

Campus Connection

Mount Saint Vincent University

November 21, 1988



Shoena Scobie (right, front), a third-year student in the Mount's Tourism and Hospitality Management degree program, was this year's recipient of the Seagram's V.O. Hospitality Award, presented by Don Grandy (centre), regional manager of Seagrams. Attending the presentation reception was tourism and hospitality management department chair Dr. Don Smith (left, front), faculty and students of the department.

Job-finding program helps older workers

The Mount's Centre for Continuing Education is sponsoring a series of five Job-Finding Clubs for Older Workers. Funded by Employment and Immigration Canada as part of its Canadian Job Strategy Program,

the clubs are a new initiative aimed at women and men 45 years and older who are unemployed or in danger of layoff.

Dr. Joyce Kennedy, assistant director of the centre, *continued on page 6*

Hands-on experience for business students

Donald Shiner, business administration department, has established a strong link between the courses he teaches and the business world. Currently, for a class project in his advertising course, students are formulating an introductory advertising campaign for a soon-to-be-introduced Farmers Co-operative Dairy product. Students are divided into groups, each of which develops a campaign to present to Farmers Dairy for evaluation.

More projects are planned for next semester. "Students in my marketing management course will prepare a strategy for marketing dairy products to seniors in the 1990s, for the Sealtest division of Alt Foods, Toronto. And students in my international marketing course will develop plans for marketing cultivated mussels internationally, for Little Harbour Fisheries of Nova Scotia." He notes that, "We've worked with a number of companies in the past five years, including National Sea, and other projects for Farmers."

Shiner, who was vice-president of marketing for Bell Canada's international division before coming to teach at the Mount five years ago, notes, "I came here feeling I wanted to bring some solid marketing experience to senior marketing students."

He admits that involving the business community took some convincing at first. "After all, we're asking them to allow us access to confidential marketing information." It's getting easier, though.

"Our projects are getting a good reputation, plus the Mount's business administration program already has a good name. We've also gotten some good publicity. Last year Live at Five (ATV) and The World at Six (CBC-TV) both did a feature on us."

He now gets calls from many companies interested in participating in advertising and marketing projects. "I have to turn most of them down," he says. "Many of the kinds of things they want done aren't suitable. I look for projects that are clearly definable within the framework of one course. Also, they must be do-able, in terms of the students' skills."

Of the hands-on approach he offers his students, Shiner comments, "They gain the practical experience of being judged by business people. And companies get exposure to the Mount and to our business administration program. It's a two-way street."

The projects also benefit graduate employment. Two students involved in a class project for National Sea are now employed by that company. Another student, involved in last year's project for Farmers Dairy, was recommended by Farmers for her current position with a Halifax advertising agency. Shiner explains that the letter of recommendation received by each student on the top project team is "really the prize. All the students who have received a letter tell me it's gotten them to the first, and often, second interview with prospective employees."

Rosaria-Seton pathway reopened

The pathway from Rosaria Centre to Seton Academic Centre, closed since construction began on the Communications Centre, is reopened. The path goes from the terraced area outside Rosaria across the back of the

Communications Centre to the third-floor entrance of Seton. Concrete replaces the rough gravel, and new lights have been added for better pedestrian traffic to the parking lots in front of Rosaria.

Art gallery hosts two new exhibitions

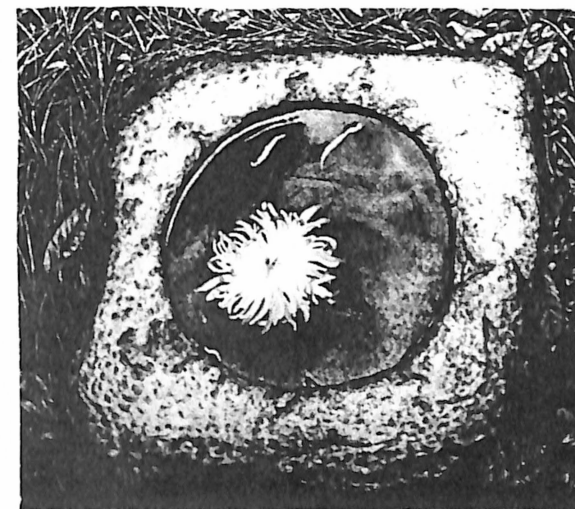
Hérons, waves, mountains, clouds and moonlight are the subjects of watercolour paintings and woodblock prints in a new exhibition by Suezan Aikins in the art gallery, Nov. 25 - Dec. 15. Aikins, who lives in Prospect, uses the Nova Scotia environment as inspiration for her work, which combines Western realism and Oriental spirituality.

