



# Newsletter

Number Five October 1986

## TECHNOLOGY AND WORK--CSTV FILM FESTIVAL 21-23 OCTOBER

CSTV will launch its own film festival, called "Technology and Work," later this month. The three-day event, comprising over 25 films and videos plus discussion sessions and displays, starts Tuesday, 21 October in the Humanities Theatre at 7:00 p.m. Organizers are Prof. Sally Lerner (Environment and Resource Studies) and Steve Jones (CSTV facilitator and publicist for last year's Third Cinema Festival).

"We want to challenge students right across the University--in an entertaining way--to think about and to argue about the issues that are raised when new technologies are introduced into the workplace," explains Lerner, who is also co-ordinating the new STV undergraduate option. "So we've tried to put together a program that's a balance of light and humorous pieces, high tech success stories, and some hard-hitting documentaries coming at the subject from various viewpoints."

Special guest at the opening will be Dr. Arthur J. Cordell of the Science Council of Canada, who will deliver the keynote address. The first night program includes an excerpt from Charlie Chaplin's 1936 classic MODERN TIMES, a 1985 success story documentary SMART MOVE, and an early but still appropriate look at the consequences of technological change, THE SKILLED WORKER (1958).

Daytime and evening screenings continue on Wednesday and Thursday. Highlights: QUEL NUMERO, a vivid 1985 Quebec documentary on the real-life impact of high tech on secretaries, cashiers, postal workers and others; NEW TECHNOLOGY: WHOSE PROGRESS? (Britain, 1981); all eight episodes of TV Ontario's FUTURE WORK series; two classics--H.G. Wells' THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME (1936) and Fritz Lang's METROPOLIS (1926); and many more.

Everyone at UW receiving this Newsletter will also be receiving a supply of the Festival flyers, which contain the complete schedule and descriptions of all films and videos.

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Festival events are free and open to the university community and to the general public. The Environmental Studies courtyard will be the Festival's drop-in information, refreshment and display centre. Discussion breaks occur throughout the schedule, and CSTV members will be invited to serve as facilitators whenever they are available.

MIT'S WEIZENBAUM AT UW 28-29 OCTOBER

Dr. Joseph Weizenbaum, creator of "Eliza" (the computer program that simulates the exchange between a patient and a psychotherapist) and author of Computer Power and Human Reason (1976), will speak at UW on Tuesday, 28 October and Wednesday, 29 October.

Lecture titles: Prospects for Artificial Intelligence (28th); Without Us! Computer Scientists and the Arms Race (29th). Weizenbaum is this year's Hagey Lecturer. At press time tickets (free) were still available at the UW Arts Centre Box Office. The speaker will be available on Tuesday, 28 October from 2-3 p.m., ESL, Room 221 for informal discussions during his stay on campus. For details, call the CSTV office at UW ext. 6215.

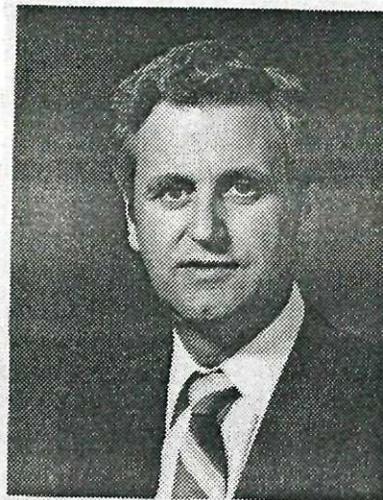
"CONNECTIONS" SERIES A SUCCESS

In the Spring 1986 term, over 100 students, staff and faculty regularly attended Thursday lunch hour screenings of the 10-episode, highly acclaimed BBC "Connections" series. The weekly series, dealing with the chain of circumstances leading to modern technology, was sponsored by CSTV, the Sandford Fleming Foundation and the UW Deans of Science and Engineering. Organizer Carl Thompson (Civil Eng) reports that a poll indicated a good response can be expected if a similar event were scheduled again. Suggestions received so far are for a showing of Gwynne Dyer's "War" series and for a Winter 1987 re-play of the films and videos to be screened in this fall's CSTV Film Festival. (As it turns out, the "War" series is running this fall, co-sponsored by Science for Peace and the UW Peace and Conflict Studies program.)

