student-faculty and staff relationships by their own accounts promotes in our students the confidence required to become good scholars, to enter the commerce of daily living on an equal footing with others, to develop the sense of knowing who they are, and the sense of what their own place is and will be in the world. The Mount takes pride in providing the kind of nurturing role that current research is clearly showing to be needed in organizations in order to free women and men from the limitations imposed on them by the traditions and practices of the past.

Fourthly, the stature of any great university is to be found in the largeness of its concern for those high principles that undergird the lives of individuals, families and nations. The Mount, through its tradition, continues to wrestle with matters of faith and conscience. It is a tradition that advocates the search for justice as well as the discovery of new

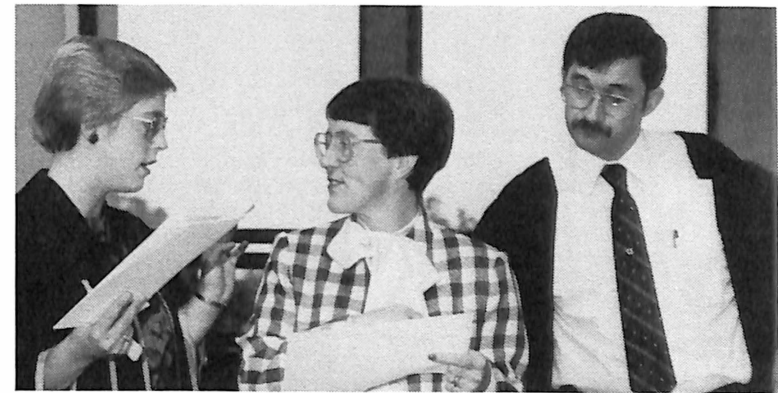
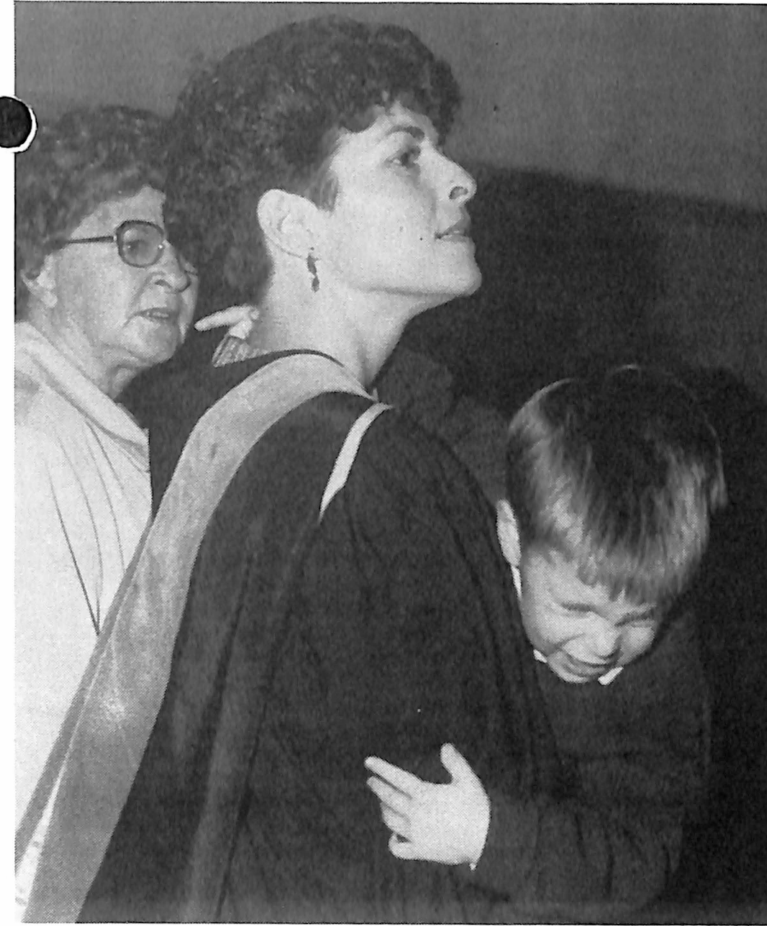
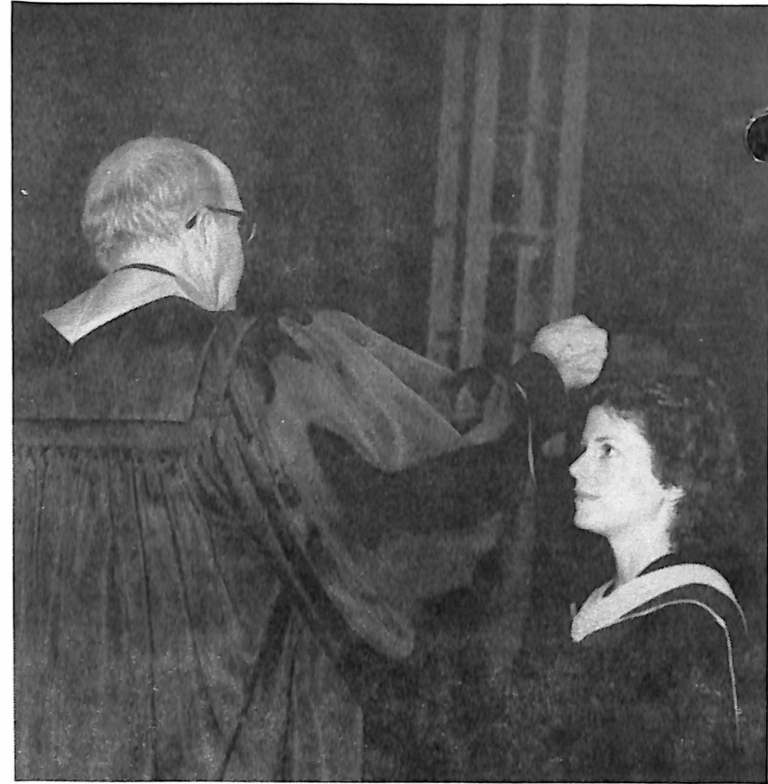
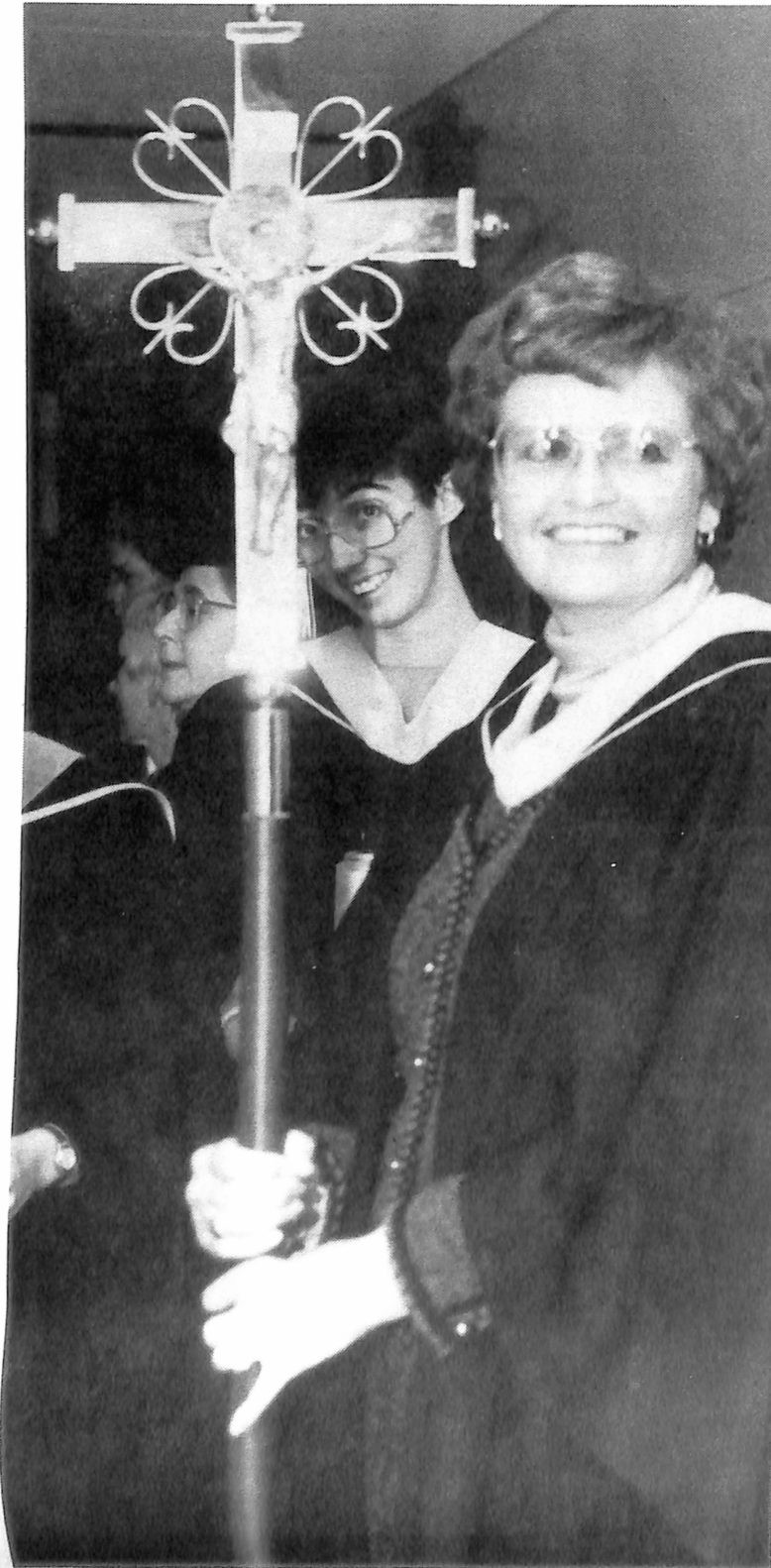
(continued on page 6)



Dr. Barbara Hodkin of the Mount's Department of Psychology, brings greetings from her alma mater, McMaster University.

Installation and Convocation

OCTOBER, 1986



RISK (from page 3)

knowledge. It is a tradition that emphasizes the importance of avoiding the uncritical acceptance of ideas and practices. It is a tradition that stresses the importance of developing guidelines for making responsible judgments.