Her watercolours were in a solo exhibition last year in Tokyo, where she lived and studied woodblock printing for several years. Her Japanese woodblock prints, which take up to eight months to complete, are intricate examples of the ancient traditions she works with.

"This young Canadian artist and her aging Japanese master have been cutting through to the heart of their separate cultures through the woodblock print and a shared passion for recording the environment," says Mount gallery director Mary Sparling.

In the upstairs gallery, 38 works by Newfoundland and Labrador artisans are featured in Let There Be Light and Color, also on from Nov. 25 - Dec. 15. The exhibition shows the variety of contemporary Newfoundland craft, from quilting to beadwork to whalebone carving.

James Drescher opens both exhibitions



"Offering", a watercolour by Suezan Aikins, is one of 45 paintings and woodblock prints featured in a new exhibition of her works at the Mount art gallery.

Friday, Nov. 25 at 8 p.m. Suezan Aikins, and Judy Parsons Budgell, a Newfoundland artist whose work is featured in the upstairs show, will be in attendance. A videotape with Suezan Aikins, produced by DUET, is available during the exhibition.

Time to register for Oxford University Summer School

The English department offers faculty, students, staff, alumnae and friends the opportunity to attend summer school and conferences at Oxford University in England. Choose from three programs: the Mount Saint Vincent University/Oxford University Summer School and the Wordsworth Conference at Grasmere, July 1 - Aug. 12, \$2400; the Mount Saint Vincent University/Oxford University Summer School, July 1-29, \$1900; and the

Wordsworth Conference at Grasmere, July 29 - Aug. 11, \$1700.

Prices include round-trip air fare from Halifax to London and accommodations. Successful completion of the summer school results in one unit of credit from the Mount. Enrolment is limited to 10 students, so register now by sending a \$100 refundable deposit cheque to the secretary, English department, ext. 346. Make cheques payable to Geraldine Anthony.

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Renate Usmiani, English department, was invited to speak at three recent conferences. In August she spoke on "German Neo-realism: a new alternative" at an Alternative Theatre Conference organized by the University of Alberta in conjunction with the Edmonton Fringe Festival. "Néo-réalisme allemand et nouveau théâtre québécois: surprenants parallèles?" was the subject of her talk at an October international colloquium in Montreal to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Société d'Histoire du Théâtre du Québec. And in November she spoke on "The role of the Canadian National Railroad in the prehistory of Canadian drama" at a colloquium in conjunction with the history of the Canadian Literary Institution, University of Alberta.

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Dr. Jacques Goulet, religious studies department, presented a paper at an annual conference of the Société canadienne de théologie held recently in Montreal. His paper was entitled, "L'éducation de la foi: la vraie foi ou ma bonne foi?"

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Judith Shiers is the new information officer in the public relations office. Shiers, a graduate of the Mount's public relations degree program, comes from two years as office manager at the university's art gallery. "It was just the right job that came

up at exactly the right time. I was very pleased to get the position." Looking forward to doing more public relations functions, she also enjoys working with the Mount community. "It's been an important part of my life, as a student and a gallery employee, for five years."

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Jan Anthony is the new office manager at the art gallery. A Haligonian with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design and a Master of Fine Arts degree from the School for American Craftsmen in Rochester, N.Y., she has "a decade of office experience" and is also an avid potter. Of her new position she comments, "It's great for me to combine my office experience and my art," adding that she is happy to be at a university with a strong focus on women.

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Maria Koehler-Vandergraaf was appointed exhibitions officer at the art gallery in July, making her the 15th to receive the one-year term appointment. Koehler-Vandergraaf, who has a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, is a printmaker and watercolour artist with a special interest in three-dimensional installation art. "It's the most wonderful job in the world. I haven't stopped learning just because I stopped going to school."

English department sponsors theatre trip to England

The Mount's English department is sponsoring its annual theatre trip to England for students, faculty, staff and alumnae. The eight-day trip, planned for spring study break, Feb. 15-23, costs \$690 and includes round-trip fare, Halifax to London, bus transportation to and from the

airport in London, accommodations and continental breakfast, baggage handling and hotel taxes, and theatre tickets. The trip is limited to the first 40 persons who make their payments on or before the Nov. 28 deadline. Payments should be made to Jean Frost, Seton Room 303, ext. 346.

Letters to the editor

The following is an edited version of a recent letter to the editor of the CAMPUS CONNECTION.

