

U of A sent Daphne Rowed as the student delegate to the Fourth Annual Canadian University Service Overseas Conference held in Ottawa Sept. 30 to Oct. 2. Approximately 130 delegates and observers attended.

By DAPHNE ROWED

Approximately 400 Canadian University Service Overseas volunteers are now working in 29 countries and further programs are being discussed with officials in other countries.

What "type" of person becomes a CUSO volunteer? The attitudes and enthusiasm expressed by those who returned are similar.

Interest in self-education and character development, a spirit for adventure, some feelings of patriotism and nationalism, and a desire to become involved in the world's "revolution and response" have been named.



A CUSO worker is a "functioning" volunteer, though not an official expert. Besides the essential enthusiasm to serve, a good volunteer must be equipped with a particular skill. He must be readily adaptable and flexible enough to be able to "produce" significantly in a foreign and often difficult, situation and environment.

The challenges involved in the overseas positions must be met by an emotionally mature individual; one who demonstrates sensitivity and resourcefulness. He must possess outstanding patience and humility and must learn the subtle difference between kindness and sentimentality.

To assist the volunteers in adapting to their appointments, a brief orientation program is compulsory before departure. For five to six weeks, the volunteers prepare for the approaching cultural adjustments. They study the basic information of their area of assignment, including economical, sociological, and historical backgrounds.

An intensive language training program has also been recently introduced. For example, those who will work in Tanzania, learn some Swahili. Teacher training is provided for graduates lacking such experience.

Upon arrival in many of the areas, volunteers undergo an additional orientation program, provided by the government of the host country. In the words of a returned volunteer: "We go to fit in the adopted community, not to conform the people to our manners and methods. We must have the ability to be able to see things from another's point of view. Often, though we may not understand the situation, we must tolerate and accept it."

Another volunteer commented: "We give an attitude to the people, create in them enthusiasm and faith in themselves. We cannot accomplish phenomenal economic changes in the short period of two years, but rather we are assisting them to help themselves. Our results may be immaterial and intangible for a good deal of our stay and this leads inevitably to frustrations."

But in the words of a CUSO doctor, working in a remote Nigerian community, "you cannot back down! At times I wanted more than anything to go home. That's for sure!", he said, but continued by stating his realization of the necessary assistance which he, as a doctor, contributed to the African hospital.

He wished he could do more for the people but time and equipment limited his tasks. Many other volunteers expressed similar convictions. "A day is simply not long enough."

# CUSO

"Serving and learning" go hand in hand for the CUSO volunteer. He "gives" all that he is able, yet he gains still more.

Being an integral part of the adopted community fosters international goodwill and cooperation, and benefits all Canadians.

The volunteers on the whole feel the two year venture was in no way a detriment to their previous manner of life in our society. They resumed previous employment upon returning or accepted position with the Department of External Affairs or External Aid. Many continued studies at university.

Nurses have been hired in a teaching capacity and doctors have returned to become engaged in research programs. former volunteers also assisted in staffing the national executive of CUSO, and helped the local university committees with publicity, recruitment, and fund-raising.

Local campus committees are responsible for recruiting and selecting volunteers. The applicants are interviewed first by these local authorities following which a national selections committee reviews all applications and makes the actual recommendations. It is

the host country, who requests the volunteer, that remains responsible for the final confirmation of the applicants and their appointments.

It is CUSO policy to maintain good relations with the governments and/or private agencies of the involved countries. Because CUSO is expanding to meet the detailed requests, co-ordinators in the various areas now handle the volunteers and all relations between the participating countries.

CUSO has new programs in Kenya, Upper Volta and Tchad in Africa and the range of assignments in all countries has increased. Tanzania has requested a town planner, librarians, a geologist, a forest surveyor and an adult education officer. In Uganda, appointments have been made for laboratory technicians and research officers. However, in all countries the main demand is for secondary school teachers.

The number of volunteers in Latin America has also increased. The numerous opportunities, however, involve a somewhat different aspect of work. Rather than the usual demand for secondary school teachers and nurses, these countries need personnel trained in community development.

## Dr. Grant Davy:

By  
PATRICIA HUGHES and ADRIANA ALBI

Dr. Grant Davy came to the University of Alberta in 1951. After several years as a Political Science professor, he became department head, and occupied this position for one year (1964-65). A colleague, Professor T. C. Pocklington, described Grant Davy as "close to being an ideal head of a department."

Dr. Davy is presently in Hamilton, where he heads the Political Science department at McMaster University.

He is writing a book describing certain aspects of the Social Credit Government in Alberta, which, it is hoped, will be published in 1966, by M. G. Hurtig, Edmonton.

During the summer Grant Davy quietly left this university.

The university administration and the Alberta government were thus painlessly relieved of a sharp thorn which was beginning to make an impression in their bureaucratic hides.

Perhaps the role of being the chief outsider in faculty councils and one of a few voices crying in a materialistic, anti-intellectual wilderness began to pale for the head of this university's political science department.

In a Gateway interview his last day in Edmonton, Dr. Davy expressed no bitterness at his going.

"I have no regrets about leaving this city, or this province, but the university, yes," he said.

"Certain deans tend to live in the past," he commented, "however, the loss of faculty members is not necessarily the result of bad relations. For every one faculty member who leaves, there must be at least five others that are given offers by other universities," he added.

