

## International Students' Week highlights International Month

by C. Ricketts

"Hear ye, hear ye!" Students gathered in front of the SUB on Oct. 4 to hear town crier Peter Cox, decked in full period regalia, proclaim International Month for the city of Halifax.

Mayor Ron Wallace signed the proclamation Sept. 30 at City Hall.

Reza Rizvi, chair of the organizing committee for International Students Education Week, the highlight of International Month, says the month will stress the multi-cultural aspect of the Dalhousie community.

"We want to display the various cultures to students here at Dal, highlight issues of concern for international students and illustrate the contribution of international students to university education," he said.

The month and week are co-sponsored by the Student Union,

the International Students Co-ordinator and various international student associations.

Monday films and Tuesday Nooners (noon presentations) will continue throughout the month, and will include a gourmet food and Tai Kwan Do demonstration.

The third week of October holds the major activities for the month. On Oct. 18 there will be a panel discussion of differential fees, the amounts over and above regular tuition rates charged to foreign students. Liberal education critic Chester Melanson, Peter Butler from the provincial Department of Education, Students' Union of Nova Scotia executive officer Peter Kavanagh and Dr. Owen Carrigan, former president of Saint Mary's University and an author of *The Right Mix* will debate this controversial issue.

*The Right Mix* was a document released by the Canadian Bureau for International Education which

makes some disturbing proposals on how foreign students should be handled by Canadian universities.

On Oct. 19 there will be a lecture on the status of student housing in general, leading to a discussion of housing problems faced particularly by international students.

"The international student faces increased problems with regards to discrimination and landlords demanding higher deposit rates," said Rizvi. "They have increased difficulties also because they arrive in Halifax later than most of the other returning students."

MP for Halifax and Minister for International Trade & Development Gerald Regan will address a luncheon on the contribution of international students to Canada and Canada's contribution to the third world on Oct. 22.

The week's grand finale will be International Night, a cultural extravaganza of food, dance and theatre.



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Reza Rizvi and Mayor Ron Wallace

Sign Proclamation.

## Human rights: Canada offers little shelter

MONTEAL (CUP)—Takukdar Rezaul Karim lives with seven others in a small one-room apartment. Karim and his roommates sometimes can't afford to eat. After a year and a half of this, six of these people, including Karim, will probably be deported.

Karim is one of hundreds of non-status refugees who arrived in Montreal this summer to escape imprisonment, torture and execution in their homeland, Bangladesh.

"They come here for something better and just don't find it," said Marie-Celie Loumal of La Maissonne, a community centre that helps refugees adjust to life here.

According to Loumal, Canada has little to offer "non-status" refugees who have fled their countries because of racial or political oppression and request asylum once they arrive in Canada.

About 800 refugees are currently awaiting status in Montreal.

"These people are not coming here because they are hungry," Loumal said, "but because guns are constantly pointed at their heads. They have no choice but to flee."

Political oppression has increased since Bangladesh imposed martial law 14 months ago.

Last October, the federal and provincial governments cut off all financial aid to non-status refugees and, according to Loumal, "never gave any reason" for doing so.

Non-status refugees arrive here with little or no money, and most with no knowledge of either official language. They are unable to obtain "work permits" until they have a job offer; they can't accept the job until Canada Manpower has proof the "offer" is valid.

"By the time they get their work permit, the job they were offered is probably taken," said Loumal.

Even those, like Karim, who have work permits, can't find jobs.

Most non-status refugees rely on non-government organizations for support, like the Service d'accueil aux voyageurs et aux immigrants. This centre is helping 640 refugees from Bangladesh but can only give most of them \$140 a month.

Non-status refugees usually wait at least a year before they receive status. Many are refused and then appeal the decision.

Each request for asylum is reviewed individually by the refugee Status Advisory Committee, which must "assess the credibility of these claimants" and to advise the Canadian Ministry of Immigration whether to accept them.

Seventy-five per cent of all such applications are rejected sometimes after a waiting period of a year and a half.

In the spring of 1985, after harsh living in Canada, Karim may be back in Bangladesh.

## Unemployment: high tech boom a bust

(RNR/CUP)—High tech industries may be booming, but according to Stanford University researchers, high tech jobs are a bust.

They say janitors and fast-food workers—not math whizzes with advanced degrees—are likely to prosper in the coming decade. Professors Henry Levin and Russell Rumberger claim few new job categories will require education beyond high school.

Computers, says Levin, will be able to perform more complex tasks, resulting in a lowering of the skill level of the average

## Dal appeals rent control for Fenwick

by Ralph English

Rent increases at University apartments may soon be exempt from provincial rent control legislation.

Students living at Fenwick Place are paying 14 per cent

more rent this year. In June the Residential Tenancies Board ruled the increase be rolled back to 9 per cent. The decision has been appealed by the university on jurisdictional grounds.

In Nova Scotia, applications for rent increases above 6 per cent are reviewed by a Residential Tenancies Officer. Appeals by the landlord or tenant are heard by the Administrative Tribunal which constitutes the Rent Review Commission.

The university claims the Residential Tenancies Act excludes university residences from its definition of "residential premises." If that interpretation is correct, University apartment buildings are not subject to rent control legislation.

Fenwick apartments differ from Dalhousie residences in that they include a kitchen, bathroom and living room.

Mr. Robert Fowler, director of rent review for the Rent Review Commission, says, "The matter is before the commission and a hearing has been held."

American worker and potentially eliminating eight million jobs by the year 2025. In contrast, says Levin, the U.S. in 1990 will need three times as many janitors, and five times as many fast-food workers than new computer systems analysts.

Educators who add high tech courses to their curricular are barking up the wrong tree, says Levin. "Since we cannot predict which jobs will be available," he says, "it is best to provide students with a strong general education and ability to adapt to the changing work environment."