

Downstairs at the Spanish department

Culture for money

by Lynda Cassels

Get that "please-send-money-gram" ready for dear old Dad now! Commencing in the 1989-90 academic year, Dalhousie's Spanish department will be offering a fun-in-the-sun language and cultural immersion program open to all students for academic credit.

What's more, students need not leave Halifax. The week-long excursion, scheduled to coincide with the high availability of campus audiovisual and other specialized equipment during the February study break, will be entirely in-house, according to a confidential departmental memorandum leaked to the Gazette earlier this week.

The cost to the student is \$850 Canadian. Of this fee, \$50 will go toward capital costs, such as refurbishing the basement of the Spanish house with sunlamps, hot tubs, two whirlpool baths, gaudy posters, and at least .75 cubic yard of imported white sand. The department also expects that due to declining world demand, an abundance of tropical fruit will be available at very cheap prices. Day-old cut flowers and plastic impatiens plants will further enhance the tropical ambience.

Although the destination of the program and other details have yet to be worked out — Spain, Cuba, Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic and Mexico are all favoured alternatives — department chair and program initiator Dr. James Holloway assured the Gazette in an exclusive interview that students will receive an "authentic cultural experience" for their money.

"We can provide students with a more authentic experience than any tour package," Holloway says. He also says parents will sponsor such an educational endeavour because it is safer than the real thing.

"They won't have to worry about the airplane disintegrating in mid-air or their children having to associate with 'undesirables'," Holloway said.

However, mock hijackings and arbitrary incidents of food poisoning are being planned "for the sake of realism".

For students, the advantages are irresistible. Aside from the savoury home-cooked food, Casa Kirk and Ruiz Rioja wines and low-cost dairy products, \$600 of their initial fee, a sort of participation deposit, will be returned to them at the end of the course. Assuming they collect the full \$850 from well-meaning parents, that leaves them with a week of free solarium time and \$600 spending money.

The program appears to be a last-hour response by the department's four and a half faculty members to both academic and economic problems.

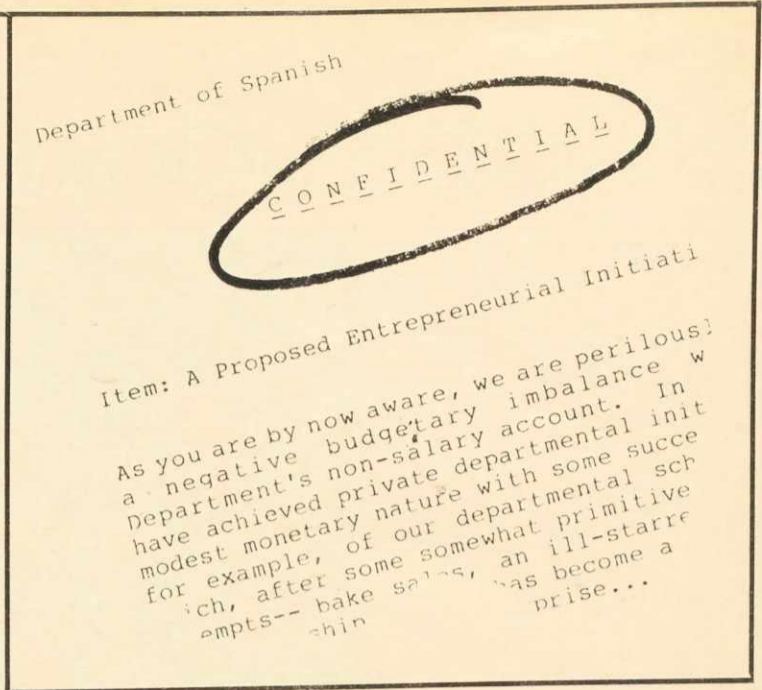
"As you are by now aware, we are perilously close to a negative budgetary imbalance within the Department's non-salary account," the internal memorandum reads. Earlier attempts to

raise funds, primarily through solicitation for charitable donations from family and friends, met with little success. The department barely recovered the cost of issuing donor tax receipts.