If you have more suggestions, get in touch with Carl Thompson (UW ext. 3553). And if you missed "Connections" the first time, make a note for the Spring 1987 term--it will run again when co-op students who were off-campus working in Summer '86 will be back. (Special note for James Burke fans: the irrepressible "Connections" narrator has a new series, "The Day the Universe Changed", airing on PBS (Ch. 17) Mondays, 9:00 p.m., starting 13 October. He'll also appear (live) at Toronto's Massey Hall on 31 October.)

LEGGE RE-AFFIRMS CENTRE'S PURPOSE, SETS  
COURSE FOR 1986-87

Dr. Russel Legge, Dean of St. Paul's College at UW and a member of the UW Religious Studies department since 1970, is the Centre's Acting Director this year while Larry Haworth (Philosophy) is on sabbatical. Legge strongly re-affirms that the Centre's purpose is to "give a focus to a particular set of questions that a lot of people on this campus have regarding the relationship between UW's technological knowledge and expertise and society at large." He believes that the Centre, established in 1984, has already stimulated "more expressions of concern" among individual faculty members on many issues arising from the interplay of technological developments and social values.



"We've learned one very important thing so far," notes Legge. "These concerns are widely held on campus and are present in all faculties. I find this very encouraging." The Centre serves as a catalyst for broadening the discussion, and its presence helps people realize that "others feel the same way."

In his role as Acting Director, Legge will avoid steering the Centre into particular advocacy positions on the "correct" relationship of technology and society. "We're not trying to save the world," he explains. "But we do want to do everything possible to ensure the issues are raised and to facilitate the discussion of different viewpoints." He'll also seek to continue building the Centre's credibility. This includes maintaining the Centre's autonomy, so that while co-sponsoring events with other groups will still be a priority, CSTV will not align itself with particular causes falling more properly to these other groups.

One of the Acting Director's projects is to establish links with community organizations that do have compatible interests and concerns. He'll be explaining the Centre's objectives to the K-W Community Forum (a group of educators, politicians and business people that meets monthly on public interest and community development issues) and to the Global Community Centre.

"Our CSTV activity could be another resource for Global," Legge says. "We can provide them with access to university research services and with a university-based forum for expressing their views on such matters as technology and third world development."

On campus, the arrival of Calvin (Kelly) Gotlieb as special consultant to CSTV will also contribute to the Centre's activities

this year. The U of T professor and computers-and-society expert will be developing a special STV colloquium, tentatively scheduled for next fall. (He's on campus on alternate Fridays during the fall 1986 term.)

Besides setting up workshops, colloquia and other events. Legge is working with Sally Lerner (Environment and Resource Studies) and Barry Wills (Systems Design) on STV 100, the initial course of the new STV undergraduate option. The course will get its first run in the winter 1987 term. "We're looking for about 50 students at first," Legge explains. More courses will be available in future, but huge enrolments are not envisioned. He expects 80-90 students to register in future STV courses in a given term. And this fall, CSTV advisory board members will be canvassed for details on courses in their faculties that fit STV interests. The aim will be to offer "novel combinations" and new packages in addition to those announced earlier.

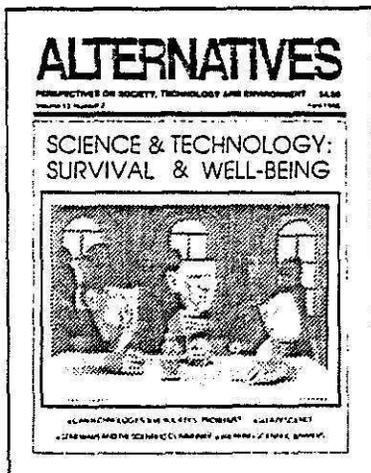
"I hope issues related to the social dimension of the new technologies will become an integral component of all the relevant courses at UW," notes the Acting Director. In his view, STV courses can provide a certain focus and some benchmarks, but they can't do the whole job themselves. If the UW curriculum moves in the direction Legge hopes, then "the Centre will concentrate on co-ordinating research and promoting public forums for broadly-based discussion of STV issues."

#### WPIRG ENTERS 15TH YEAR

This fall WPIRG, the Waterloo Public Interest Research Group, enters its 15th year of service and activity on the UW campus. Since 1972, the Group has been involved in investigating social and environmental problems and mobilizing the University's resources for their resolution. WPIRG's blend of research, education and action offers students the opportunity to gain valuable experience while performing beneficial community work. Issues and research projects over the past years (project titles in parentheses): computerization (The Social Impacts of Computerization), food (Supermarket Tour, Crooked Path to Good Eating), acid rain (Acid Rain: The Silent Crisis), housing (K-W Tenants Guide, A Handbook for Student Renters), and others. WPIRG also operates a resource centre providing material on hundreds of environmental and social justice issues.

