

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1992-93

Over the past year the Institute presented the following five lectures and two panel discussions:

- October: Biomechanics Applied to Lifting Problems in Industry.
John Kozey, Kin-Erg Consulting & Technical University of Nova Scotia
- November: Systems are for People.
Peter Hitchcock, Technical University of Nova Scotia
- December: Form and Function of Large Whales.
Paul Brodie, Bedford institute of Oceanography
- January: Geomatics: Technology Trends and Applications.
Gerry Post, Advisor to the Maritime Geomatics Board
- February: A Comprehensive Science Strategy.
S.B. MacPhee, G. Smith, R.Foxall, K. Ogilvie
- March: Body-surface Potential Mapping.
Cheryl Kozey, School of Physiotherapy, Dalhousie University
- April: Quality of Research and Implications for Funding.
A. Bowen, J. Halliwell, A. Marble, D. Pink

Attendance at the lectures drew, on average, around thirty per meeting. The panel discussions format was an innovation which, judging by the attendance and comments, was quite successful. It is intended that more panel discussions be incorporated to cover topical items such as science education, governmental and political concerns for the role of science, environmental issues and the absorption of science into everyday life. The council is making a determined effort to ensure that the Nova Scotian Institute of Science fulfills its role as a scientific forum.

In addition to the list presented above, Dr. K.H. Mann of the Bedford Institute of Oceanography gave the Opening Public Lecture of the Association of Science Teachers at their Annual Conference held in October. In the lecture entitled "Physical Oceanography, Food Chains and Fish Stocks" Dr. Mann illustrated the practice and interaction of biology, chemistry and physics as applied in the fields of ecology and oceanography and showed how these several disciplines have been interwoven to follow and explain the dynamics of life in the ocean.

Over the course of the year the Council has discussed our membership numbers and the need to ensure that the community was well represented in the Institute. To that end special efforts were made through a membership drive and by seeking the advice of the Institute through a questionnaire. The treasurer's report indicates the success of the membership drive whereby a substantial number joined or renewed their affiliation with the Institute. Dr. Davis prepared a questionnaire to obtain the opinions of the Institute members as to the kind of activities they wished to see; he has summarized the responses for presentation to this meeting. They will be used by the Council to guide their proposals for Institute programmes. In addition, the Institute has attempted to improve the contacts with the Science Teachers of Nova Scotia and wishes to have one of their members attend all council meetings as an observer.

As in previous years the Institute has maintained its publications as a mode of communication. It should be noted that the Institute Proceedings has been of paramount importance especially in providing an outlet for works on the flora and fauna of Nova Scotia. The Editor's report has reviewed the publications for the year and mentions in particular the major contribution Institute members have made, through

the Proceedings, to the Natural history of Canada and the Maritime provinces. Volume 39 of the Proceedings was produced this year. The Librarian's report has described the collection which is held at the Science Library at Dalhousie University. I wish to acknowledge the support offered by the staff of Dalhousie University and our appreciation for the efforts of both the Librarian and Editor.

I wish to thank the Nova Scotia Museum who have provided financial support for the Institute Proceedings and for its provision of space and facilities for the monthly meetings of the Institute.

Finally I wish to thank members of the Council of the Institute who have been generous in giving their time and effort on behalf of the Institute. Their support has made my time as President most enjoyable.

James E. Stewart