

**Samuel Hinds, Class of '67**

**Guyanese PM among honorees at graduation**

by Gordon Loane  
Brunswickan News

Just over 30 years ago a young student from Guyana, a tiny South American country, arrived in Fredericton to study Chemical Engineering at UNB.

Samuel Hinds was told what to expect by officials of the DEMBA - Alcan Company that had provided a scholarship if he would later return home.

"New Brunswick would be a bit cool but it would be good for developing character," they said.

Since 1963, Hinds has never looked back. He lived in Bridges House, made lasting friends with whom he still corresponds and gained a reputation for being disciplined and highly organized as a student and affable and warm-hearted as a person.

He was awarded prizes for his outstanding performance by the Engineering Institute of Canada and the Chemical Institute of Canada. Upon graduation in 1967, he returned to Guyana to work as a process engineer in the Aluminium industry.

When the Alcan subsidiary was nationalized, he remained with the company and was eventually promoted to Divisional Superintendent for Product Quality, Research and Development.

For nearly twenty-five years, Hinds travelled around the world as an engineer, scientist and company representative.

Yet throughout this time, he was troubled by the political structures

under the authoritative regime of Prime Minister Forbes Burnham.

While British colonialism in Guyana was a thing of the past, the Burnham government held an iron grip on power with rigged elections at the hands of the state police.

The 1980s were particularly difficult for Hinds, culminating in the decision to finally speak out.

He gave his first political speech in 1990. He joined the group called Guyanese Action for Reform and Democracy, eventually became its chairman and then agreed to stand for election as a candidate of the People's Progressive Party. His party was successful and in 1992, he became Prime Minister.

It was the first change in Government since Guyana became independent in 1966.

Hinds is slowly working to restore the nation's economy, racked by both poverty and low production.

The Prime Minister wants to take advantage of recent gold deposit discoveries as well as new opportunities in the Bauxite industry. He intends to begin implementing a nation-wide training program - similar to the education and training he received at UNB.

"Skilled professionals can make a great contribution to their countries, provided that they see their professional training as a tool which they can call on as they work to improve the lot of their people," the Prime Minister told UNB's 280 graduates on Sunday.

"The professional needs to keep in mind that becoming a professional



From left to right: UNB Chancellor Frederik Eaton, Dr. Barbara Robinson-Watson, Guyanese PM Samuel Hinds, Dalton Camp, and UNB President Robin Armstrong. Photo by Mark Bray

does not relieve anyone of the primary responsibility of being a good citizen and being responsible for the ends to which others might put his professional services," Hinds said.

Hinds recalled one of the books assigned to him and other sophomore engineers in Professor Gibb's English Course. "The Return of the Native" by Thomas Hardy intrigued me because I had come to UNB on a scholarship ... and I had entered into a gentlemen's agreement that I would return home - this native would return," he said.

"Let me express my thanks to those who proposed and supported the bestowing on me of this high honour," Hinds said. "I don't know how

many people sense how happy I am to be a native UNBer returning home to UNB," he concluded.

Two other honorary degrees were awarded at Fall Convocation. Political strategist and Columnist Dalton Camp was Editor-in-Chief of the Brunswickan and Valedictorian of the UNB Graduating Class of 1947. He held a Beaverbrook Scholarship at the London School of Economics and later earned a master's degree in Journalism at Columbia. He served as National President of the Conservative Party and President of Camp Associates Advertising Ltd in Toronto. He has received Canada's highest civilian honour - the Order of Canada.

Barbara Robinson Watson served as the first and only pediatrician in the Fredericton area from 1950-1959. She was a member of the medical staff of the Victoria Public Hospital for 26 years and of the Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital for 12 years. She has since practised as a consultant in pediatric allergy and respiratory. A past president of the N.B. Lung Association, Dr. Robinson is a recipient of the Canada Volunteer Award.

Three long-time UNB teachers received the title of "Professor Emeritus". They include Nursing Professor Shirley Alcoe, Chemical Engineering Professor David Morris and Political Science Professor A. Jeyaratnam Wilson.

**SU Council Brief**

Engineering Representatives Andrew Van Wart and Deryl Armstrong want more SU money to be allocated to clubs and societies within each faculty.

The two are proposing to like funding from 15% to 20% of the total SU operating budget beginning next academic year.

Since the Financial Policy must be amended to achieve this,

a two thirds majority vote of council will be needed.

The proposal has been shuffled to the SU's Budget Committee for consideration. The proposal has several larger cost implications according to SU President Paul Estabrooks.

The matter is expected to come before council no later than November 9th.

**UNB to Establish Space Chairs**

UNB has announced the establishment of the NSERC/Com Dev/ACOA Industrial Research Chairs in Space Science.

The focus of the program is space imaging and remote sensing.

Some of the Chairholders research will involve the development of advanced sensors and optical components for use in flight instruments at ultraviolet, extreme-ultraviolet and x-ray wave lengths.

The technologies required to develop the flight instrumentation will utilize and expand the capabilities available both at the industrial partners, Com Dev. Ltd. and Com Dev Atlantic Limited, and at UNB.

Funding of \$2.5 million over five years

from sponsors - the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), Com Dev. Ltd., the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, and UNB has made possible the establishment of the Junior and Senior space research chairs in the university's department of physics.

The chairs represent a major new area of Research in the Faculty of Science. The hardware the chairs develop will have many applications, not only in the Canadian Space Program but also in fields outside of space science, such as high-temperature plasma research and medical imaging.

The technology is also expected to create business spin-offs particularly in Atlantic Canada.

Gethyn Timothy, who left Stanford to join UNB as the holder of the Senior Chair, will build and direct the space research program.

With a PhD in space physics from University College, London, England, Dr. Timothy has pursued space research at the Harvard College Observatory and the Smithsonian Astro physical Observatory in Cambridge, Mass; the Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics and the Department of Astrophysics at the University of Colorado, and most recently as research professor with the Department of Applied Physics and Centre for Space Science and AstroPhysics at Stanford University in California.

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