News from the institute



The terms of office of four members of the Board of Directors expired in 1987. Norman Alcock, William Barton, George Bell, and Harriet Critchley left the Board in August. New Directors were announced by the Minister of External Affairs, Joe Clark, for a three-year term. They are: Gisèle Côté-Harper, of Quebec City, Professor of Law at Université Laval: John Halstead, of Ottawa, former Canadian Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany and to NATO, and presently a Research Professor at the School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.; and Jacques Levesque, Professor of Political Science at the Université du Québec à Montréal. William Barton, Chairman of the Board, was reappointed for a twoyear term.

Beth Richards left the Institute in December and is now working in Toronto. Taking her place in the Public Programmes section is Margaret Bourgeault, until recently the co-ordinator of the Commonwealth Conference for Young Leaders, William George has decided to resume his studies at the London School of Economics. Katherine Laundy assumed the position of Director of Information Services in October. Ms. Laundy came to the Institute from the National Library where she was a Senior Reference Librarian. Michel Proulx, until recently a student at the University of Ottawa, has joined the administrative support staff of the Institute.

Geoffrey Pearson attended the Sixteenth Williamsburg Conference in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia in November. Organized by the Asia Society of New York, the conference focussed on issues of political, military and economic cooperation in the Pacific area. There were forty-six participants from both sides of the Pacific.

Generally speaking, participants were optimistic about regional security and pessimistic about global economic prospects. A number of specific warnings were issued, especially over trends towards ethnic and religious confrontation in Malaysia, the Philippines and in the South Pacific. The issues of American bases, and of nuclear weapons in the Pacific were also thought by some to be potentially serious, given the rise of nationalism amongst the new elites. The unity of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) as an organization to promote political as well as economic utility was debated without any clear consensus emerging.

The other Canadian participants were **Robert Blair** of Nova Corporation and **Melville Couvelier**, Minister of Finance of British Columbia.

"Arms Transfers" was the subject of a conference organized by the Institute in October. In the responses of the Government of Canada to the Report of the Special Joint Committee on Canada's International Relations (the Simard-Hockin Report 1986), emphasis was placed on the need to examine various ideas, including that of an international arms export and import register. The Institute arranged the conference on Conventional Arms Transfers to enable parliamentarians, senior government officials and representatives of non-governmental organizations to hear experts on the subject, and to have the opportunity to exchange ideas.

Michael Klare from Hampshire College, Amherst, Massachussetts spoke on the global patterns in the arms trade. Chris Smith of the University of Sussex, UK, addressed the question of why suppliers supply. Gehad Auda of the Centre for Political and Strategic Studies in Cairo looked at why recipients receive. The economic consequences of the arms trade were discussed by John Treddenick of Royal Military College, Kingston. James Taylor, Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs spoke on "Global Arms Transfers: Issues and Perspectives." Jo Husbands of the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., and Sergei Karagamov of the Institute of the USA and Canada in Moscow, discussed the problems, prospects and ideas for the control of arms transfers. John Lamb of the Canadian Centre for Arms Control and Disarmament in Ottawa focussed on the Canadian experience in arms transfers and its effect on arms control. At the closing lunch Ernie Regehr of Project Ploughshares summed up the discussion and conclusions of the conference. The Institute will publish a conference report in the new year.

"Rethinking International Governance" is the subject of a project sponsored by the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota, and directed by Harlan Cleveland. Geoffrey Pearson and Peter Gizewski gave a paper at a project meeting in November in Long Lake, Minnesota. The project is looking at the implications for international institutions of four "revolutions" – bio-technology, information, global environmental change, and explosive power. The Pearson/Gizewski paper looked at the fourth development in terms of nuclear weapons and security.

"Peace, Food Security and Development" is the title of a conference cosponsored by CIIPS, the Canadian Council for International Cooperation, the International Development Information Program of Carleton University, and the World Food Day Association. Held in December in Ottawa, the conference brought together representatives of organizations working on these issues, and specialists in the field. Participants also included Members of Parliament, journalists, diplomats, academics, and government officials. Guest speakers and panelists were Micheline Beaudry of the University of Moncton; David Hopper of the World Bank; Augustin Mahiga of the Tanzanian High Commission; Ali Mazrui of the Universities of Michigan and Jos, Nigeria; and Ruth Engo from the UN. Bruce Steele, host of CBC radio's The Food Show, was the moderator of a panel discussion. Portions of the conference were taped for later broadcast.

The Information Services section of the Institute organized and sponsored a conference for librarians and resource centre managers from across Canada in Ottawa in November. The conference, entitled "Peace and Security: Information Resources in Canada" was designed to bring together those librarians and resource centre managers who are responsible for the acquisition, dissemination and retrieval of information on issues of international peace and security. The conference discussed ways to cooperate and share expertise in