

the connection



Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax, Nova Scotia



Members and officers of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council visited the Mount during their recent tour of the Atlantic Provinces. Standing (L to R): James Lightbody; Robert Crocker; Gerald Kristianson; Douglas Kenny; Audrey Forster, Secretary, SSHRC; Denis Stairs; Elizabeth Arthur; John Nicholson, Executive Director, SSHRC; Gaston Boulaine, Treasurer, SSHRC. Seated: Naomi Black; William E. Taylor, President, SSHRC; Thomas H.B. Symons, Vice-President, SSHRC; Jean Cadieux.

Lack of Travel Funding Cited As Main Barrier to Research

The lack of adequate "travel" funding was the greatest barrier to research for the faculty of Mount Saint Vincent University, according to a 10-page brief presented to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada when it met on campus last week.

The brief also urged the council to beef up its support for research on women's issues by broadening its "Women and Work" category to include "Women in Canadian Society."

Dr. Wayne Ingalls, Director of Research and Special Projects, told the council that in recent years the amounts awarded to the Mount under the council's Research Grants and Leave Fellowship programs had increased by roughly 300 per cent (\$38,426 in 1978 to \$152,435 in 1981-82).

Although the base amount given in the General Research Grant program had been raised in 1982 from \$7,500 to \$8,500 "we still think it neither adequate nor equitable." He said the lower limit of \$2,500 in this category should be reviewed and that if it was raised there should be a corresponding increase in the size of the total grant—to do otherwise would place "impossible pressures" on the Mount's research funds.

While the Mount provided some funding for travel, he said, it placed most of its funds into the research grant with the hope that faculty could generate other sources to assist with travel costs.

Severe restraints on budgets for such purposes have, however, "acted as a hindrance upon faculty," in efforts to communicate research results and to exchange views with others in similar fields.

The Mount also urged SSHRC to maintain a balance between targeted and curiosity-driven research. However necessary strategic grants were, their very existence had created an impression among some faculty that there was no point in applying for support for projects on non-Canadian topics, he said.

The Mount brief recommended that attempts be made to bring uniformity and greater simplicity to a complexity of council support programs; that some consideration be given to removing the freeze on increased assistance to scholarly journals; and that the council continue to urge the federal government to approve more funding for research.

10,000 Names Are National Treasure

Former Ottawa Tory MP and Canadian business entrepreneur Jean Pigott visited The Centre for Continuing Education at the Mount recently and met with a number of senior university administrators. During her brief tour of the campus she spent most of her time in the home economics department and spoke with many of the students there.

Pigott, who was in Halifax attending a board meeting of Ben's Limited, felt the Mount's development office's data bank of some 10,000 names of Canadian women who contributed to the dollar campaign (for scholarships and research) was a national treasure. Since her return to Ottawa she has sent in a generous contribution to Project One.

PR Students Visit New York

Six students from the Mount's Public Relations Degree program attended the Public Relations Students' Society of America Conference in New York from October 22-26.

Wendy Lillico, Catherine Mayo, Ann Houwelling, Angela Murray, Margaret McKee and Jane Melanson went with the blessing and encouragement of the Mount's PR Department and were helped on their way financially by Air Canada and the Canadian PR Society of Nova Scotia.

The students sat in on the sessions of the National Public Relations Society of America while they were there and in the process were exposed to the largest PR society in the world, which has more than ten thousand members. They are hoping to set up a PR Students' Society in Canada and no doubt picked up some useful pointers while in New York.



Lawrence J. (Larry) Hayes, Q.C. is the new chairperson of Mount Saint Vincent University Board of Governors.

Hayes received his B.A. in 1959 from Saint Mary's University and graduated from Dalhousie Law School in 1962, when he was also the winner of the University Medal in Law. He was admitted to the Bar of Nova Scotia in the same year and joined the firm of McInnes, Cooper and Robertson in Halifax, becoming a partner in the firm in 1970 and appointed Queen's Counsel in 1977.

Hayes is a director of the Atlantic Provinces Transportation Commission, a member of the Joint Committee on Taxation of the Canadian Bar Association and Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, former vice-president of the Atlantic Symphony Inc., former governor of Saint Mary's University and the Canadian Tax Foundation. He is a member of the Nova Scotia Barristers' Society, Canadian Bar Association, Canadian Tax Foundation and the Opimian Society.

Other new members of the Mount's Board of Governors are Dr. Margaret Casey, who is at present in part-time general practice at the North End Community Clinic; J.G. Fleming, President of Ocean Contractors Ltd., Dartmouth; Earl G. Walsh, C.A., ICANS, partner with Thorne Riddell; and Carol Shannon McGillivray, partner with the law firm Donohoe, Davies, Watson, Gregg and McGillivray.

