

PROFESSOR PROFILE

# Jim Holloway's solutions to Dalhousie's growing dilemmas

BY PAUL MANSFIELD

Dr. James Holloway has some very insightful views on the issues surrounding Dalhousie. He has seen just about everything that can happen to a university in his 22 years as a professor. Recently, Holloway sat down to talk about not only his career as a teacher, but also his thoughts concerning the university and the dilemma professors and students will face in the future.

Holloway earned several degrees from various American universities before coming to Canada. He received a Bachelor of Arts in teaching foreign languages from the University of Northern Colorado; a Masters degree in Spanish from the University of Wyoming; and a PhD in Romantic Languages from Duke University. He is presently the chair of the Spanish Department.

Holloway is 55-years-old and married with two children, ages 17 and 11. Holloway feels that having a son, who may soon be coming to Dal, has given him a "different perspective".

**What is the best thing about Dalhousie?**

...One of the best things...is that the years are so short you get by with doing very little teaching. It seems to me that you are really only teaching [a little more than] four months a year.

**What is the worst thing about Dalhousie?**

Well, the pay for one thing. It is horrible. And it seems to me that it has been more and more centrally run in recent years. It has been run like a business. For one thing we can lose classroom space to Harvey's. It is kind of the symbol for what the values are at Dalhousie. They would rather make a profit selling hamburgers than provide ample teaching space for classrooms.

Also, it seems to me that [the administration] does not consult [to] the extent that I would like them to consult. It seems to me that most of the professors are smarter than most of the administrators. If [Dalhousie] does have all of this brain power lying around, one would think that even if the administrators were smart, they might want to consult us once in a while.

Earlier this fall, about a million dollars became available to the university. The President decided with no consultation whatsoever that this money would be divided amongst [Dalhousie employees] and we would all get an extra bonus of one per cent of our annual salary.

There are a lot of other things that money could have been used for. It could have gone to the library, to shore up the sagging library journal subscription we...keep cutting.

It could have gone to student

tuition in the form of a rebate instead of the faculty. There are all kinds of things that could have happened such as splitting it up into different areas. A little consultation could have used that money much more wisely.

enough.

It also seems to me that he surrounds himself with second level administrators who, in their loyalty to him, tend to tow the same party line as he does.

A little more opposition to some of the top down direction from the second level administrators...could be more healthy for the university.

**How do you feel about President Traves's explanation of Dalhousie's connection to Indonesia and maybe some other questionable associates?**

He looks at running the University [from] a business bottom line point of view. [He] therefore overlooks certain questionable things. This fall he introduced what he called his Strategic Plan which looks towards making the various units of the university as self-supporting as possible — as if our job was in fact to make a profit — as though we were professional businessmen running a company. We are not here to educate, we here to earn money and these types of measures hurt the departments and the university.

For an example of [President Traves'] top down approach, after he came up with this plan himself, he introduced it to chairs of the departments. Months later it finally made it to the faculty members. It should have begun with faculty and through some consultation, discussion and debate, Traves should have develop his plan. But he had already begun his plan and the only consideration he gave us was lip service.

Whenever you start letting money dictate the activities of the university, you compromise the point of the university. If the only research in Pharmacology is research that companies will pay for, then we will never have any solutions that don't turn a profit.

**Are the students at Dalhousie getting their money's worth at Dalhousie?**

If you are paying more now then before, then you are paying more for less. Students were getting a better education a few years ago for less money, so I would say you are not getting your money's worth. [Dalhousie administration] does certain activities in reducing faculty; no matter what the department thinks and no matter what the need of the students are.

[Faculty members] are not being replaced and therefore class sizes are getting bigger all the time. The larger the class the less individual student attention you are getting for you money. We have lost 113 faculty members in the last five years. Student enrollment has gone up, student tuition has gone up but [the lost faculty] have not been replaced. It just doesn't make sense to me and a lot of other people.

**How do you feel about the part-time instructors & TAs**

*continued on page 16...*



Photo by Matt Barrie

**How do you feel about the new Faculty of Arts & Social Science Building?**

I personally really like [the new building]. [My office] is a graduate student office in the Radiation

*"...we can lose classroom space to Harvey's. It is kind of the symbol for what the values are at Dalhousie. They would rather make a profit selling hamburgers than provide ample teaching space for classrooms"*

Building [on Seymour] and it is very small. [However, this] is actually much better than the one I had [in the Spanish department], which I had to share with grad students. I had to enter through a seminar room and I would often find myself interrupting a class or meeting. So I'm glad to have anything.

