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2 Dalhousie Gazette, Thursday, December 4, 1986

T H E O U T S I D EW O R L DStudents protest jobs

BOULDER, CO (CUP/CPS) — Protests against Central Intelligence Agency recruiters have sprung up on several American campuses. More than 100 University of Colorado students in November chanted and waved signs while protesting the presence of CIA recruiters on campus.

CIA representatives have recently drawn protestors at the universities of Texas, Minnesota, Oregon State, Massachusetts-Amherst, Iowa and Rhode Island, among other places.

"It seems like everywhere they go, they get protested," said Tom Swan, president of the U.S. Student Association. "And it seems to be increasing. It could be tied into the case of arms runner Eugene Hasenfus or Congress's approval of the contras in Nicaragua."

CIA spokesperson Sharon Foster said the agency visits "several hundred" campuses a year, but doesn't keep tabs on how many protests greet their arrival. "We go where we are invited to talk with students who have already expressed an interest," she said.

Demonstrators say they want to inform students as much as protest the CIA's presence. Ravi Jain, a University of Texas graduate student, said the CIA has been "very successful' in its signups "because of the kind of recruiting" the agency uses. "People still see the CIA as protecting the American way of life. We have to go further to change that mindset."

A demonstration at the University of Texas at Austin followed a speech by former CIA agent John Stockwell, who accused the CIA of manipulating the press, overthrowing democracies, installing military dictators and preparing an American invasion of Nicaragua.

Disabled directorize

OTTAWA (CUP) — A newly-formed national organization representing disabled students is gathering information on accessibility and services on the country's campuses.

Frank Smith, an organizer of the National Educational Association of Disabled Students, says NEADS is collecting data for a directory that will survey and compare conditions for handicapped and impaired students across Canada. "From there, we'd like to move into lobbying and advocacy work," said Smith.

Smith said NEADS will hopefully provide the bridge between disabled groups and post-secondary students. "There are a lot of associations out there who would like to do the work that we will do, but don't have the resources to do it themselves," he said.

At a recent inaugural conference in Ottawa, student and administration delegates from about 25 campuses discussed common problems, including accessibility and how to deal with professors. Smith said student participants complained of not being sufficiently consulted by faculty or administrators about their needs.

"There is still a stigma attached to associating with someone who is disabled," said Smith. "We want to ask students what improvements they'd like to see."

Although NEADS is dependent mostly on government grants, Smith is confident the association will prosper. "People want to see their (individual) associations become stronger. As long as our members are interested, we'll be around," he said.

Da Randall, nyet Mowat

VANCOUVER (CUP) — Faculty and students in Vancouver have joined American citizens in condemning the ordered deportation of writer and poet Margaret Randall from the United States.

American-born Randall, who teaches at the University of New Mexico at Alburquerque, is seeking repatriation after living for nearly 25 years in Latin America. But a U.S. Immigration court has denied her immigrant status, arguing that her writings "go far beyond mere dissent" with American foreign policy.

Members of the literary and cultural community have come to Randall's aid, notable members of the writer's rights group PEN International. American authors such as Alice Walker, Norman Mailer and Kurt Vonnegut have supported Randall. as has Canadian writer Margaret Atwood.

Stan Persky, professor of political science at Capilano College, said the Immigration court decision gives Randall legitimate hope for appeal. "It looks like a denial of fundamental freedom," siad Persky, "and this seems to be in conflict with the American constitution."

Suzanne Rose, a rehab medicine student and an executive member of the Latin American Solidarity Committee at the University of British Columbia, also criticized the court decision.

Rose said the deportation order "underscores the U.S. government's fear of facing the truth about Central America, that the people there can and must determine their own destiny."

Randall, who left the United States in the early 1960s, worked as a writer and editor in Mexico and Cuba, then moved to Nicaragua in 1979 in time to witness the overthrow of the U.S.-supported Somoza regime.

Her books Sandino's Daughters and Christians in the Nicaraguan Revolution document the role of women and the Catholic left in the Sandinista victory.