The Board's Executive Committee consists of: Larry Hayes, Chairperson; Dr. Judith Gold, Vice-Chairperson; Sister Paule Cantin, Chairperson of the Mount Saint Vincent University Corporation; Dr. E. Margaret Fulton, President of Mount Saint Vincent University; Janet Murray, long-range planning; James Radford, finance; Dean Salsman, expansion and development; Judith Sapp, Dalhousie liaison; J.P. Vaughan, building; Patricia Whitman, by-laws; Harold Crosby, Chairperson of the Audit Committee; and Dr. Marguerite Flinn, Chairperson of the Public Relations Committee.

Changed Meaning Needed for Concept of Productivity

The vulnerable position that Canadian women hold in relation to both paid and unpaid work was the basis of a brief submitted by the Mount to the Royal Commission on the Economic Union and Development Prospects for Canada this month.

In a presentation and supplement to the brief, Dr. E. Margaret Fulton pointed out that, "we need whole new definitions of work, costs and productivity."

"Only by broadening the concept of productivity, perhaps even of work, would Canada alleviate the most widespread, most unchallenged, most depressing form of discrimination—the time, toil, and loss of dignity entailed in the exacting of work without pay or benefits" she said.

Most of this type of work (referred to by Dr. Fulton as 'shadow work') was done by women, in the form of housework, parenting and voluntary work in the community.

"In industrial societies shadow work is assumed as routine. Strong taboos have acted against its analysis as a unified entity. Industrial production determines its necessity, extent and forms. But it has been hidden by the industrial-age ideology, according to which all those activities into which people are coerced for the sake of the economy, by means that are primarily social, count as satisfaction of needs rather than as work," she said.

Dr. Fulton said, that for wage labour "you apply and qualify" but for 'shadow work' you "are born or are diagnosed. For wage labour you are selected; into shadow work you are put. It is exacted without pay."

Ending her presentation with a plea, Dr. Fulton said there should be better measures of the productivity of waged labour to more truthfully represent the contribution of Canadian women to the economy. "But beyond this, we need a changed meaning for the concept of productivity, changed to incorporate the unpaid labour our economy demands of women in particular," she said.

FILMS

Tuesday, November 1, SAC, 12:00-1:30 p.m.

"Guess Who's Coming to Breakfast?"—A.V. presentation and discussion of multinationals sponsored by Chaplaincy and Scarboro Foreign Mission Society.

Thursday, November 3, SAC, 12:00-1:30 p.m.

"Roses in December"—story of sisters and laywomen murdered in El Salvador, December 1980. Sponsored by Chaplaincy and Scarboro Foreign Mission Society.

On the Move

Dr. William Gorman of the Education Department has been appointed to a Halifax City Task Force by Mayor Ron Wallace to study the Halifax taxi industry.

He also gave a workshop on Student Evaluation to the teachers of Shelburne County last month.

Professor Renate Usmiani, English Department, had two papers published recently: "In the Wake of the Collective Creation Movement: New Approaches to Dramatic Writing" for the XVIth Congress of the International Federation for Modern Languages and Literatures (Budapest, August 1984); and "The Classical Tradition in Contemporary Quebecois Theatre: Patterns of Ambivalence," for Modern Drama, XXVI, 3, September 1983.

Professor Usmiani also attended the annual meeting of the Canadian Theatre Critics' Association this month in Toronto.

Assistant Professor Josette Deleas, Fine Arts Department, was one of the judges for the Atlantic Film and Video Festival which took place this month.

Drs. Ilya Blum and Norman Okihiro are the co-convenors of a new Faculty Computer User's Group which they are hoping will provide a much needed forum for the exchange of information and common questions regarding the use of computers.

Dr. Okihiro said they are concerned about what faculty need to know and should be buying for the university, and that the group would give them some input at a very informal level.

The group intends to tackle such topics as cooperation in the acquisition and usage of new hardware and software, and consideration of the proposed development plan for the Computer Centre.

Suggestions could be brought before the University Computer Committee through faculty representatives.

Anyone interested in taking part in future meetings of this group is asked to contact Ilya Blum at Ex. 261 or Norman Okihiro at Ex. 235.



STUDY SKILLS



Anyone interested in Study Skills sessions, please contact Student Services and Counselling, Rosaria 116, extension 359.

Topics will include:

Concentration

Time Scheduling

Listening and Lecture Notetaking

Reading and Learning from Text-books

Writing Papers

Preparing for and Writing Exams

Motivation

Sing Along With Seton Cantata

Dartmouth music teacher and choir director Sallie Novinger is looking for women and men to join the Seton Cantata Choir. She already has a membership of about 30 singers but she wants more.

