

Discrimination is 'serious'..Dal woman prof

by Eleanor Austin

Despite efforts to remedy female discrimination on campus, there are still serious problems that exist.

A list of the faculty in the Arts and Sciences shows that out of 369 professors, 34 are women.

In Dentistry there are two women professors, one associate and one assistant out of 53. Out of 650 staff members in the faculty of Medicine, there are about 30 females. In Pharmacy, there are three assistant professors who are female out of 12. Two women out of 40 full-time professors occupy positions in the faculty of Law.

There is one faculty at Dalhousie however, that has 41 people on their staff and they are all women. This is the faculty of Nursing.

In a 1977-78 report on the status of women at Dalhousie, the average salary of a male full-time professor was said to

be \$4,185 more than that of a female counterpart.

Since its release, the Faculty's Union set up the "Career-Review Committee" to reconsider the salaries of unsatisfied professors. Nevertheless, departmental recommendations for merit in Arts and Sciences were rolled back \$425 or \$850 for 82 percent of the female professors while only 38 percent of the male professors recommended for merit were cut back, according to the analysis of merit in the 1980 report.

Aside from salary discrimination and significantly fewer number of female professors at Dal than male, the status of women report demonstrates that women are also more heavily concentrated in the lower academic ranks and they must stay in the lower ranks longer than males before being promoted.

Virginia Miller, from the department of Social Anthropology, who headed the

committee and wrote the report, says that women are at a disadvantage. "You're not taken seriously if you are a woman," she said and she did not think the situation would change.

Susan Sherwin, president of the Dalhousie Faculty Association (DFA) says there are plenty of slots open in deanships, for vice-presidents and the president's was open, but no women are chosen, she said, although she added probably 50 percent of the applicants are not women.

Judith Fingard, a professor in the History department, suggests there is documented discrimination but there is no overt discrimination in the university. She says the predominately male administration tends to look at women as "juniors". Fingard suggests that "it is a culturally underlying view that is deeply rooted and hard to get over".

She added that women pro-

fessors are discriminated against because they are so few. In trying to accomplish equality by having more women nominated for positions within faculties, the limited number available, force the few women to become overloaded with work.

Fingard says she is worried the number of women in professional careers has reached a summit: a result tied to the present economic situation, she added.

Fingard suggests the future is not optimistic for women because the downturn in the economy and the possibility of a severe recession means that more people are on the job market and women are even pushed out of traditionally women-dominated occupations such as teaching in primary schools.

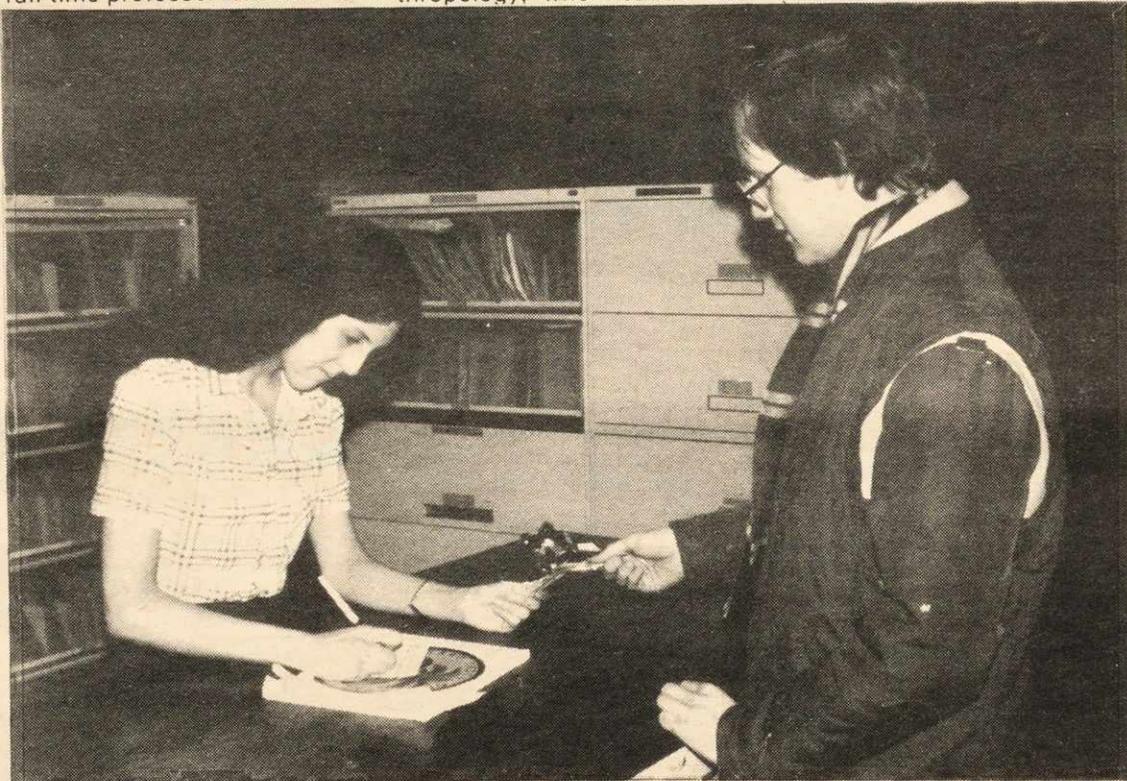
Sharon Adams, a new professor in the English department, says "obviously women have a struggle to face so people will take them seriously in

their profession but," she added, "these are difficulties that can be overcome."

