

# Academic relations

Following some internal reorganization within the Department during 1977 for the purpose of grouping academic-related responsibilities (except those of the Historical Division) in one division, the work of the Academic Relations Division has comprised four elements: the domestic academic-relations program, the program of Canadian studies abroad, international academic and scholarship exchange programs, and liaison with provincial authorities and non-government organizations on questions of Canadian participation in international conferences and activities.

## Domestic academic-relations program

The purpose of this program was to subject Canadian foreign policy to informed comment and criticism. An improved awareness of foreign-policy issues was encouraged by the widespread use of departmental speakers, by the holding of conferences and by the dissemination of background information. The end of the year witnessed the extension of this program to other sectors of the community, such as church, labour and business groups interested in Canadian foreign policy.

To encourage dialogue with the academic community, senior foreign service officers and "visitors" were seconded to Canadian universities. The program freed officers from departmental duties for one academic year, enabling them to devote their time to teaching, writing, performing research and holding seminars on international relations at the universities they visited. In 1977-78, officers were lent to British Columbia, Dalhousie, Laval and Mount Allison Universities.

The Foreign Service Visitors Program and the Departmental Speakers Program are indispensable parts of this activity. During 1977, departmental officers gave 136 lectures and seminars, and 15 seminars were given to members of the Department by distinguished journalists, academics and foreign officials.

The Department provided support for conferences on a variety of themes related to Canadian foreign policy and to international relations. Briefings were also provided for groups of students visiting the Department.

## Canadian studies abroad

The Department extended its program of Canadian studies abroad to expand the nucleus of professors and students familiar with Canada, to develop an awareness of the qualities of Canadian scholarship, particularly in the social sciences and the humanities, and to stimulate exchanges between Canadian and foreign academics.

The principal areas of concentration in 1977 were the United States, Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and Belgium. Canadian studies were developed by awarding visiting professorships, supporting joint research projects, encouraging inter-university contacts, making gifts of Canadian books and learned journals, organizing conferences and seminars, and making grants to publications and national associations for Canadian studies.

## United States

Co-ordinated by the Association for Canadian Studies in the United States (ACSUS), which is supported by the Department and has more than 500 members drawn from nearly all the 50 states, Canadian studies continued to expand in the United States during 1977. Contributions were made to Yale, Johns Hopkins, Northwestern and Duke Universities to assist in the development of academic interest in Canadian affairs. Individual grants were made to a number of American academics for research and study in Canada during 1977, to equip them to give Canadian courses at their universities. Speakers were provided to universities whose curricula featured seminars on Canada, and books and journals were provided to institutions in support of their Canadian studies programs.

Assistance was given to two seminars and workshops conducted for high-school teachers by universities in the southern and eastern states; and discussions were held on similar programs proposed for 1978 in the mid-West and on the West Coast with the aim of introducing Canadian content into state secondary-school programs.