Upcoming events are shown in the Calendar. WPIRG is interested in co-sponsoring events with campus and community groups. For more details: 884-9020 or UW ext. 2578.

CALL FOR PAPERS--ALTERNATIVES SPRING 1987  
ISSUE



The theme of the Spring '87 issue of Alternatives is Work, Technology and the Environment. Papers are being solicited on questions raised by the development and adoption of the new technologies, especially "the proliferating innovations in biotechnology and the increased capabilities of new information technologies." Full details are available from Sally Lerner (Environment and Resource Studies, UW ext. 3060), who's the guest editor for this issue. And, by the way, have you become a subscriber yet? \$15 annually for 4 issues (individual rate), \$20 (institution rate).

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS WANTED!

UTUWCIT wants participants for 5 December workshop in Toronto called "Research Challenges 1986: Personal Information Systems." The workshop's main goal is to identify information management needs generally common to all researchers. If a computer-based management system is to be really useful, contends the UTUWCIT announcement, it must provide facilities for the collecting, arranging, re-arranging, selecting and discarding of many information items that can take such varied forms as bibliographies, collections of abstracts or newspaper clippings, sets of notes, personal diaries, and so on. Another goal of the workshop is for participants to share their experiences in using commercial or other systems for managing data. For details, including a participant form, get in touch with Bonnie Kent--UW ext. 3467 or [bjkent@watmath](mailto:bjkent@watmath) (uucp) or [utuwcit@watdcs](mailto:utuwcit@watdcs) (bitnet).

STV 100--READY TO LAUNCH IN JANUARY

The first course of the new STV option, STV 100 (Society, Technology and Values: An Introduction), will be launched on Tuesday, 6 January 1987. Classes have a 7 - 10 p.m. time slot, with the room still TBA. The course will be team taught by Barry Wills (Sys De), Sally Lerner (Env and Resource St) and Russel Legge (CSTV Acting Director). The organizers report that various learning approaches will be used, including a regular debate segment, guest lecturers, films, and other media. The new offering has already attracted a good number of registrations. For course outlines and other materials, call Ann Dunnet--UW ext. 6215.

CALENDAR OCTOBER - DECEMBER 198621 - 23 October Technology and Work Film Festival

Presented by CSTV. Four screening locations.  
Films. videos. displays. music. discussions.

Opens Tuesday, 21 Oct. 7:00 p.m. in  
Humanities Theatre. See item in this  
Newsletter and consult Festival flyer and  
poster.

21 October Exploracom (Exact title TBA)

Abe Schwartz, Creator and developer of the  
Exploracom Computer Exploration and  
Enterprise Centre, Toronto (opening Nov. 1987)  
Sponsored by UTUWCIT

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Arts Lecture 116

21 - 24 October Food for Thought: Food Alternatives and  
Healthy Living

Food Festival, displays, etc.

Sponsored by WPIRG

10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. daily

(Campus Centre)

Details: 884-9020 or UW ext. 2578

28 - 29 October Prospects for Artificial Intelligence (28th)  
Without Us! Computer Scientists and  
the Arms Race (29th)

Dr. Joseph Weizenbaum, MIT

1986 Hagey Lecturer

Tickets: UW Arts Centre Box Office

Details: Gordon Andrews, Mech Eng

(UW ext. 3689)

5 November Humanity at Risk

Dr. Rosalie Bertell, International  
Institute of Concern for Public Health,  
Toronto

Sponsored by GSTV, Science for Peace,  
WPIRG, PACS, Women's Studies, Institute  
for Risk Research

7:30 p.m. Arts Lecture 116

Details: Frank Thompson, Religious Studies  
(UW ext. 2153)

CALENDAR OCTOBER = DECEMBER 198612 November The Illusion of Technique

Dr. David Holdsworth, Ontario Hydro (Health and Safety)/U of T (Philosophy)  
Sponsored by CSTV and Institute for Risk Research

Time and Locations TBA

5 December Research Challenges 1986: Personal Information Systems (Workshop)

Organized by UTUWCIT  
Location TBA (Toronto); time TBA  
Details: Bonnie Kent, UW ext. 3467

For more information on events listed in the Calendar (if no other contact number is shown), call the CSTV office--UW ext. 6215.

