

Leaders will be selected over a weekend

by Tony Tracy

The university has announced the introduction of a new program which will allow ten first year students the opportunity to participate in a broad range of service activities, while completing their undergraduate degrees. The President's Leadership Class will be selected from applicants in their graduating year of high school who are willing to commit themselves to a five-year undergraduate program at Dalhousie.

Jim Neil, coordinator of the program, said these applicants would be screened through a "selection weekend" which would take place over the summer at Dalhousie. Students would be selected according to academic ability as well as willingness to be involved in service activities while studying the concept of service to society.

Neil said high school graduates who are applying to Dalhousie for the upcoming years will be receiving information on the Leadership Class early in April and will be invited to apply in writing to the program. These written applications will be screened to determine if the student fits the required criteria of the program, and potential participants are invited to the "selection weekend" at which the final decisions will be made. Neil said some details of the program remain to be worked out.

These ten students will receive one year of tuition free, and will live in their own special residence on campus. In return, the students commit themselves

to spending an extra year achieving their undergraduate degrees while participating in various service activities, ranging in the first year from work with the ground crew at Dalhousie to working in the office of a university department or the Student Union. Students would be expected to maintain a normal course load at the same time.

In the following years, students would work as volunteers in such places as senior citizens' homes, day cares, and other community organizations. They will study larger issues such as the homeless, poverty, suicide prevention, and teenage pregnancy. In their fourth year, they will work overseas in a developing country in a project which would serve a community within a Third World country. During the final year of the program, the students will again work on the Dalhousie campus, involving themselves in the coordination of projects for junior members of the President's Leadership Class.

The university describes the course as being one which will allow students to push themselves "beyond the conventional boundaries of learning to become tomorrow's skilled problem solvers, innovators, and leaders". Classes in "leadership" will complement the program throughout the five years. This elite group of students will be "better equipped for employment in leadership roles in the future" than students enrolled in a regular undergraduate program, according to a university press release on the class.



PHOTO: IAN MARDON

Check out the listings regularly for new employment opportunities.

Got a job? Ya need initiative!

by Brian MacDonald

Besides worrying about term papers and exams, March is the month when most students begin to think seriously about summer jobs. "There are a lot of students coming here this month," says Barry Doyle of the Canada Employment Centre on Campus.

Although there are still many jobs which haven't been filled yet, some large and out-of-province businesses have already recruited for their summer labour needs. "A lot of the larger companies need time to organize," says Doyle.

According to Doyle, the most noticeable new trend in summer employment has been the increase in the number of planting companies recruiting through the centre. "The companies probably had good results with workers from Nova Scotia and decided to increase their recruiting."

Although the centre offers a variety of services, the most

important factor in getting a job is still the students' own initiative. "Students should come to the office at least once a week, since we average about six new listings a day for permanent or summer work."

The biggest misconception most students have when looking for a summer job "is the idea that if a job listing doesn't specify a particular educational background, the student doesn't have a chance at the job." Doyle acknowledges that recruiters do require a background in disciplines such as chemistry or geology, but says there are many businesses which are hiring students from all backgrounds. "Just because these jobs don't specify arts students in their recruiting posters doesn't mean they won't hire an arts student," says Doyle.

The Canada Employment Centre on Campus will close for the summer on April 15. By then, all summer job placements will be done through the Canada Employment Centre for Students on Hollis Street.

Citizens fight against

When U.S. President Ronald Reagan arrives in Toronto this June, a group of Canadians will be there with a warrant for his arrest.

The same Canadians also plan to arrest the leaders of Canada, Great Britain, France, Japan, Germany, and Italy for their crimes against humanity as they gather in Toronto for the Group of Seven Nations summit.

Billed as the "Citizen's Arrest of the Official Terror Network", the activists will be taking part in a three-day tribunal inquiry into the international crimes of the seven nations.

Using Canadian law and United Nations conventions, the tribunal will indict the seven government leaders for crimes of poverty, war, torture, the arms race, pollution, homelessness, and genocide from Northern Ireland to Micronesia.

"These seven nations are basically an economic group waging an ongoing war against everything — the environment, our children, and the planet as a whole," said Ken Hancock, tribunal organizer from the Alliance for Non-Violent Action.

Witnesses from around the world will testify at the tribunal from June 9-12. The tribunal is intended, in part, to ensure the seven nations adhere to international human rights standards, such as the Nuremberg laws, making participation in crimes against humanity a criminal offense.

refugees will testify against the seven nations before a jury. The embassies of each country have been invited to send a defense attorney to defend them, but so far none have responded.

