

Committee On Academic Goals Calls For Revolutionary Approach

VANCOUVER (CUP) — A revolutionary approach to university education has been recommended for UBC by a president's committee on academic goals.

Major recommendations in the report, released last week, include:

- a modified tri-semester system
- no Christmas exams
- fewer classroom lectures
- narrowing of students' course selection
- housing all students in residence
- limitation of enrollment.

UBC President Dr. John Macdonald emphasized no timetable had been set for implementation of the recommendations.

"This document represents an attempt to define some goals for the university and to seek ways of achieving them," Macdonald said. "The document and recommendations will be considered by various governing bodies of the university, and to the extent that they are accepted, its recommendations will be implemented."

The committee, made up of President Macdonald and eight assistants, took a year to prepare the 67 page document.

MAJOR RECOMMENDATION

Major recommendation is implementation of a modified trimester system. The report suggests the academic year be divided into three 13-week terms, one each in fall, spring and summer.

But unlike normal trimester systems in which students can enter at the beginning of each semester, students would be able to start courses only in the fall or summer terms.

Courses beginning in the fall would run for two terms. At the end of the first term there would be no Christmas exams. The report calls for the substitution of a departmental evaluation of the student's progress at the end of the first term, with all examinations at the end of the year.

Summer courses would start in May and run 12 weeks. Most students would be limited to taking two courses over this period. The present six-week summer session attended mainly by school teachers

will be retained especially for them. The new system would require faculty members to teach four out of every six terms, but not more than three in a row.

TOO MUCH FREEDOM

The committee says that in some faculties students are given too much freedom in choosing their courses, resulting in selections often being made on considerations other than the student's academic goals. To avoid this the committee calls for two basic undergraduate programs with a diversity of patterns but less choice of electives.

The report says the curriculum in each of the programs would be made up in varying degrees with courses of the selected discipline, allied disciplines and general education.

It suggests general education courses be made up of subjects such as general science, history, philosophy and social science courses. The committee suggests no student take fewer than five of the general education courses over his four-year course.

The committee wants to reduce lectures to an effective minimum and use such methods as independent research, study, discussion and problem sessions. It says fewer lectures would result in increased intensity of study.

Variations from the pattern of three lectures a week are discouraged by the complexity of timetables and the reluctance of the professors.

The report also advocates each department initiate procedures to teach lecturers how to teach.

PROFESSORIAL SHORTAGE

If UBC wishes to overcome the professorial shortage problem, it must increase its graduate facilities four-fold in the next decade. Funds must be found for continual and original research programs. The report insists the quality of graduate students is not as important as quality.

The committee feels the administration should promote a university city on the UBC endowment lands. The lands should be zoned so that good book stores, art galleries, coffee shops and discussion centres can be built adjacent to academic buildings.

The report recommends the university build enough residences to accommodate all students. At present more than 80 per cent of UBC students commute.

The report gives building priority to a new library system. It suggests decentralization through addition of library branches close to

separate academic departments.

Requirements for entrance from senior matriculation will be raised from 50 per cent and a clear pass to 60 per cent and a clear pass. The committee recommends UBC's enrolment be cut off at 22,000 with 5,500 graduate students and 16,500 undergraduates.

Also among other recommendations are:

- establishment of a UBC theatre agency.
- a new streamlined registration system.
- a greater spirit of intimacy between faculty and students.
- Change from the percentage grade system to the letter system.

70 Contestants Perform Today In Rodeo '64

Tickets for tonight's Commerce Rodeo in the University Ice Arena are selling like hotcakes.

"The 9 p.m. performance will be sold out, in all likelihood, and very few or no seats will be left for the 6 p.m. performance," say Rodeo officials.

Preparations began last Wednesday with the fence and shavings going into the arena. Dirt was hauled in on Thursday, so that the arena would be ready by today.

There are about 70 contestants entered in all events, with such notable cowboy type contestants as the runner-up champion of the Inter-Collegiate Rodeo Association from Montana State U and Eugene Kramps, from Crooked Creek, Alberta.

The only large faculty on campus without a notable representation in rodeo events is Engineering.

The winners of the men's and women's greased pig races will be presented with the objects of their striving during the evening—battered, dressed and ready to be pork-chops.

A public liability policy of \$500,000 has been taken out to cover contestants and spectators.

Rodeo officials want Commerce men to stay after the last performance to aid their faculty when the chips are down—buffalo chips, that is.



COMMERCE COWGIRL—Maureen Mannix, comm 1, holds the silver belt buckles to be presented to the winners of the events, and sits in front of the tooled saddle which the all-round cowboy will receive.

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Interviews will be held on November 5 and 6

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