

# Campus Connection

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Mount Saint Vincent University

February 13, 1989



*A recent tour of the Motherhouse for faculty, staff and students, led by Mount chaplain Sister Lorraine d'Entremont, revealed some of the history of the Sisters of Charity. Under a painting of Sister Elizabeth Seton, the Order's founder, Professor Mary Barker (left), public relations department, and Dr. Deborah Kennedy, English department, peruse photographs in the archives. The current Motherhouse was built in the late 1950s to replace the original Mount Saint Vincent Motherhouse which, along with the Academy and College, was destroyed by fire in 1951. The tour of the present building also included the Sisters of Charity's health care unit, chapel and Renewal Centre (a retreat facility), and the Vincent Hall residence for Mount students.*

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## Funding accessibility needed to fulfil Mount's mandate

The Mount's basic mandate to educate women is jeopardized by the current funding formula of the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC), warns Mount president Dr. Naomi Hersom. At present, the Mount's funding ranks well below the average support level for Nova Scotia universities. The Mount receives (at maximum) only 88 cents out of every operating grant dollar available for 1988-89, compared to \$1.70 for the Université Ste Anne and \$1.03 for Dalhousie University. "This university has been penalized for years because of the opportunities we have

made available to women, many of whom study part-time," says Dr. Hersom.

More than three-quarters of the Mount's students are women, and enrolment of women here has increased 66 per cent since 1978-79. Yet, notes Dr. Hersom, "MPHEC's current formula, which was developed in the late 70s, was designed on the assumption that enrolments would decline when, in fact, just the opposite has happened."

While all Maritime universities have suffered from the MPHEC's initial forecast,

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The Mount bookstore will begin returning unsold textbooks to the publishers beginning Feb. 13. If you have not yet purchased your course books, please do so as soon as possible.

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Institutional management and food service management students in the home economics department had a three-hour seminar recently on communication and motivation. Tom Patillo, president of Catalyst Consulting in Bedford, led the participative workshop. Patillo has offered sessions on sales, marketing, time management, communication and motivation all across North America, and donated his time to Mount students as part of his company's community outreach effort.

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The Metro Literacy Coalition is initiating a letter writing campaign to urge federal, provincial and municipal governments to provide funds to enable the Dartmouth Literacy Network to continue its work. Since its inception in 1986, the network has offered free, one-to-one tutoring to approximately 100 learners each year. Its current Canada Employment and Immigration Commission funding runs out Feb. 10 and has not been renewed. According to the 1981 Canadian Census, 27,444 Metro residents over age 15 have less than a grade nine education. Yet, less than two per cent are currently being served by Metro Literacy programs.

For more information contact Meredith Hutchings at 454-7054, or Judy Cairns at 464-3444 or 464-5750.

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The Mount Saint Vincent Alumnae Association has nominated Dr. Nuala Kenny, S.C., chief of staff at the Izaak Walton Killam Hospital for children for

recognition at the eighth annual YWCA Women's Recognition Dinner. The dinner will be held Monday, Feb. 27 at the Halifax Sheraton. Dr. Shirley Thomson, director of the National Gallery of Canada, is keynote speaker.

The event, chaired this year by Mount art gallery director Mary Sparling, publicly honors women in the Halifax-Dartmouth area for their contribution to the community through volunteer or paid work.

Tickets for the event are \$50 each and are available at the Mount art gallery. Ticket proceeds support the YWCA.

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February is heart month in Canada. On Tuesday, Feb. 14 the Mount's health and athletics/recreation offices will conduct Heart Health Awareness Clinics, which will offer blood pressure checks and step tests to measure cardiovascular fitness. The clinics will be held 9 - 11 a.m. and 1 - 3 p.m. in the health office, Rosaria room 125. For more information contact the health office, ext. 353 or the athletics/recreation



### Mount Saint Vincent University DIRECTOR OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Mount Saint Vincent University seeks a Director of University Relations. Duties of this position include planning, managing and supervising a full range of fund-raising, alumnae, development and public relations activities. Reporting to the President, the Director is responsible for programs which include an annual fund drive, alumnae relations, cultivation and solicitation of major gifts including foundations, planned giving, and the effective use of a network of volunteers and friends across Canada. The Director of University Relations manages a staff of ten.

The Director of University Relations must have a minimum of five years' related experience. Highly developed organizational and management skills and an understanding of the work of a university are essential; some university exposure would be an asset.

The ideal candidate should have a university degree, experience in all aspects of development, strong communications skills, a proven fund-raising track record and knowledge of government agencies. Familiarity with computer systems and the creative ability to initiate funding proposals and strategies are desirable.

