

Variety, Interest Offered in Sheridan College Study Courses

The enrolment of community colleges will match that of other post-secondary institutions in Ontario within five to ten years, Education Minister William Davis predicted at the official opening of Sheridan College's visual arts building in Oakville recently.

He said community colleges have a real and valid role in society and called upon the community to recognize that community colleges can make a valid contribution to the province's economy and society as well as to universities.

"There is no point in developing a system like this if we are not prepared to make a financial investment," Davis added. "Not too many years ago secondary school students had only one or two avenues for post secondary education."

If they were not accepted for universities, teacher colleges or nursing schools, they had no opportunity for post secondary experience, he said.

provincial community colleges, the first step taken by his Department of Education was the appointment of a 15 member council of regents to supervise the creation of the colleges.

One of the new council's first duties was to see the appointment of Boards of Governors to administer the new colleges. This they promptly did, taking into account the fabric of life in the counties (in Sheridan's case, Halton and Peel) the colleges were to serve. Educators, professional representatives, labour leaders, housewives, businessmen — people of all kinds took appointment to college boards to get the business of meeting post-secondary needs in education underway.

Sheridan's first and founding Board of Governors met December 6, 1956. Under chairman Archie Turner, they appointed John M. Porter president of the college in April, 1967.

After investigating a series of potential sites, the Board of Governors settled on the Trafalgar Road site in Oakville (100 acres) for the permanent campus. Architects Maran, Rounthwaite and Dick of Bay St. Toronto were retained in November, 1967, and work was turned on the new campus in November 1968.

Second chairman for the Board of Governors was John C. Ronson of Stelco, past chairman of the Burlington Board of Education, member of the Halton board, and director of the Ontario Public School Trustees Association.

Elected chairman in January 1970 is Dr. J. A. M. Bell of Oakville. Mrs. J. C. Armstrong, vice chairman of Sheridan's board was appointed to the Council of Regents in March, 1970.

Working closely with the Manpower section of the Federal Government, Sheridan's Manpower Division took over the Heavy Equipment School at Milton, April 1, 1968. They acquired a Malton campus for training aircraft assembly workers in June, 1969, and an Oakville campus (the old library) at 216 Lakeshore Road, E., in March, 1970.

In the main college, courses were added to fill the needs of Halton-Peel inhabitants. Community journalism, animation, creative photography, business computer systems and social services appeared in the fall of 1968, attracting unexpected numbers of students.

Quarters in the renovated high school at 98 Church St. E. in Brampton began to get more and more cramped, so in September, 1968, a 14 classroom annex opened. Student parking overflowed the lots, and faculty parking became a morning scramble.

Meanwhile the programs that make the college unique were finding their feet. Both Sheridan's School of Design, and the School of Visual Arts were shaking down into one-of-a-kind operations impossible to find elsewhere in the province.

Under the direction of talented Don McKinley, a past master in a variety of artistic fields, the School of Design developed in four areas: ceramics (including glass), metals, textiles and furniture. The school philosophy insists on graduates being competent craftsmen who can make a living producing what the public wants — an approach not common in an art education institution.

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As the number of students and campuses increased, the Student Senate re-structured itself into a Student Union directing the overall operations of each separate campus student senate.

Early editions of SCAT, the first student newspaper, have given way to periodic issues of the renovated paper, called "Tree".

The Recreation Director quickly organized a comprehensive athletic program that includes a good hockey team, badminton, table tennis, bridge, horseback riding, judo, yoga and karate. The college opened a mini-clinic on the campus that featured exercise machines and a sauna and shower setup.

An 88 foot crane heralded the arrival of the IBM 360-30 computer that has been in constant use by the college's Data Processing students. It was joined by a mini-computer that the Technology Division acquired: a machine that is programmed numerically and answers the same way.

Stimulating speakers came and went, covering everything from the socialist bloc (First Secretary of the Soviet Embassy) to Canada today (Hugh MacLennan) to the genesis of the Mustang and the Maverick (Larry Johnson of Ford).

