

2002 SAFA Diploma Award Winner Selected

FILE COPY

By Karen Drummond, SAIT Alumni Relations & Student Awards



Gloria McGovern is a student well known to the SAIT Alumni Relations & Student Awards office. She has won several awards while a student at SAIT as a result of her academic achievements, and active involvement within the SAIT community. So, it was not a big surprise to learn that Gloria had won another—the SAFA Diploma Award.

The SAFA Diploma Award of \$600 is awarded each year to a student enrolled in third or fourth semester of a two- or three-year program with consideration given to academic achievement, financial need, involvement in extracurricular activities, and whether a student is a dependent of a SAFA member. This is one of three SAFA awards given to SAIT students each year, with the respective value, for the other two awards being \$400 and \$1000. Having established their SAIT scholarships in 1983, SAFA has a long history of award-

ing and recognizing SAIT students.

Gloria is in her final year of the Civil Engineering Technology program. She has also been taking several courses through SAIT distance delivery to earn an AutoCAD Operators Certificate, Construction Management Certificate, and Basic Construction Estimating Certificate. In addition, Gloria has been involved in industry as a member of the Alberta Society of Engineering Technologists (ASET).

While a student, Gloria has given her time to a wide range of activities outside her studies. These include helping to organize Native Awareness Day at SAIT, volunteering for SAIT's SAFEWALK program, serving as SAITSA Student Council Representative for the Construction Department, participating as Assistant Cub Scout Leader for Scouts Canada, and fulfilling the duties of First Nations Association Executive Officer of Marketing and Promotions. These are just some of the activities she has been involved in; the list goes on.

The SAFA Diploma Award will help Gloria to continue to excel in her program here at SAIT, and it will also help to inspire her to achieve even more in the future. Following graduation, Gloria would like to work in the field for a couple of years and then enroll in a Bachelor degree program. In Gloria's words, **"I appreciate the acknowledgement of my needs and my accomplishments, as well as the support you have provided for my education. I realize there were many candidates worthy of this award . . . please know that I am truly honoured and humbled."** ♦♦

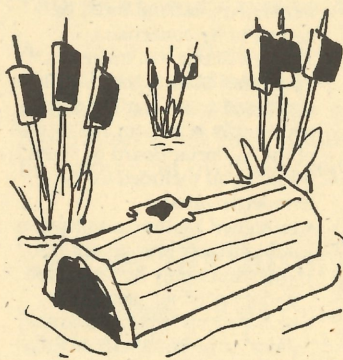
BOG Log

A portion of the SAIT Board of Governors meetings in October and November 2002 was open to the public, and SAFA President, Ceril Kenny, attended both meetings. The minutes of the public portion of the October 2002 meeting are available on the SAIT website—click on "About SAIT," then "Governance."

The next Board of Governors meeting which is open to the public will be held March 28, 2003.

Although the SAFAGRAM Editorial Board has invited our faculty representatives to share information with faculty, we have not received any articles for this academic year.

SAFAGRAM Editorial Board ♦♦



IN THIS ISSUE

Diploma Award Winner	1
BOG Log	1
Library Report	2
President's Message	2
Interpreting SIRs	3
FAQs	3
Is there life after SAIT? .	4
Industry Involvement Inspires Student Success ..	7
Editorial Cartoon	8

LIBRARY REPORT



by Nora Robinson and Dave Weber, Library Instruction
www.sait.ab.ca/library

- ⇒ In December, the Olympic Legacy Fund Committee approved \$10,000 in funding for six new computer workstations for student use in the Library. These computers will be installed soon. We also added five new workstations (reassigned from other uses by the Centre for Learning) in early December. Our computers are heavily used by students, and we hope that the 11 new workstations will ease the lineups.
- ⇒ Our new coin-operated photocopiers also arrived just before Christmas. The new photocopiers are much faster and produce better copies.
- ⇒ Students in the second-year Photojournalism program will be displaying their work in the Library starting January 30. Each student is selecting five of his/her best photos for display. We invite you to stop by and see what they are doing.
- ⇒ In response to student requests, we have installed a credit/debit card machine to make the payment of fines easier.

