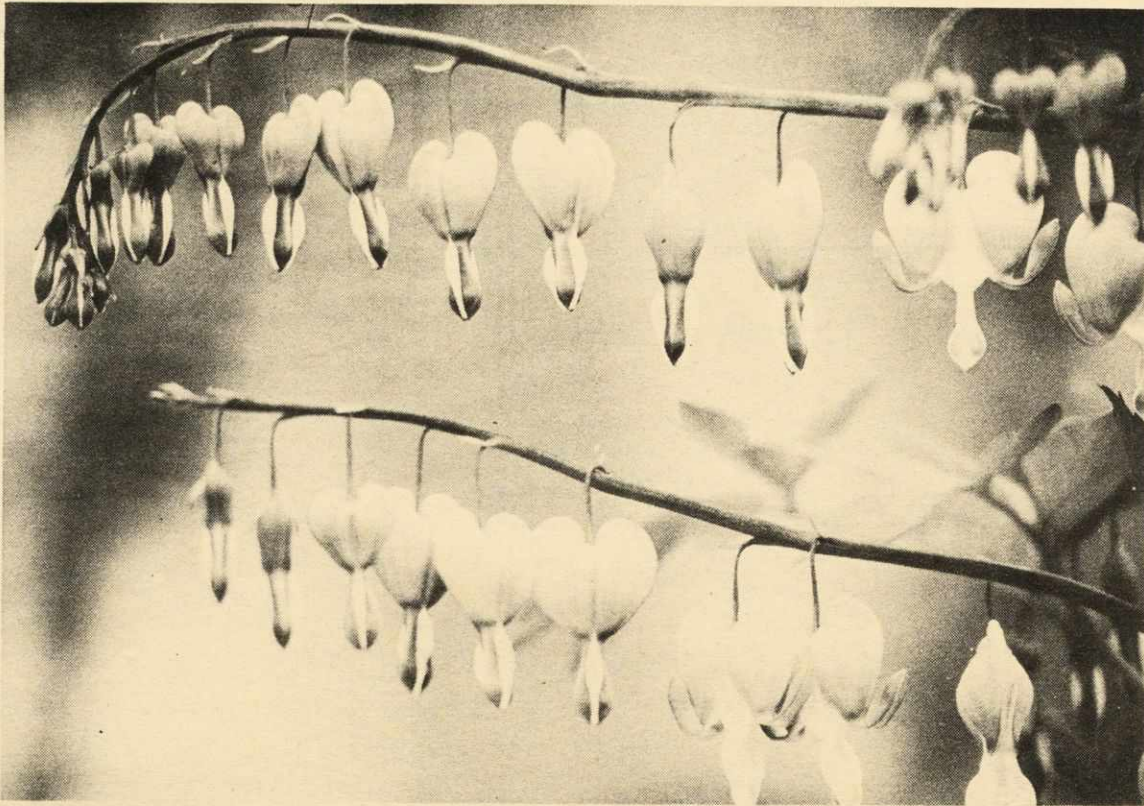


# THE GAZETTE

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"Bleeding Hearts" Arts and Expression supplement in next week's issue. Photo by Mary Sykes, Dal Photo

## Alleged rape at Acadia

By LOIS CORBETT

A FEMALE ACADIA STUDENT was allegedly assaulted in her Horton residence room three weeks ago and the women's network at Acadia is questioning the university's security. Sandra Chiasson, the chair of the Women's Awareness Network Team Support (WANTS), says there is a problem with security. "There have been sexual assaults on campus and attempts of sexual assaults," she says.

Bob Groves, Acadia's director of security, says a man entered the woman's room at about four in the morning and is "now before the courts for indecent assault."

But Groves does not think sexual assault on campus is a big problem.

"There still isn't enough to cause alarm down here. It's Wolfville," says Groves.

"We've had flashers in the library, and a girl was sexually assaulted there in 1984, but those are only a small number of cases," says Groves.

Groves admits that only ten per cent of rapes are ever reported, but he says there is not much a security force can do when "date rape" occurs.

"People get the idea that a rapist is some mean individual, a stranger from somewhere else. But most rapes are done by someone the girl knows," he says.

Groves says he speaks to the women in residences at Acadia about date rape.

"I can't tell the girls not to date men. They wouldn't stop that. But date rape usually happens when there's too much to drink

and too free and easy access to the residence," he says.

Date rape results often, said Groves, because of "peer pressure."

"Often the girls wake up in the morning and it's quite likely they have been raped. But what can they do?" he says.

