

UNIVERSITY NEWS BEAT

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Nominations for top teachers

Nominations are invited for the 1984 Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Association (OCUFA) Awards for the recognition of outstanding teachers in Ontario universities.

In selecting candidates for the awards the OCUFA Committee on Teaching Awards considers such areas as course design, curriculum development, organization of teaching programs and other significant forms of leadership in the instructional process.

Teaching, in the context of the OCUFA Awards, embraces virtually all levels of instruction—graduate, undergraduate, continuing education and faculty development.

The nominations can come from individuals, informal groups of faculty or students, faculty associations and college councils.

Although there is no standard form of submission, sponsors should provide sufficient evidence, from as many sources as possible, to make it clear that outstanding work deserving of recognition has been done.

This year's guidelines for the nomination procedure may be seen at, or obtained from, the Educational Development Office at 140 Central Square. Janette Baker, educational development officer, would be pleased to assist anyone interested in submitting a nomination.

Letters of nomination with supporting documentation should be sent to the OCUFA Committee on Teaching Awards, 40 Sussex Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1J7, telephone 979-2117.

The deadline for receipt of nominations is March 31, 1985.

York board games see success

Board games have been selling like hot cakes and when cold winter weather keeps us huddling at home what better to do than while away the hours in educational amusement.

Two York students and a Glendon research group have broken into the market with what appear to be two big winners.

Mots de Tête

A group at Glendon College has come up with a game to challenge even the best-read scholars of the French language. But according to Alain Baudot, co-author and director of le Groupe de recherche en études francophones (GREF), "Mots de Tête" is anybody's game.

Based on a dictionary of over 4,000 rare and slang words collected from the farthest reaches of the French-speaking world, "Mots de Tête" tests the imagination as well as the vocabulary. To win, players must invent the most convincing definitions for words like *beccabunga*, *kiki* and *joujarbe*—and be able to distinguish the correct definition from those invented by the other players.

With sales of 11,000 copies in Quebec alone since it came on the market, the game promises to rival the success of its English progenitor, Larry Zacher's "Slang Teasers" (AardVark Games Inc.). The *Dictionnaire officiel des mots de tête* is, of course, totally original, and something GREF is especially well-equipped to produce.

The unit's research into various aspects of French studies—comparative literature, literary sociology and semiotics—and its collection of thousands of volumes representing the whole of *la francophonie* are unparalleled in North America or Europe, Prof. Baudot claims. The library includes dozens of lexicons and anthologies from which words for the game were selected by Prof. Baudot, his colleague Prof. Claude Tatilon and his research assistant Jean Paradis.

The game has also generated interest abroad. GREF is now working on a second edition for a Paris-based publishing house, Fernand Nathan, which is interested in more Québécois and Acadian words for their continental customers.

While "Mots de Tête" sells for \$12.95, GREF receives only five cents per copy sold. The game is available at the bookstore of the Royal Ontario Museum and at the librairie Champlain.

I.Q. 2000

Mary DiMauro, who continues her BEd at York, and Filomena Rosati, continuing part-time in Fine Arts, developed the natural sequel to Trivial Pursuit as a spin-off of a practice teaching exercise at a local primary school with the help of Playtoy Industries Inc. Trivia for kids, "I.Q. 2000" tests children's knowledge of games and sports, animals, language arts, cartoons and television, heroes and villains, storybooks and fairytales in a series of 2,000 questions based largely on educational texts and primary school readers.

Canadian sales since the game's release in August, 1983 have reached one half million copies. A further two million copies have been sold in the U.K., U.S., Australia and New Zealand (with linguistic adjustments recommended by educators), and Europe (including highly successful translations into German, French and Italian).



Arthur C. Johnson, Professor in Energy Studies

Students must take long view to prepare our energy alternatives

Children born today will witness the end of the oil power era and by 2050 so little will remain that its use will be limited solely to lubrication.

The energy crunches of 1973 and 1979, courtesy of OPEC, have faded in society's collective consciousness and recent cuts in Michael Wilson's Federal budget have all but cancelled wind, solar, biomass, hydrogen and fusion research and development.

This raises serious doubts about our ability to have alternatives prepared when the oil runs out.