SAFAGRAM

Editorial Board

Hilde Clovechok
Heather Sagan
Pat Squibb
Wendy Strashok
B.J. Hamilton—Cartoonist

Layout

Luda Paul

Printed by

Quick Print Graphic Services

SAFAGRAM is published by the SAIT Academic Faculty Association (SAFA) five times a year on or about the first days of October, December, February, April, and June. Deadline for submissions is the 10th of the month preceding publication. Send submissions to SAFAGRAM, care of the SAFA office, N201 or e-mail submissions to luda.paul@sait. Please keep submissions under 300 words, double space, and, if possible, submit on floppy disc (Mac or DOS) with an accompanying hard copy. Submissions may be edited for grammar, length, or content. SAFAGRAM editorial policy, as

approved by the SAFA Executive on June 14, 1995, is as follows:

1. The Editorial Board has the final say as to what is included or deleted from the newsletter.
2. Editorial Board decisions about newsletter material must be agreed to by consensus.
3. The newsletter will include a disclaimer stating that the views expressed in its content do not necessarily represent the views of the Editorial Board or SAFA.
4. All material included in the newsletter must
 - be signed by the author when submitted to the editors but anonymity may be requested and granted for printing.
 - be based on "reasoned argument" if personal criticism is used.
 - not involve name-calling.
 - not include sexist, racist, or homophobic comments.
 - be related to SAIT, although this will be interpreted broadly.

The views expressed in SAFAGRAM do not necessarily represent the views of the Editorial Board or SAFA.

- ⇒ We have introduced a new food and beverage policy in response to student complaints about garbage and odors. Meals are no longer allowed in the Library, and all beverages must be in spill-proof, non-disposable containers.
- ⇒ Our library instruction program continues to be very active. We have over 30 sessions scheduled, including tours, library skills workshops, and some specialized presentations on topics such as setting up a search strategy and plagiarism. If you would like to have a library instruction session, please contact Nora Robinson (4073) or Dave Weber (8476).
- ⇒ In late January, students from the Library Information Technology program will start their library circulation practicum at our Information Desk. Each student will be working at the desk for three hours.
- ⇒ In April, we will be hosting the Alberta Association of College Librarians spring meeting. We look forward to hosting college librarians from across the province and showing off our new facility. ➤

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Ceril Kenny



Happy New Year to everyone! I certainly hope that the Christmas vacation was everything you wanted it to be, apart from the fact that it probably seemed to be too short.

I've been browsing the Alberta Government website. I like to access the site periodically to find out what's happening in the realms of Government (and since income tax time is fast approaching, I like to find out where some of my tax money goes). I also like to access Alberta legislation, particularly those laws, regulations, and codes with which we might come into contact through courses, teaching, faculty association business, etc. The site provides free access to all of Alberta laws and regulations with the understanding that the material is covered by copyright, so it can be printed only for personal use.

So, how do we access the Act and Regulations from the Alberta government website?

Go to <http://www.gov.ab.ca/qp>. This gets you to the Queen's Printer page. On the top right, there's a box for "Catalogue Search." Just click on "Search"; don't fill in any details. This takes you to a page with lots of items beginning with A and a shopping cart (shades of Amazon.com). Ignore the shopping cart (unless you want to buy something), go to the bottom of the page and click on "More Options" which gets you to a page with all the letters of the alphabet. Click on the letter that is the first letter of the Act that you need. Once you're on the page with lots of items beginning with that letter, you're almost finished! Find the actual Act that interests you; click on it. Again, ignore the shopping cart and click on "View text of this document." That will give you the Act from this section, and you can print or purchase the document.

As a result of a recent enquiry at the SAFA office, I

continued on page 6

Interpreting Student Instructional Reports (the SIR II)

by Jane Duncan, Teaching & Learning Centre



The SIR II is a tool designed by the Educational Testing Service (ETS) to provide learner feedback on instructional and course quality.

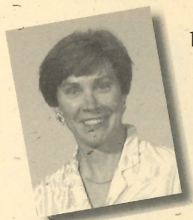
Use the following guidelines to help you interpret your SIR data most effectively:

