

CROSSCANADA

Midwifery in the third trimester

WINDSOR (CUP) — Three Ontario post-secondary institutions have formed a partnership to deliver Canada's first undergraduate degree in midwifery.

McMaster University, Laurentian University, and Ryerson Polytechnical Institute will begin the new program in September, with a combined enrollment of about twenty-seven students. The four-year program — to be offered over three calendar years — will be made up of an academic curriculum coupled with hands-on clinical practice.

Midwives say the added credibility of a university degree will make midwives and natural births more popular. "I think more people will choose midwives as a result of the university training," said Robin Kilpatrick, a practising midwife with the Association of Ontario Midwives.

The new program is part of the Ontario government's attempt to cut escalating medical costs. The program is in line with the province's shift from institutionalized hospital care to a more community-based health care system.

In conjunction with the midwife training degree, the ministry is aiming to establish free-standing birthing centres by the end of the year. Presently there are four in-hospital "pilot" birthing centres in four Ontario cities. Funded under the Ontario government's independent health facilities act, these centres will be sites for midwifery.

"We treat the female as the primary decision-maker and we help her to make informed choices during pregnancy, labour, birth and the post-partum period," said Kilpatrick.

Sexism standard fare in science

TORONTO (CUP) — Protests over a sexist article in a York-based science journal are changing attitudes toward scholarly publishing.

A symposium early next month aims to produce a "heightening of awareness of the standards for publishing in academic journals," said Selma Zimmerman, advisor to York on the status of women, who organized a petition protesting a 1990 article in the Canadian Journal of Physics.

Gordon Freeman, a chemistry professor at the University of Alberta, wrote an article published in an issue of the journal called, "Kinetics of non-homogeneous processes in human society: unethical behavior and societal chaos." He blamed this "societal chaos" on women.

"The escalation of ethics problems in North America is associated with the decline of family stability and the resulting deficiency of self-esteem engendered in children by their mothers," Freeman wrote.

Council vice-president Clive Willis said the article "reflects entrenched attitudes and outdated networks that perpetuate impediments against women in science and engineering."

"This is not about freedom of expression," Zimmerman said. "Our argument is that in an academic journal there are strict standards to adhere to. Published work must be reported on good solid data and peer-reviewed by specialists in the field in which that paper is written."

Conserve Ubysey, lose Conservatives

BURNABY (CUP) — Staff at the University of British Columbia's student newspaper are breathing easier now that a petition to put their funding to referendum failed last week.

Jason Saunderson, vice-president of the Young Conservatives at UBC, started the petition because he thought the "left-wing bias" of the Ubysey does not represent the students. The petition failed because it had only 984 valid signatures. Saunderson needed 1,000 to put the question to referendum in the student elections at the end of January.

The petition read "Due to the nature of the material produced by the Ubysey, being unrepresentative of the members of the Alma Mater Society of the University of British Columbia we wish the President...to call a referendum...Should the members of the Alma Mater Society of the University of British Columbia continue to finance the Ubysey in any way?"

The Ubysey is an "outlet of left-wing thought, radical feminism, homosexual militancy, eco-warrioring, and any other anti-establishment interest," said Saunderson in a letter to the paper.

A statement from the Ubysey collective said "the campaign is being pursued as part of a political agenda...the people pursuing this question...want to silence those they disagree with."

Saunderson said he will continue his campaign against the Ubysey despite the petition's failure.

news

Students fail to dent brick wall...

Students, open your wallets

by Judy Reid

Despite protest, on Thursday, January 21, 1993, Dalhousie's Board of Governor's voted to increase student fees by 10%. Again.

Students organized, students spoke, students camped, signed petitions, painted signs, posted posters and at 4 pm about 350 students stood outside the McDonald building and demanded that they be allowed to go to a meeting which would decide how much money students needed to attend Dalhousie University.

Doors to the Board of Governors meeting remained closed except to those students carrying one of 80 passes that were available at the President's Office. Although the tickets ran out the same morning they were issued, only 23 students sat in on the meeting.

"ALLOFUSORNONEOFUS!" cried protestors.