Sponsored by the continuing education centre, rehearsals are held every Monday evening between 7:30 and 9:30 in the Cardinal Cushing Auditorium.

The university has its own student choir "but we want this one made up of those in the community who love to sing, including members of faculty and other local universities and institutions," says Novinger.

Currently, Novinger is director of the Bicentennial School Choirs, the Dartmouth Girls Choir and the Pictou County Chorale. Since 1978, when she arrived in the community, her choirs and students captured 26 first place awards and three Rose Bowls in the annual Kiwanis Music Festival. In 1980, she was chosen by the Ontario Arts Council and the Canada Council as one of 20 choral conductors from across Canada to participate in a workshop with the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir in Toronto.

Accompanist for the Seton Cantata Choir is Acadia University music graduate Barbara Butler who teaches music in the Dartmouth schools and is music director and organist with Stairs Memorial United Church.

Those interested in becoming part of the Seton Cantata Choir should call the continuing education centre, ext. 243. Prospective members are invited to sit in on a rehearsal with a view to auditioning and becoming part of the choir. Patrons and friends of the choir are entitled to free tickets to all choir concerts.

Knowledge in Action—What Students Do With What They Know

Sister Patricia Mullins brought back much food for thought from the Valuing Workshop for College Teachers at Alverno College, Milwaukee, which she attended recently.

Alverno College is a small women's college which began to rethink its approach to liberal education in the early 70's. It started by using an outcome-oriented liberal arts curriculum by which students were assessed in eight areas of competence: communications, analysis, problem solving, valuing, social interaction, taking responsibility for the environment, involvement in the contemporary world and aesthetic response.

At the same time the student took the regular academic courses, but had to successfully qualify in four levels of these competences and two specialized levels in her chosen area of specialization, said Sister Mullins.

SEEKING

"Alverno College is seeking wholeness as the work of learning, and making this learning happen is the work of the college. It has taken this so seriously that for the past ten years its administrators have re-thought and re-shaped everything they do to serve a single purpose—to help each student learn," she said.

"Their assessment system measures not just knowledge, but knowledge in action—what each student can do with what she knows."

Sister Mullins said this approach was giving the students self confidence and a sense of self direction. Although students wrote tests, term papers and/or exams in their courses, graduation depended on the successful demonstration of competence in

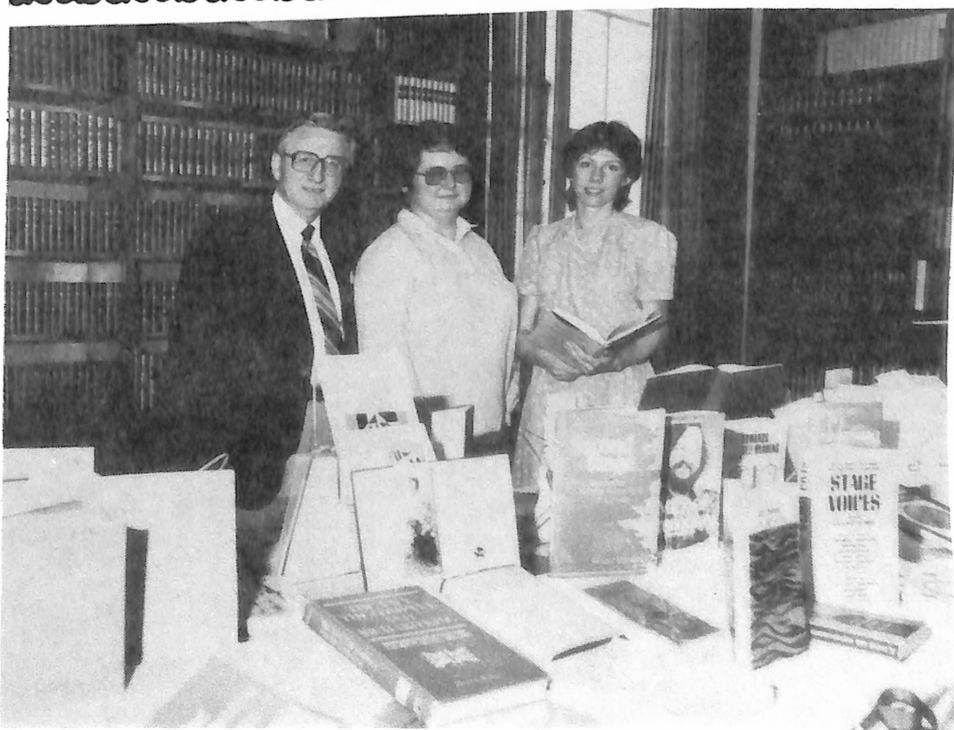
32 "general" levels and about eight specialized levels of competence rather than on grades in individual courses.