1. Use multiple sources of information. The SIR II is just one source of information and should be supplemented with others. Consider conducting your own mid-course assessment or using and tracking classroom assessment techniques.
2. Use multiple sets of ratings. Look for trends in your SIR II scores over time. It is important not to over-interpret scores from a single class or a single SIR report.
3. Note the number of learner raters. Reports that are generated from fewer than ten learners or less than 60% of the class are marked with an asterisk (in the upper righthand corner of page 1 of your SIR report). Interpret these reports with caution as the results may not be representative.
4. Consider course characteristics. Smaller courses tend to produce higher scores, as do courses that are in the learners' major area of interest. Service courses (such as communication courses, for example) may tend to score lower.
5. Rely on overall means rather than individual question means. The overall mean scores correlate higher with learner success than individual scores. Overall means are found at the bottom of each SIR section.
6. Use the comparative data with caution. The SIR II reports provide comparative means for other two-year institutions. Check with your Academic Coordinator to find out what your department scores are before drawing conclusions. Similarly, some of the mean scores may be marked with a "+" or "-." These markings are meant to signify scores that fall within the top tenth or bottom tenth percentiles respectively with a 95% confidence level. As SAIT's means fall below the comparative means, these markings are misleading.

For further information or help in interpreting your SIR results, drop by the TLC or give us a call (7283). ♦♦

FAQ's

by Heather Sagan



FAQ: Is there an attendance policy for students at SAIT?

A: Yes. In the Academic Regulations in the SAIT Calendar, it states: "Attendance in all scheduled activities of every course is essential

to academic success. Students must comply with the requirements set by their academic department and communicated through the course outlines."

SAIT Academic Affairs Policy A.12.on Attendance:

The policy of the Board of Governors is:

A.12.1 To expect learner attendance in all scheduled activities of every course; and

A.12.2 To establish formal attendance requirement at the request of organization sponsoring students or to meet external accreditation requirements.

FAQ: Can Business and Industry (B&I) courses be assigned to an instructor load?

A: Yes. If an instructor is below his/her unit standard class contact hours, business and industry courses can be assigned. This is outlined in paragraph 1 of the B&I Letter in the Collective Agreement: "Business and Industry and Continuing Education or other such courses can be used to bring the academic staff member occupying a permanent position up to their Unit Standard Class Contact Hours."

FAQ: Can vacation days be taken away from faculty members?

A: No. Instructors and Educational Counselors accrue 43 days of vacation each year. Librarians accrue 25 days vacation; after 8 years of service, 30 days of vacation; and after 18 year of service, 40 days of vacation. All academic staff members are entitled to take the vacation accrued without "losing" vacation days. Vacation days for academic staff members must be accommodated by each department.

FAQ: Is an instructor paid for substitution hours?

A: If an instructor has been assigned less than the full unit standard class contact hours, substitution hours can be added to his/her load. If an instructor has been assigned more than a full unit standard load, the substitution would be paid on an overload basis. ♦♦

Super Stumper

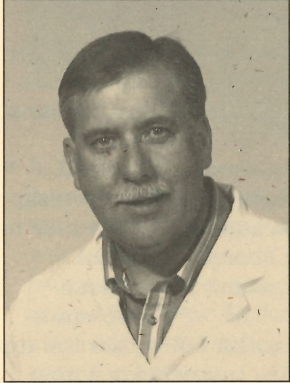
The academic staff member to provide the number of male and female faculty (including salary and contract) members at SAIT, closest to the actual number, will win a gift certificate to the Highwood Dining Room.

Female _____ Male _____

The first person with the correct answer to contact Heather Sagan in the SAFA office, Friday, February 28, by any mode of communication (phone, e-mail, in person, carrier pigeon) is the winner. ♦♦

Is there life after SAIT?

In December, the SAFAGRAM Editorial Board sent letters to almost 30 recent retirees (most from 2000 - 2002) to find out what they're doing now. Responses came from many of our former colleagues. In this and the next two SAFAGRAM issues, we'll be printing their replies. The first 10 (alphabetically at press time) are included here.

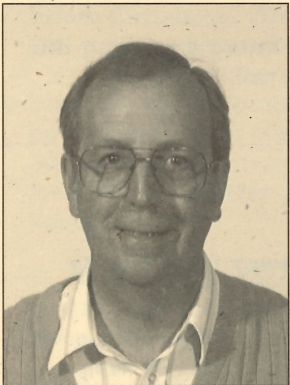


Roy Bishop

29 1/2 years Instructor (September 1971 - March 2001)

Professional Cooking—Food Service, Culinary Arts, Hospitality Careers, Business & Tourism

Life After SAIT: Yes, believe me, there is life after SAIT and I am thoroughly enjoying it. I have always been an early riser throughout my working days; this has continued with my retirement. I do not want to miss the day by sleeping in, especially in the spring and summer months. I do enjoy the freedom; tend to be very busy with family and friends, many hobbies, projects at home; do a fair bit of volunteer work for various organizations; and play with some part-time home business ventures. Plans for traveling are in the future.