Chiasson wants the men on campus to "change their attitudes" towards women. And she hopes the new walk-home services WANTS and campus security started Monday will relieve some of the fears women face after dark.

About sixty men have signed up for the escort service which offers regularly run routes for walks home.

Groves says the escort service will serve as "60 extra eyes" for campus security every night.

On Friday, the charge was changed to sexual assault. Chiasson wants a security patrol set up for the female residences.

She says there have been at least four alleged assaults against women this term and many more are rumoured.

"There are also quite a few women followed home at night, both residence students and off-campus students," Chiasson says.

Groves has also heard of women followed after dark.

"Girls are followed home by strangers in pick-up trucks. I think the locals around here see the lifestyle of girls at university as different, free and easy. So maybe they go to a bar, and have a few drinks and then go out," he says.

The men have to sign an agreement that says they are responsible for the protection of the women they are walking home,

says Chiasson.

Chiasson also wants the lighting on campus improved.

"The lights are not up to our standards, and the whole question of lighting has to be looked at soon," she says.

"There were some lights installed a few years ago around Cutten and Tower and they are called 'Rape Lights', so that gives you an idea of how important they are," she says.

Groves says security is looking at lighting improvements for the university, but added the easiest solution to the problem is to have women "walk where it is well lit."

for Canadian University Press.

## Lights out on campus

By SUSAN LUNN

TWO WEEKS AGO, A GROUP of students took vice-president Finance Robbie Shaw on a tour of his own campus.

DSU President Catherine Blewett and Shirreff Hall representative Jolene Pattison used the tour to show the lighting conditions in such areas as the pharmacy building, the Quad and Shirreff Hall.

Pattison, who is also chair of the Security Committee, says although Shaw agreed there was a serious problem, he has done nothing about it.

"I figure on one week for the paperwork, but there is little evidence of Robbie Shaw following through on his promises yet," she says.

Shaw had agreed to have lights replaced and the voltage

## Women should take action

By MARY ELLEN JONES

A NOVA SCOTIAN FEMINIST wants female artists to take action and reclaim what is rightfully theirs.

But Donna Smythe, peace activist, writer, and Acadia University professor, said the answer cannot be found in universities. "The narrow departmental structures of our universities are confining in the kind of thing women are trying to explore and create using aesthetics," said Smythe.

Smythe told a Dalhousie English department audience last Tuesday that feminist aesthetics are "simply talking about pieces of art and literature which incorporate women's vision, women's choice, women's words, and women's experiences."

Women must work together in a collective atmosphere because "thought, action and creation all go together. Women cannot separate one from the other," says Smythe.

"It is just not enough to be in an ivory tower or out there doing the action. Women must do both."

"We are greedy. We women want everything, we want it all together, we are great synthesizers, we make the connection."

In order to survive, women must counter the male myth of the isolated, romantic artist figure. Smythe says women must begin to reclaim their past. "There has been a shift from great men in history to ordinary people with ordinary lives. This means women come into history again," says Smythe.

"We can resurrect women who might have remained buried for

ever," says Smythe.

Canada has a wealth of female writers, and other women must acknowledge them, she said. "Think of Margaret Atwood. She has given us the female body. She has written about us honestly, like giving birth. She has aroused some anger to a serious consideration of female sexuality from a female's point of view."

"Reclaiming language — making women's words" is another way Smythe feels that women should take action.

"We must break taboos... and silences" says Smythe.

"It takes courage to open our mouths and break convention."

## Research in robotics

MONTREAL (CUP)— Quebec's new industry/university/college complex created to adapt high technology for small and medium-sized businesses is a favorite with the federal government. They want every other province to have one too.

The Centre Quebecois pour l'Informatisation de la Production (CQIP) received six million dollars from the Quebec Minister of higher education, science and technology recently to set up seven specialised technology-transfer laboratories across Quebec.

Each laboratory will be operated by high technology specialists from universities, colleges and industry.

Research will be mainly in robotics and computer-aided automation.

"We have been working quite closely with the federal government, advising them on our project," said Ronald Dugre, head of CQIP. "They like our model so much they want to get into other provinces."

All the laboratories will be linked up through the centre's main office in Montreal to create a network of co-ordinated lines in manufacturing industries.

According to Dugre, a senior industrial consultant for the federal government has been touring the country and meeting with university and industry trying to push the Quebec model.

Ontario, Dugre believes, will be setting up a similar network very soon. "They've got robotics in one place, automotive in another and CATCAM research in another," he said. "but they have no central organization to co-ordinate this research, to inform small businesses on how to use it."