Professional seminars, half days or days in length, added to both students' and staff's knowledge and practical experience. Programs began putting students into the community for a week's contact with the outside world in their own fields. The co-op program in Technology and business came into existence, where students would go to work for three or four month stretches, alternating with classes throughout their school careers.

Professional development, speakers of quality and variety taught teachers to make better-directed efforts.

A television production studio emerged in the area that used to be a stage for the gym. Another first for Sheridan came when the studio became the "head end" for Rogers Cable TV system in Brampton and Brantford, allowing student broadcasts to go over cable live. Staff and students communicated with the administration on many fronts — so well that when student representatives quietly joined a Board of Governors meeting it raised scarcely a ripple of interest.

The first graduation for two year program students saw 145 graduates of 13 different programs receive diplomas in an afternoon ceremony, where Education Minister William Davis gave the address.

People came in unprecedented numbers to the college's second annual Open House. They came to inspect, and stayed to admire and learn. And they came back, too — 1200 of them, to take extension courses that ranged through municipal government, business, computer systems, fashion, art, technology, etc., to applied archeology.

The community focussed increasingly on the drug problem, and so did Sheridan. With Peel County Board of Education and the Addiction Research Foundation, Sheridan gave a 10 week course for counsellors, teachers, social workers and others in contact with problem drug cases. A new course for parents ran at Brampton, and another at Oakville.

Eleven students formed a group called RAP (from rapport, and meaning "talk") to combat drug crisis situations and disseminate drug education. In their first two months they helped at least 175 youngsters, aged 13-19.

With the promised accommodation at Oakville still unavailable by fall, 1969, classes went on a modified shift system. Seven trailers were parked on the lawn to serve as offices for displaced staff. Dean Don A. Shields, probably the only dean in all of Canada who was denounced in a trailer, laughed

Design, to 430 students in the programs named, in the 1969-70 season.

Fall, 1970 enrolment was projected at over 800 students, or roughly the top limit for the School of Visual Arts.

Steady growth over the next ten years that will see the 6,000 students, who will eventually occupy the Oakville building, living and learning even more effectively.

Continuing two-way communication (with benefits on both sides) between the college and the communities it serves in all locations.

A viable learning institution.

Extracurricular Activities Add Depth to Sheridan Life

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Plans were underway to study the technique of computer animation, a revolutionary, experimental technique that could drastically change the animation industry.

On Friday, April 10, 1970 William Davis came back to give the new building its official opening. Thousands more came in on Sunday, April 12 for Open House, to welcome Sheridan College to Oakville.

Pleased with the success of Don Wilson's extracurricular activities in sponsoring seminars, talks and courses on family life education, Sheridan determined to carry on this work.

Scholarships were donated to college achievers in increasing numbers. The student senate honored teacher Ray McAfee by establishing a loan fund in his name. Kids went out in fresh week every fall to raise money for their pet charity, Crippled Children's and turned over \$1,500 in the fall of 1969.

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CREATION

Sheridan College of Applied Arts and Technology was born of the Ontario Government's decision in June 1965 to provide St. Toronto to be retained in November, 1967, and work was turned on the new campus in November 1968.

When education minister William Davis created the 20-odd Sheridan Board of Governors on or Peel. Many companies

Construction on the permanent campus at Oakville, which was scheduled to open in September, 1967, ran afoul of a number of different strikes that summer. Visual Arts students moved into the building finally in late February, 1970, and began classes there Monday, March 2.

At the new Oakville campus Sheridan is already implementing its "open concept" teaching and learning, where students are encouraged to mingle with each other, with teachers, and eventually with students from other divisions as they move into the permanent quarters.

