

Campus. Connection

Mount Saint Vincent University

March 13, 1989

National chair for Mount's capital campaign announced

The Honourable Flora MacDonald has been named national chair of the capital campaign for Mount Saint Vincent University.

The \$10-million campaign, "Learning and Leading", will be launched in the spring. It will support teaching, research and construction initiatives, including funding of the E. Margaret Fulton Communications Centre, now nearing completion.

MacDonald served 16 years as Member of Parliament for Kingston and the Islands. During that time, she held three Cabinet positions — as Secretary of State for External Affairs, 1979-80 (the first woman to hold that portfolio); Minister of Employment and Immigration, 1984-86; and, until November 1988, as Minister of Communications. As an opposition Member, she held the critic's post for Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Federal-Provincial Relations, External Affairs and Status of Women.

A native of North Sydney, N.S., MacDonald was the first woman to graduate from the National Defence College, Kingston, Ont., in 1972. She has been awarded honorary degrees from a number of universities, including a Doctor of Humane Letters from the Mount in 1979.

MacDonald has served as executive director of the Progressive Conservative National Headquarters, national secretary of the Progressive Conservative Association of Canada, executive director of the Committee for an Independent Canada, and member of numerous associations including the



The Honourable Flora MacDonald

Canadian Institute of Public Affairs, Canadian Institute of International Affairs and the Canadian Civil Liberties Association. She is a past-president of the Elizabeth Fry Society.

The Mount does more for part-time students

Of all Canadian universities, the Mount gives the third largest amount of scholarship money to part-time students, according to a recent study by two members of the department of extension and summer session at the University of New Brunswick. (The Mount's contribution is exceeded only by the University of Toronto and the University of New Brunswick.) The study concludes that as a whole, Canadian universities offer part-time students little in the way of financial assistance and academic recognition.

Of the total \$110,000 in scholarships currently given by the Mount each year, \$2,000 is specifically designated for part-time students, more than \$5,000 is designated for either full- or part-time students, and another \$7,000 minimum is designated to part-time students from free funds.

"We were one of the first universities to give scholarships for part-time students," says Jean Hartley, acting director of the Mount's Centre for Continuing Education, which was established in the late 1960s to respond to the needs of mature and part-time students. Currently part-time students represent almost half of the Mount's total student enrolment.

The Mount's contribution is particularly important in light of the fact that, as housing and financial aid officer Barbara Crocker explains, "The federal student loan program is ineffective in terms of meeting the needs of part-time students. Students taking one or two courses have to begin to pay back their loans within 30 days. Also, the Province of Nova Scotia offers no bursaries for part-time students." The assumption on the part of the Canada Student Loans program is that part-time students have working incomes when, in fact, says Jean Hartley, only about 40 per cent of Mount non-traditional students have full-time jobs.

Hartley notes that in addition to offering scholarships, the Mount has "tried to eliminate other

traditional barriers standing in the way of part-time students. For example, there is no time limit here on the completion of an undergraduate degree and no limit on the number of summer school credits that can be counted toward a degree. We've also tried to make it as easy as possible to transfer credits from other universities."

The Centre for Continuing Education is itself an important response to the Mount's part-time student population, says Hartley. "It's a place where a woman contemplating returning to university can come to get advice before actually registering for a course."

Part-time students will also have access to a new Non-Traditional Student Centre, opening March 20 in Room 204 of the Seton Academic Centre. Gaby Roughneen, a part-time student since 1981 and president of MANUS (Mount Association of Non-Traditional University Students), notes that the

(Continued on page 4)

**The Mount community
is invited to attend the
official opening of the
Non-Traditional Student Centre
12 noon to 1 p.m.
Monday, March 20
Room 204
Seton Academic Centre**

Agreement signed with N.S. Teachers College for joint degree



At Province House for the recent signing of the Agreement of Affiliation between the Mount and the N.S. Teachers College were (left to right): Margaret Swan, principal of the N.S. Teachers College; Ron Giffin, N.S. minister of education; Dr. Naomi Hersom, president, Mount Saint Vincent University; and Dale Godsoe, chair of the Mount's Board of Governors.

As of September, first-year students enrolling at the N.S. Teachers College will be entering a degree program jointly offered by the Teachers College and the Mount.

An Agreement of Affiliation was signed Feb. 28 by Education minister Ron Giffin; N.S. Teachers College principal Margaret Swan; Mount president Dr. Naomi Hersom; and chair of the Mount's Board of Governors, Dale Godsoe.

Since 1981-82, graduates of the N.S. Teachers College could complete a Bachelor of Education degree by attending one year at the Mount or one of six other universities. The current three-year diploma will be extended to a four-year BEd degree program, with the degree to be awarded jointly by the Mount and the Teachers College.

Dr. Hersom pointed out that this is yet another step in co-operative efforts for teacher educa-

tion. The Confederated College of Education was established three years ago, whereby the Mount, Dalhousie and Saint Mary's universities, and the N.S. College of Art and Design agreed to specialize in different areas of teacher education.

Mr. Giffin described the new agreement with the Teachers College as one of the most significant steps in the development of teacher education in the province. "This means that by 1993, everyone entering teaching in this province will hold a degree." Teachers already in the profession will not be affected.

"We may see some Mount students attending courses at the Teachers College, as well as many of their students coming to our campus," Dr. Hersom said. "This is one more way we can increase opportunities for our students without duplication of resources."

OF INTEREST OF INTEREST OF INTER

The Mount women's volleyball team travelled to Cape Breton recently where they beat the Canadian Coast Guard College in semi-final action, and then the University College of Cape Breton in the finals, emerging as Nova Scotia College Conference (NSCC) women's volleyball champions. Three team players — Heather Selwyn-Smith, Dawn Dalley and Kim Farrell — were named to the all-conference team. Farrell was also named most valuable player of the conference.

The Mount's co-ed badminton team recently won the NSCC championships, and Mount player Rebecca Margeson won the women's singles provincial championship.

In basketball action, the Mount women's team was runner-up in the NSCC championships, and three Mount players — Andrea Drake, Kim Little and Julie Gigney — were named to the all-conference team.

...

The Women's Studies department presents "The Distance between Women and Men: the Equality

Part-time Students continued from page 2

centre will incorporate a meeting/lounge area, study carrels, executive and resource offices, and a kitchen/notice area. "The key word here is 'belonging'. The centre will provide a focus for non-traditional students, a home on campus. The centre is also a signal that the university welcomes and recognizes part-time students."

As to why the Mount has made part-time students a priority, Jean Hartley comments, "The Mount emphasizes the education of women, as well as service to the community. We've tried very hard to make a name for ourselves as being 'user-friendly', so that women who are returning to education can approach us with confidence."

Game" by Dr. Krishna Ahooja-Patel. Dr. Ahooja-Patel is Deputy Director, United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women. The lecture will be held in Auditorium D, Seton Academic Centre, Tuesday, March 14, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

...

Residence applications for 1989-90 are available for all students at the housing office, Rosaria Room 116. The deadline for applications is Friday, March 17.

...

Check notice boards outside the housing/financial aid office in Rosaria Centre for a listing of scholarships available for the 1989-90 academic year. Further information and applications are available from the financial aid officer, Rosaria Room 119.

...

The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) has recently published a Statement on Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy, outlining basic principles for academic administrators and faculty; and a Statement on Student Matters. Copies of both are available through the public relations office, Evaristus 205.

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 Monday of publication. Editor: Charmaine Gaudet, 443-4450, ext. 339.
