

Handy guide to Dal...

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THE GAZETTE

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Career classes give students 'real world' understanding

Dalhousie program unique amongst Canadian universities

BY TRACY ANN CAVANAUGH

Claire Rafferty's eyes light up when she talks about her new class. "I love it! It's a great course!" Rafferty is in one of Dalhousie's two new career development classes. The classes aim to give students an understanding of how their degrees fit into their career goals.

Rafferty is in the first-year class, An Introduction to Career Portfolios, which started this January.

Kate Hutchins, another student in the Intro class, says she likes the class' real world relevance.

"The class is useful and very practical... I think at this stage of university life, this class is helping me to sort through the process of

finding out what is out there and what I am interested in."

Jeanette Hung, one of the course's instructors, says no other university in Canada is addressing career development with the strategy Dalhousie is using. And she says the need is there.

"Surveys have shown that most students that come to university, come for career-related reasons. But once they get here they are so focussed on academic demands, that there is little time left over with what to do with their life," she said.

In the new class students attend lectures, then are subdivided into small discussion groups with senior students as mentors to help them discover what they want to do

with their lives and how they'll do it.

The portfolio the class is named for is a collection of work students assemble during the class — a resumé, essays, personal

statements, and any other work a student feels is relevant to their possible career.

The class, which is marked as either a pass or fail only, also requires either a personal essay or

an exam.

So far no one has wanted to write an exam.

"It makes sense to write an

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The Superbowl of garage sales

One man's trash is another man's pink, banana seated CCM road bike

BY JON ELMER

The McInnes Room was transformed last Thursday afternoon into the Super Bowl of garage sales.

In accordance with the festive cheer of Security Education Week here at Dal, it was time again for the annual unclaimed found property auction.

Have you ever engaged in an activity that, in hindsight, becomes little more than hours of your life lost forever? Me too.

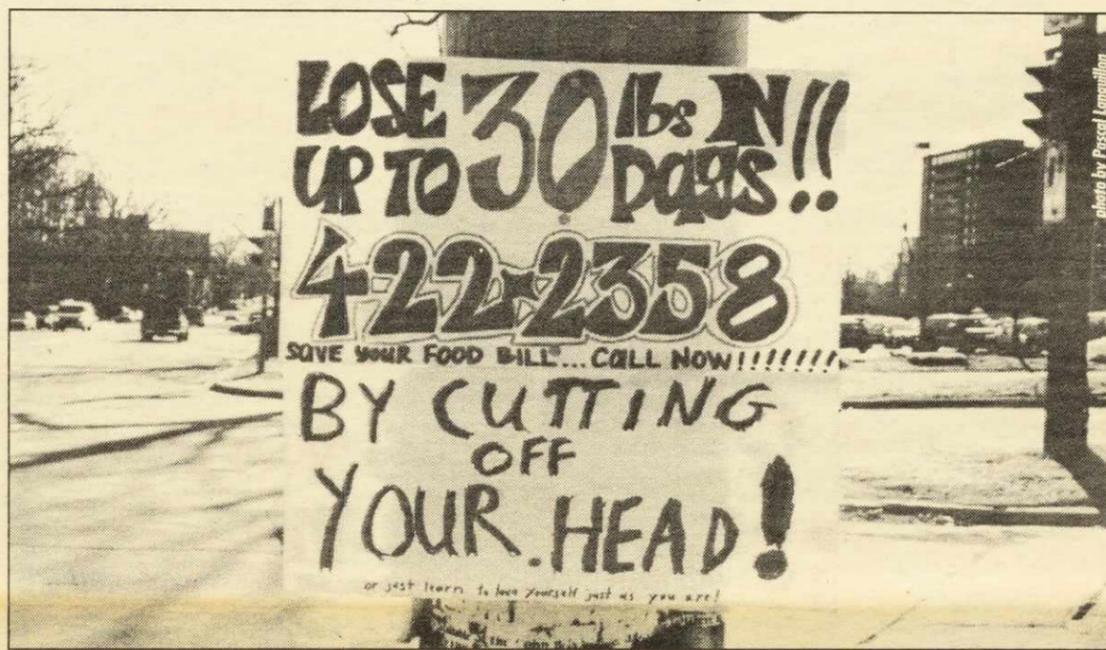
Loaded with merchandise that ranged anywhere from hideous costume jewellery to wholly-functional bicycles, the sale offered a little something for everybody.