We acknowledge a responsibility to demonstrate in our individual and corporate lives as a university the quality of charity toward one another that our founders envisioned for the good of all. We have committed ourselves to work together for peace among nations to ensure that the gift of life for all creation will not be snuffed out. We value the importance of preparing women and men to live and work as responsible, contributing individuals, and as leaders wherever they may find their places.

As the seventh president of Mount Saint Vincent University I am privileged to be given the opportunity to build on the mandate so ably molded by my predecessors. In a few short months we can expect to see taking shape on this campus a new physical structure that quintessentially symbolizes the forward thinking stance of this university. It will be a building that will combine resources for research, for the development and the

dissemination of knowledge through teaching and through the use of various forms of print and media communication. It will represent the leading edge of change in the more usual notions of the functions of a university. I am confident that the long record of experience at toppling traditional notions here at the Mount will stand us in good stead as we move into this new venture and as we explore ideas for other ventures in the future.

—Turn the tide—

This university has won recognition and support from the people of Nova Scotia and the people of Canada because it has risked being different. As Mount Saint Vincent University fulfills its particular responsibilities for the education of and about women, its alumnae both women and men, and its faculty will continue to contribute ever more significantly through their participation and leadership in business and industry, in the professions, in scholarship, in politics and the arts, in religion and in every sphere of worthwhile endeavor in our society.

Today I have spoken about some of the risks and responsibilities I believe we are facing as a university and as

individual members within the university. I have spoken about my fear that the high tide of concern and energy that women and men here and throughout Canada, have brought to the task of transforming our society at every level, may recede once again — as it has done, historically. Its force may once again be dissipated by neglect, a neglect engendered by an apathy that begets forgetfulness.

Mount Saint Vincent University stands against such a tide. It was founded to turn the tide of customary practice and generally accepted expectations for women. Attitudes held by women themselves, and held by others about women's capacities and prospects have been revolutioned in our day, quite literally. Opportunities for the education of women once beyond reach are now almost within grasp.

Having risked much in the past, ours is the responsibility to persevere. The focus of our teaching and research, the excellence of our undergraduate programs, and our many services beyond the bounds of this campus, should properly account for the ways that women contribute to knowledge and should consistently respect the qualities that men as well as women should learn to bring to

daily discourse and decision-making to — the benefit of all.

Ours is the responsibility as well to uphold the tradition of this university that invites us freely to consider the knowledge which is to be found in seeking One greater than ourselves. In a day when our society is characterized by a kind of hyper-rationalization we offer opportunities to explore much needed alternative ways of thinking and alternative perspectives. An immense competence in the realm of technology is matched only by a pathetic failure to answer with mere human resources the basic questions about ourselves and the world we live in. We dare to reply to the age-old questions, "Whence then comes wisdom? And where does understanding dwell?" by acknowledging that "The fear of the Lord — that is wisdom, and to shun evil — that is understanding." (Job 23:20, 28)

It is a privilege for me to join now with the graduands of 1986, the alumnae, the faculty, the Board of Governors and the members of the Corporation, and all associated with Mount Saint Vincent University, who together create its qualities of greatness. I pledge myself today to the task of serving this university with you.

Feminism and Christianity

Feminists have strong arguments for believing that the early church gave women a role and status that should prevail today, according to Dr. Denise Lardner Carmody, who gave a series of three Elizabeth Seton Lectures on Women and Religion at the Mount recently.

"Jesus was remarkable for treating women as equals to men," she said. "The parables are very even-handed and Jesus preached to both men and women. His friendship with Martha and Mary was quite startling for that time — it was unusual to have that kind of easy access and conversation with women."

Carmody felt that the emphasis of the early Christian church was on egalitarianism — that it wanted to counter the dominance of men, to make real changes in attitudes towards women, the poor and the Samaritans. Both women and men went out as disciples, and women, she pointed out, proved themselves to be the most faithful of the disciples at the time of the crucifixion; in fact, women's role in the early church was probably far more significant than we have been led to believe.

She thought it unfortunate that this trend was superseded by a belief that patriarchy should be retained, but subtly changed from a form of tyranny to one where there might be a "rule of love." This came to take precedence although the original concept of Christianity still "pops up throughout history, especially in liberation theology," she said.

