

Symposium told universities under funded

By JEFF FRYER
Brunswickan Staff

Last Friday the Graduate Students Association of UNB and the UNB School of Graduate Studies and Research sponsored a Symposium on Graduate Studies. Also participating were faculty members from Memorial University and Dalhousie. The event was well attended by graduate students and faculty alike.

UNB President Dr. Downey spoke first at the symposium on the Federal-Provincial agreement on higher education which expires March 1983. He gave a number of methods the Federal Government could use to maintain funding but

said 4 conditions must be met.

- 1) Levels of funding must be adequate. Since Universities have been underfunded for the past 10 years, the status quo is not good enough.
- 2) Universities must be able to maintain their autonomy.
- 3) Funding must be stable from year to year and be a long term commitment.
- 4) Federal and provincial roles in support of higher education must be comparable. There can be no unilateral scheme.

Dr. Downey also urged that the Federal government be made a full partner in the sponsorship of higher education in Canada. Although education is constitutionally a provincial responsibility, the fact that the federal govern-

ment has massively supported higher education in the past, should be recognized. Downey stated that he favors regional federal-provincial higher education councils which would advise both levels of government as to the level of funding they should grant.

Following Dr. Downey's speech, a panel discussion was held with the subject being, "Should the Graduate Schools of the Atlantic Provinces be involved in the education of overseas graduate students." Dr. K. Leffick, Dean of Graduate Studies at Dalhousie University led off the discussion, by delivering a speech saying the real question was how many foreign students should be allowed and on what

financial terms. At Dalhousie approximately 15% of all full time graduate students are overseas students and this is a percentage the University attempts to maintain. Dr. Leffick supported the differential fee of \$1,000 per year added to overseas students' tuition fees to help offset the costs of providing a college education but opposed large hikes in this fee. He pointed out that Ontario's decision to raise the differential fee by \$2,000 per year until the fee hits \$8,000 means that only those foreign students who are rich or government supported will be able to afford to come to Ontario.

Dr. John Scott of Memorial University spoke on Memorial's role in educating foreign students. He spoke on the possibility of MUN supervising graduate work in overseas countries rather than making the students come to Newfoundland. Dr. Scott foresaw a number of possible advantages including the attracting or more foreign students, widening the horizons of Newfoundland students, and a larger international reputation for Memorial. However, increased costs and problems with supervising students could be drawbacks. Dr. Scott concluded by saying the issue should be examined more closely.

Barry Toole, an official of the New Brunswick government,

and Tom Hopkins, a graduate history student, both spoke in favor of allowing overseas graduate students into Canadian universities.

The symposium wrapped up with a debate. The resolution debate was "That undergraduate programs must be given a higher priority than graduate programs in the allocation of scarce university resources." Speaking in favor of the motion were UNB professors Dr. John M. McLaughlin and Dr. E.N. West. Opposing them were Dr. D.B. Burt of the Biology Department, and graduate student Carol Ferguson.

The arguments used by Professors West and McLaughlin against the graduate program were that the graduate program is too costly and serves to educate the "pampered elite." Also, Dr. West stated that there is an oversupply of graduate students.

Dr. Burt and Carol Ferguson disputed these points and argued that cutting back graduate programs would mean cutbacks in research and would result in a shortage of skilled, educated people in Canada.

The audience was asked to vote on who presented their side the best and, by a large margin, Dr. West and Dr. McLaughlin's arguments in favor of the undergraduate program were chosen.

TV has changed politics

By GORDON LOANE
Brunswickan Staff

Television can make or break a politician. That's the view of political analyst and author Dalton Camp, who told a Saint Thomas University audience, that television has created the need for modern political parties to choose "charismatic leaders." Political parties place less emphasis on political competence and leadership, and more emphasis on a political leader who has a flare for the media.

Camp said if federal leadership conferences were held today, the Liberals might choose John Turner and the Conservatives might choose Brian Mulrooney. Both have a flare for the media.

Speaking on political leadership in the 1980's, Camp said television has changed, in fact has had a dramatic affect, on the political process. There is a

greater obsession with leadership and personalities and less emphasis on party policy. Media attention has created a new style of leader Camp said, "leaders gifted in the skill of crisis management, and damage control."

Camp said television has had a dramatic effect on the listening audience and political leaders with skill exploit the media and the audience. Television has "reduced the attention span of the average citizen to twenty or thirty seconds." Camp said, politicians who think accordingly must say something dramatic in that time span or the audience will probably get up and leave the room.

However, Camp said television is changing rapidly and the future may reverse a trend towards charismatic leaders and the trend towards leadership as the key to political suc-

cess.


Camp, commenting on the parliamentary impasse resolved earlier this week, said it could have been prevented if both the opposition and the government had been more willing to compromise.

There has been a tendency in recent years to speed up the parliamentary process by introducing more sweeping legislation in one package.

Camp sided with the opposition and said the omnibus energy bill introduced was "not fair game" as it was all too encompassing. The energy bill acutely affects the regional interests of Canada, particularly Western Canada, Camp said. The bill "should as a result be examined more slowly and at length" before it passes the House of Commons, Camp said.

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