

MEMORANDUM

To: Principal W. Murison
Dean W. Keun

From: J.L. Adams

ANNUAL REPORT 1970-71

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SELKIRK COLLEGE
Castlegar, B. C.

The following summarizes activities in the Forestry Technology Department for the 1970-71 year.

1. STUDENTS

There were approximately sixty-five applications for admission to Forestry in 1970. Thirty of these were admitted to the first year of the program and fifteen were admitted to the preparatory program. (In previous years we only admitted twenty students to first year). One student dropped out of the first year during the year. Twenty-six of the remaining twenty-nine successfully completed first year and were eligible to go on to second year. All first year students were placed in forestry jobs for the summer recess - about two thirds of the class with the B.C. Forest Service and one third with industry or consulting firms.

Fourteen students returned to begin second year in September 1970, three of them only working on a partial second year program. Two full time students withdrew during the first month to work for a year before completing the program. Only six students completed the program satisfactorily and were eligible to graduate. The remaining six students who should have graduated this year will have to return at some later date to fulfill the requirements for graduation. All students who graduated and those who should have but did not have been placed in permanent or semi-permanent employment - eight with the B.C. Forest Service and four with industrial or consulting firms.

We also had a part time student from Jamaica with us for the year on a United Nations F.A.O. fellowship. His main interest was in the logging and engineering aspects of forestry in the B.C. Interior and its applicability in Jamaica.

The Forestry club had an active year under the sponsorship of Mr. Moore. They sponsored several dances and turned the college upside-down and inside-out during F-Day on the last scheduled day of classes. They have also proposed a small logging museum in co-operation with the Doukhobor Historical Society. Forestry students, as usual, won the blood donor clinic trophy and continued to dominate the student body in many other endeavors. Many students and graduates of the College are joining the Forest Technologist's Association of British Columbia. Hopefully Selkirk students will take over this organization in the not too distant future.

2. FACULTY

Mr. R. Blaine, Laboratory Demonstrator, resigned in the spring of 1970 to take a position with Crown Zellerbach in Courtenay. Since Mr. Blaine had been teaching two courses it was necessary to replace him with a faculty

member. Mr. W. Moore was employed in August 1970 to replace Mr. Blaine and take over responsibility for the logging and engineering aspects of the program.

Mr. J.F. Munro resigned in the spring of 1971 to take a position with the Canada Department of Environment in Ottawa. Mr. K. Robertson, Management Forester for Celgar at Nakusp was appointed to take over Mr. Munro's areas of Forest Mensuration and Forest Management.

Besides their regular teaching duties forestry faculty took part in many other activities during the year.

Adams - completed registration with Association of B.C. Professional Foresters

- made articulation trip to B.C.I.T. and U.B.C.
- acted as director of Canadian Forestry Association of B.C. Southeastern Region and attended directors' meetings in the Okanagan
- elected as national director of C.F.A.
- Secretary-Treasurer of Kootenay Section C.I.F. - not an onerous job as the section is almost dead
- acted as National Director of Canadian Institute of Forestry
- attended and spoke at the Annual Meeting of the Forest Technologist's Association of British Columbia
- spoke to several service clubs in the local area
- nominated for election to school board and only lost by thirty-four votes.

Holden - attended Annual Meeting of Association of B.C. Registered Foresters in Williams Lake

- attended Roadside Development Conference at U.B.C. Forest
- was active in Canadian Institute of International Affairs and represented the West Kootenay branch at Ottawa meeting.

Moore - aided citizens group in road location for road from Kinnaird to Champion Lakes.

- working toward registration with Association of B.C. Professional Foresters
- became a Rover Scout Leader in Castlegar

Munro - attended Western Entomological Instructors Conference at U.B.C.

- contributed to South Eastern B.C. Forest Pest Control Council and gave course on Variable Plot Cruising to this body in Cranbrook.
- gave course in Variable Plot Cruising at College to industry and forest service personnel.

3. FACILITIES

During the last year we purchased a small greenhouse for the use of the Forestry and Biology departments. Work was begun on the construction of a B.C. Forest Service model Forest Fire Simulator which will be operational for the 1971 Fall term. We also added minor equipment for photogrammetry and mensuration including an additional Kail Plotter and Slotted Template Cutter.

A twelve passenger Ford Clubwagon was rented on a monthly basis to provide transportation for field trips and outdoor laboratory exercises.

4. ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND LIAISON

There were no advisory committee meetings during the past year there being no major revisions to or problems with the program. However continuous personal liaison with members of the advisory committee was carried out by all members of the faculty throughout the year. We continued to make use of many guest speakers from the B.C. Forest Service and the Forest Industry as well as calling on industry for many field trips to their forestry and production operations.

Second year students were taken on one major field trip during the Spring Term. We visited major forest industries in Washington and Idaho and spent several days viewing and discussing research and operational work being conducted by the U.S. Forest Service.

5. PROBLEMS

Our major problem continues to be lack of space - both for instruction and storage of collections and equipment. An extra row of tables was placed in the Forestry Laboratory in September to accommodate thirty students. However it is almost impossible for people to move around during laboratory periods. The fact that we do most of our lectures in the laboratory presents problems in preparation and clean up. The wall between two seminar rooms (G10 and G11) was removed to provide additional laboratory space for Forestry and a room with tables for Mathematics laboratories for the 1970-71 year. However this room was used mostly by Regional and Community Planning. The Drafting laboratory would have been suitable for many of our classes but was timetabled for Aviation for all mornings. Many times during the year we were forced to have two different classes (Forestry and Planning) going on in the Drafting room at one time - not a desirable situation. These problems may be worse in 1971-72 now that G10 - G11 has been converted to a single purpose Biology laboratory.

Transportation for outdoor laboratory exercises and field trips also created some problems. There were a lot of conflicting uses for the one van - particularly when two different field exercises were going on or when the van was required to transport the athletic teams. We often had to depend on students using their own cars. This is not satisfactory because of insurance problems and traffic control--particularly on restricted logging roads.

We managed to get through the year without the services of a laboratory technician. We lost some equipment or it was misplaced and we had trouble keeping up with repairs. The laboratory had to be locked at all times when not in use - even so a couple of locks were broken on equipment drawers. There must be someone who has the responsibility for the upkeep and control of the laboratory and the equipment in it. We also are building up a library of research and technical forestry publication which students can have easy access to. We need someone in the laboratory at all times or has the job of keeping this library in order.

The greenhouse is not satisfactory - everything grown in it turns red. Some essential part of the light spectrum is not getting through and we will have to add some more banks of fluorescent lighting.

6. A LOOK AHEAD

The number of applications for our forestry program (and ours is not the only one with an excess of applicants) indicates a large demand for this type of training. We are turning away many well qualified students - particularly from outside the region. However, available opportunities at present do not seem to warrant expansion of technical forestry programs. I feel we should be making strong requests to the Department of Education to start some long range and in-depth studies of needs for technicians in the resource management area to provide some guideline for expansion of these types of programs. I do not feel that we should expand our program until we have definite indications that there will be employment available for most graduates.

We may have to be a bit more careful about entrance requirements in the future. The B.C. Forest Service up until very recently only required a grade ten education for initial entry. They are now suggesting a minimum of complete high school graduation preferably with Mathematics 12 - in other words on the Academic/Technical program. The Forest Service is now encouraging their own employees to return to technical school if they want to advance. Most of their people do not satisfy our entrance requirements - academically or regionally. Coupled with this is the apparent closing down in the near future of the Forest Service's own training school at Surrey. It may be that we should be considering a specialized type of program for Forest Service employees who have not the entrance requirements but have a good background of experience. It is likely that B.C.I.T. would get first crack at such a program, being a provincial institution, but we should be prepared to do something along this line also.

Over the next year we will probably be looking very closely at putting on a longer spring term. There are difficulties in some of our courses trying to get in enough field practice during the snowy months. We are also overloading students during our regular timetable. We will be considering reorganizing the program so that more of the field oriented work is concentrated in the spring term. This may require some adjustments in faculty contract terms.

We will be proposing some development of buildings of a semi-permanent nature on our Forest Reserve to improve our field instruction facilities. Hopefully the next by-law will include some provision for this. In the immediate future we will have to do some road and bridge work to improve access in the area - hopefully in the Spring of 1972.

We have talked quite a bit about establishing an arboretum and a small nursery at the College. This has been put off in the past because there was no one in charge of College grounds on a full time basis who could give such a project the required attention. We have done quite a bit of planting on the grounds but most young trees have been lost to snow-plows or mice. Now that there is someone whose full time responsibility will be to look after the grounds we will be able to proceed with an arboretum (worked in with the landscaping) and nursery.