Angus Campbell

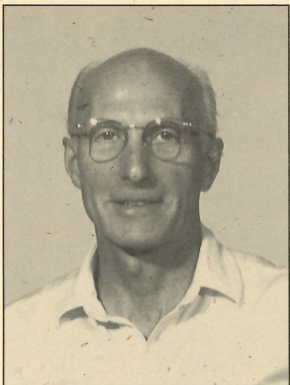
36 years Instructor (August 1966 - July 2002)

Drafting Program, Construction Department

I was employed at SAIT for approximately thirty-six years starting in the Drafting Department, which became the Architectural and Civil Engineering Technologies Department, which became the Construction Department. As an instructor, I taught in the service instruction section and then moved to the Engineering Design and Drafting Technology section.

What's happening in "my life after SAIT?" Well, life after SAIT is wonderful! Although I enjoyed my thirty-six years at SAIT, the many friends, colleagues, and my wild office partner, I am really enjoying retirement. No deadlines, no marking, and only one boss. This Christmas is the first Christmas in approximately fifty-seven years (school, college, upgrading, teaching) that I have not been either writing or marking exams. It gives a whole new meaning to the joy of Christmas.

Chris (my wife) and I made a pact a number of years ago that when I retired there would be no deadlines, and that we would enjoy life and do things as the mood or situation took us. This relatively free-spirit attitude is working well. We have spent lots of time with our daughter and her family in Kelowna, visited friends all over Alberta and British Columbia and renewed contact with friends whom we have not seen in twenty years or more. Our driving trips include many stops for sightseeing and the all-important shopping. Renovation of our home is now on an "as we feel like it" basis and my golf, well . . . it is still on a "hit and miss" basis. So the next time you hear the song "He's an Old Hippy" . . . we're working on it.



Ray Colliver

20 years Chef Instructor (September 1981 - September 2001)

Hospitality Careers, Business & Tourism

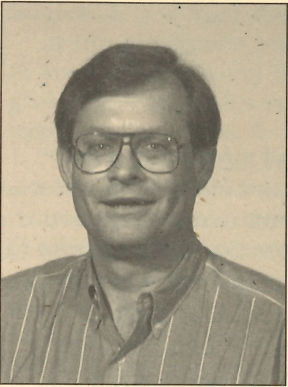
I am a very busy person at present! I'm involved in the following: curling since last fall, 5-pin bowling with the SAIT'S ALIVE Retirees Association (currently Social Convener for that association). Volunteering at COP as Ski Ambassador, Mountain Biking marshal in the summer, and working in the Hall of Fame and Museum.

Now have a website for my Romance Chocolate & Truffles business (a record Christmas for sales) www.ctcorp/chocolates.

Still competing in triathlon, both nationally and internationally; hoping to qualify for Ironman Canada in 2003! Also still running marathons.

**Marilyn Hall****26 years Instructor (August 1975 – August 2001)****Dental Assisting, Health & Public Safety**

"Life after SAIT" is wonderful! My husband and I have been traveling extensively and spending much more time with family and friends. I'm reading, gardening, crafting, and playing lots of golf! As most of us say, "When did I find time to work?" However, the friends and colleagues and students you worked with cross your mind many times during the week!

**Vic Klementis****23 years Instructor (August 1979 – June 2002)****Recreation Facilities Management, Construction Department**

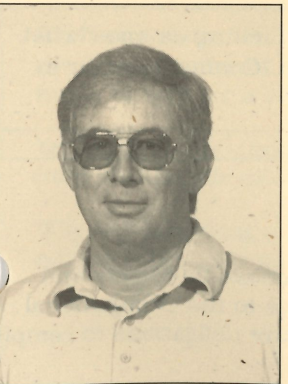
I remember with fondness the 23-year relationship I had with many of the faculty, most recently the Construction Dept. I am currently employed with Brookfield LePage Johnson Controls (BLJC), a company that provides facility management services.

