

# Feds sow NS jobs

OTTAWA (CUP) — Economically depressed provinces are the winners in regional funding allocations for the Summer Employment/Experience Development (SEED) component of the Challenge 87 wage subsidy program.

Though critics continue to dispute the government's claim that Challenge 87's \$180 million budget is the same amount spent last year, on the assumption that Challenge 86 included the extra \$30 million spent on the national census, most are relatively pleased with the funding redistribution. SEED this year comprises about 70 per cent of the Challenge budget.

This year's allocation reflects varying regional unemployment rates. Nova Scotia and British Columbia, which posted respective unemployment rates for returning students last summer at 22.6 and 20.1 per cent, received the highest SEED increases, of \$1.49 million and \$1.85 million, respectively.

Ontario, on the other hand, saw its unemployment rate for returning students slip last summer to under nine per cent. Consequently, the federal government dropped SEED funding in Ontario by \$4.4 million.

Funding was increased for Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Alberta and the Yukon. Funding was decreased for Quebec, Manitoba,

Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories.

Jean Wright, a researcher for the Canadian Federation of Students, said the allocation changes are "logical, given those rates". She said, however, it is unfortunate that funding had to be decreased in some areas to redress high unemployment in others.

Barney Savage, chair of the Students' Union of Nova Scotia, was pleased with the increase to Nova Scotia SEED funding.

"It's obviously a policy change for the government, and we're pleased with that," said Savage, who is waiting for the provincial government to announce its summer program for students.

"We are worried, though, that the provincial government will look at those (SEED) figures and cut back on its own program," Savage said.

New Democratic youth critic Howard McCurdy questioned how SEED money will be shared in Ontario.

"Anyone who thinks things are booming outside of Toronto just doesn't know Ontario," said McCurdy, who cited his own riding of Windsor-Walkerville as an area faced with an unemployment rate of about 20 per cent for returning students. The student unemployment rate in Toronto last summer was just over five per cent.

## Profs caught knapping?

Sending professors back to the classroom is something all frustrated students dream about but are reluctant to suggest. Now they have a chance.

Chris Knapper, a leading theorist on teaching methods, will lecture this Friday in the McInnis room on why professors shouldn't lecture so much.

With imminent faculty cuts at Dalhousie, director of Henson College's continuing education program Steve Frick says Knapper's subject is particularly topical.

"What's facing Dalhousie is a very difficult situation. Every department is facing a potential loss of faculty. The fixation on the problem of losing faculty means people don't give much time to looking for creative solutions."

"Knapper is going to talk about how we can do creative teaching in times of shrinking budgets," explains Frick.

Frick sees budget cuts as an

opportunity for faculty to learn new ways to teach instead of relying on the archaic lecture system. "Lecturing is a very inefficient way to encourage learning. There are far more interesting ways faculty can be involved with students," he says with a straight face.

Frick believes one of the reasons professors don't reform their teaching methods is that teaching is generally not rewarded in the university system: "Publishing gets you promotion and tenure."

An advisory committee to the president on teaching and learning recently recommended that aspiring professors at Dalhousie take a required mini-course on teaching methods as part of their doctoral programs.

Knapper, who acts as a consultant for 750 faculty members at the University of Waterloo, may get a good reception from Dalhousie's administration if not all faculty members embrace his theories.

continued from page 4

obvious to McDonough the day that she proposed legislation for financial benefits for single-father families.

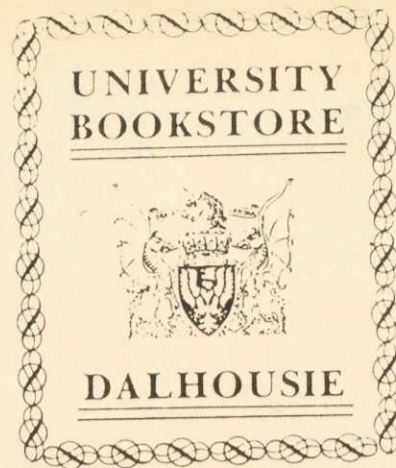
The bill was unanimously rejected by every male representative. McDonough believes that the violent opposition to the proposal stemmed from men's belief that the father of a single-parent family should be engaged in the work force, even while responsible for the care of young children.

The only woman holding a seat in Assembly at that time, McDonough recalls, "It became

really clear to me in that episode how sexist those 51 men really were. I was condemned by men on all sides from all parties."

Despite the disappointments and frustrations of provincial politics, the political leader feels that her role in legislature is an important step towards achieving a government more responsive to women's needs.

"My plea to other women is to become more involved in the political arena," says McDonough. "Let's force them to change their actions, and maybe some changes in attitude will follow."



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