

Senate Report

Senate has agreed to the formation of an advisory committee, with Senate and Student Union members, to assist the Office. It would appear that recent concern, sparked by disappointment with the third annual Ombudsman's Report, is leading to new efforts for support and improvement of the Office of Ombudsman at Dalhousie.

The Senate Council, which fills in for the Senate during the summer months, had a relatively quiet time during the past four months. The final amendments to the Dal-Tech merger plan were approved quickly, just in time for the legislature to stop its spring session.

A committee of six was chosen to advise on the search for a new Vice-President (Academic). The position will be vacant because Professor Andy MacKay is probably going to be Dalhousie's first Executive Vice-President.

The only other major summer activity was completion of work on projects of the 1973-74 Student Union

and Faculty Association.

From the Union can the idea of a University-Community Committee. The representatives from the university have been appointed but a considerable amount of work must be done before the committee is in full operation. It is hoped that eventually its existence and interest will be a force on the side of better relations between Dalhousie and the citizens of Halifax-Dartmouth.

The Faculty Association proposal is improvement of teaching at Dalhousie. One of the Vice-Presidents will be given special responsibility for this goal, plus the support of a committee representing most groups within the university. Recommendations for activity in this field include a monthly series of discussion, bringing in resource people and holding a workshop on teaching and learning. There will be little progress until the administration's shuffle of vice-presidents is completed.

In October Senate will be turning its attention to the proposed new regulations on

appointments and tenure.

At its September meeting the Senate displayed less than usual activity, with little debate or visible consideration of the various items. This could well be a result of the members' summer vacation from meetings.

The Senate agreed unanimously on Monday, September 16 to a continuation of the Office of Ombudsman for at least one more year. The Students' Council had already given its consent.

The Senate also sanctioned appointment of Bill Pieschel as the fourth university Ombudsman. Board of Governors confirmation is still required.

A University-Student Union committee has expressed some concern about the amount of knowledge regarding the Ombudsman's Office and its work. Mr. Pieschel hopes to clarify the objectives and role while strengthening the Office's image as an impartial observer and perhaps arbitrator. The Office will try to be more of an investigator, and the direction will be analyzed intensively.

Winning Words

Halifax — Rules and regulations for the comprehensive literary competition jointly sponsored by the Nova Scotia Department of Recreation and the Nova Scotia Branch of the Canadian Authors' Association for Citizens of the Province have now been released.

The contest, announced in August by Recreation Minister A. Garnet Brown "To encourage and stimulate interest in writing," will be held between September, 1974 and March 1975. Chairman of the contest committee will be Lester B. Sellick of the Nova Scotia Branch of the C.A.A.

The competition includes prizes in five categories: Book-length manuscripts for prizes in five categories: Book-length manuscripts for prizes of \$500, \$200 and \$100; and prizes of \$150, \$100 and \$50 in the other four categories of poetry, articles of 10,000 words length, original scripts for a stage play, screen or radio, and for short stories. Prizes will total \$2,000 and all submissions must be previously unpublished.

An additional special prize will be presented to the submission adjudged the best "Historical" entry published by Petheric Press. The prize will equal the fee paid by the publisher.

The Literary Contest is open to all residents of Nova Scotia with the exception of members of the Contest committee, the screening committee and employees of the Nova Scotia Department of Recreation.

Contestants are advised to make carbon copies for their own records.

The contest, which runs for six months beginning September 30, 1974, closes March 31, 1975, and entries post-marked later than the closing date will not be considered.

Further rules include the following stipulations:

All entries in the contest must be written under a pseudonym and be accompanied by an entry form. Name and address of the contestant must only appear on the entry form which must be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the pseudonym and

title of the work on the outside. In order to ensure strict impartiality, manuscripts showing the author's name, or identifiable in any other way, will be disqualified. Only one entry per person will be allowed in each category.

All entries must be typewritten, double-spaced, on one side of standard 8 1/2 x 11-inch white paper, with approximately one-inch margins.

A large stamped envelope must accompany each manuscript if its return is desired.

All entries remain the property of the author.

Vancouver Residents Help Students

A housing shortage that threatened to leave 3,000 to 5,000 University of British Columbia students homeless during registration week has been eased by extensive publicity.

Steve Mochnacki, UBC student housing committee chairman, said many Vancouver residents who have not previously opened rooms in their houses to students have not decided to.

He attributed the housing committee's success to intensive advertising through churches, public service announcements by news papers, radio stations and pleas by university and city officials.

He said earlier plans for a tent city and a hostel in the student union building will

now be scrapped.

The apartment vacancy rate in Vancouver is currently .3 per cent — only three in every 1,000 apartments are vacant.

Several students are surviving by staying at their relatives homes, sleeping in the backs of trucks and hiding in cockroach-ridden rooms in dark apartments.

Meanwhile campus university residences are full and the UBC housing administration has a waiting list of 1,600 people.

Manuscripts, marked clearly on the envelope as to entry category, should be mailed to the Canadian Author's Association, P.O. Box 2902, Armdale Post Office, Nova Scotia. Entry forms may be obtained at the same address.

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