

# Business retreat for MBA students

by Andy Poon

Last Saturday, Dalhousie business professor Ramon Baltazar and 31 MBA students took to Waverley's "Inn on the Lake" for a weekend retreat to simulate a real world corporate strategy building session.

The decision to have an off-campus session came from the suggestion of the school's Executive-In-Residence, Pierre Vallee. Prior to coming to Dalhousie, Vallee was a senior partner of the consulting division of the giant international accounting and man-

agement consulting firm, KPMG. Having seen the value of these sessions in his twenty plus years in corporate Canada, he suggested its application in building future managers in the MBA program.

Over the two days, the students tackled issues in business policy implementation and control. For the students, the highlight of the retreat was the participation of the actual managers of companies whose issues were being examined. Kirk McIntyre, Senior Vice-President of the Group Division of Maritime Life Assurance Company, said he was "very impressed

with the efforts of the students."

"I will certainly take the suggestions and recommendations that have been made back to my company and carefully examine them in our future meetings," McIntyre said.

Dal's business program was also a topic of discussion during the weekend as students grappled with the future of the school in Nova Scotian education. The direction of the curriculum and the recent rationalization concerns were discussed by the students with a number of professors and the director of the School of Business

Administration, Leonard MacLean, in attendance.

And what did the students think of the retreat? As one student said, "Although there was a lot of work and stress involved, to prepare the cases and make presentations, the live cases made it worth it."

Another student, Bruce Levitt, agreed, "Having the actual manager (Kirk McIntyre) there definitely made the case more real to

me." And when asked if an off-campus retreat should be repeated, he said, "Yes, definitely! Because the off-campus situation makes you more focussed on the task at hand."

The retreat occurred at no charge to the school, as all the students contributed fifty dollars towards accommodations and meals with the remainder contributed to Mr. Vallee.

## 'Night of Firsts' at Dal

by Trynda Thomas  
and Deanna MacDonald

On Saturday, March 23 the Black Canadian Students Association of Dalhousie held a cultural extravaganza entitled "Night of Firsts". This evening recognized Black firsts in Nova Scotia, who pioneered in their specific fields.

Since the motto of our mother organization, The Cultural Awareness Youth Group of Nova Scotia is "community development through youth education", we felt that an event such as this would not only promote awareness among our youth, but also among the general public.

The committee researched the material at various libraries, organizations and also received input



Dal photo: Dana Cole

from individuals who have a proficient background in Black Nova Scotian history.

The performances were well received.

Artist/author David Woods delivered his "Dream Speech" for Black Nova Scotians today and their role in society.

The fifty-voice choir enchanted us with their rendition of "All in

the Same Boat" and "Together We Stand."

The newly formed Dalhousie Black Jazz Dance group closed the show with a standing ovation. All the performers were outstanding.

The Black Canadian Students' Association did a great job of portraying Black Firsts and in maintaining the crowd's attention throughout the entire evening.

## HONOUR AWARDS FOR GRADUATING STUDENTS

The Dalhousie Student Union is now accepting applications for Honour Awards for GRADUATING Students

The Awards include the following:

**Malcolm Honour Award**  
**The Gold "D"**  
**The Silver "D"**  
**The Certificates of Distinction**

Applications for these awards can be picked up from and dropped off to the Student Union Office, Room 222 Dalhousie SUB

For more information about these awards Contact:

**Patti Dow**  
**Room 222**  
**Dalhousie SUB**  
**494-1106**

**Deadline for applications is March 28th at 4:00 p.m.**

## ATTENTION FEMALE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

HELP!!!!

WERE YOU A UNIVERSITY DROP-OUT\*?

If so, please contact us regarding our research study.

NOTE: This will not interfere with exam pressures.  
Contact NOW..... follow-up at your convenience.

<b>HALIFAX</b> Meredith Russell C/O Breton House 422-2666	<b>TRURO/ BASS RIVER</b> Margaret Grant 893-7118 or 647-2929	<b>WOLFVILLE</b> Margaret Grant or Megan Longstaff C/O Psych Dept., Acadia 542-2201
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\*We define 'High School Drop-out' as someone who quit school for at least part of a school year and who subsequently did not complete that academic grade on schedule.

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