

Boos, hiss for new education commission

by Ken Burke

An actress, a dairy company vice-president and a losing Tory candidate have taken the stage for the recently announced Nova Scotia government's commission of inquiry into post-secondary education.

The commission, promised since February of last year, was announced Feb. 9 by Education Minister Terry Donahoe to conduct a "deep, searching, and wide-ranging review" into Nova Scotia's post-secondary education. According to Prof. Peter Butler, advisor to the minister on Post-secondary education, the commission was held up so long partially because, "It took them some time to get exactly the people they wanted on the commission."

Those commissions members are:

- Joan Gregson Evans; a local actress with "over 20 years experience in radio, television, film and stage," Evans is also married to Peter W. Evans, a prominent Tory and Halifax real estate speculator.

- Prof. William S. Shaw; currently head of the department of Geology at Saint Francis Xavier University, Shaw was formerly deputy minister of Mines and Energy from 1979 to 1980 and directed Nova Scotia's offshore agreement with the federal government. He ran as a PC candidate in the '71 provincial elections.

- Rod MacLennan, commission chair; vice-president of the Scotsburn-Brookfield Dairy Group,

MacLennan has a B.Sc. from Dal and a masters in business administration at Dartmouth College. He is also chair of the NS branch of the Canadian Manufacturers Association and a director of Industrial Estates limited.

The university community has reacted quickly to the naming of the commission.

The Saint Mary's university Senate passed a motion on Feb. 14 calling for the inclusion of more people on the commission. Both the Student Unions of Nova Scotia (SUNS) and the Nova Scotia Confederation of University Faculty Associations (NSCUFA) have called for representation of students, faculty, and senior university administration on the commission. According to NSCUFA president Victor Catano, the organization is currently "deciding whether we are to participate in the commission at all." SUNS executive officer Peter Kavanaugh said the request is "probably not very realistic, but we have no choice."

Saint Mary's Senate chair John Chamard said while Senate members felt it was encouraging a commission had been appointed, "It is seen that we would be helping the commission by including people who have more specific experience in the area."

Chamard said the motion was moved out of a desire to "ensure we Chamard said the motion was moved out of a desire to "ensure we get a report that is credible."

Prof. Butler said representation

from the university community would make the commission seem "biased."

"I don't think students will be shortchanged not by being on the commission," said Butler. "All three interest groups (students, faculty, and administration) will be better off not being on it."

However, both SUNS and

NSCUFA see the commission as being biased, despite protestations of impartiality.

"If they exclude three people biased in favour of education, they should exclude three people biased in favour of business," said Kavanaugh.

"All of the individuals have ties to business, and the government,"

said NSCUFA executive officer Howard Epstein of the commission members.

"It adds up to a hope by the provincial government that the commission will suggest restructuring universities so as to best serve the labour market," said Epstein.

Saint Mary's president and chair

continued to page 3



Childerhose/Dal Photo

Hill and McIntyre toast their victory and look forward to 1983.

Public supports post-secondary funding

TORONTO (CUP) — A Gallup poll released Jan. 31 has confirmed the findings of a September poll: Ontarians support increased post-secondary education funding by at least as much as the rate of inflation.

The Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) poll shows people have a "deep and abiding faith in our education system," according to OISE researcher David Livingstone.

OISE is a research group affiliated with the University of Toronto. It conducts a wide range of studies into education issues. A survey undertaken in September for the Council of Ontario Universities, an organization of university presidents, showed 82 per cent of Ontario residents favour increasing funding to universities.

Sixty per cent of 1,050 Ontarians surveyed said they would support cuts to other programs or tax increases rather than education cuts.

Bette Stephenson, minister of colleges and universities, has long

claimed that Ontarians won't accept education funding increases. She has called this "the reality of the budgetary fact."

Other highlights of the study include:

- Two-thirds said job training is a first or second priority for the system and 72 per cent think high schools should provide more work experience and co-op programs;

- Schools provide equal opportunity to all students, according to only 47 per cent of the respondents;

- Training programs should much more strongly encourage women's participation in male-dominated fields, even at the expense of relative opportunities for men, agreed 64 per cent;

- Enrolment should be increased (47 per cent) or maintained (28 per cent);

- Education funding should be increased by at least the rate of inflation, agreed 78 per cent. Livingstone said this percentage is consistent across all socio-economic strata.

Election wrap up

by Alec Bruce

Tim Hill & Susan McIntyre were elected 1983 Student's Council President and Vice President respectively earlier today with 673 votes. They won by a handsome margin of 351 votes over candidates Hartt and Steuter. Candidates Brooks and Stoodley came 3rd with 199 votes, edging the team of Dunn and Tremills by 29.

Candidates elected to the senate are as follows in order of votes

received: Don McInnis with 994, James Warner with 946; Martin Tomlinson with 918; Craig Carnell with 831; and Fred Kamperman with 822.

Arts reps elected are Tom Morrison with 204 votes and Ivor MacKay with 192. Administrative Studies rep elected is Karen Finnemore with 111 votes. Law Society Rep elected is Pamela Reardon with 80 votes.

Polls closed at 2 pm.

Disarmament Referendum — 56.3 % Yes



Tim Hill — Susan McIntyre	673
Chris Hartt — Erin Steuter	322
Winston Brooks — Kurt Stoodley	199
Phil Dunn — Colin Tremills	170

Senate:

Frederick Kamperman
Martin Tomlinson
James Warner
Craig Carnell
Donald McInnes

Arts Society:
Thomas Morrison
Ivor MacKay

Law Society
Pamela Reardon

Administrative studies
Karen Finnemore

Karl Nightingale, Board of Governors
Mike Crystal, Gazette Publishing Board
Glen Johnson, Gazette Publishing Board

Philip Barstead, Science Society
Reza Rizva, Science Society