

Dal Medical Journal relaunched

BY JEFF BARTON

Like the mythical Phoenix, the *Dalhousie Medical Journal* has risen from its ashes. A wine and cheese party was held in the lounge of the Tupper Medical Building last Friday night to celebrate its launching after a 26 year publication hiatus.

Frank Hassard, a fourth-year medical student, saw the need for a student-run scientific journal in his first year of Medicine. He felt that if other schools could have such a journal, so could Dalhousie.

After enlisting fellow students Ratika Seth and Chris Naugler, the hard work began. The three

organized an editorial board as well as a publishing and production department made up of medical students and one resident. Perhaps the most remarkable feat of all is the fact that the *Journal* is completely self-sufficient. Production and distribution costs were paid for by advertisements bought by various organizations, ranging from drug companies to the *New England Journal of Medicine* to the Burin Peninsula Health Care Board in Newfoundland. Excess funds will provide all Dalhousie

medical students and residents, members of the Faculty of Medicine, members of the Nova Scotia Medical Society, and Canadian medical school libraries with a copy of the *Dalhousie Medical Journal* within the next two weeks.

In their Editorial, the three Editors-in-Chief, Hassard, Seth, and Naugler, give the history of the *Dalhousie Medical Journal*. It was first started in 1936 by I. Roy Gold from Glace Bay, Cape Breton in order "to promote an interest in extra-curricular medical learn-

ing, to publish articles of regional interest and value to medical students and alumni, and to serve as a communication link between Dalhousie students and the medical faculty." After six years, the *Journal* was suspended because of the necessary "abbreviated medical course" during World War II. H.J. Presutti and I.H. Koven revived the *Journal* in 1954 and it continued to publish local research until 1969 when a request for funding was turned down by the Dalhousie Medical Student's Society. The president of the society was none other than Ron Stewart, the current provincial Minister of Health.

The goals of the *Dalhousie Medical Journal* remain much the same. They are to promote an interest in medical research amongst students and to provide a peer review journal to publish their medical and health science research, particularly that of special significance to Atlantic Canada.

The *Dalhousie Medical Journal* will be published on a biannual basis. Articles are currently being accepted for the Spring issue, so read the instructions for authors on Page 3 of this issue and write up your research.

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