"CRITICAL ISSUES" STUDENT CONFERENCE BOOK AVAILABLE

A collection of prize-winning essays from the national undergraduate student conference held at UW last fall. called Critical Issues in Science, Technology and Ethics: Implications for Canadian Culture and Society, is now available at the UW Bookstore. Produced by the UW Canadian Studies Program (the conference organizer), the 110 page book sells for \$10.00. Your support is appreciated.

BERTELL SPEAKS ON "HUMANITY AT RISK"

On Wednesday, 5 November Dr. Rosalie Bertell, Director of Research for the International Institute of Concern for Public Health, will speak at UW on the topic of radiation dangers. Her address, sponsored by CSTV, Science for Peace, WPIRG and several other UW organizations (see Calendar) will be given at 7:30 p.m. in Arts Lecture 116. From her base in Toronto, Bertell campaigns internationally against the dangers of nuclear technology. She was born in Buffalo, NY and received her Ph.D. in mathematics from Catholic University of America in 1966. A member of the Gray Nuns religious order, Bertell has testified or served as an expert witness before the US Congress, the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission, an Australian select committee on uranium resources, and Britain's Sizewell Enquiry. Her new book, published by Women's Press. is called No Immediate Danger? Prognosis for a Radioactive Earth.

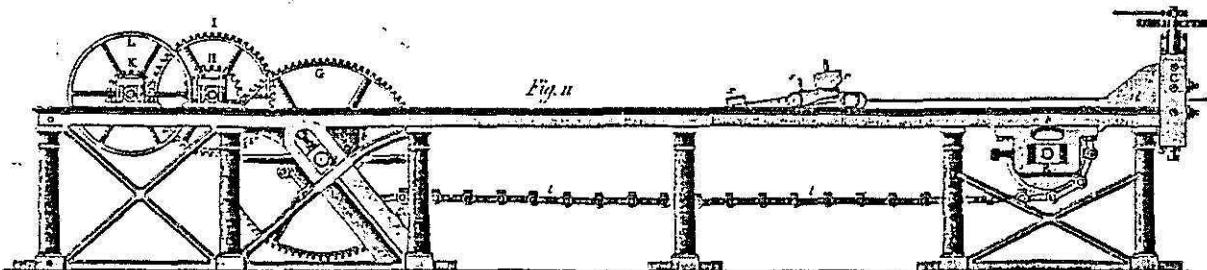
RATIONAL RISK ASSESSMENT IS TOPIC OF NOVEMBER EVENT

David G. Holdsworth will be the speaker at a 12 November colloquium sponsored by CSTV and UW's Institute for Risk Research. A graduate of UW (BSc. 1972) and UWO (Ph.D.. 1979), Holdsworth is a policy and program analyst with Ontario Hydro as well as a philosopher of science at U of T. While working in Hydro's Health and Safety Division, Holdsworth has been involved in policy issues related to occupational radiation risks. This practical experience has served to extend his theoretical interest in the risk assessment area.

"Risk assessment is a new field with cross-disciplinary and multi-institutional aspects," notes Holdsworth in a recent research proposal. "It affords an excellent vehicle for studying normative planning, standards-setting and rational choice in large institutions." His projected study would be relevant to "academic philosophers, government regulators and industrial managers." The title of his presentation is "The Illusion of Technique."

MCLUHAN PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The McLuhan Program in Culture and Technology at U of T has a very active program this fall, as a look at "Newsletter 8" soon reveals. Co-Directors of the Program are David Olson and Derrick de Kerckhove. One of the highlights is a monthly seminar on Literacy and Computing which "brings together the work of scholars from U of T, OISE, and the McLuhan Program who are concerned with the nature of literacy and the impact of computing on traditional conceptions of literacy." Meetings are held on the first working Monday of each month, 4 p.m. at the Coach House (39A Queen's Park Crescent). Upcoming seminars include "Oral Language in Literate Contexts" (Shirley Brice Heath, Stanford--3 Nov.), "Computers and Computing in Education (Roy Pea. NYU--2 Dec.). The series continues in the winter. The McLuhan Program also offers credit and non-credit courses, such as Media: Mind and Society (JAC 1001) and Foundations of Cognitive Science (JEC 1002), both of which will be available in U of T's spring term. For more details on these and other McLuhan Program activities, get in touch with Sylvia Wookey at (416) 978-7026.