Nominations and applications should be received by March 1, 1989 and directed to:

The Search Committee (University Relations)  
c/o Office of the President  
Mount Saint Vincent University  
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3M 2J6

## Profile: Paul Zwicker

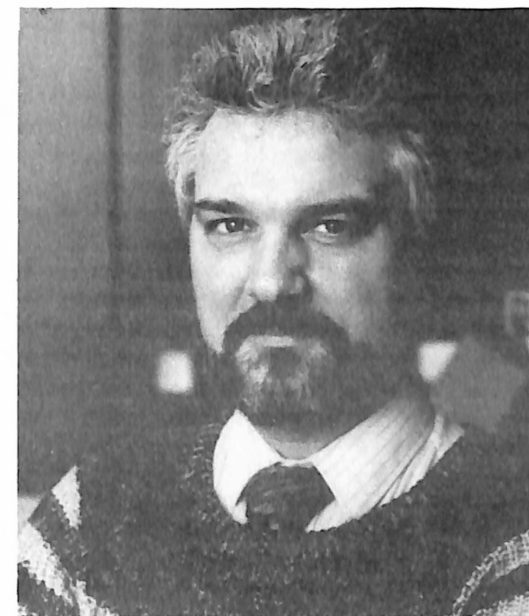
Paul Zwicker, co-ordinator of audio-visual services, enjoys the fact that "there's never a dull moment on the job." Since joining the Mount's audio-visual services in 1974, Zwicker's responsibilities have run the gamut from fixing equipment to producing videos for faculty and students.

"We're a small department, so we all have to be able to fill in for each other from time to time, and many of our duties overlap." This, coupled with increasing requests from the university community for equipment, audio-visual training and production, and photographic services ensures that there is no such thing as "a typical day" for the audio-visual staff, says Zwicker.

While administrative duties take up much time, he still has ample opportunity for what he considers most rewarding -- working with students. "During the last term I helped produce over 30 audio-video presentations with students. I also offer workshops and consultation for students involved in the yearbook and photo pool." He teaches an audio-visual course to public relations students too.

Zwicker says that the university is an exciting place for anyone working in audio-visual technology. "Video is becoming an important teaching and learning aid. It's replacing film as an educational tool because it's cheaper." He notes that the recent upswing in audio-video technology has prompted major developments in the field. "The technology is so dynamic that it's essential to keep on top of what's happening. In fact, sometimes I even try to keep a little ahead of it."

He doesn't mind admitting that his job is fun, no small thanks to an lifelong love of music and photography. "Twenty-five years ago, my dream was to be a rock & roll star," he chuckles, adding that while he no longer plays in a band as he did then, he still plays electric, acoustic and bass guitar, and banjo, for his private enjoyment.



He has a sizeable collection of musical instruments too.

Zwicker also studied photography and electronics before coming to the Mount. "What I do now is a natural extension of things I've been interested in for a long time."

History is another passion. An active member of the German-Canadian Association of Nova Scotia, he spearheaded a project, which subsequently received funding from the Secretary of State, to develop an audio-visual production on the history of German settlers in Halifax. "It's a fascinating project because, although most people don't realize it, the Germans had a tremendous impact on the early settlement of Halifax."

While his work at the Mount may not afford him the single-minded concentration of historical research, Zwicker likes the diversity of working on many different projects. "Also, I want to pass on the skills that I have. I've been getting more and more positive feedback from students, and I find that very rewarding."

*funding accessibility continued from page 1*  
the Commission's formula has had a particularly damaging effect on the Mount. "We've been hard hit right from the start," says Dr. Hersom, explaining that when MPHEC first established its grants, it did not take into consideration the Mount's loss of funding when the contribution services of the Sisters of Charity were withdrawn in the mid-70s.

More importantly, says Dr. Hersom, the Mount's commitment to open its doors to the increasing number of women seeking an education has not been dealt with sympathetically by the current MPHEC formula. She explains that in 1978, when the current funding formula was being proposed, the Mount asked the MPHEC to make provisions within the formula to allow for special circumstances which could result in a sharp increase in enrolment for a particular institution.

"Being Canada's only university dedicated to the higher education of women we knew it would not be possible for the Mount to limit its enrolment during a period in which the participation rate of women in higher education was on the upswing. To do so would have been in stark contradiction to the mission of this university for women."

The Mount has had proportionately more part-time students than any Maritime university. Since 1978-79 enrolment of part-time women students has increased by 122 per cent. Yet, Judith Murray, the Mount's co-ordinator of institutional research, explains, "With the current formula it can take as many as 10 part-time students to achieve the same funding level as one full-time enrolment."

In a recent report, consultant Alan Adlington, hired by the Commission to review the current funding formula, called for a one-time equalization adjustment in funding for Maritime universities. In the process, says Adlington, equalization must be redefined. The report also calls for a

new basic operating grant.

While Dr. Hersom agrees with Adlington's assessment of the need for "a fresh start", she cautions that "the new grant must reflect the realities of today and that it not ignore or perpetuate the deficiencies we see in the formula currently in place."

The Mount is currently preparing a formal response to the Adlington report for MPHEC, outlining concerns and suggestions for the Commission's consideration. In particular, Dr. Hersom stresses that the new formula must not compromise the Mount's commitment to women. "We take pride in the fact that we have made higher education accessible to mature women and part-time students by opening doors which may have otherwise been closed to them, without lowering academic standards."

## An Open House

The university community is invited to attend the Office Automation Centre's open house, Thursday, Feb. 16, 11:45 a.m. - 1:20 p.m. Tours, held every 15 minutes, will include demonstrations of the Centre's technologically-advanced office equipment.

Please note that no food or drink is allowed in the Centre.

**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.