

"Dean Who" to head Law Faculty at Dal

con't. from p. 1
 pleasure to going back to the Maritimes. I'm one Maritimer who has returned, and it is a tremendous example when someone gives up an important job to come back," he said in an interview.

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A. MacKay of Dalhousie feels that this university is fortunate in acquiring a man with "such a distinguished background" to fill the position of Dean of the Law School.

MacDonald was born in Montreal in 1928. His father was a McGill professor who hailed from Nova Scotia, and the young MacDonald opted for St. Francis Xavier for his undergraduate education, graduating in 1949. He gained his LL.D. at Dalhousie Law School in 1952, and masters of law degrees at the University of London in 1954 and 1955 at Harvard.

He taught at Osgoode Hall Law School in Toronto from 1955 to 1959 before going to the University of Western Ontario where he lectured for two years. In 1961 he went to U of T and was appointed dean in 1967, replacing the more dynamic

Cecil Wright. Wright died suddenly about one month after MacDonald's appointment. He had intended on remaining at the faculty in a teaching role.

Ironically, R. T. Donald, MacDonald's predecessor at Dalhousie, died just after MacDonald was appointed last fall.

MacDonald was chosen by a committee of five, consisting of Prof. A. L. Foote (chairman), Prof. William H. R. Charles, Prof. H. L. O'Brien, Prof. K. B. Jobson and graduate student C. E. Danielson. This committee was formed after the first one dissolved due to their inability to agree on any one recommendation for the position.

Vice-President MacKay was noncommittal on the question as to why MacDonald was selected over members of the Dal faculty. He also felt it unwise to mention any others considered

for the position. MacDonald is "the man most suitable for the position," according to MacKay.

MacDonald was a member of Canada's UN delegation in 1965, 1966, 1968, and since then has been used as a consultant by the federal Department of External Affairs. His chief concern lies in supporting the attempt by major capitalist powers to establish a UN high commissioner for human rights.

His other important government position came in 1967 when he was appointed chairman of the Canada Pension Plan Advisory Committee, a body which reviewed pension legislation for the minister of health and welfare. The committee included representatives from Canada's private insurance and pension fund industry.

MacDonald serves on the

Canadian Executive International Law Association, the national UNICEF Committee and the National Council of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs. He also edits the U of T Law Journal.

MacDonald said he welcomes the opportunity for students to work in legal aid plans, but he believes the schemes should be closely co-ordinated with teaching programs and more closely supervised than some existing legal aid projects.

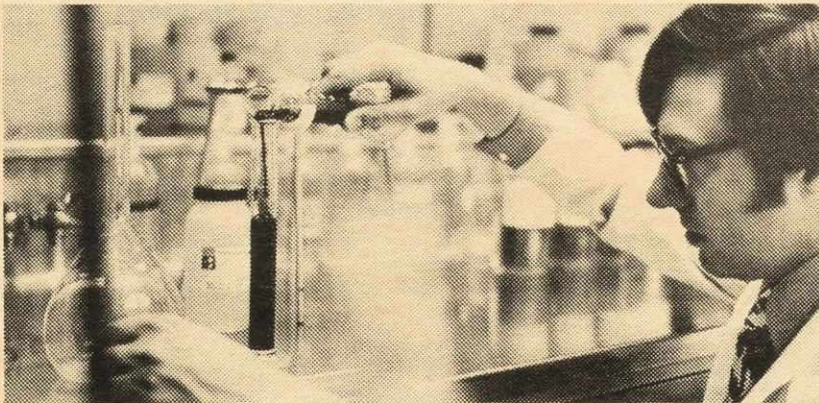
On the question of student participation, he believes the Dalhousie school now has a workable system, and he hopes to work within it, conceiving of no major changes.

"Well, we have students on the faculty council here (U of T) and on all the major committees, and it is a very happy situation," he said. "It creates a kind of atmosphere which is very useful. I believe the same is true at Dalhousie where students have long been on major committees and where there are the closest relationships between students and faculty members. There are no real problems in this area. They all appear to have been solved."

A spokesman for the U of T Student Law Society said Toronto law students will write their Dalhousie counterparts shortly warning them of problems to anticipate with MacDonald's deanship. Most active law students appear glad to see him go and hope for an improvement with the new dean who is now being chosen by an eleven-member committee which includes two students.

MacKay, however, who has known MacDonald since their law school days at Dalhousie, feels these suspicions are unjustified. He said, "There's no doubt in my mind he'll fit in with faculty and students."

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