Two years ago, on its front page, CAMPUS CONNECTION (Feb. 17, 1986) featured an alumna who boasted of enjoying holiday cruises around the world, particularly the beautiful beaches of South Africa. On that occasion I wrote a personal letter to the editor questioning the appropriateness of an article which I felt demonstrated a shocking lack of sensitivity to the apartheid monstrosity existing in that country.

Two years later, over which time the horrors of apartheid in South Africa have severely intensified, the CAMPUS CONNECTION again (Oct. 31, 1988), on its front page, publicized the \$10,000 research grant which a Mount professor received from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) to allow her to pursue research in Johannesburg, "in Grahamstown, Capetown and Pretoria, South Africa, and in London and Oxford, England." Thus, the reader gets the impression that, for this university and for SSHRC, South Africa is as good a place for research as England.

So what if thousands of school children are massacred, jailed without trial, and beaten, or if the White minority imposes a morally bankrupt apartheid policy on majority Blacks? So what if the South African government silences the press, or if Afrikaner Beyers Naude, an outspoken opponent of apartheid, is banned within his own country even though he never practiced or advocated violence? So what if Black South African religious leaders implore us, at the risk of their lives, to boycott South Africa? So what if the South African government is orchestrating on-going civil wars in neighbouring countries to maintain

its own apartheid? So what if the majority of British Commonwealth nations, including Canada, has called for economic sanctions against South Africa?

Indeed, so what. For some professor, for the Mount's public relations office and for SSHRC, business goes on as usual.

*Dr. Jacques Goulet
Religious Studies Department*

Editor's note

Dr. Konczacki's research focuses on the work of Guy Carleton Jones, a Canadian geologist whose work was instrumental in the development of the gold mining industry in South Africa.

An article on research with an aspect of South African development in no way implies that Dr. Konczacki, this publication or this university supports in any way the current abhorrent regime in South Africa.

As a matter of interest, the Investment Committee of the Mount's Board of Governors passed a policy during its 1985-86 agenda, "to avoid knowingly making investments in any companies which cause social injustice," and that includes companies with South African investments.

Dr. Konczacki's reply

The clearest and most disturbing conclusion one can draw from Dr. Goulet's open letter is, in so far as academic freedom including research is concerned, that discrimination and double standards should be applied in a paternalistic and dogmatic way. Unacceptable as I find Dr. Goulet's views in that regard, I find his misconceptions regarding my research project still worse.

He should be reminded that freedom of expression, which in my opinion he has abused, is not only a right, but a grave responsibility.

OF INTEREST OF INTEREST OF INTER

The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) has established three Undergraduate Student Research Awards to encourage undergraduate students to participate in research and to undertake graduate studies. The awards, valued at \$750 per month and normally supplemented by the university, are tenable during May, June, July and August. The university's deadline for receipt of applications is Dec. 14, 1988. For more information contact Renee Dankner at ext. 350.

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The International Education Centre is sponsoring a conference on Women and Human Rights: the Canadian Experience of Immigrant and Refugee Women, Thursday and Friday, Dec. 1-2, at Saint Mary's University. The conference, aimed at educators, high school students and the

general public, will examine the struggles and achievements of immigrant and refugee women. The conference will open at 6:30 p.m., Dec. 1, with a visual art, poetry and prose exhibit, with workshops and panel discussions the following day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information call Debra Dickson at 420-5419.

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The athletics/recreation office is holding morning and afternoon coffee breaks for faculty and staff on Monday, Nov. 28. Here's an opportunity to talk with athletics/recreation staff about programs, and to offer input into future programs by filling out a needs assessment survey. The morning break will be held at 10-11 in the exercise room, Rosaria Gym, with the afternoon break from 3-4 in the art gallery. Coffee and muffins are on the house.

job-finding clubs continued from page 1 notes that the clubs are "a response to more older people entering the work force" and a natural outgrowth of the Mount's commitment to "a greying population", particularly through its gerontology research and continuing education program. "We were happy to put together the proposal for the clubs, and to sponsor them."

The first program started Nov. 7, with four more planned for Bedford and Dartmouth later this year and early next year. Sue Rosson, an employment consultant under contract to the Mount, will teach three of the five programs - the first of which she feels has been a success. "In the first week two of the ten people enrolled had already found jobs, and one of those people had been out of work for a year."

The three-week program teaches effective job-finding techniques, while providing a supportive atmosphere.

Rosson says this is the first program

targeted specifically to older workers. "It's a pilot project, but we're confident it will work," she says. "This group is very motivated. They all know what they want, and the club helps them find their way."

Those enrolled in the first program represent a wide spectrum of experience and goals. Rosson says that while most started the program with forebodings about their age being a handicap to finding work, "that feeling goes away very shortly as their confidence builds."

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.