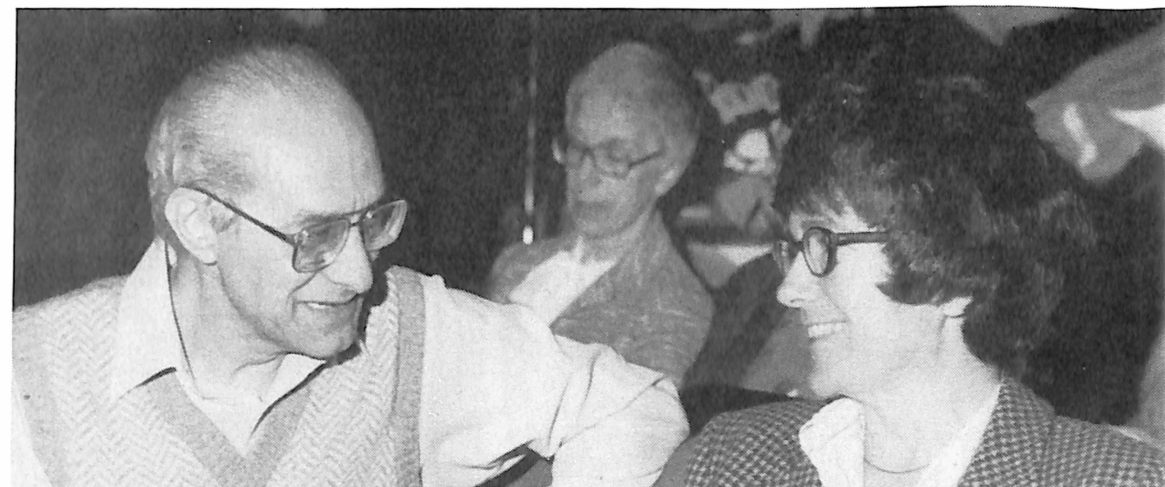
"There is a misogynism that runs through the monastic tradition," Carmody pointed out, "which places women and marriage in less than attractive roles in order to sustain the rule of celibacy in the monasteries."

This was prevalent, not only in the Christian church, but also in Buddhist monasteries where, she said, "A psychological cold shower was applied by advising young Buddhist monks to meditate on the body of a beautiful woman who has died and been left out in the sun for several days!"

"The fathers of the Church did talk in very harsh words about women," she continued, "and this imaging remains a very subtle force down to this day. We bear the burden of a legacy that should no longer be in use."

The Reformation, Carmody said, should, and could have meant a real change in the status of women, but unfortunately Paul was the source for many of the revised beliefs. Women were believed to be capable of salvation only through their service to men as wives, housekeepers and mothers.

Today's feminists feel that the Church is part of the problem of women's suppression, Carmody said.



Dr. Barry Wheaton, Department of Religious Studies, chats with Dr. Denise Lardner Carmody, who spoke on women and religion at the Elizabeth Seton Lectures recently.

"Men are considered to be the 'norm'" she explained, "while women are considered either far 'better' (the Virgin) or far 'worse' (Eve). This places women in an impossible situation."

Carmody said the Christian church has continued in the tradition of "protecting" women for their own good. The refusal to allow the ordination of women, she said, illustrates this belief that women are second class. "These views are culturally out-dated, invalid," she maintained. "Feminists today are saying that the Church should get its own house in order before preaching about peace and justice."

On the subject of abortion, Carmody said she found it a very difficult subject to discuss.

Carmody supports the Church's stand against abortion where it applies to the sacredness of life, "but this should not be the last word," she said. "We need more discussion. No one thinks that abortion is anything other than a terrible tragedy, but the Church should ensure a quality of life that would make abortion unnecessary."

She mentioned a number of theological resources for helping to solve many of these problems including the consistent preaching of those parables that emphasize women's place in society, "listening to women, taking us seriously, taking our scholarship seriously and reforming the use of language. If God is pure spirit, why not refer to God as female as often as male?" she asked, and added another quote "As long as God is male, the male is God."

Finally Carmody said, "I would like to see women move beyond anger and towards reconciliation. Anger is corrosive and women must be on guard against the sins that are predominant in their natures — weakness, cowardice and low self-esteem."

Dr. Carmody is chair of the Faculty of Religion at the University of Tulsa in Oklahoma.

Air Canada fellow named

Air Canada and Mount Saint Vincent University have named Nicole Watkins, a senior public relations student at the Mount, Air Canada Fellow, 1986.

The fellowship program, the first of its kind in Canada, enables an advanced public relations student to design and implement public affairs objectives for a pre-selected non-profit social service agency in the Halifax-Dartmouth metropolitan area.

Coincident with Watkins' appointment, it was announced that Help Line — a call-in information service and crisis agency — has been designated for the services of the Air Canada Fellow.

Watkins brings an outstanding academic background to the fellowship program. In addition, she distinguished herself in previous co-

operative education work terms with public relations professionals.

While at Help Line, she will be writing a one-hour radio program, carrying out a public opinion survey and implementing a public relations plan for Help Line to follow after her work term is completed.

At a reception held at the Mount to mark the occasion of the award, Guy Chaisson, Air Canada vice-president for government, public and industry relations said, "It is my fond hope that this fellowship award may become a model for other industries to follow."

The fellowship program was developed by Air Canada's government, public and industry affairs branch and the co-operative education office, Mount Saint Vincent University.



Public relations student Nicole Watkins receives her award from Guy Chaisson on behalf of Air Canada while Mount President Naomi Hersom looks on approvingly.



Salutations and greetings

The following greetings were extended to Dr. Naomi Hersom, during installation ceremonies on October 4.

It is G.K. Chesterton who reminds us that tradition means giving votes to the most obscure of all classes — our ancestors.

As we assemble this day to celebrate a new beginning in the life of Mount Saint Vincent University, we are heartened by its rich tradition. The vision, which illuminated the path of countless women whose courage and undaunted commitment to the higher education of women, has made this institution a reality.