**Marcel Longpre****25 years Instructor (August 1976 – March 2002)****Math/Physics, Centre for Academic Learner Services**

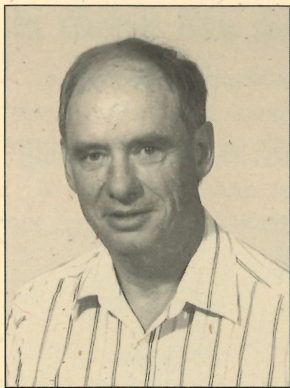
Employed at SAIT from August 1976 to March 2002, years which I have very much enjoyed working as a Math and Physics Instructor. For a quarter of a century, I have been around to see the Institute grow and undergo many changes, including one renewal.

I have not yet left the institution completely, as I am presently tutoring some students with disabilities. I am coaching them in mathematics and finding that to be somewhat of a dream come true. I find it very rewarding and I am truly enjoying the benefits of the "one on one" student contact. I am hoping that you will continue to see me around from time to time. In that respect, my "life after SAIT" has not changed that much.

Come golfing season, I expect to continue to enjoy my membership at Silver Springs Golf and Country Club and spend some of my spare time working at Lynx Ridge as a starter or a marshal. Maybe we will run into each other there.

**Bill Maher****32 years 8 months Instructor (August 1969 – May 2002)****Power Engineering, Energy Department**

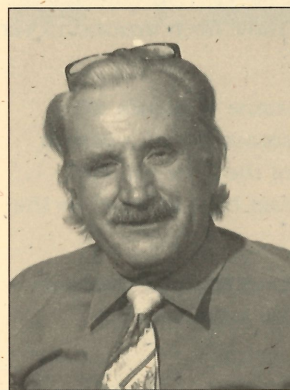
I was 65 years old in April '02, surplussed three weeks later, and working for Keyspan Energy one week after that. I am working on a QA/QC/Training project that Keyspan is developing in conjunction with Coneco/Phillips, Burlington, Duke, Husky, Dominion, and Lakeland College. It is surprising how many ex-SAIT people are out there, even working on this project.

**Kelly Mann****35 years****Instructor (August 1967 – August 2002)****Electrical, Energy Department**

Teaching half time on contract; Treasurer 2003 SAIT'S ALIVE; chief cook and bottle washer around home; making noises on my accordion; socializing/golfing with friends and retirees from SAIT (weather permitting).

**Shelagh McCormick****16 years****Instructor (August 1986 – September 2002)****Communications, Centre for Academic Learner Services**

Shelagh's Retirement Lament—Retirement has not lived up to what I had envisioned. I had dreamed of a little work, a little play, a little travel, and lots of time to pursue neglected interests such as biking, hiking, cross country skiing, playing the piano, etc. Unfortunately, I injured the rotator cuff in my shoulder just two months before I retired on September 30, and I am now in the holding tank of Alberta Health Care waiting, waiting, waiting for an orthopedic surgeon. You don't know how much you use your shoulder until it doesn't work. I did manage to go on my long-planned retirement trip with my husband and biking friends to Boston and Cape Cod where I had a wonderful time walking and learning about the history of the area even if I couldn't ride on the Cape Cod Rail Trail or Martha's Vineyard's bike trails. I can't play the piano right now either, so I joined a choir. I'm extremely rusty but enjoying the singing very much. Do I miss SAIT? Well, I really miss the camaraderie of my colleagues and sometimes I even miss interacting with my students, but I sure don't miss the endless marking or the 8 a.m. and 4 to 6 p.m. classes!

**Cliff McDonald (aka Einstein)****18 years****Instructor (November 1981 – October 2000)****Avionics, Electronics Department; Aviation, Transportation Department**

The god that I understand designed mankind to work to live, not live to work. So in retirement, I shy away from anything that remotely resembles work. I have played poor golf in Whitefish, Phoenix, Seattle, Portland, the Olympic Peninsula, Victoria, Ascot-England and, of course, many places in Alberta.

I am very grateful for the incredible learning experience of being an instructor and miss my colleagues and the students. I also learned that *Bureaucracy is the epoxy that lubricates the Wheels of Progress.*

If you know of any additional SAIT retirees who might be interested in letting us know what they're up to, please forward their names to us and we'll contact them. Contact Heather in the SAFA office at 8321 or by e-mail at safa@sait.ab.ca.