You could practically put me in a sewer with a manhole cover and I would think I was in heaven. [The new building] will let us feel like a faculty and less like a broken piece of China scattered across the landscape.

**Do you think Tom Traves is doing a good job as President? How well does he represent the university?**

I don't know how well he represents the university. He doesn't seem to be coming up with any great amount of generous donors that I am aware of.

I have not been pleased with him primarily...because it has seemed to me that during his reign...there has been less and less consultation with the faculty and more and more [individual decision making].

We have had grievances in the past with the union and when we would ask him for his reason for negative decisions, his answers have been 'because I say No'. He hasn't felt it necessary to give any reason, just his 'No' is reason

# Black history 101

BY NICOLE WILLIAMS

(CUP) — Did you know that...

1. At the turn of the nineteenth century a significant number of Upper Canada's elite were slave holders.
2. The first female editor of a Canadian newspaper was a black woman. Mary Ann Shadd worked for the *Provincial Freeman* between 1853 and 1858.
3. The last racially segregated school in Ontario did not close until 1965.
4. In 1911, the federal government passed an order-in-council to bar the entry of blacks into Canada for a period of one year. Although the order was later repealed, it demonstrates the depth of Canada's racist past.
5. The first documented black slave in Canada can be traced back to 1628. His name was Olivier Le Jeune and he lived in New France.
6. In 1784, the white community in Birchtown, Nova Scotia, vented its frustrations over high unemployment levels by burning the homes of blacks and running them out of the town.

7. The first industrial positions available to black women in Canada were those deemed unsuitable or unsafe for white women. Made available during the Second World War, the jobs often involved work with toxic or explosive materials.

8. Black men in Canada were frustrated in their attempts to enlist for service in the First World War and were largely unsuccessful until July 1916 when the first all-black construction battalion was created. Commanded by white officers, the segregated battalion satisfied objections of white soldiers who did not want to serve alongside blacks. The battalion was comprised of men primarily from Nova Scotia and Ontario.

9. Up until 1962, the excuse that blacks were unable to adapt to Canada's cold climate could legally be used to bar their entry to the country.

10. The last known private advertisements for slaves appeared in Halifax in 1820 and Quebec in 1821.

## AHM calendar

February 19th - February 22nd, 1998

A selected calendar of events for the coming week of African Heritage Month

### Thursday, February 19

- 7:00pm African Heritage Month Celebrity Quiz VIII Halifax North Memorial Public Library

### Friday, February 20

- 10:00am Black Firsts Bedford Public Library
- 11:00am-5:00pm "In this place..." An exhibition of Black Art in Nova Scotia Anna Leonowens Gallery, 1891 Granville St.
- 1:30pm Black Athletes Dartmouth North Public Library
- 6:00pm "Challenging Racism: Going Beyond Recommendations": Black Women and Trade Unionist Who Made a Difference Dinner East Preston Recreation Center Admission: \$25

### Saturday, February 21

- 8:30am Canadian Labour Congress Anti-Racism Conference Cole Harbour Place Phone 422-7105 to register

- 10:00am African Heritage Month Family Day Halifax North Branch Library

- 11:00am-5:00pm "In this place..." An exhibition of Black Art in Nova Scotia Anna Leonowens Gallery, 1891 Granville St.

- 1:00pm African Heritage Month Youth Quiz Championship Halifax North Branch Library
- 8:00pm-1:00am Africa Night MacInnes Room, Student Union Building, Dalhousie University

### Sunday, February 22

- 11:00am-5:00pm "In this place..." An exhibition of Black Art in Nova Scotia Anna Leonowens Gallery, 1891 Granville St.
- 2:00pm "Escape to Nova Scotia: Black Loyalists from South Carolina, 1783." Musuem of Natural History.
- 7:00pm Gospel Concert All Nations Christian Reformed Church, 2535 Robie St. Admission: Free-Love Offerings Accepted

## STUDENTS !!!!

SMT and Acadian Lines have a DEAL for you !!!

### Student Travel Pack

Buy 4 Tickets, get 2 FREE!!

Now Good For Travel In

New Brunswick, PEI and Nova Scotia!

Call Your Local Agent or Call

**1-800-567-5151**