As we focus on the future and its possibilities, it is with a sense of hope that I welcome your leadership, Dr. Hersom, as the seventh president of Mount Saint Vincent University. You have accepted to re-articulate for your time the dream and the vision that your predecessors, faith-filled women, had for this university. To you is entrusted the responsibility to ensure that what was begun through their initiative and carried on with perseverance and fortitude through sixty-one years, will continue to flourish.

Naomi, united with you in heart and mind, we, Sisters of Charity, proud founders of Mount Saint Vincent University, send you forth to accomplish the task at hand and in the words of the prophet Habakkuk, we urge you:

"Write the vision down,
inscribe it on the tablets
to be easily read,
since this vision is for its own time
only:
eager for its own fulfillment, it does
not deceive;
if it comes slowly, wait,
for come it will, without fail.
(Habakkuk 2:2,3)

Sr. Paule Cantin,
General Superior
Sisters of Charity of
Saint Vincent de Paul

With great pleasure I bring greetings to this assembly and to Dr. Hersom on behalf of the 82 members of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and the 300 plus members of the Association of Commonwealth Universities.

In bringing these greetings we recognize that this is a day of celebration, a day of renewal, a day when the cause of the advancement of learning may be reinforced in a glorious fashion.

Dr. Hersom and her university join a cause and a company which are very good — a cause which is good because it is the advancement of learning and a company that is good because it is peopled with those who believe passionately and idealistically in the

advancement of learning and work with great skill for that cause.

Fifteen hundred years ago St. Augustine said, "If you wish to judge the quality of a city, look to see what it cherishes."

I hope that all here on this day henceforward will cherish the special contribution of this university and will cherish the advancement of learning that it represents.

In the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and the Association of Commonwealth Universities, one feature above all is particularly precious and that is the diversity and uniqueness of the many different member institutions. From that diversity and from these different approaches to the advancement of learning comes much good fruit.

None is more unique, more distinctive nor more precious than this university. If I have one request in this message of greetings it is that you will cherish the leadership of this outstanding person, Dr. Hersom; that you will support her and with her, this university will see and receive the greatest fulfillment from these next years, as it, too, pursues in its distinctive way the advancement of learning.

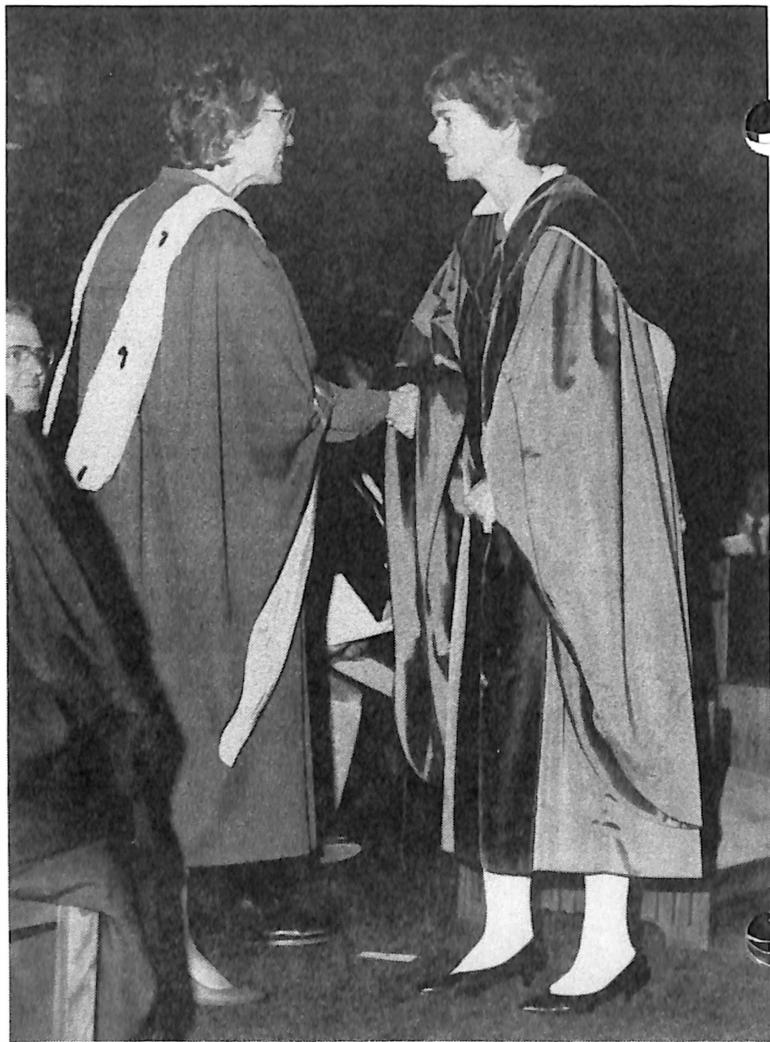
Dr. David Johnston,
Principal and Vice-Chancellor,
McGill University

The Atlantic Association of Universities is composed of the 18 degree-granting institutions in the Atlantic Provinces and the University of the West Indies. It represents the interests of many thousands of full- and part-time students and their professors. More importantly, we represent the abiding interest society has in transmitting its knowledge and its wisdom, and in extending the boundaries of those attributes. Mount Saint Vincent University, as one of our founding members, has contributed greatly to the work and the vitality of the association for many years.

