
International program prepares students for overseas careers

This fall, Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario, launches a new International Program designed to prepare foreign and Canadian students for careers involving work and travel abroad and, the administration hopes, to produce a group of internationalists who will "become a force for understanding between nations".

The program is the brainchild of its part-time director, Jack Matthews, a Peterborough native who recently ended a ten-year stint as director of Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific in Victoria, British Columbia.

At first glance, the Program does not seem to contain much that is new. The 75 foreign and 25 Canadian students who will be admitted in the first year will choose, like other Trent students, from among the university's 425 courses in 23 fields of study, and will graduate with the same bachelor's or master's degrees.

Only one special course is being developed in connection with the Program and it is open to other students as well: a four-week summer English-language and cultural-immersion program offered in association with Sir Sandford Fleming College. It will cost \$700 and is limited to 30 students.

World affairs colloquium

What sets the International Program apart is a twice-weekly world affairs colloquium organized and run by the students, and its emphasis on volunteer work in the community. As well, students who are not proficient in a second language must study French, Spanish or German to an upper-course level, and all students will be encouraged to take the third year of the four-year honours program at another university.

Aim of Program

In a recent interview, Jack Matthews explained his motives in establishing the International Program:

"I guess it was my experience as director of Pearson College, living in what was really an international village, with 200 students and 50 faculty and wives from about 55 different countries. I realized what an education it was, bringing people together from so many countries for a couple of years.

"When I left I wanted to try to transfer the experience there to the university. I wanted to attract people from around the



Program creator Jack Matthews.

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world who, if they wished to major in chemistry, could do so, or if they wanted to major in comparative development or in languages, could do so. The International Program is trying to bring all of these people together. And up to 15 or 20 per cent of the students at Trent over the next three or four years will be from outside Canada. At least that's our aim."

Jack Matthews goes on to discuss the world affairs colloquium. "The idea is to involve students from different areas in special themes. Let's say we wish to study for a four-week period the influence of Islam on world politics over the next ten years. Well, we will have Muslim students here from Muslim countries, and the main thrust of the program would come from them — trying to make the rest of the university aware of what the religion is, how it is politically oriented, or if it is politically oriented. Then visiting specialists would give us the view on into the next ten years. The idea of the international colloquium is that it is run by the students of the International Program, but will be open to the whole university involved in it."

Jack Matthews has declared his keen interest in increasing the numbers of foreign students at Trent University.

"Two years ago, Don Theall (President of Trent University) and I met, and I said, 'Don, I've got this dream of working in a small university where there is a college system, and introducing a good number of international students, giving some breadth to the education people are getting,' Don said he'd been thinking the

same thing... So that's the reason we're doing it. It's basically a drive to make Trent a recognized place for international education."

For a copy of the prospectus or for further information on the International Program, contact: The Director, The International Program, Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario K9J 7B8 Canada.

Grant helps India produce edible oils

Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan J. MacEachen announced recently that Canada will assist the government of India to improve human nutrition through a project designed to increase edible oil production.

Canada, through funding of the Canadian International Development Agency will provide \$66.7 million in canola oil and technical assistance to the National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB) of India over a four-year period. The NDDDB will sell the oil at market prices and use the revenue thus generated to promote the formation of oilseed-grower co-operatives and to provide them with agricultural inputs (seed, fertilizer, etc.) and technical services. The executing agency for Canada will be the Co-operative Union of Canada (CUC).

Edible oils are an important part of the Indian diet constituting the second greatest source of calories after food grains. India imports more than a million tonnes of oilseeds annually. The producer's return on investment is so low that there is little incentive to increase or improve quality of crops. Because of the low return to producers, oilseeds are often grown on marginal land using outdated technology, a situation which merits restructuring. The Indian government has undertaken to remedy the situation based on a model developed by the NDDDB which successfully increased milk production throughout the country.

Funds generated by the sale of the Canadian canola oil will allow the NDDDB to organize local growers into village-level co-operatives in three of India's principal oilseed-producing states. Crops to be promoted include groundnut, soybean, rapeseed, mustardseed, cottonseed and coconut. By 1990, the project is expected to procure sufficient oilseeds from member growers so that the project will become self-sufficient with enough influence on the market to stabilize prices.