

University mourns Kenneth Ireland

(UNBPRI) Kenneth Ireland, a professor of mathematics and statistics on the Fredericton campus of the University of New Brunswick, died suddenly on Dec. 16 at age 54.

Born in Baltimore, Md., Dr. Ireland held both a BA and PhD from Johns Hopkins University in that city. Before joining UNB in 1971, he held various positions at educational institutions in the United States, including Goucher College also in Maryland, Brandeis University in Massachusetts, Brown University in Rhode Island and Bowdoin College in Maine.

"Johns Hopkins was home to one of the world's leading schools of algebra, algebraic geometry and number theory, and Dr. Ireland was deeply influenced by its great tradition of teaching and scholarship," said Jon Thompson, chairperson of the mathematics and statistics department. "He carried this tradition forward in his life's work with ability, energy and devotion." Knowledgeable across a broad range of mathematics, Dr. Ireland was a major personal resource for many members of his department and was also a gifted expositor. "His inspiring talks in seminars encouraged colleagues to broaden their outlooks and

interests."

Developing innovative teaching materials, curriculum, and techniques were among Dr. Ireland's other contributions. Of particular note are his lectures at workshops and symposia in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia for school and university teachers on curriculum development, lecturing techniques and the use of history and discovery in teaching.

Dr. Ireland not only updated courses extensively when he taught them but also developed many new ones. For instance, he developed and taught a third-year course on the history of mathematics. Working from primary sources as well as secondary expository articles, Dr. Ireland examined the development of concepts in mathematics from ancient to modern times.

In the early 1970s, Dr. Ireland organized a Mathematics Club for undergraduates to stimulate interest in math and locate talent. Over the years, he organized with several colleagues a current literature seminar to encourage members of the math department to speak on new developments in mathematics generally as well as their own research. His more recent academic service

involved membership on such committees as visiting lecturers, library, promotions and tenure, undergraduate curriculum, and graduate studies.

"His scientific articles and books are models of clarity," Dr. Thompson said. A co-author of two books, Dr. Ireland also had articles published in refereed journals, three completed unpublished manuscripts and a fourth work in progress under contract with Springer-Verlag, New York. Dr. Ireland also gave

numerous papers and invited talks at conferences as well seminar lectures at UNB.

During his 20 years at UNB he taught both undergraduate and graduate students and directed several master's theses. Many of his former students in the faculties of arts, science, engineering and administration will remember him from the courses he taught from elementary to advanced levels.

"Dr. Ireland was extraordinarily generous with his time, whether it was to

help a beginning student with a calculus problem, a colleague with a research problem, or a neighbor with cutting and hauling logs out of the woods near his home in Rusagonis," said Dr. Thompson. Also regarded as a talented amateur flautist and musicologist, Dr. Ireland has strong literary interests, which, like his musical interests, ranged from the classical to contemporary.

A memorial service for Dr. Ireland was held at the Rusagonis United Baptist Church on Dec. 19.



Shown is the late Dr. Kenneth Ireland, 1937-1991.

Roman Mureika photo

Job Experience for Tomorrow Program starts

Press Release

Advanced Education and Labour Minister Vaughn Blaney announced December 16 the start-up of the application process for provincially-funded summer jobs.

Blaney also urged municipalities and non-profit groups to apply now for funding through the department to hire students for summer jobs with their organizations.

Student applications for the department's Job Experience for Tomorrow Program are being distributed this week to university and community college campuses, regional department offices and to Canada Employment Centres.

The program is open to university, community college or Grade 12 students who will be attending a post-secondary institution next fall.

Under the JET program, government departments and agencies, municipalities and non-profit groups are reimbursed for the wages of students they hire for the spring and summer. Students will receive \$5.50 per hour under the program, but some may have their wages topped off by participating employers.

Many provincial departments hire students in

addition to those funded under JET. In either case, all provincial student summer hiring will be handled through the Provincial Referral Centre operated this year by the Department of Advanced Education and Labour.

All students wishing a provincially-funded summer job must apply to the referral centre using the special applications. The applications are entered into a computer which matches the appropriate students to the job requests.

Last year the referral centre received more than 12,000 applications. The department created 2,164 jobs through JET. The referral centre also handled the placement for 902 additional summer jobs funded

by other departments for a total provincial placement of 3,066.

Blaney said the department intends to place a greater emphasis this summer on helping students create their own summer job through the Student Venture Capital Program.

"This new emphasis is the result of consultation with student leaders at a meeting earlier this month," Blaney said. "I was pleased by the interest the students showed in this self-employment program."

Under this program, students can apply for an interest-free loan of up to \$3,000 to help them set up a summer business. If they

repay the loan on time in the fall, they receive a rebate equal to 20 per cent of the loan. Last

year, the department helped 78 students set up summer businesses.

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