One of the strengths of our association lies in the fact that, while we work closely together, we studiously avoid giving unsolicited advice to presidential search committees. Thus, as is our custom, we did not participate in the selection process at this university.

Our association, however, has no prohibitions against giving unsolicited advice to governments, premiers, ministers, commissions, and others whether they want it or not. Thus, we do have a deep and abiding interest in who our presidential allies in these efforts will be.

We are pleased to note that, even



Dr. Susan Whiting of the Mount's Department of Home Economics, brought greetings from her alma mater, the University of Guelph.

without our advice, the Board of Governors of this university and the university community have given us a strong and capable ally, for which we are most grateful.

My presidential colleagues and sister institutions in the Atlantic Association of Universities join me, not only in congratulating Mount Saint Vincent University on this very happy occasion, but in expressing warm greetings and best wishes to Dr. Hersom and her university on this special day.

Dr. Kenneth Ozmon,
President,
Saint Mary's University

It gives me great pleasure to bring greetings to Naomi Hersom from the faculty of Mount Saint Vincent University. Faculty were involved in the selection of this president to a greater extent than ever before at the Mount and appreciate the consultative process under which this happened. That Dr. Hersom's arrival is the consequence speaks well for the process.

In the short time we have known her, and indeed, even before she officially arrived as president, Dr. Hersom has shown herself to be

a sunny, sleepy Sunday of Labour Day weekend!

The new president is like a new child to the family, only more so. The new arrival must be fitted in to the operation of things as they are, but also brings her or his own style, personality and concerns to the group. Our initial exposure to Dr. Hersom suggests she will be a valuable addition to our family, and, as her past experience demonstrates, she has already shown strong commitment to our basic values and philosophy. We look forward to the future and the years of growing together.

It is in this spirit that faculty congratulate you on your installation to the office of President of Mount Saint Vincent University and officially welcome you to our ranks.

Dr. Jane Gordon,
President, Mount Saint Vincent
University Faculty Association

It's an exciting time: the installation of our new university president, Dr. Naomi Hersom. An exciting time not only for Dr. Hersom and members of the university and faculty, but also for the students.

Already Dr. Hersom has inspired the students with her presence. Her warm, sincere interest and concern for each and every Mount student has been a source of encouragement and support.

Dr. Hersom's vitality and friendly, approachable nature has strengthened the bond of co-operative spirit and support between the university and students. And as more and more students grow to know Dr. Hersom, I

am sure that bond will continue to grow, as students develop in their understanding of themselves and the university community in which Dr. Hersom has made them feel an important part.

On behalf of the 4,000 students at Mount Saint Vincent University, I congratulate you, Dr. Naomi Hersom, on your appointment as president of the university. We are all looking forward to your continuing support and inspiration.

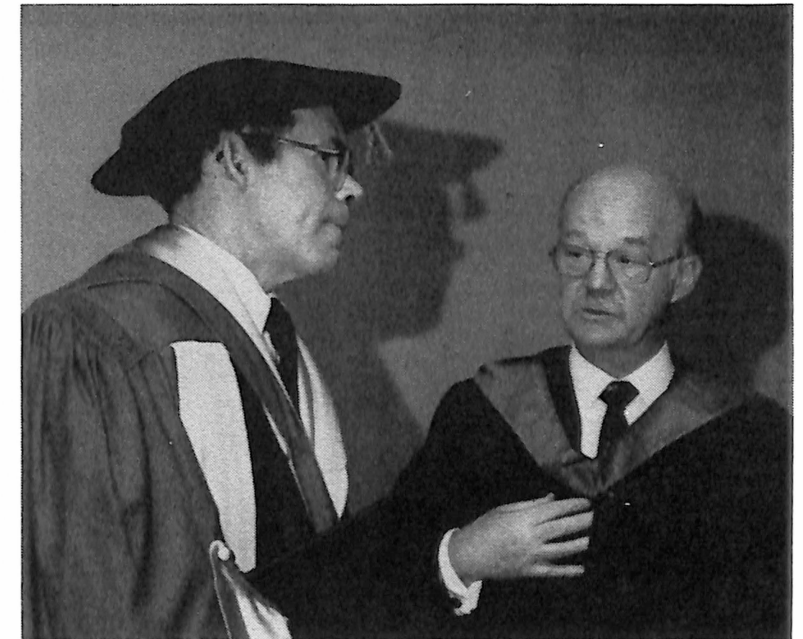
Susan Smith
President,
Mount Saint Vincent University
Student Union

Welcome, Dr. Hersom.

It is with joy, with expectant optimism, and with a sense of our heritage that I bring greetings on behalf of the thousands of women and some men who make up the Mount Saint Vincent alumnae.

The installation of a new president is a time both for celebration and reflection. The Mount has built a unique institution within the Canadian educational community and many exceptional women have contributed. But we are still in the "pioneer" age of true equality. It is fitting that the president who will guide us through our next phase of development is from that part of Canada famous for its pioneers.

On behalf of the alumnae of Mount Saint Vincent University and Mount Saint Vincent Academy, I bring to you, Dr. Hersom, our most heartfelt welcome and our promise as alumnae



Vice-President (Academic) Robert E. Burrige, University of New Brunswick and Dr. John Stager, Assistant Dean, Faculty of Arts, University of British Columbia.

to support you and the Mount in every way we are able.

