

W5 show on foreigners brings protest

A recent CTV program investigating the presence of foreign students in Canada contained many "distortions and inaccuracies," the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) has charged.

A strong protest has been filed by the AUCC with the president of CTV network and the producers of its "W5" show. The program in question was aired Sept. 30.

Host Helen Hutchison claimed that "thousands of Canadians are being kept out of our universities by foreign students," citing such subjects as engineering, medicine, pharmacy, and computer science.

"The program was built around a particular case which was entirely unfounded," stated Alan Earp, president of Brock University (St. Catharines) and current president of the AUCC.

Against a backdrop of scenes of Chinese students at the University of Toronto (in fact, it was a meeting of the Chinese Students' Association), W5 interviewed a Canadian student from St. Catharines who was not admitted to the University of Toronto's pharmacy program. The implication was made that she was refused admission because the space was taken by a foreign student. In fact, not one single visa student has been admitted to the pharmacy faculty.

The program also implied that there are large numbers of "foreigners" in medicine at the University of Toronto. The fact is that there are only two visa students in a class of 256.

At UBC, visa students in 1979-80 account for less than one per cent of all undergraduate and professional program students. (Professional programs include law, medicine, dentistry, architecture and pharmacy.) Of the total 21,097 undergraduate and professional enrolment, 203 are visa students this fall. At the graduate level, 16 per cent are on student visa, bringing the total of all visa students to 2.88 per cent of the total enrolment.

Visa students are not admitted to UBC unless they have gone as far as they can in the education system of their own countries. Each application for admission is assessed individually.

Much of the problem, the AUCC states, lies in confusion between landed immigrants and those with student visas. Under Human Rights legislation landed immigrants cannot be differentiated from Canadians for the purposes of university admission. Visa students account for less than five per cent of the total enrolment in Canadian universities.

Service set

A Remembrance Day service will be held at 10:45 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 11, in the foyer of the War Memorial Gymnasium at the University of B.C.

The address will be given by E.C. Wilkinson, a member of the 196th Western Universities Battalion Association, and the scripture will be read by J.V. Clyne, the University chancellor.

Reverend L.R. Pocock will conduct the service which is open to the public.

Music will be provided by the UBC Wind Symphony. Students, staff, faculty and interested members of the University community are all welcome.



Jim Banham photo

It was standing room only in the Great Hall of UBC's Museum of Anthropology last week for the opening of the museum's major fall show, a display of the graphic art of Haida artist Robert Davidson. His work will be on display at UBC until February, 1980, and then will travel to the Queen Charlotte Islands Museum and the Provincial Museum in Victoria. Another feature of the opening-night ceremony was the presentation of a book on Davidson prints, written by B.C. author Hilary Stewart.

Chinese scholars studying here as part of education exchange

Nine Chinese scholars will be studying at UBC this fall and winter as part of an agreement to further the development of educational exchanges and co-operation between Canada and the People's Republic of China.

The exchange is part of a Canada-wide program which follows negotiations between the Chinese Ministry of Education and the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada.

Six of the nine scholars have now arrived on campus, the latest arriving last weekend. During their stay they'll be living in the low-rise complex of the Gage residence. Before coming to Canada, they had to complete intensive courses in English comprehension and conversation, and most of the visitors expect to stay in Canada between one and two years. The Chinese government is covering their living costs.

Two of the Chinese scholars have

come to UBC to study medical carcinogenesis. Others are studying fish physiology, mineral engineering, electrical engineering and oceanography.

In all more than 100 Chinese scholars will study and carry out research in Canadian institutions this year. In turn, the Chinese government will promote accessibility of Canadian scholars and students to its institutions of higher learning through travel to China, access to research materials and attendance at regular courses. Discussions will be held between the Chinese ministry of education and the Canadian embassy in Peking to promote access for Canadian students, postgraduates, and university professors, including specialists in social sciences, humanities and science and technology.

A number of UBC people have recently been to China to study and travel

Construction to start soon on UBC's Asian Centre

Van Construction of Burnaby, the lowest of six bidders, has been given the job of completing construction of the Asian Centre at the University of British Columbia.

The Van bid of \$2,797,187 was within budget.

C.J. (Chuck) Connaghan, UBC vice-president administrative services, said he was encouraged by the number of bids, and by the highly competitive bidding. He said work would start immediately, with the building expected to be ready for occupancy early in 1981.

The UBC Board of Governors had set a budget of \$3,591,952 for completion of the Asian Centre, including landscaping and furnishings.

The centre will house UBC's Asian

Studies library of more than 200,000 books, as well as offices for members of the Department of Asian Studies and the Institute of Asian Research. There will also be a 250-seat auditorium for performances of Asian music, theatre and dance, and an exhibition area.

Work on the Asian Centre began in 1974, following donation to UBC by the Sanyo Corporation of the massive roof used on Sanyo's pavilion at Expo '70 in Osaka, Japan. But with the exterior walls up and the roof on, funds ran out in 1975 and work was halted.

The Asian Centre is located on the West Mall at UBC, adjacent to the Nitobe Memorial Garden, just off Marine Drive.

Chair in Accounting to be funded

The accounting profession is in need of well-trained university graduates, and at least one major firm, Arthur Andersen & Co., is putting substantial capital money into the university system to encourage them.

R. Beverley Harrison, managing partner of the firm's Vancouver office, has announced the funding of the Arthur Andersen & Co. Alumni Chair in Accounting at UBC.

"We look upon it as an investment to help meet the continuing need for accountants who have been taught by business faculties staffed with the best teachers available," Mr. Harrison said. "Our firm and our employees have had a long-term relationship with UBC in the funding of accounting development. The establishment of the chair is a new and interesting departure which we feel will help to satisfy a real need."

Peter Lusztig, dean of Commerce and Business Administration at UBC, says endowed "chairs" are relatively new in Canadian business schools but points out that this is his faculty's fourth.

The others are the United Parcel Service Chair in Transportation, the Philip H. White Chair in Urban Land Economics, and the Albert E. Hall Chair in Finance.

Establishment of a chair is a major financial undertaking because it can require an endowment large enough to fund the teaching and research costs of a senior professor on an annual basis. "Each case is different, depending on whether or not the income is designed to cover both salary and related expenses," Dean Lusztig says. "If it covers both, we would be talking about funds well up in the six-figure range to generate the required income."

"But the endowment offers tangible benefits to the firm involved. It meets their desire to aid in the development of recruitable talent as well as supporting research and teaching in their particular field. It also allows them to plan for financing of such support on a long-term basis, targeted to a very specific field of study," Lusztig added.

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more than 33 years with the Registrar's Office.

She, too, has seen a lot of changes over her years at the University. When she first joined the staff of the Registrar's Office, there were five people in the department. In 1949, three years after she joined UBC, the University got its first IBM to store student records, she recalled. There were about 9,000 students on campus at the time, many of them ex-service people whose education had been interrupted by the war.

Ms. Law started out at UBC as a stenographer, gradually moving up to graduate assistant, administrative assistant, and most recently, admissions officer examining the records and applications of students wishing to come to UBC.

She plans on retirement to follow her early interests in art and pottery making. She'll be moving in December to her old family home on Gabriola Island, a part-time home on weekends and holidays for many years. She's looking forward to perhaps getting a kiln and taking summer courses at the Banff School of Fine Arts.

"I look on retirement as the start of something new," Ms. Law said, "not the end of something."