

The Grad ZONE

by Denis Woo
GSA President, 95-96

First things first. Happy New Year! I sincerely hope that you all had a very pleasant and relaxed vacation.

Starting this term, the GSA will use this weekly column to communicate with the graduate student population here at UNB. To find out more about the GSA and receive current information on upcoming events, you can subscribe to our listserver (gsal - see instructions in the handbook) or access the GSA web site via <http://www.unb.ca/GSA>. If you have any information relevant to graduate students, please feel free to send it to us and we will make every effort to have it published in this column.

A large number of departmental societies applied for and received societal operating grants this year. These societies covered 65% of the total graduate student population. It's great to see students getting more involved and it would be even greater if next year every faculty and department had a society.

For more information on starting a departmental society, feel free to contact us either through e-mail or your Faculty representative. If your society was late in applying for the 95-96 operating grant or is just getting started, it is always possible for your society to apply for a special event grant to help cover the cost of any event that you put on which is open to the (graduate) student population at large.

One of our candidates for the position

of 2nd VP has decided, for personal reasons, to withdraw from the race. Therefore, by acclamation, our new 2nd VP will be Frank Biraudeau. Frank is a Chemical Engineering graduate student who has been involved with the GSA since the beginning of the current academic year.

Although there will not be a by-election for the position of 2nd VP, there will still be a by-election on Jan. 23-25 for the position of treasurer. Nomination forms for this position must be received before Jan. 23 if you wish to run for the position. Voting will take place during normal office hours at the GSA office.

The fourth annual GSA Conference on Student Research will be taking place April 16 and 17 at the Wu Conference Center. Ever since its humble beginnings 3 years ago, the popularity of this very successful endeavor has been increasing every year. There will be cash prizes for the best presenters in the Arts and Sciences. Like last year, there will be presentations and poster presentations and anyone interested may submit an abstract for either by March 8. For more information, contact your faculty rep. or check out the nearest bulletin board.

Regular office hours are Tues. 11-1 pm, Wed. 11:30-1:30 pm, and Thurs. 11-1 pm. That's all, folks! Have a nice day.



by Geoff Peters

The general public tends to refer to "harvesters" as any machine which harvests trees in the forest. Usually there are several different types of machines which harvest timber, but only a couple are denoted as harvesters.

The first type of harvester is what is commonly referred to as a "single-grip" harvester. This machine performs the function of three or four machines, and has several advantages and disadvantages. The machine is usually tracked or wheeled, with power to all wheels. It has a large boom with a harvesting/processing head mounted on the end of the boom. This boom allows the machine operator to reach into a group of trees to select the one he/she wishes to harvest, without driving the entire machine in. The operator places the head up against the tree, and activates the saw in the head which fells the tree. Then the tree is flipped horizontally, and pushed through a series of knives, which strip (hopefully) all of the branches off. Another saw known as a topping saw, cuts the top off at a length predetermined by the onboard computer of the machine. This top diameter is determined by the specific product which the machine is supposed to be trying to obtain. After this, the topping saw sections the tree into predetermined lengths (i.e., 4 foot, 8 foot, 16 foot, 32 foot, etc.), and leaves a neat pile of wood for the extraction method. The advantages of this method are numerous - slash and branches can be removed at desired spots, creating a mat of branches for the machine to travel on, minimizing environmental impact. Neat piling results in a more productive operation less time "grabbing" for wood. Also the single-grip harvester leaves all of the slash in the woods resulting in valuable nutrients being left on site. Some disadvantages include the price (>\$250,000) and the ability to operate only in softwood stands or relatively small hardwoods. Unfortunately, these machines are not able to operate effectively in B.C., due to the extreme slopes and large size timber. Also, the four functions (felling, delimiting, topping and bucking) in one machine mean the chance of component failure is greatly increased.

More Forest Breeze on page 9

Pride The Brunswickan would like to clarify that Raphael Ly has no association with Pride.

Claire G. Cupples, PhD
Associate Professor, Biology

Professor's DNA "repair shop" may help save human lives

"DNA is a genetic database that defines who we are, which is why it is so useful in crime solving," says biology professor Claire Cupples of Concordia University. "Like any database, it must be up-to-date and error free."

Cupples' research on DNA repair in the bacterium *Escherichia coli* contributes to a broader understanding of how certain enzymes snip out damaged sections of genes and fill in the gaps with correct genetic information, thus keeping the DNA "database" current and accurate. In time, this work may provide additional clues about why defects in DNA repair in human cells lead to cancer. That is why the National Cancer Institute of Canada is funding Dr. Cupples' research.

For Maria Koutroumanis, a trilingual second year MSc student in biochemistry, working with Dr. Cupples and being trained in the very latest molecular biology techniques represents "...an outstanding opportunity to get hands-on training in an environment that allows me to develop and prepare for the real world."

And there are other valid reasons Concordia is the right university for so many people: more than 160 undergraduate and graduate programs with strong reputations in business studies, communications, psychology, fine arts and engineering; a college system offering a personalized approach to education; a friendly atmosphere with professors who are known for their accessibility; a remarkable choice of programs on a full- and part-time basis; and two campuses with a student body truly representative of Montréal's diverse population.

When you consider that Concordia is also known for being in touch with the real world, you can be assured that what you learn here will go farther out there.



1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.
Montréal (Québec) H3G 1M8
Tel: (514) 848-3800
Fax: (514) 848-2812

Real education for the real world

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

Doctoral Programs

- Administration
- Art Education
- Biology
- Building Studies
- Chemistry
- Civil Engineering
- Communication
- Computer Science
- Educational Technology
- Economics
- Electrical and Computer Engineering
- History
- Humanities - Interdisciplinary
- Mathematics
- Mechanical Engineering
- Physics
- Psychology
- Religion
- Special Individualized Programs
- English
- Geography (Political Science Option)
- History
- Judaic Studies
- Mathematics
- Master in the Teaching of Mathematics
- Mechanical Engineering
- Media Studies
- Open Media
- Painting and Drawing
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Political Science
- Printmaking and Photography
- Psychology
- Public Policy and Administration
- Religion
- Sculpture, Ceramics and Fibres
- Sociology
- Special Individualized Programs

Master's Programs

- Administration
- Aerospace
- Anthropology
- Applied Linguistics
- Applied Social Science
- Art Education
- Art Therapy
- Art History
- Biology
- Building Engineering
- Business Administration
- Business Administration (Airing & Aviation Option)
- Business Administration (Executive Option)
- Chemistry
- Child Study
- Cinema
- Civil Engineering
- Computer Science
- Educational Studies
- Educational Technology
- Economics
- Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Accountancy
- Adult Education
- Advanced Music Performance
- Art Education
- Communication Studies
- Computer Science
- Economic Policy
- Ecotoxicology
- Institutional Administration
- Instructional Technology
- Journalism
- Library Studies
- Sports Administration
- Teaching of Mathematics
- Theological, Religious and Ethical Studies
- Translation

Graduate Diploma Programs

Applications should be received by February 1, 1996 to be considered for Graduate Fellowships.