Mary Clancy,
President,
Mount Saint Vincent Alumnae
Association

It is my privilege, on behalf of the support staff of Mount Saint Vincent University, to offer you our congratulations on your installation as our new president.

We of the support staff pledge our continued support and co-operation, as we have given past presidents. We realize that your job may be difficult at times, but with our help, we hope to make your job a little easier in the running of the university.

Once again, congratulations.

Greg Coakley, Representative,
Mount Saint Vincent University
Staff Association

Calligraphy not a lost art

Immediately following her investiture as president of Mount Saint Vincent University, Dr. Hersom received greetings from representatives of more than 40 universities and colleges across Canada. Many brought certificates of greeting which included some beautiful examples of calligraphy. One parchment, from Dalhousie University, was handset in cloister text by Professor R. MacG. Dawson of the Department of English and the president of the University College of Cape Breton presented Dr. Hersom with a carved wooden plaque of that university's coat of arms

Coming events

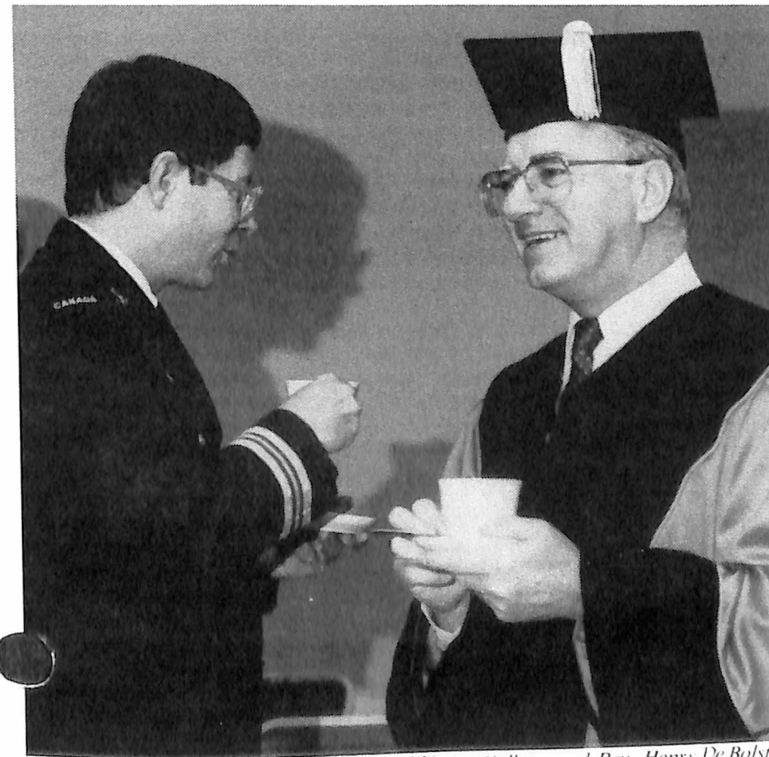
The National Educational Association of Disabled Students (NEADS) will hold its first national conference in Ottawa, November 9-12. Under the title of "The Foundation," the aim of the conference is to promote awareness on campus of the needs of students with disabilities, and all are welcome. Further information can be obtained by contacting the Co-ordinating Committee, NEADS, 4th Level Unicentre, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario K1S 5B6.

The Ecology Action Centre and Environmental Planning Department, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, are offering a program Face to Face at the Table: new approaches to environmental conflict resolution, on October 30 and November 1. For information and registration contact the Ecology Action Centre, 422-4311.

The Mount's Athletics Recreation Office is offering a great program for beginners and avid walkers. Members of the "Walk with Aerobics" club meet every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. for walks on campus and in the local parks. Openings are still available. Call extension 420 for information.

Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship is holding an activity night on Thursday, November 6. The society of the Mount Christian Fellowship is hosting a night of fun and sports on campus. For details call Lorna Beatty at 429-0033.

The Chaplaincy, Student Services (continued on page 10)



Lt-Commander John Dewar, Royal Roads Military College, and Rev. Henry De Bolster, President of Redeemer Reformed Christian College.

On the move

Dr. Pierre Gérin, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Modern Languages, gave two papers: "Polutor et l'Opération Méduse, une Vision Granguignolesque du Monde," at the meeting of the Association d'Histoire du Théâtre du Canada and "Les définitions de Montaigne" at the meeting of the Association des Professeurs de Français des Universités et Collèges Canadiens in Winnipeg. He also gave two interviews for CKDU (Dalhousie's radio, French program) on "Les Parlers franco-acadiens."

Dr. Lise Ouellet, a full-time member in the Department of Modern Languages read two papers: "Un je roué: celui de Claire Martin" at the meeting of the Association des Professeurs de Français des Universités et Collèges Canadiens in June and "L'expression de Soi Chez Anna Dostoïvski et Henriette Dessaulles," at the meeting of the American Association of Teachers of French in July.

Bob LaFramboise, Director of Security at the Mount, attended the annual meeting of the Association of Atlantic Universities Directors of Security at the University of New Brunswick, October 8 - 10.