The student competed with herself and her own development and the internalizing of course content, rather than with the other students, she said.

Alverno's faculty spend a great deal of time together in meetings, workshops and in institutes, refining this assessment process for students.

The Workshop on Valuing gave theoretical background as well as actual practice sessions and a great deal of literature was provided. "The workshop made one ponder what each of us could be doing to improve the learning process for students on our home campuses," said Sister Mullins.

Anyone interested in looking over the material brought back or who would like to discuss improvements in the learning process for the Mount, should contact her in Room 319, Seton, local 138.



A display of alumnae and faculty publications was a highlight of Universities Week at the Mount. Lucian Bianchini, Librarian, Janell McGill, and Heather Forbes, take a look at the many books on display.

Six Lectures By Dr. Berit As

Social scientist, feminist and politician Dr. Berit As who is visiting professor with the Women's Studies Program at the Mount, will be giving six public lectures before she returns to the University of Oslo, Norway, in December.

November 3

Invisible, Silly, Incompetent and Wicked—the five master suppression techniques.

November 10

The Secret Garden of Women—the invisible female culture.

November 17

Twice as Good for Half the Price—women in traditional institutions.

November 24

How Do "WE" Survive Without Slaves?—women as property.

December 1

Why Only Eve Was Told the Truth—and kept her mouth shut.

December 8

The Global Uprising of Women—and why it cannot be stopped.

All lectures are on Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. in Seton Academic Centre, Auditorium A.

This and That

Arts student Sharron Peck, Dartmouth, was elected president of the Mount's Campus Association of Part-time University Students recently. She replaces Shirley Baker, who has served as president of the organization for the past five years.

Baker hopes to graduate this year but will be serving on the executive to assist the new recruits. The annual part time students graduation dinner, which has become such a hit in the last four years, was initiated by Baker and her executive as well as the annual presentation of a CAPUS bursary.

Mabel Davis of Ghana will replace Dorothy Simmons as CAPUS secretary.

Correction: In the last issue of The Connection a line was inadvertently dropped. The missing information gave the hours that the new Consumer Education Centre phone lines are open for enquiries. Hours are from Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Soroptimist Foundation of Canada offers annually a training award for mature female students. Applications and information available at the Financial Aid Office, Student Services. Deadline for applications **December 15, 1983.**



Members of the Student Christian Movement from the Mount spent a busy evening making placards to carry at the Peace March on International Disarmament Day, October 22.

GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Soroptimist Foundation of Canada is offering a grant to qualifying female students whose studies will lead to working directly with women's issues.

Information/applications are available at the Financial Aid Office. Deadline for applications is January 31, 1984.

A Helping Hand

Ruth Jeppesen, of the Mount's public relations and development office, pitched in to help members of a city-sponsored employment project recently when City Council held a meeting on campus.

It seems the city's social assistance department has come up with an ingenious way of keeping people employed. It invests budget monies into small businesses initiated by those who would normally be needing municipal social assistance.

A number of small companies have been established with upwards of 80 people now employed—Nova Originals is such a business.

One of the best ways of demonstrating the design and quality of the clothing produced by the shop to city aldermen was to hold a fashion show during the council meeting—but there were too few models. Jeppesen, who had been the Mount's liaison with city staff for council's campus meeting, knew of the problem and agreed to model one of the shop's popular jackets.

Incidentally, the company is doing a brisk business and plans to get into the lucrative Ontario market in the near future. Anyone interested in seeing or hearing about Nova Originals production facilities, call 422-7176 and ask for Derith Wat-ham. It could use your support.

Conference On Drugs

A one-day Conference on Drug Awareness will be held Friday, November 18, on campus sponsored by the Mount's Admissions Office.

The objective is to give guidance personnel and related support services an overall update on the drug problem as it exists in the schools today together with some guidelines for intervention and overall prevention.

Those participating in the program include Brian Wilbur and Gerri Penny from the Nova Scotia Commission on Alcohol and Drug Dependency; Heather Sutherland, Director of Alumnae of Dalhousie University and Paul Gallagher of the John Howard Society.

Workshop sessions will cover four aspects of the problem: Peer Pressure, How to Handle It; How to Set up a Peer Education Program in your High School; Drugs and the Law; and Your Attitudes towards Alcohol—Use and Abuse.

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