

Five Stage Project Universities Plan Centennial Project

OTTAWA (CUP) - A movement is under way in Ottawa these days - a movement aiming to involve every interested Canadian university campus in spending \$225,000 within the next year.

The movement is the Universities Centennial Program, a five-stage project under the direction of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and financed by the federal Centennial commission.

And as Canada's Centennial looms ever larger on the 1967 horizon, John Banks, UCP secretary, uses more than his usual stack of stationery, shouts frequently into his constantly-ringing phone, and summons his secretary at least 20 times an hour.

One of the most important, and certainly the most interesting project to be implemented, is the lecturers and artists project. Mr. Banks says he hopes two or three Canadians involved in various aspects of art history, painting, music and literature will be able to visit each Canadian university campus during 1967.

He has already asked the

universities which persons they would be interested in sponsoring on their respective campuses. The University of Alberta, for example, has requested Dr. Desmond Pacey from the University of New Brunswick visit the Edmonton campus. And Carleton University has asked for Professor Peter Breiger, fine arts department head at the University of Toronto. Carleton's embryo arts department feels it needs a friendly push in the right direction.

Thus, under the visiting lecturers and artists program, each university will be given the opportunity to sponsor two or three distinguished Canadians of their choice. The AUCC, of course, will foot the bill.

The first project will involve Canadian students - but as spectators only. They will have the opportunity to listen to, and question participants. But a second, and perhaps more ambitious facet of the program is the theatre project which will present two one-act plays (one in English and one in French) at various campuses.

The AUCC is hoping young Canadian thespians will be interested enough to audition for parts in the plays.

Those lucky enough to be chosen for roles in the plays will embark on a six-week, cross-country tour in September, 1967. These young people will not be paid, but they will have the opportunity to work under the directorship of Pierre Lefevre of the Centre Dramatique de l'est in Strasbourg, and the administration of Julien Forcier of Montreal, who boasts 15 years' experience in all fields of the theatre.

Preliminary auditions will begin in mid-November at campuses across the country. Final auditions will be held in January at regional centres.

The third stage of the program - the Canadian historical seminars - was launched in August when three seminars were held at the University of British Columbia, the University of New Brunswick and Stanley House, the Canada Council's conference centre.

Next August, graduate students and professors in history and political science will travel to Memorial, Laval and Laurentian Universities in the East, and the University of Saskatchewan and University of Victoria in the West.

Two conferences - one on the role of the creative arts in the university, the other on higher education in the second century of Confederation - will constitute the fourth and fifth stages of the program.

Plans for the creative arts conference are going ahead full speed, with Queen's University playing host from June 5 to 9. A program, consisting of interdisciplinary workshops, teacher-training in the arts, professional training in the arts at the university level and the role of the arts in liberal education has been arranged.

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