

UBC to teach alternative therapies to med students

BY JAMIE WOODS

VANCOUVER (CUP) — Medical students at the University of British Columbia will soon learn how to treat patients with acupuncture as well as Tylenol.

Beginning in January, the university will become the first in Canada to offer its medical school students a course in alternative therapies. The fourth-year class will introduce students to techniques such as acupuncture, ayurveda, homeopathy, orthomolecular medicine, shen therapy, Native American spiritual healing and therapeutic touch.

Students who elect to take the class will also spend a month studying one

or more of those fields with a certified practitioner.

The course, which will operate on a trial basis from January to May, will go one step further than an existing class that outlines the concepts of alternative, or complementary, medicine.

Dr. Nazmudein Merali, a general practitioner who proposed the course to the faculty, says UBC needs to integrate alternative

therapies into its teaching if it wants to keep up with the times.

"People are asking questions about complementary medicine and if we turn around and say, 'look this doesn't exist,' then we are only fooling ourselves," she said.

An Angus Reid poll conducted in October 1997 revealed 7 in 10 Canadians think provincial health care plans should cover alternative medicine costs, and 56 per cent of British Columbians now use alternative medicine.

The widespread use of alternative therapies is the reason UBC's faculty of medicine is introducing the course, says Andrew Chalmers, associate dean of the faculty's undergraduate program.

"Students need to understand what people are doing, they need to understand what kinds of potential problems there are, as some complementary medicines react very nastily with some of our traditional therapies," he said. "They also need to understand that complementary therapies have a therapeutic effect."

But Dr. Jim Lane, president of the British Columbia Medical

Association, says while it's OK to make students aware of complementary medicine, he's sceptical about the scientific basis of alternative therapies.

"I'm a little surprised that [UBC is] putting the course on," he said. "I think that our major concern would be that we would always emphasize that medicine should be evidence-based, and some alternative therapies are less than adequate in a scientific evidence base."

NDP to tackle bankruptcy legislation

BY TARA ATLURI

OTTAWA (CUP) —

Debt-ridden students who need to declare bankruptcy but can't under changes to student bankruptcy laws may soon be presented with a ray of hope.

Libby Davies, education critic with the New Democratic Party, is expected to introduce a private members' bill as early as next week that would amend six-month-old changes to the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act.

Davies wants to undo section

178 of the act, which was first passed last spring. The new section extends the waiting period for students who need to declare bankruptcy from two to ten years for graduates enrolled in full or part-time studies at Canadian post-secondary institutions.

"This is scandalous," Davies said of the change. "On the one hand, the Liberals are crowing about all the wonderful things they

are doing for students. And with the other, they are pushing through this section."

"Student debt is so high it has become an oppressive part of students' lives," Davies said.

She argues the new section disproportionately targets student debtors, and will force students who have exhausted all other options to

continued on page 7

Labour dispute

continued from page 1

of strike or lockout. After a successful strike vote the union may go on strike at any point with a minimum 48 hours notice within the next six months.

Robert Durdan is one of four full-time conciliators on staff at the Dept. of Labour. He joined the department in Feb. 1996 with extensive background in labour relations.

Durdan was also the conciliator during last spring's faculty and university negotiations.

Brenda Crozsmann says "the ball's in the university's court."

"We don't want to do that to the students," she adds. "And even if [we went on strike for] a week, it's a big impact on our salaries."

THE ARMY NAVY STORE

THE REAL ARMY NAVY STORE

TOWELS, FACE CLOTHES, HAMMERS, SCREW DRIVERS, MILITARY PATCHES, ARTIST BRUSHES, ROPE, TWINE, RAINGEAR, MATCHES, HARDWARE, NAILS, MAGNETS, ALARM CLOCKS, PAINT BRUSHES, TARPS, COMBAT PANTS AND SHIRTS, SPEAKER WIRE, FUSES, KEY CHAINS, GLUE, SCISSORS, SOCKET SETS, VISE GRIPS, BUNK BEDS, SNAPS, MARINE HARDWARE, PAPER TOWEL, PHONES, HATS AND GLOVES, TOWELS, AIR MATTRESSES, TAPE MEASURES, KNIVES, KITCHEN GADGETS, TOILET BRUSHES, BELTS, ASHTRAYS, DUFFEL BAGS, HOLSTERS, PADDLES, OARS, OARLOCKS, SHAMPOO, SOAP, WINE SKINS, SAND PAPER, STAINLESS STEEL HARDWARE, WATERING CANS, CAST IRON FRYING PANS, STAINLESS POTS AND PANS, SUNGLASSES, HD GLASSES, GRINDERS, TABLECLOTHS, TOILET PAPER, FLAGS, BLANKETS, MOUSETRAPS, FILING CABINETS, DESKS, OFFICE CHAIRS, WINE GLASSES, BEER STEINS, MUGS, CUTLERY, OIL LAMPS AND OIL FUEL CAN OPENERS, BATTERIES, BUNGI CORDS, LOCKS, CHAINS, SHRELVING, DOLLIES, SPONGES, SCRUBBERS, SHOVELS, RAKES, TOILET PLUNGERS, PADDLES, BUG JACKETS, TENT BAGS, GLOVES, FIRST AID KITS, TAPE, 16MM PROJECTORS, OVERHEAD PROJECTORS, APRONS, WHEEL BARROWS, RAKES, CANDLE HOLDERS, JARS, KETTLES, TEA POTS, WIRE MESH, AND CHICKEN WIRE, SHOE BRUSHES, CASTERS, WD-40, CAMO NETTING, CHEESE GRADERS, SEWING KITS, STRAINERS, SALT AND PEPPER SHAKERS, SPICES, SUGAR DISHES, PARK BENCHES, TABLES, GARBAGE BAGS, RIBBON, BEDS, MATTRESSES, POTS, PANS, HATS, CAMO CLOTHING, SURPLUS CLOTHING, BOOTS, SOCKS, PACKS, BAGS, CABLE, WIRE, TOWELS, FACE DELIVERY AVAILABLE, SCREW DRIVERS,

454-4330

2660 AGRICOLA STREET, HALIFAX

Have you decided to pursue an MBA?
Have you decided which MBA program is right for you?

CANADIAN MBA FAIR '98

HALIFAX - Monday, OCTOBER 5, 4:00 - 7:00 pm
HOTEL HALIFAX, Highland Suites,
1900 Barrington Street

Meet and have the opportunity to have questions answered by program representatives from various schools such as:

Alberta, British Columbia, Calgary, Dalhousie, HEC, Ivey, Manitoba, McGill, McMaster, Ottawa, Queen's, Simon Fraser, Saint Mary's, Schulich, Toronto, Wilfrid Laurier, Windsor

Halifax Joint Career Fair

World Trade & Convention Center
1800 Argyle Street

October 5, 1998
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Free admission with valid university i.d.

Free bus service from all schools

Bring Resumes and Cover Letters

Meet your future

Set Sail for Your Future

Hosted by:

MOUNT SAINT VINCENT UNIVERSITY

DALHOUSIE University

Saint Mary's University

Sponsored by:

Youth Employment Strategy Canada

Phone our HOTLINE (902) 494-5516/2515
Visit us at <http://careerfair.interuniversity.ns.ca>
Email info@careerfair.interuniversity.ns.ca

Continuous bus service between SUB and WTCC beginning at 9:45 in front of SUB