

# Found challenges Bovey Commission's

Part two of Graham Thompson's interview with York's acting president William Found. Found discusses Bovey's proposals on long-distance education and accessibility to post-secondary education.

**Q.** What about the number of part-time students?

**A.** The increase in part-time—if you consider both day, night students, and summer—it's just about kept pace with the increase of full-time students.

The greatest pressures have been during the day and in the summer. We haven't had the increased demand at night that we had some time ago.

These things go in waves. They're also related to, we think, to economic cycles. During times of fairly high unemployment, it appears that there is an increased demand for people coming in the daytime. During the times when there are more jobs available, there seems to be more demand for people coming to places like Atkinson.

**Q.** You mentioned in your brief that you were not really happy about the commission's questions on long distance education. Why is that?

**A.** Well, I hope we didn't sound too snarky there; we didn't mean to. We felt there was a suggestion in the commission's report that somehow or other part-time students located in remote areas could be treated with some special technology; television courses, or something.

That really goes against the philosophy we've had since the establishment of Atkinson College, which is that part-time students deserve as much attention as full-time students. And we

didn't like the suggestion that this type of demand was of secondary importance. It's not of secondary importance. Some of our very best students start at age 40 or 50.

Also, we, as yet, haven't had demonstrated to us that television is really a substitute for classroom contact.

We've had Canadian Distance Education operating for a number of years now. They monitor that and do some experimentation with telecommunications at Atkinson College.

I think the conclusion so far is that television can be a good supplement to normal teaching.

There are much more sophisticated systems that we haven't gone into like two-way television. But some of those are more expensive to operate than having a real live person in the classroom.

Finally, I would like to say that more of the other universities recognize that this is a period of experimentation. We really don't know what the full implications of these development shall be. But to assume that they are going to solve your problems is imprudent.

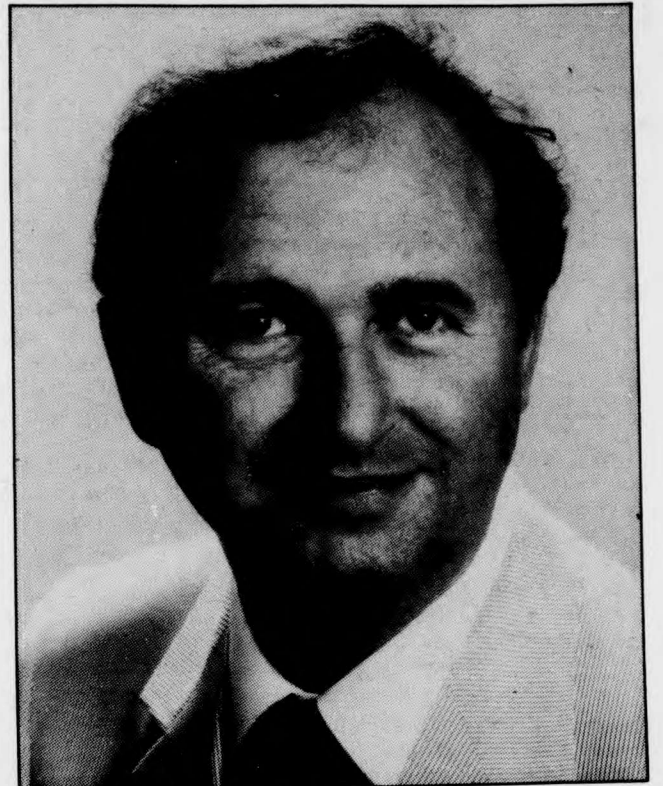
**Q.** In your brief you also said that some of the premises of the Bovey Commission's mandate forced them to ask questions which ultimately don't make sense. What do you mean by that?

**A.** Well, I think that that particular reference probably came out of a part of our brief where we were addressing the question of accessibility.

**"It's important to keep an eye on the development of new programs and not have unnecessary duplications."**

There was a statement in the commission's report that, somehow or other, you're not going to have to improve funding and you can have a system that's just as good as it is now. We just don't see that that's possible.

"If you're really to have a system that keeps up, we haven't had demonstrated to us that there's a way to make the system better without it costing more money."



Acting President Bill Found

Some of the simplified views give stronger individualized roles to the universities. We don't really see how that's going to help them much. It's important to keep an eye on the development of new programs and not have unnecessary duplication.

But to a large extent universities have to do the same kinds of things. Everyone has to teach English; do research.

Probably the things that universities have in common with each other predominate over those things we have that are different. It has to be that way.

It's not an industry with specialized production in different places.

Expect the unexpected.

Friday Nights on CBC Stereo,  
embark on a surreal journey to  
the realm of dreams and danger.  
To the point where reality meets  
fantasy, and truth touches illusion.  
Vanishing Point—it's the point of no return.

**VANISHING • POINT**

A series of startling radio plays. Fridays at Midnight.

CBC STEREO 94.1 FM

## Atkinson executives resign

By ZENORA MOHAMMED

The resignations of three executive officers of the Atkinson College Student Association (ACSA) have left the council with a third of its executive seats vacant.

Bernard Bradshaw, ACSA former Director of Internal Affairs, was relieved of his duties July 11, 1984, said Rosamond Rogers, ACSA president, shortly after two other executive officers tendered their resignation. Bradshaw told *Excalibur* in August that he had resigned and was not forced out.

When contacted by *Excalibur*, Rogers, said she felt it was a personal affront and that she was being pressured to leave her office because of racial prejudice. Rogers is black.

Marianne Filice, ex-Director of External Affairs, emphasized that she resigned because she felt her "intelligence and integrity were insulted the the treasurer and President," and because within the ACSA's executive council lies corruption, deceit and total chaos, she said.

Filice said that as Director of External Affairs, her decisions should not have been questioned as long as they were related to her portfolio. She illustrated her point by citing her recent trip to the Canadian Student Federation conference in Edmonton.

Filice decided that she and ACSA Elections Officer Cornell Huggins would attend. Rogers decided that as ACSA president she should also attend. Filice was unhappy with this decision because she said Rogers only spent two days at the week-long conference.

When the matter was brought before the executive of the council they supported the President.

Herman Fickert, Director of Community Relations also resigned from the council.

"The resignations have been a positive thing for ACSA," said Huggins. "It's not who goes out but who stays" that is important," he continued.