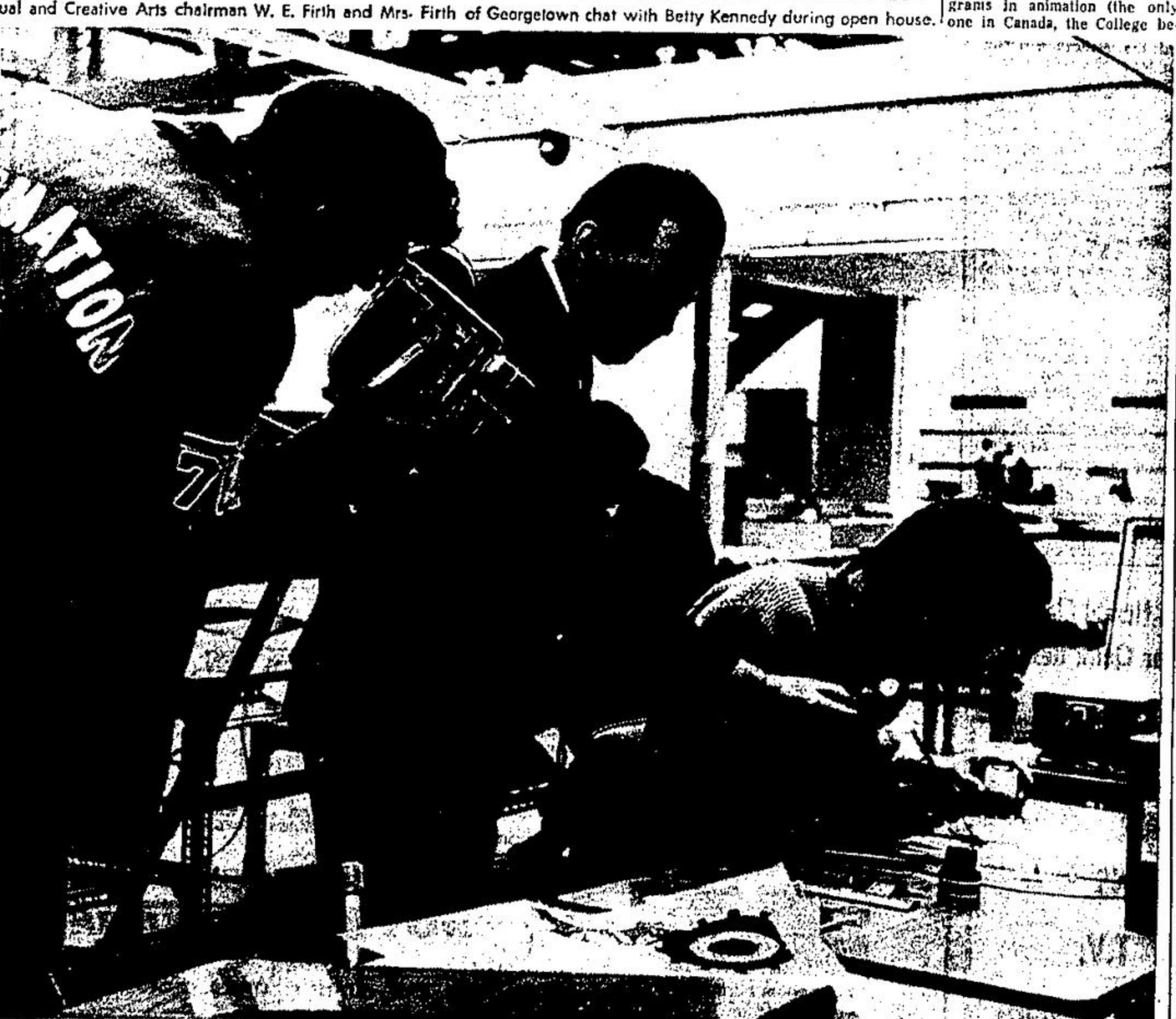
In an interlocking, integrated program where the guidelines are a student's own inclinations and abilities, Sheridan hopes to provide a meaningful education for 6,000 students per year.

Daytime program students expected at the Oakville campus by fall, 1970, include 132 in Applied Arts, 305 in Business, 85 in Data Processing and the 610 in Visual Arts, for a total of 1,132. An estimated 671 students in Applied Arts, Business and Technology would remain at the Brampton campus, and another 120 would be registered at the School of Design in Fort Credit, for a grand total of 1,923 daytime, fulltime students.

Rapid growth has been the story for the Visual Arts Division which offers unique programs in animation (the only one in Canada, the College be-

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Two Georgetown animation students are Gerry DeBoer, left with camera, and Dave Cox, seated, — Peter Jones Photos

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