Adams stated that women scholars have always played a large part in English scholarly life. She said major academic figures include Murial Bradbrook who wrote in the 1930's, Rosemund Tuve, Barbara Lewaski and a Canadian, Jay MacPherson, who is at the University of Toronto.

Adams says she has not been personally aware of sex discrimination at Dalhousie. "I haven't encountered anything that I wouldn't expect as a professional colleague," she added.

A former professor in the Political Science department, Carol Charlebois, says that "in a student evaluation, a number of students said they valued me as a councillor. The administration should consider the needs of women students in the department," she confirmed.



Dal Photo

Killam trusts users

by Ellen Broadhead

The library of any university is an indispensable facility, but its effectiveness can be limited by strict loan policy, inaccessible management, and rigid security measures. Fortunately for Dalhousie students, the Killam and Macdonald libraries are administered under one of the most flexible systems used by a university anywhere, and the results are excellent.

With a collection of over half a million volumes, a comprehensive inventory would be impossible to make, so the staff must rely upon the patrons of the library to keep abuse to a minimum. According to Mrs. Dorothy Cooke, the university librarian, "undue losses" have not been incurred since the present system was initiated ten years ago with the opening of the Killam building.

The loan policy is very open: unless a book is specifically requested, by means of a "recall" form, the borrower is free to keep it

indefinitely without penalty. When a "recall" has been requested, a notice is sent out by the computer and the student will be fined if the book is not returned. Also, books which are listed as "reserve" texts for courses are liable to fines. Otherwise, only books kept after April 15 are restricted; this is primarily to ensure that every book is returned before the summer break. When a book is not recorded as being checked out, and yet cannot be found on the shelves, a "search" may be done. This is where most losses are detected, but these are negligible in the high demand books.

One advantage to a more closed system would be the significantly increased revenue from financial penalties. And though the library has a budget of \$700,000 for this year, the extra money would be helpful. Periodicals, for example, went up 18% this year, estimated Cooke. However, she said, the enormous amount of staff hours invested

and the general bad will produced, make this alternative less appealing.

The security arrangements are very basic, but any more elaborate system would be too expensive—and hardly foolproof. One student expressed his (her?) indignation, through the "Comments and Criticisms" board, at being required to submit to the usual search at the Control Desk, and was answered with the deft wit which many students will have by now realized characterizes the board, an open forum for complaints and questions. Authored by Mrs. Bonnie Boyd, the head of Information Services for the library, it provides a uniquely entertaining and educational medium for all involved. Boyd's reply expressed surprise that the student would complain about what is really the only security arrangement, and reiterated the emphasis which Cooke had stated earlier: "We are depending on the students. It's their library."

Maritimers Face Tuition Hike Soon

by Matt Adamson of Canadian University Press and Tom Regan

Although Maritime students pay the highest tuition fees in the country, they will face tuition increases next year.

The Council of Maritime Premiers confirmed the tuition hikes when it approved the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission's (MPHEC) funding recommendations at a meeting in Halifax, January 28.

An 8.1 per cent increase in operating grants has been allotted for post secondary institutions in the three provinces. An additional .45 per cent, \$4.75 million, will be spent on Dalhousie University's dental school expansion, and .75 per cent will be allocated to institutions in Nova Scotia that have been historically underfunded.

Dick Matthews, president of the Dalhousie Student Union, said Premier Buchanan's announcement of a 9.3% grant is misleading.

"No one is going to get 9.3%", said Matthews. "Dalhousie will get 8.55% because we will get a .45% grant for the dental school. Some smaller institutions that are traditionally underfunded will get an extra .75%, but most will get only the 8.1% increase in funding."

Matthews said this will mean a rise in tuition of 10% or about \$75 to \$90.

"We now pay \$840 for straight tuition", Matthews said. "Once you take the increase into consideration, plus add on to that student union fees and society fees, students will be paying over a \$1,000 at Dalhousie next year."

The MPHEC acknowledged

in their 1980-81 financial report an 8.1 per cent increase in operating grants would not keep pace with inflation and recommended the difference could be covered by raising tuition fees "comparable to the cost of living."

The MPHEC stated the increase was to ensure that students' instructional costs would remain constant in real terms and institutional revenues from government would not become an increasingly greater proportion of total revenue.

In a meeting with student council presidents and the Students' Union of Nova Scotia (SUNS), the MPHEC said that for the first time they could see economics was a factor in the reasons that students cannot continue their education.

The MPHEC told the student leaders that education past the high school level is an opportunity, not a right for students in the Maritimes.

"You don't buy an education, you must work for it," a MPHEC member said.

SUNS has criticized the MPHEC in the past for not considering the economic alternatives available to students. Most students work in minimum wage jobs, which do not increase according to the cost of living, and receive bursaries or loans. The bursary ceiling has also not increased at a comparable rate to the cost of living, the student organization said.

The MPHEC's study on student aid is expected in mid March.

The total amount allocated to Nova Scotia by the premiers was \$103.5 million, to Prince Edward Island \$13 million, and to New Brunswick institutions \$68.8 million.