According to one professor in attendance, no responsible Board of Governors would hold a meeting open to all students.

Students flooded the stairwells and hallways leading to the Board of Governors meeting when told that the meeting was going ahead with-

Maxine Tynes, a member of the Board of Governors, speaking to students after Thursday's meeting:

...Your numbers and your commitment speak much louder than your cheers. And, you know, it's just the beginning of, it's the continuum of, the recognition of this student body and as individuals, men and women who do what Malcolm X suggested that young people do... that the best thing you can do is look for yourselves, listen for yourselves, look clearly. Then speak clearly. Address your *own* agenda. (crowd cheers) To be unrelenting and remember, this is only one opportunity. This is only one situation where you can lobby, where you can state your case. I think, that you state your case very well, but you have a difficult task in front of you. You're speaking to the establishment. The establishment usually hears itself very well but you, you are the university. (crowd goes wild)

out them. While chanting and yelling, students were warned to be quiet or else the meeting would go in camera, ie. closed to all students and no minutes recorded.

"WE WON'T BE BLACKMAILED!" screamed one student.

Students were told that their representatives in the meeting were arguing against a tuition increase and once again students were warned to shut up.

An uneasy silence followed.

At approximately 5:15 pm, a fire alarm went off, a board member interrupted one of the student representatives and called the question to vote because the noise was disruptive.

"ALL WE ARE ASKING FOR IS NOTHING!" read a button.

At 5:17 pm the majority of the Board of Governors agreed to increase the 1993/94 tuition by another 10%.

Toward a U of Nova Scotia

by Marie MacPherson

"Welcome to the University of Nova Scotia." If rationalization of university programs is executed, this greeting may become a reality.

The Nova Scotia Council on Higher Education is currently proposing massive changes to the province's university system. These changes include rationalization of university programs. Rationalization means the free and open transfer of credits between universities in Nova Scotia along with a central registration centre.

A discussion paper released in December cites five priority areas for system-wide review where there are program "overlaps or gaps": education, business-management-commerce, earth and environmental sciences, engineering, computing science and computer engineering.

Dr. Janet Halliwell, chairperson of the council says, "It will not be change for the sake of change. There is simply no money to go around and our universities must change their ways of doing business if they are to prosper in the next decade."

Education is the first area to be reviewed. The review will involve asking the universities to define the strength of particular disciplines through guidelines established by the council.

Sue Drapeau, Executive Officer of the Student's Union of Nova Scotia, says "SUNS is primarily concerned

with the impact that program changes will have on student accessibility and mobility."

For example, if the business school at UCCB were discontinued, a student interested in a commerce degree would be forced to move to the Halifax area. The result is increased expenses to the student without an increase in student aid.

Mausumi Banerjee, V. P. Academic for the Dalhousie Student's Union says, "The DSU agrees that

"Our universities must change their ways of doing business."

there could be some major gains from rationalizing, but only if the people who are working at rationalizing are not just interested in saving money. The quality of education cannot be sacrificed. There are areas other than faculties which could be rationalized, such as physical planning."

Banerjee expresses concern that there is not much student awareness about rationalization. "There was a lot of hype about rationalization a couple of years back, but it's been

really put on the back burner with the Freeze the Fees protest," says Banerjee. "Rationalization may not be a fast process, but it's an important one."

It is anticipated that at least four of the five reviews will be completed by Christmas of 1993.

In regards to possible job loss by university faculty within Nova Scotia, Halliwell says, "There is no such thing as job security in this world. We can't give to the university community what nobody else in Nova Scotia has."

Halliwell says, "Human resources, of course, will be the utmost concern in the decision-making process. Students must be allowed to complete their degree within the province and special short-term assistance for university staff will be considered."

"But we can still make no promises," adds Halliwell.

The rationalization/revitalization process is also very close to finalizing a new policy of free and open credit transfers. "By the end of March the thirteen university Senates will hopefully have approved the credit-transfer initiative," says Halliwell.

SUNS has concerns that the proposal concerning the transferability of credits does not go far enough. Drapeau says, "It's also important that a passing grade in a course at one institution is sufficient to war-

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