*President's Message
continued from page 2*

checked the current collective agreement for references to occupational health and safety issues. Sections 22 (Safety and Health), and 24 (Protective Clothing) are obvious sections. In each of these sections, there is reference to the Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations. According to Section 2 of this Act, employers and workers have obligations to comply with the Act.

Have a great semester! ♦♦

Industry Involvement Inspires Student Success

Lynn Hoover, Enrollment Management Project Coordinator

Industry involvement helps us develop our curriculum, which links to employment for our students, but our industry relationships may also improve learner retention. When we inspire learners to find out more about their career paths, it is easier for them to make the connection between their studies and their future careers. It can motivate them to succeed at SAIT and make the transition into the workforce.

Some programs provide networking opportunities to help learners see the light at the end of the tunnel. Learners from the **Exploration Technology program (ICT/Energy)** receive valuable networking opportunities through Coordinator Mark Snaychuk and Instructor John Fernando.

In the geophysics program, Fernando and Snaychuk bring in two guest lecturers from oil and gas, geophysical or geological companies during the third term and up to ten lecturers during the fourth term.

"This provides students the opportunity to listen to someone other than Mark and me and gain current industry-related information such as job market prospects, the latest in technology, and industry trends," Fernando says.

Following these presentations, there is a social with pastries and coffee to allow learners an opportunity to mingle with industry representatives and ask questions about their aspiring professions.

"The students realize that socializing is useful because when they go to apply for jobs and they know someone in the industry who can vouch for them, it's helpful in getting their foot in the door," Fernando says.

Professional organizations are another way to help learners discover more about their industry. For example, the **Institute of Power Engineers (IPE)**, Calgary Branch, holds monthly meetings that include guest speakers from industry, on SAIT's campus. **Energy Department** faculty help organize this group and encourage their learners, particularly from Power Engineering Technology and Process Operations to join IPE for a nominal student fee. IPE organizers also coordinate tours of local and surrounding area plants and facilities for all members.

"The biggest benefit for students is to learn more about what goes on in industry, learn from speakers who impact them and tour plants," Ray Shupac, Energy Instructor and

IPE Organizer, says. "Students really seem to like the tours," he continues. Shupac also says some students have broadened their involvement with IPE by volunteering for such activities as chairing the IPE marketing committee, looking after membership, and maintaining the website, which will be re-launched later this year.

For the last 20 years, the IPE Calgary Branch has been inactive and last year a decision was made to start the institute again. Membership quickly grew from 20 to 150 members, including about 30 SAIT students, Shupac says.

Shupac says they invite speakers who will talk in layman's terms. As well, they try to minimize the business of the institute at the general meetings to appeal more to student members.

SAITSA clubs provide another way for our learners to link to industry. For example, the **Student Petroleum Society** offers events throughout the school year to allow learners to network with a wide variety of company representatives at industry mixers.

"This gives students exposure to industry that they probably won't get anywhere else, and in turn, industry professionals get exposure to students who will at some point be the people buying the services and making decisions about services," Dean Casorso, president of the Student Petroleum Society, said.

If you are unable to find or create similar opportunities for your students, SAIT has other services that you can tap into. To help learners network, **Customer Services** organizes an on-campus annual career fair called "Career Directions" that attracts over 90 employers. **Alumni Relations and Student Awards** recently launched an online community, which links alumni with current students for the purpose of mentoring. This online learning community is located at: www.sait.ca/support/alumni/olc.htm.

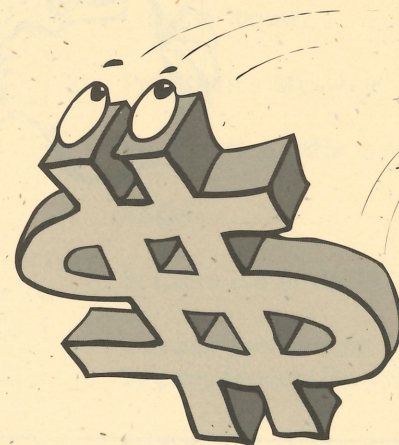
Providing opportunities like these for your students to link with industry may encourage your students to study for their next exam, hand in their assignments on time, and show up for those 8 a.m. classes. Once they really understand and relate to their chosen career path, it is likely that they will take their education more seriously. ♦

