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Buns Bits

Ideal qualities in a UNB President:

1. Is willing to give up big salary and house to help combat tuition hikes.
2. Institutes bi-weekly mandatory sleep days.
3. Can spell The Brunswickan. (Not The Brunswickian.)
4. Prefers rock gardens to flower gardens.
5. Launches a campaign for a Taco Bell on campus.

Parr-Johnston nominated

by Mark Morgan
 Editor-in-Chief

The President of Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, Dr. Elizabeth Parr-Johnston, is set to become the fifteenth president of UNB.

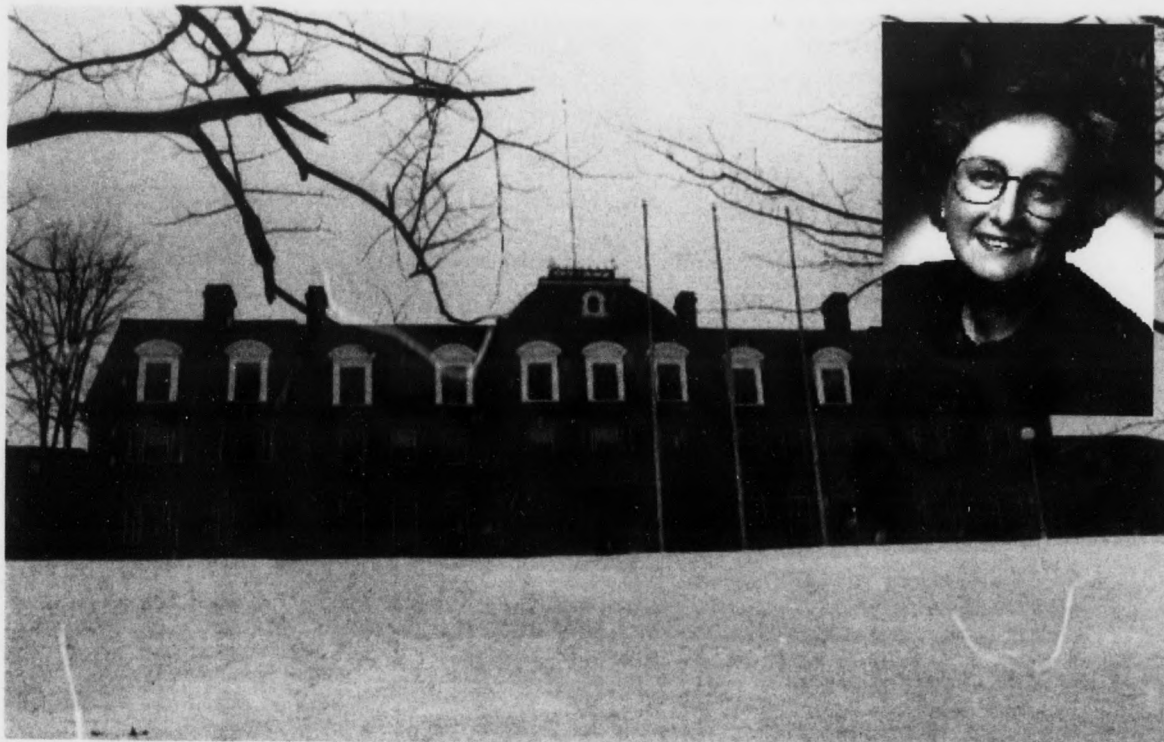
If her nomination is ratified at the joint Board of Governors-Senate meeting this week, Parr-Johnston will be the first woman president in UNB's 211-year history.

An economist with degrees from Wellesley College, and Yale University, Parr-Johnston has extensive experience in the public and private sectors. She has been President of Mount Saint-Vincent since 1991.

From 1964-1973 she taught economics at Carleton University, Wesleyan University, the University of British of Columbia, and the University of Western Ontario.

She subsequently worked for three years in Government and Public Affairs at the International Nickel Company Limited.

She has held appointments with Statistics Canada, and the Federal Department of Regional and Economic Expansion. In 1979, she was appointed Chief of Staff and Senior Policy Advisor



The Old Arts Building. Inset: Dr. Elizabeth Parr-Johnston

Photo: Warren Watson

to the Federal Minister of Employment and Immigration.

For ten years she held various management positions for Shell Canada Limited.

Parr-Johnston is currently a director of six companies including the Bank of

Nova Scotia, Nova Scotia Power, and Fisheries Products International.

She has directed and conducted research in such areas as energy and fiscal policy, strategic planning, government decentralization, and regional development.

She presently serves as Chair of the Association of Atlantic Universities, and on the Executive Committee of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada. She is currently a member of the board of the Social Sciences Research Council of Canada.

Current colleagues comment

By Gordon Loane
 Brunswickan News

Dr. Elizabeth Parr-Johnston is getting generally favourable reviews from the Presidents of the Student Union and Faculty Association as well as the Editor-In-Chief of the student newspaper at Mount Saint Vincent University.

Joe Strolz, President of the Student Union at the Mount for the last two years, has had extensive dealings with Parr-Johnston through the Senate, Boards and the Finance Committee among others.

"She is a really incredible person to deal with not only on a personal level, but professional level," he said. "It is

something that you don't usually see in a University President - someone who is accommodating and so helpful to students, be they an average student or a student leader."

Strolz cites the example of the recent Partnerships proposal as a response to rationalization of universities in Halifax. Through rationalization, universities would assume certain distinct responsibilities for the purpose of cutting costs.

He recalls attending a press conference at which university presidents and student presidents jointly announced the Partnerships Initiative.

"Student leaders around me were in

a bit of a panic as we prepared for the news conference because they did not know what was going on and hadn't been that involved in the process of rationalization."

Strolz said he was not left in the same position. "Our president had involved us as student leaders at every step of the process and had consulted us at every step," he recalls.

"We had weekend long meetings about rationalization, we had formulated the plan jointly and I think it is really indicative of the way she works as a President, and also the way she treats student leaders and students in general."

Strolz said many times he feels that chief administrators and presidents at universities don't really take student politicians terribly seriously. "I don't get that impression from Dr. Parr-Johnston," he said.

The student president feels UNB has made a pretty good choice for its next President. "Parr-Johnston's departure is a real loss to the Mount but it's definitely a real step forward and a real gain for UNB."

The President of the Mount Saint Vincent Faculty Association, Dr. Joe Tharamangalam, feels increasing the profile of the university has been Parr-Johnston's greatest success as President.

"She is quite popular in the city and has been quite successful in promoting our university and its status re: the government and other universities," he said. "She has certainly been a more high profile president than we have had in the past."

Dr. Tharamangalam referred to the rationalization process now underway in Nova Scotia and Parr-Johnston's role in it.

"She has been one of the architects at the forefront of a partnership model as opposed to other models that might have swallowed up our university in some larger institution."

Dr. Tharamangalam has served as Faculty Association President for the last eighteen months and before that as Grievance Officer.

"We have worked reasonably well with Parr-Johnston," he said, "but she



Midterms are over... only a month and a half until exams

Photo: Mike Dean

see Colleagues, page 4