

Mackay named president

by Paul Clark

William Andrew MacKay, vice-president of Dalhousie, will replace Henry Hicks as Dalhousie's next president.

MacKay was "overwhelmingly" voted into office at a closed door meeting of the Board of Governors Tuesday afternoon. The Presidential Selection Committee had previously recommended MacKay for the job in favor of Donald Chant, vice-president of the University of Toronto, and Peter Robinson, who recently left office as principal of Erindale College.

Asked about his plans as president, MacKay said he hoped "basically to work with Senate and the Board to move the university through the changing times of the eighties".

He stressed he alone was not capable of making changes but required co-operation from everyone.

Regarding the dual problem of declining enrollment and decreased government funding, MacKay said that because Dal emphasized graduate and professional programs it wasn't likely to suffer from declining enrollment as much as institutions with higher percentages of undergraduates.

"I think the university is going to cope with this problem", he said.

MacKay said he thought Dal would pay a more significant academic role in the eighties due to increased government research funding.

Michael Cross, vice-president of the Dalhousie Faculty Association which withdrew from the presidential selection process, said there was no official DFA comment on the choice of MacKay.

But he said he viewed the selection personally with a

"massive lack of surprise".

Concerning changes around Dal to be expected from the MacKay presidency, Cross said he only anticipated "more of the same".

"He's been running this place for a decade and it would surprise me if he changes his colors now".

Cross said he thought change probably lies "at other levels", alluding to the choice of a new dean for Arts and Sciences.

Graham Wells, vice-president of Dal's student union, said MacKay would provide Dal with a "capable perspective on things".

"His tenure as vice-president has shown him as a man with Dal's interests at heart. He's a man of principle and a capable administrator".

MacKay has been vice-president of Dal for about six years. Prior to that he was academic vice-president for five years and had served as dean Weldon professor of Law for another five years.

Born in Halifax on March 29, 1929, he went to public school in Halifax and Ottawa,

afterward obtaining a B.A. from Dal in 1950. He went on to get an L.L.B. and L.L.M. from Dal Law School before accepting a Ford Foundation fellowship to Harvard Law School in 1960.

He was employed with the Department of External Affairs from 1954 to 1957 and has chaired a variety of special commissions for the provincial government.

His professional affiliations are numerous, as are the number of organizations and services he has belonged to.

He was made a Queen's Counsel in 1973 and received an honorary L.L.D. from Memorial University in 1976.



Dal Photo / DeLorey

Tuition to rise again

MPHEC recommends 9.3%

by Matt Adamson
of the Canadian University
Press
and Paul Clark

Next year students will face tuition increases comparable to the rise of the cost of living if the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission's (MPHEC) funding recommendations are adopted by the three Maritime governments.

The MPHEC called their recommended 9.3% increase a minimum requirement to meet the post-secondary education needs of the region. The Commission also said they were going under the expectation tuition will rise comparably to increases in the cost of living.

Dick Matthews, president of Dalhousie Student Union said this is the lowest acceptable requirement.

"But I have great fear the Nova Scotia government will follow its past performance of the last three years and ignore the recommendation", he added.

If the recommendation is accepted, Matthews said tuition at Dal will probably rise 8% next year.

Matthews said it was too early to say what action would be taken if the government doesn't follow the recommendation, but he said that in conjunction with the Student's Union of Nova Scotia (SUNS) he would be monitoring the government's response.

Henry Hicks, president of Dal, said the recommenda-

tions would be difficult for the government to turn down, "unless they have a complete disregard for the welfare of the universities and students of Nova Scotia".

Last year the MPHEC recommended a 9.5% increase. Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick went along with the Commission while Nova Scotia cut the amount to 5.5%.

This sparked the resignation of Dalhousie academic vice-president Guy MacLean from the MPHEC and a march by over 3,000 students on the Nova Scotia legislature.

The Association of Atlantic Universities (AAU) said 9.3% was indeed the minimum amount needed if the region's institutions were to maintain their present level of activity and plan for the future.

The Association said since about 75% of the total operating income for post-secondary institutions comes from government assistance, an overall 9.3 percent increase in grants is about a 7% increase in total operating income. Student fees make up most of the remaining income and it appears certain these will have to rise by 8 or 9% at most institutions, the Association said.

John Keyston, executive director of the AAU said, "I wouldn't like to pre-judge the MPHEC's financial study (which includes recommendations on student aid and is due out early in 1980) but an actual tuition increase would not

affect accessibility to any great extent."

"Fees are a barrier to a small minority. Hopefully the financial study will deal with this issue," he said.

SUNS chairperson Mike McNeil said, "indexing tuition to the cost of living is going to hurt lower income people and decrease the impartiality of the education system as we know it."

McNeil and a delegation from SUNS will be meeting with Nova Scotia education minister Donahue on Friday, January 11.

"We will question him about the level of finances we expect to receive and also make sure the provincial government is passing on all federal monies," McNeil said.

In 1977-78 13 million dollars earmarked for post-secondary education and medical services under Established Program Financing (a federal-provincial money transfer agreement) was diverted to other areas by the provincial government.

The MPHEC's recommendation of 9.3% covers three areas of government assistance: 8.1% is allocated to offset increased operating costs, .45% towards programme expansion, and .75% for equalization payments in recognition of past funding levels.

Keyston said he expects the Maritime government to announce their actual level of funding in about a month.

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