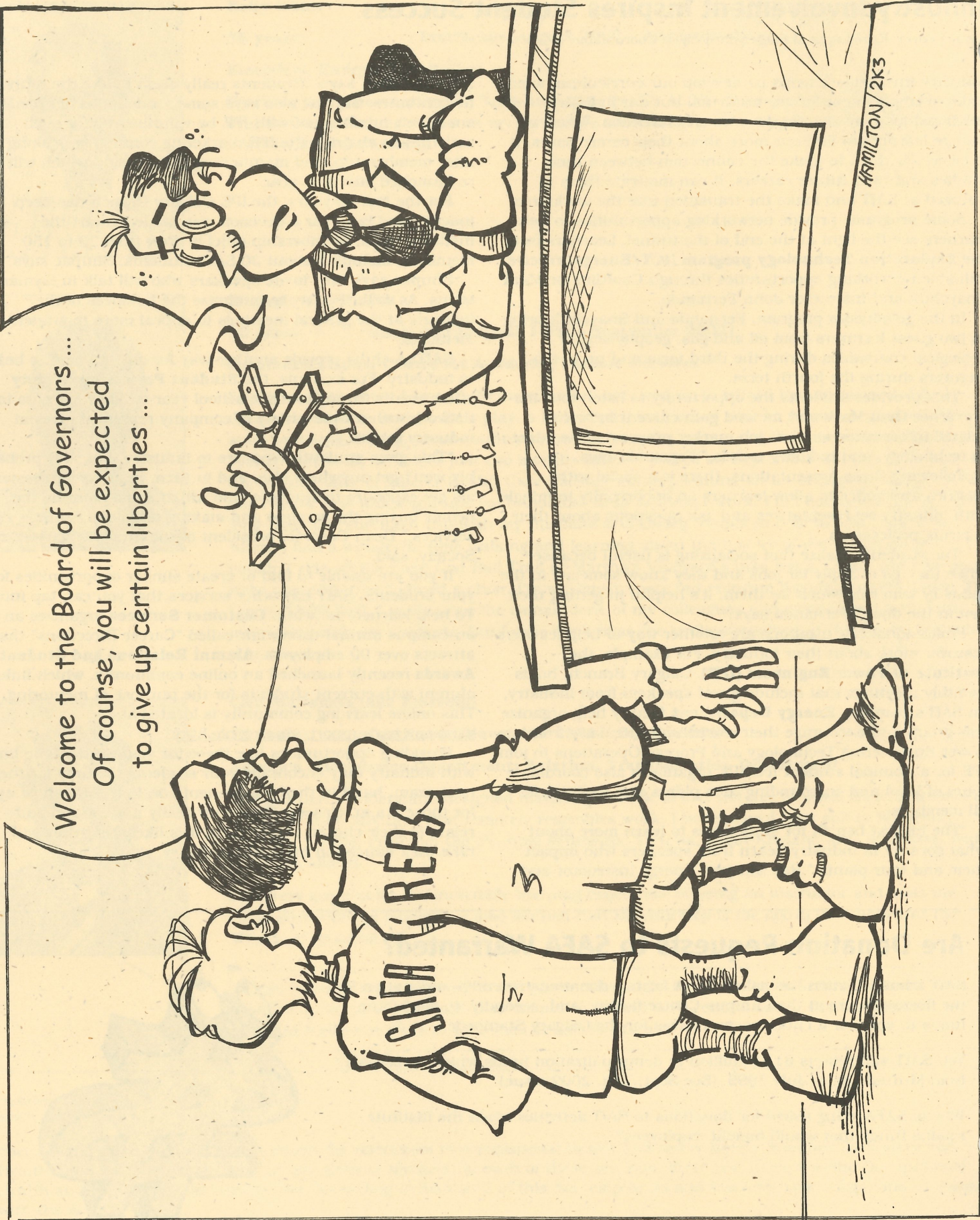
Are Donation Requests to SAFA Warranted?

SAIT administration has asked SAFA for two donations recently—a donation for the fitness centre at the Campus Centre facility; and, secondly, to contribute funds to sponsor a chuckwagon canvas for the Calgary Stampede.

Yet, SAIT still retains \$1.18 million in demutualization funds which it received from Mutual Life in July 1999. (See Sept./Oct. 2002 issue)

Why is SAFA being asked for donations to SAIT activities when the institute retains funds that would benefit employees?





HAMILTON/2K3

Welcome to the Board of Governors ...
Of course, you will be expected
to give up certain liberties ...