The citizen's arrest will be an act of non-violent obligation under international law. Organizers expect Canadian security officials to arrest them, possibly before they attempt to deliver the warrant.

"Any desire to squash this kind of resistance is going to be handled diplomatically through the court, but there will certainly be an overt use of force," says Hancock.

In a way, he says, the action is theatre, as well as practical and political action.

"The whole point is, the summit they're having is theatre as well," he said. "It's an event put on to sell themselves to the public."

In the tribunal, witnesses and prosecuting attorneys will cite international agreements Canada has ratified, such as the U.N. Conventions on Human Rights and Against Torture, which decree no signing country will provide safe haven for torturers, and will deport suspects to their countries of origin.

The tribunal will also use Bill C-71, the War Criminals Act, which gives immigration officials power to bar from the country those known to engage in war crimes.

Hancock says the best result of the tribunal would be to show the War Criminals Act cannot be used fairly if the government applies it selectively to fit its political agenda.

"Canada is obviously not going to prosecute its allies," he said, adding, "Obviously, they never meant to apply it to themselves."

Witnesses will testify at the tribunal in several categories. Three sections will focus on human rights. Another will deal with damage to the environment and human health. One will concentrate on "what we call 'undefensible nuclearism' — the whole chain of nuclear terror and the destruction to the environment," says Hancock. A final testimony will focus on economic crimes — crimes against the poor in the face of unchecked military spending.

Native testimony against the Canadian and U.S. government will be a strong element in the tribunal. With much international attention focused on South Africa's white-minority rule, and not the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, Canada's treatment of its Native people is often ignored.

Few Canadians, for instance, know the South African government studied the Canadian reserve system as a model for the apartheid bantustans.

Jury members in the human rights section will include John McMurtry, a University of Guelph professor; Chris Levan, from Queen's Theological College; Art Solomon, a Native elder; and Charles Roach, a lawyer from the Toronto black community.

Other "prosecuting attorneys" will include Philip Agee, ex-CIA agent and author, Mira Anaya, from the El Savador Human Rights commission; and Philip Berrigan, an activist who, as a member of the Ploughshares 8, has served time in prison for taking part in non-violent actions against U.S. militarism, including the hammering in of nuclear warhead nose-cones.

The tribunal may also include testimony by children — possibly pre-filmed due to the intimidation of a public forum — and others on the psychological terror of growing up with nuclear weapons, the subject of a recent McMaster University study.

Another speaker will be Claire Culhane, Canada's most outspoken prison abolitionist and prisoner's rights activist. Culhane sees the tribunal as an opportunity to raise issues often ignored within the social justice movement, such as the torture of Canadian prisoners and the prison system as a \$6 billion profit industry.

If the tribunal is going to discuss international human rights abuses, she says, it must cast an eye to the Canadian prison system.

In 1982, Archibault prison in Québec was the scene of one of the worst prison riots in Canadian history. Three guards were killed; three prisoners committed suicide. "The prison was closed for 10 days, and the guards took out their fury on prisoners," including violent and

The tribunal uses language the organizers feel most accurately describes the roots of our system and its effects on the planet's population. "Terrorism is a word used in our society towards non-state actions — that's 'retail' terrorism, as opposed to 'wholesale' terrorism of governments," he said.

"The elite never refer to actions they do as terrorist. They say it's for democracy and freedom," said Hancock. That's part of our responsibility in holding a particular event to show what is being done."

Joe Clark recently referred to Israel's repression of Palestinian protests in occupied West Bank and Gaza as human rights violations under standards — detention without charge, excessive force against civilian protests, torture.

government
'wholesale'
terrorism

by Mike Gordon
Canadian University Press

humiliating physical and sexual abuse, she said.

The riot was so bad it sparked an investigation by Amnesty International, the International Federation of Human Rights (Paris), and the American Civil Liberties Union.

"If they talk about torture in other countries, it's about time they talked about it here," Culhane says.

She will also speak to Canada's international obligations and complicity in war crimes. "I will be linking up Canada's role in Vietnam and its ongoing role — as a colony of the Americans, kowtowing to Pentagon policy, acting as what I call 'friends of the butcher' — with our role in Chile, Palestine, Nicaragua, South Africa."

Summit leaders will downplay the tribunal as having no authority. But then again, political and religious leaders have a long tradition of arrogance towards the public whom they claim to represent," says Hancock.

