

# Engineering Senior Report Conference

by Keith Morrison

The 1991 fall session of the Civil and Geological Engineering Senior Report Conference was held on Wednesday November 27.

Approximately 100 people attended the day-long event. This was the first time the two disciplines presented their Senior Reports together.

Before graduating, each Civil and Geological student is required to do research and prepare a report on a technical subject of their interest. This report is completed within one academic year under the supervision of a faculty professor.

The conference began with opening remarks from Dr. W. Faig (Dean of Engineering), professor R. M. Francis (Dean of Civil Engineering), and Dr. A.J. Valsangkar (Director of Geological Engineering). Each expressed the importance of this event as it develops organizational and communication skills the students will require in the future as engineers.

Fifteen speakers, twelve from Civil and 3 from Geological, gave very high quality presentations in the following areas of engineering: construction, geotechnical, structural, road structures, hydrotechnical, groundwater, and environmental.

Also, two representatives from APENB (The

Association of Professional Engineers of the Province of New Brunswick) were on hand to speak with all engineering students present. Huntley Wishand, the Executive Director of the association, gave a brief review of his perception of how technology has changed since he graduated in 1957 from UNB. He showed how methods and instruments have, changed by comparing the slide rule and cumbersome tables with the modern day calculator and computers. David Beattie, the other representative, was also a UNB graduate. He graduated in 1974 from Civil Engineering and is a consultant for ADI limited. Mr Beattie presented his view of the way Civil Engineering students will have to perform as professionals. He commented on the lifestyle change, the hard work and the long hours to be expected. He also encouraged the students to take pride in the work they do and to expect and accept mistakes.

At the end of the day a total of eight prizes were awarded. The Oral and Visual class gave three awards, which were made by CE technicians, for the best presentation format.

A replica of a suspension bridge with pendulum balls was given to Mark Macleod for first prize. Mark did his report on "Earth Sheltered Housing"

A beer stein with the



Civil and Geological Senior Report Conference prizewinners. From left to right: Scott Mather, Peter MaWhinney, Bruce Carr, Morgan Mabutho, Krista McLeish and Ian Page, conference organisers, Mark MacLeod, John Take and Dan MacDonald. (Michael David Smith photo)

conference logo was given to Dan MacDonald for second place. Dan's report included "Hydraulic Sizing and Structural Design of CSP and SPCSP Culverts."

John Take received a desk set with a picture of Head hall on it for 3rd place. Take did a "Model Study of an Outlet Control Structure used in Wetland Management."

The Ian Scott MacDonald memorial prize went to a student who demonstrated originality and creativity. This year the recipient of the award was Bruce Carr, for his analysis of "Recycling Tires for Heat Extraction."

The Earl J. Grant award was presented to the student with

best structured report. Grant was a long time Civil Faculty member and the request of his family a cash prize is given. Morgan Mabutho received the Grant Award this year for his report on "Low Load Cycling and Static Testing of a Masonry Infilled Steel Frame."

The Book Prize, which recognized technical merit was given to John take. This was John's second prize for the day.

The next two awards are given to Geological students. One of these awards is for the best report and is judged by the students. this was received by Scott Mather for his experiment with a "Data acquisition system for Slug Tests."

The other award is given for technical merit by the faculty members and was won by Peter MaWhinney. MaWhinney experimented with "Geogrid and Lightweight Aggregate Interaction".

During the closing ceremonies, Professor Francis congratulated the speakers and Professor Garland's Oral and Visual class for a "job well done" on behalf of himself and Dr. Valsangkar. The Oral and Visual class were responsible for the complete organization of the conference.

Co-chairpersons of the conference, Ian Page and Kristen McLeish, considered the day a huge success and they were very pleased with the "Top Notch" presentations.

## UNB Debating Union scores decisive victory

by Chris Watson

The University of New Brunswick Debating Union scored a decisive victory by winning the University of Prince Edward Island Invitational Tournament held on November 22nd and the 23rd.

Debaters Darrin Gray, a PhD bio-chemistry student, and Marc Lefebvre, an MA sociology student, triumphed over the other Atlantic schools in the tournament, having been the only undefeated team after six rounds of arduous debate.

Lefebvre and Gray defeated teams from Saint Thomas, Mount Allison, UPEI, and several infamous Sodales debaters from Dalhousie, which included a last's years World Championship finalist. The UNB DU also placed the teams of Clark Graves and Jennifer Legere, and Matthew Walsh and Sherry Morin into the quarter finals.

Individual debating placements were also dominated by UNB DU members. In terms of individual scores, Marc Lefebvre finished tops, winning the UPEI "Most-Illuminating Speech" Trophy. Darrin Gray finished in second place. He commented, "Marc's [Lefebvre] and my style were

very complimentary. We managed to work well as a team to propose cases as well as providing an effective opposition." Matthew Walsh, a first-year science student, finished a "very respectable" tenth in the field of competitors. President Chris Pollard noted, "what were novice debaters one month ago, are fast turning into a solid talent base from which the union can draw in future."

The "whirl wind" one day tournament was the first time UPEI has hosted a tournament in over two decades. "This tournament is indicative of the revival of university debating in the Atlantic region and in Canada in general" said

Lefebvre, who is also the regional Vice-President for the Canadian University Society of Intercollegiate Debate (CUSID), the national debating organization. Schools such as Mount Allison, UCCB, the Canadian Coast Guard College, and UPEI are just some of new schools to actively start participating in CUSID tournaments.

Debates at UPEI included the issues of accessibility of rural medical health care, the merits of building an underground tunnel link to PEI, and a final round which concerned the imposition of a departure tax to curb cross-border shopping.

The debating union and the competitors would like to thank the UPEI Debate Society, Wandlyn Inns, and Air Canada for their continued support of debating in Canada and at UNB.

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