A number of Mount faculty, including Deborah Poff, Judy

Scrimger, Dr. Joyce Kennedy and Dr. Frances Early, took part in a video produced by Women and Video Exploration (WAVE), shown at the National Film Board studios in September. "A Word in Edgewise" was produced by Heather MacLeod, and the occasion was the premiere screening of the video.

Dr. Geraldine Anthony spent the summer in England, as co-ordinator of the Oxford University Summer School. With her were 10 students from the Mount, King's College and Dalhousie, who took a course on "Wordsworth and the Romantic Poets" from Professor Jonathan Wordsworth, the great, great, grandnephew of the poet. All 10 students, joined by two more from the Mount, attended the two-week international Wordsworth Conference in Grasmere. Professor Wordsworth's reports of the students' work were highly satisfactory.

As president of the Association for Canadian Theatre History, Dr. Anthony reports a very successful three-day conference was held in June, at the Learned Societies in Winnipeg. For all those interested in theatre or in Canadian Studies, (faculty, students, staff and alumnae), Dr. Anthony invites new members. The next conference will be held at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, May 28-30, 1987. Faculty are invited to submit papers on Canadian drama, theatre, or theatre history.

During the past year, Dr. Anthony has had published articles and book

reviews on Canadian drama.

"Coulter's *Riel: A Reappraisal*," is an article on John Coulter's play. The article is published in *Canadian Drama/L'Art dramatique Canadien*, Vol. 11, No. 2, 1985, pp. 321-328. Book reviews of Victor Cowie and Victor Davies' play, "The Magic Trumpet," and Denis Salter's edited book, *New Canadian Drama 3*, appear in *Canadian Literature* Vol. 108, Spring 1986, pp. 186-188. Articles by Dr. Anthony on John Coulter, on the play *Riel*, on Merrill Denison and on his play *Marsh Hay* will shortly appear in the new *Oxford Companion to Canadian Drama and Theatre*. A book edited by Albert Glaap on Canadian Theatre will soon be published at Düsseldorf University in Germany, containing a chapter by Dr. Anthony on the Canadian playwright, John Herbert.

Susan Drain, English Department, presented a paper "Connections and Correspondences: The Papers of Margaret Galt" at the recent annual conference of the Victorian Studies Association of Western Canada. The paper is the result of research undertaken with the assistance of an internal grant, and was well received by conference delegates, who represented institutions in the United States and Eastern Canada, in addition to those of Western Canada.

Letter to editor

An article by Alexander G. Dow in the October 8, 1986 issue of the *Picaro* has attracted attention in the financial offices.

To avoid any misapprehensions, and possible financial embarrassment, on the part of students, we would like to elaborate on the statement attributed to the Registrar in the page one article entitled, "Departments hit by high enrollment." This has to do with the alleged 140 full-time students who have chosen to register only for "A" courses and thus are "technically registered as part-time."

In view of this, we think it advisable to remind all students that, as stated in the university calendar and in the calendar insert, full-time fees apply to all students who register for more than three full-credit courses in the academic year. The academic year is September 1 to April 30.

Any student who registers as a part-time student in the first semester and who again registers in January for courses which, when considered for the two semesters, total more than three full courses, will have charges adjusted to the full-time fee of \$1550 less the amount paid in the first semester.

Mary Moore Uhl
Assistant to the President
(Finance and Planning)

For sale Christmas cakes

(two-pound fruit cakes, light or dark, in colorful cake tins, made in the Maritimes)

\$9.00 each, with proceeds to research and patient services programs of the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada

Contact Flo Rubin at 422-2316 after 2:30 p.m.

(Order deadline October 31 for delivery early December)

EVENTS (from page 9)

invites all faculty, staff and students to attend an Ecumenical Peace Service to mark National Disarmament Week: 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 29, in Our Lady of Wisdom Chapel, Evaristus Hall.

Barbara Rumscheidt, of the United Church, will speak.

Public Forum: Women Speak Out, to address the issue of government responsibility to the women of Nova Scotia.

7:30 p.m., on Wednesday, October 22, Henson College Auditorium, 1261 Seymour Street, Halifax.

Open House at the new Centre of the Italian Canadian Cultural Association.

Italian home made cooking for the family celebrating the opening of the Italian Canadian Centre — fun, music, children's novelties.

Saturday, October 25 and Sunday, October 26, 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., 2629 Agricola Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

the connection

The Connection is published bi-weekly through the university's Public Relations Office, Mount Saint Vincent University, 166 Bedford Highway, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3M 2J6.

Copy should be submitted to Room 205 Evaristus Hall, 12 days prior to publication.

Editors/Writers:
Pat Copeland, Ruth Jeppesen
Photography:
Graham Lavers



Mount Saint Vincent University

OSTEOPOROSIS

Treatment and Prevention

An information session with
Dr. David Hogan, gerontologist
Dr. Susan Whiting, nutritionist
Jean Shaw, health educator

7:30-9:30 p.m.
Tuesday, October 21, 1986
Seton Academic Centre
Auditorium B
Mount Saint Vincent University

Co-sponsored by
Mount Saint Vincent University, Osteoporosis Society of Canada
and Sandoz Pharmaceuticals