Highlighting the schedule were a couple of hot-ticket items, most notably a half-decent, if weathered, Minolta SLR, a Norco Bush-Pilot mountain bike, and a Mountain Equipment Co-op day pack, each fetching between \$55 and \$75.

Was one of these yours? Well not anymore. Each sale is accompanied by a valid receipt to prove that someone else's loss was indeed another's gain. Also, the wonderfully unloved articles have been held for a minimum of six months, to ensure due diligence in locating the rightful owner.

The auction, which never swelled to more than 40 people, had

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SIGN OF THE TIMES: weight loss as an extreme sport, with its critics.

Dal appoints new med school dean

Dr. Noni MacDonald is the first female dean of Medicine in Canada

BY DONNA LEE

Dalhousie has just appointed the first female dean of Medicine across Canada.

Dr. Noni MacDonald replaces the current dean, Dr. John Ruedy, on Jul. 1 of this year.

"I think it's high time," said Dr. Toni Laidlaw, a professor in the division of Medical Education, "but on the other hand I'm proud that we're the first. We should be extremely proud."

But some say MacDonald's gender doesn't matter.

"I don't think the gender of the dean is important [at least to me]," stated Dr. Peter Camfield, chief of the department of pediatrics, in an email.

MacDonald currently heads the Pediatric Infectious Diseases division at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, in Ottawa. She also teaches in the departments of pediatrics and microbiology at the University of Ottawa.

When MacDonald begins her five-year contract at Dal, she will head a department of 1,100 faculty and 725 students, as well as teach courses in infectious diseases and work in a hospital.

MacDonald holds degrees in microbiology, immunology, and medicine from Queen's University and the University of Ottawa.

Dr. Sam Scully, vice-president academic and research, chaired the committee

that selected MacDonald from 50 candidates. And he cites several factors in her appointment.

"She had the capacity and energy to provide leadership and partnership to the medical school and its departments over the next five years," he said.

"The vision she has is centred on patient care and the quality of patient care."

Scully also said MacDonald was a good choice for a school in the Atlantic provinces.

"She is extremely alert to the regional concerns of the medical schools serving the Maritime provinces.

"Personally, I'm looking forward to working with her."

African Heritage Month Events

Schedule of events:

"African Heritage Month is a period dedicated to the recognition, learning and celebration of Black history in North America."

The month-long celebration emerged from Negro History Week, which was started in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson, a Black historian, educator and publisher from New Canton, Virginia.

February was initially chosen because the birthdays of U.S. President Abraham Lincoln and the emancipator and orator Frederick Douglass fell on Feb. 12 and 14.

In recent years the name has been changed from Black History Month to African Heritage Month. But even with the change of name the focus will always be to celebrate the richness and diversity of the African culture in North America."

-the Black History Month Association

Thursday Feb. 4
7pm — Culture and Diversity in International Development Practice: Understanding Euro-centric Development: Power, Privilege, and Systemic Racism
Halifax North Memorial Public Library

Fri. Feb. 5
7-10pm — Saint Mary's University Black Cultural Centre tour
Student Advisor's Office, St. Mary's University

Sat. Feb. 6
7pm — Gospel Concert, East Preston United Baptist Church
7pm — "I Have Known Rivers" — A night of poetry readings
Halifax North Memorial Public Library

Sun. Feb. 7
2pm — 15th anniversary recognition ceremony
Black Cultural Centre of Nova Scotia

Mon. Feb. 8
8pm — Walter Borden reads sonnets by Shakespeare CD

celebration, Halifax Feast Theatre (Salter St. entrance)

Wed. Feb. 10
10am — Black Women in the Arts with Kimberly Cain
Halifax North Memorial Public Library

12:30pm — Taking the helm: Black Filmmakers from three continents presents "Touki Bouki" directed by Djibril Diop Mambety
Dalhousie Art Gallery, Dalhousie Arts Centre

7pm — Black Community Needs Assessment: Report and Open Discussion
Halifax North Memorial Public Library

7:30pm — Talk that Talk: A night of African Nova Scotian storytelling
Spring Garden Road Public Library

Thurs. Feb. 11
7pm — African Heritage Month Celebrity Quiz IX
Halifax North Memorial Public Library



photo by Luke Dabak

LOST AND SOLD: homeless artifacts auctioned off to new owners.