"The system is geared so decisions are left in the hands of an economic elite who profit from them," said Hancock. "There's not much responsibility at a popular level."

"If that's a standard, it's one we could use against the many actions of the seven nations," said Hancock.

But while the tribunal will focus on U.N. charters and the War Criminals Act, he says he wants to avoid using a totally legal framework. "We don't want to forget there's also a moral international consensus that it's wrong to slaughter millions of people, wrong to let people freeze to death in the streets of Canada while we talk about nuclear subs."

"I don't want to see us lose that, or give it less importance, just because it isn't written down. It isn't written in U.N. charters," said Hancock. "It exists in people's consciences."

International law also outlines the law of omission — refusal to act and resist committed war crimes. The point of the tribunal is not merely to condemn world leaders, but to question our role in letting these crimes continue.

"To know these policies, it's our responsibility to resist them," says Hancock. "We know if we do nothing, we enter the realm of criminality and violence too."

"Not only is the emperor naked with power, but the emperor is a terrorist."

"We're not just looking at war as a conflict between nations, but as a condition of the economic and political system these men run," Hancock said.

Hancock sees the Hans Christian Andersen fable "The Emperor's New Clothes" as a metaphor for the leaders' true nature. "Not only is the emperor naked with power," he said, "but the emperor is a terrorist."

Speakers ranging from Native Canadian to Central American

The Bill was passed in September 1987 after the Deschenes Commission revealed evidence of former Nazi war criminals living in Canada. But the time the Bill passed, it was amended to include any crimes against people at any point in history.

"So we say we agree — don't let the seven countries in," says Hancock.

The Bill also provides for prosecution of anyone involved in war crimes against Canadian citizens.

ending supply of feminist drizzle in the Gazette. We challenge the staff of the Gazette to conduct a survey to see just how many men and women consider the present Gazette format a true representation of what the students want to read. We are quite confident that our opinion is shared by most of the university population.

Again, on the inside cover of the Gazette, it boasts a circulation of 10,000. Come on, let's face reality here. The Gazette is deposited or dumped in high-traffic areas for free. Charge a nickel a paper and your circulation would fall to about 100 papers, we're sure.

What it comes down to is that we want the Gazette to be more responsible to the Dalhousie population and publish what the rest of Dalhousie wants to read, not what the biased Gazette staff seems to want to print. We implore anyone who shares our opinion to please write in an express your opinion to clean up this paper.

Michael Lee
Paul Babin

letters

Men say no thanks

To the Editors:

We are sick and tired! Every time we pick up a new issue of the Gazette, we are overwhelmed by the volume of "Radical Feminist" and "Gay Rights" articles. Is it just us, or have we had enough? Sure, these minorities consider these articles to be of great importance, but what about the rest of us? To saturate the paper, every issue, with same drawn-out, dried-up issues for the writing pleasure of these minorities is giving we readers a pain.

This is our third year at Dalhousie and each year we have waited patiently for a new editor to clean up this paper and start printing material that caters to more than the Gazette staff and their small circle of friends.

On the cover page of your own paper you state that you "reserve the right to refuse any material submitted of a racist, sexist, homophobic, or libelous nature",

yet you continuously publish the endless feminist crusades. You cannot possible content that these articles are not sexist. Almost every article published contains sexist material against men. We (men) are all assumed to have some sort of inborn hatred for women, a desire to dominate and abuse them. This is simply not true, and it sounds pretty damn sexist to me!

Don't take me wrong, attacking the issues is what we want to read, but why not attack something new, something the "majority" of Dalhousie students want to read, instead of the endless feminist rhetoric we are tired of reading. Give us a paper that tells us what our student council is doing on a regular basis, besides just election day. Tell us what is happening in our own city, like city council decisions, development projects, and things that affect all of us at Dalhousie and in Halifax.

We would be willing to bet that most students would be interested in knowing what portion of their Student Union fees go towards funding the never-

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Jello Show", a huge success in everyone's eyes. One prominent topic has already been implemented through the DSU, the peer counselling or buddy system which will place volunteers from upper years with first-year students next September to help students adjust to university life and to foster a sense of involvement to Dal. As well, a mentor system of professors assisting students in academic as well as social matters was discussed. Registration is already being improved and a course evaluation system that works for the students is underway.

The symposium is not the end of the road for a reassessment of the undergraduate experience but a beginning. From the three-day session we have established various programmes already, but more importantly, we have established a dialogue that provokes discussion amongst all segments of Dalhousie's community.

Hugh Fraser
Member, Symposium
Organizing Committee