"Students have to appreciate (our energy situation) so that where possible they can push government to take the longer point of view," says Arthur C. Johnson, Professor in Energy

Studies and former Executive Coordinator (Technology) at the Ontario Ministry of Energy.

"I try to convey to the students they have to look ahead thirty to forty years in order to... put the technology in place."

Energy is no longer a priority, says Johnson. Surveys in the U.S. indicate only three per cent of the population considers it a major concern. But at the same time estimates of the amount of oil ultimately available for use by humankind have not increased in the past ten years.

Contributing to this feeling of oil wealth is the instability of the OPEC nations which has brought prices down. Our earlier warnings of exhaustion have waned in the face of falling oil consumption during the recent recession. Gasoline price wars in

the midst of the present glut have created an illusion of abundance.

Johnson was science consultant for the TV Ontario series "Energy—Search for an Answer" which has been aired this fall as the foundation of a part-time learning course.

Program topics range from conservation, energy from waste to the promise of fusion power and the series has won a bronze award in New York for educational programs. The fusion program has been nominated for further honours.

Johnson joined York in 1960 as one of the original staff members. He was given the responsibility of specifying and developing plans for the buildings and campus here. After spending several years as Vice-President (Academic Services) Johnson returned to teaching in 1972.

In 1974 Johnson was loaned to the newly formed Ontario Ministry of Energy where he was heavily involved in the development of energy policy, particularly in the area of conservation and future energy alternatives. He was involved with Ontario Hydro looking at rates, system expansion and irradiated nuclear fuel management and sets aside criticism of their present overcapacity situation, saying, "It was astute to have a policy of over-supply of nuclear electricity."

Johnson would not speculate on man's lifestyle in 2050 but in terms of our energy picture he offered a world where petroleum is no longer used as a fuel in industry or transportation. What little there is will be extracted from the oil sands and will contribute only seven per cent of the energy budget.

Fission will supply 20 per cent of the need. (Ontario is a world leader in the production of safe nuclear power.) Seven per cent will come from natural gas with whopping 30 per cent supplied by coal despite its environmental effects.

He hopes fusion will supply ten per cent of the energy budget but emphasizes there is no assurance that it will be profitable or even possible to generate electrical power by that route.

That leaves solar power to supply the remaining 25 per cent of our total energy budget in less than sixty-five years. It now provides a negligible contribution to the energy budget.

Johnson recognizes that the pressure on politicians is to deal with other issues. It is unfortunate that "The number of voters asking for the hydrogen option is zilch!" But he emphasizes, "We have to get on with the alternatives."

Macdonald named President Emeritus



From left to right, R. Bruce Bryden, chairman of the Board of Governors; William C. Found, acting president; John B. Proctor, honorary board member; H. Ian Macdonald and Murray G. Ross, presidents emeritus; J. Tuzo Wilson, chancellor, and front, Floyd S. Chalmers, chancellor from 1968 to 1973.

After ten years as president, H. Ian Macdonald has been granted the title President Emeritus at a dinner held in his honour in December.

Macdonald reminisced on his years at York and commented on his future. "I am continuing teaching because that is the most direct contribution one can make to individual improvement, and I am chairing the Commission on the Financing of Elementary and Secondary Education in Ontario because I believe we have a glorious tradition of public education in Ontario."

Chairman R. Bruce Bryden awarded the title on behalf of the Board of Governors.

"Yours has been a presidency of high profile and together with the accomplishments of so many here at York, you have enhanced York's image and extended its reputation to the national and international community.

"The Macdonald years have brought us leadership by example, the example of dedication, energy, and enthusiasm; the

example of personal warmth and fairness; an example for us all to remember and attempt to emulate in the years ahead", said Bryden.

William G. Davis, Premier of Ontario, remarked in a letter read at the dinner, "As President of York University you have helped guide that institution through a very sensitive and challenging time of fiscal restraint and you have left a legacy of dedication worthy of your distinguished predecessors and those who will come after."

Macdonald summed up by saying, "I do not believe that elitism and equal opportunity should be at cross purposes. Rather, true elitism derives from the maximizing of a country's performance and the performance of its individuals. In turn, that can only be accomplished when we ensure that every individual has an opportunity to achieve his or her best.

"I think we do that well in York. I hope we always will."