The department expects the excursion program, if it is successful, to fatten departmental coffers. Of the \$850 paid by each student participant, \$200 will be divided equally between attending faculty and a special departmental fund. The department is not above admitting the \$600 returned to the students is an incentive to encourage their participation.

Holloway says the program reflects in all aspects the objectives underlying the recent Presidential Statement on the Mission of Dalhousie University, in which President Clark calls for stepped-up cooperation between the academic departments and the private sector.

This is not the first time a university department has taken entrepreneurial initiative. Holloway says someone in Sociology and Social Anthropology recently requested additional funding so they could afford an unpaid departmental cat to catch the mice now running amok in the office walls. The inevitable kittens would then be sold to other departments with a 100 per cent profit margin.



And if you believe this, the Russian Department has some resort property on the Black Sea to sell you, cheap.



Si, it is April 1st once again. But while the Spanish Department's tropical excursion plan may be an April Fool's spoof, the concerns which prompted it are very real.

"We are all very aware of the University's budget difficulties," says Dr. James Holloway, Chair of the Spanish Department.

The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences will have to eliminate \$300,000 from its salary budget next year. The recent ruling of the Nova Scotia Supreme Court against mandatory retirement compounds the problem, Holloway says, as the Faculty can no longer rely on attrition to keep

the payroll within budgetary limits.

Yet despite the university's financial straits, the expanded academic and private sector cooperation suggested by President Clark's Mission Statement sets a dangerous precedent, says Holloway.

"We are being encouraged to link with the private sector in joint venture programs. One of the university's principal functions is to be critical of the society."

While integration into the community is an important facet of university life, the potential for dependence on outside funding could restrict the university's ability to exercise this vital function.

The Presidential Statement on the Mission of Dalhousie University appeared in the January 19 issue of the *Dalhousie News*.

Sex tips in lay language

CONDOM TIPS:

- * Practice while jerking off, before you use them in sexual encounters.
- * Don't give up after one try. It takes a while to get used to them.
- * Squeeze the air out of the tip when you start putting it on.
- * Only buy condoms made of latex — lambskin membrane condoms break more easily.
- * Use lots of lubricant, but only use water-soluble lube like K-Y, Lubafax or Muco. Don't use Crisco, Vaseline or other oil-based products — they damage latex.
- * To avoid leakage, pull out soon after ejaculating, grabbing the cock and condom.
- * If you want to be absolutely safe, pull out before ejaculating.

— From the AIDS Committee of Toronto

BE CAUTIOUS ABOUT

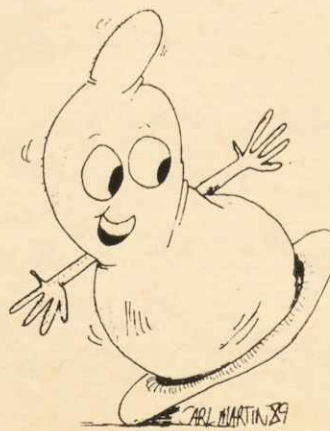
- * Fucking with a condom
- * "Watersports" / scat external
- * Licking or sucking her vagina with open cuts in your mouth
- * Sucking the head of his penis (especially with cuts in your mouth)
- * Oral sex right after brushing your teeth



ENJOY

- * Nipples, toes, tummies, earlobes or necks
- * Mutual masturbation
- * Hugging, massage
- * Kissing
- * Body-to-body rubbing
- * Licking the shaft of his penis

Have safer sex lots (if you want), try new things and have fun! It doesn't take much to protect yourself and your lover(s). P.S. Don't share dirty needles. You can sterilize them with water and bleach.



courtesy of CUP

SAFER SEX TIPS

The basic idea is to avoid getting your partner's blood or cum into your bloodstream. This applies to everyone!

AVOID

- * Fucking without a condom
- * Fisting (anal or vaginal) without latex gloves
- * Licking or sucking her vagina during her period
- * Swallowing urine/scat
- * Sharing unwashed sex toys
- * Rimming

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