### LIBERAL SCIENCE COURSES RELATE TO STV THEMES

UW's Liberal Science Program aims to produce generalists "with the capability of understanding specialist areas of science and with experience in doing so in at least two sciences." Courses in the program are congenial to STV themes, notes George Atkinson (Chemistry). This fall, "Science and Society" (Sci 263) examines the social, political and economic impacts and interactions of the new biotechnology. Sally Lerner (Env and Resource St), Bernie Glick (Biology) and Larry Smith (Economics) oversee the course, and other professors are involved as well. In the winter, "Scientists and the Science Community" (Sci 265) will look at "internal and external aspects" of how science is done, touching on fraud and deception, the process of acceptance and validation of new knowledge, science as a commodity, and other topics. "Models in Science" (Sci 261), also dealing with internal value systems in an analysis of the rise and fall of scientific models, will be offered at the Kitchener Public Library's Main Branch this winter. For more details: George Atkinson, UW ext. 3000.

### KELLY GOTLIEB ARRIVES AS NEW CSTV CONSULTANT

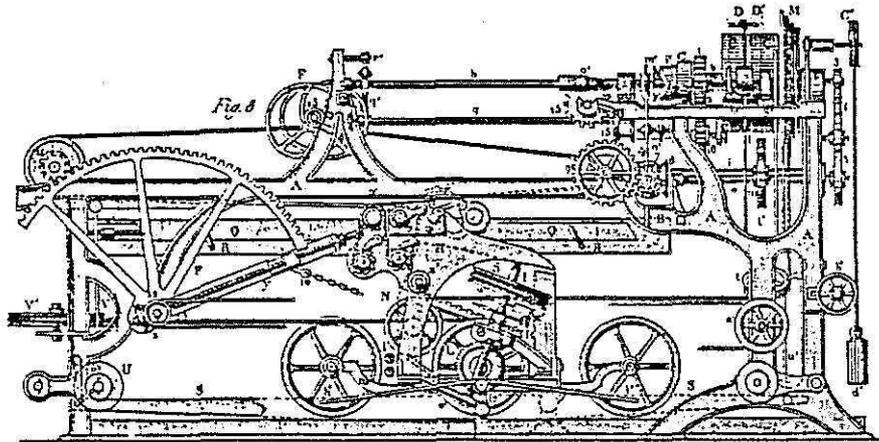
Noted Canadian computer expert Dr. Calvin (Kelly) C. Gotlieb is now regularly on the UW campus, acting as a special consultant to CSTV. Gotlieb has long been interested both in computers and in their human and social aspects. He was a member of a group that established a "computation centre" at U of T back in 1948. He was Director of U of T's Institute of Computer Science in the 1960s, and he has been a professor in the U of T computer science department and in the Faculty of Library and Information Science there. Locally he is known to many in his role as chair of the UT/UW Co-operative on Information Technology since its inception in 1981.

The new consultant will be bringing together representatives of professional "social responsibility" groups (Physicians for Social Responsibility, Lawyers for Social Responsibility, etc.) for a major colloquium tentatively scheduled for UW in fall 1987. He will also provide input into STV 100, the initial course of the STV undergrad option.

Gotlieb has often represented Canada at international meetings on information processing, and for many years he chaired an international conference committee on this subject. His major publications, part of a large output over a long career, include The Economics of Computers (1985) and Data Types and Structures (1978, co-author). His recent articles deal with central issues in the information revolution (1985), the impact of computers on the third world (1982, originally presented at a WPIRG event), and related topics. He also wrote the Canadian Encyclopedia article on computer science.

Gotlieb received a Ph.D. from Toronto in 1947, and he has honorary degrees from UW (DMath, 1968) and the Technical University of Nova Scotia (DEng, 1985). His work has taken him to over 20 countries, where he has given invited lectures and worked with national computing groups. His early publications include papers on the human ear as an analyzer of sound (1949), "machines for thought" (1951), and equipping a university computing lab (1957).

Gotlieb's new role at UW started in September. He'll be on campus every other Friday through the fall, and he'll be located in Larry Haworth's office (Philosophy. HH. UW ext. 2776). If you wish to meet with him, call Ann Dunnet at UW ext. 6215.



### Newsletter Production

Editorial and design: Steve Jones  
Production assistance: Ann Dunnet

News items are eagerly solicited  
for the next issue. Call Ann Dunnet  
at the CSTV office--UW ext. 6215.