

Are we getting our \$6000 worth?

What is NUS?

NUS is the national organization of community college, technical institute and university students in Canada. Through NUS students lobby the federal government and the council of education ministers, research areas of concern, gather and exchange needed information. NUS has been instrumental in the establishment of provincial and regional student organizations. It is linked with them for co-operation in reaching a common student position on matters of country-wide importance.

What does NUS do for me?

A lot. Decisions and policies that affect every student in Canada are made by the federal government or by federal-provincial consultation. Sometimes campus and provincial student organizations can't find out about these decisions, much less influence them.

NUS, working with the provincial organizations, provides student influence and pressure on policy-makers in Ottawa. The result is that government officials consider student interests when they start planning changes in the post-secondary system.

NUS is providing student councils with the information they need to contribute to discussion of student aid reforms, and is encouraging student newspapers to let you know what happened and what it means.

The result is that when there are changes in student aid, the federal government won't be able to take money from students because of a phoney claim about "few money problems".

That's just one example. Every day there are developments students can do something about only through NUS.

What has NUS done?

National Student Day, called by NUS, provided over 300,000 students with detailed information about their common concerns, and gave students in Canada a chance to develop and express their position on country-wide issues.

The *Student Advocate*, published by NUS six times during the academic year, condenses NUS research, informs and analyzes events with impact on students.

NUS raised the matter of student involvement in student aid policy development, and with active support from student councils forced provincial governments to establish advisory and consultative groups which are now a source of detailed information on student aid.

NUS has worked, and continues to work, on a broad range of general issues. These include the role of women in colleges and universities, the value of comprehensive community colleges, the need for adequate low-income and student housing, and the CRTC's frequent discouragement of student radio students.

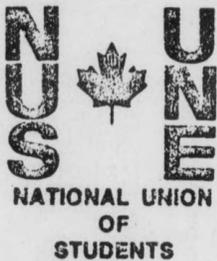
NUS has circulated materials on the different kinds of course evaluation a council can provide, and is assembling a library of materials on the subject.

What difference does NUS make?

There are more than 600,000 post-secondary students in Canada. Perhaps not the most powerful group in the country, but when students speak strongly and clearly, politicians listen.

National Student Day, makes provincial and federal politicians aware that students are an active and informed part of the population. It has meant that when students approach government, they can be sure of getting someone's attention.

The federal government is responsible for overall student aid



The students who founded NUS in 1972 knew that its strength depends on students' input and support. Procedures (eg. votes-by-mail and advance notice of all student policy proposals) make sure that every member campus can discuss important NUS decisions before a vote is held.

The supreme decision-making body of NUS is the general meeting of members, held at least twice each year. Both the executive and staff are subject to the members' guidance.

The NUS executive, a central committee, has a treasurer, two members-at-large and provincial representatives chosen through provincial or regional organizations (where one exists). All executive members must be students, and they meet about once every two months to review activities and provide further direction.

Half of the staff are fieldworkers who travel from campus to campus providing detailed information on what is happening with key issues and expertise in certain projects where it is needed, drawing on solution that have been successful elsewhere.

NUS conferences and materials are used to benefit student councils by providing them with ideas about academic and service questions. Well-informed and capable student governments guarantee your influence on NUS, for they can easily pass on the student opinions from their campus.

What future does NUS have?

Last year 26 campuses voted support, through membership, in NUS. Only three voted against. This year over 20 campuses plan to vote, and this on-campus support is being translated into a growth in NUS's effectiveness as the national voice of post-secondary students in Canada.

The provincial organizations and NUS are committed to integrating their activity so that students' resources are used without unnecessary duplication. Special services for groups such as vocational students, part-time students and graduate students need further development. There are services like insurance which can usefully be provided by NUS.

The student organizations and unions who are members or in close co-operation with NUS represent about 350,000 students, 185,000 actually members. It is clear as NUS develops the depth and range of its operations will also develop.

As NUS grows, so do its responsibilities to post-secondary students. Your participation is welcome. Should you wish to comment or make suggestions on any of NUS's activities, or obtain further information, please contact your student council or write the NUS national office.

Suite 220
227 Laurier Avenue W.
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5J7

policy; is the largest single source of funds for your campus; is in charge of employment programs. Provincial government rely on their country-wide council for initiatives in post-secondary education.

Through NUS, students can have an impact on this centralized authority over their lives, and through NUS student input can contribute to more responsible and less remote policy-making.

How can I influence NUS?

Decentralization within NUS, fieldwork visits to member campuses, NUS monitoring of the campus situation, liaison with provincial organizations - those are day-to-day measures to keep in touch with student opinion and therefore represent students accurately.

Kierans on Quebec nationalism

HALIFAX (CUP) — An independent Quebec would find "association" with the United States or a "rump Canada" difficult, economist and former Liberal politician Eric Kierans said Friday at Dalhousie University.

"For the Quebec government to say they'll separate but still have an 'association' is to have their cake and eat it too," Kierans said. An association with an independent Quebec would only take place for purely commercial reasons, he said. Also, the remainder of Canada would have little desire to support Quebec textile manufacturers, as the natural lines for trade are north-south, not east-west, and as Ontario's economy would still be stronger than that of Quebec.

The McGill economics professor served with Rene Levesque in the Liberal cabinet of Jean Lesage, and later served in the federal cabinet under Pierre Trudeau.

On Nov. 15, Quebecers thumbed their noses at Ottawa, not at English-speaking Canada, Kierans said. He added that the worst "worst possible" outcome of the separation referendum would be 60% in favour of Confederation. He hoped for an 85% majority against separatism, so that Quebecers "would get it out of our systems for at least a generation."

Kierans added that the strength of Quebec's federalist Union

Nationale party would keep the Parti Quebecois in power. But in tribute to his former cabinet colleague, Kierans said that "Rene without separatism would be first-class for Quebec."

Kierans said that the province, not Ottawa, should decide what to do with the money the federal government gives that province, because such things as medicare, education and urban affairs are provincial responsibilities.

He charged that Lester Pearson announced the introduction of medicare, whose cost would be split between the provinces and Ottawa, only an hour before the end of a federal-provincial conference. No consultation had taken place earlier, Kierans said.

Quebec then had to decide which program or department would have to be cut back to provide Quebec's \$100 million share of medicare. Kierans and other Quebec cabinet ministers argued that it would have been better to have introduced medicare for the 25% of the population with the least income.

Quebec does not participate in a number of federal-provincial programs. Kierans said that when he was Quebec's revenue minister, British economist Barbara Ward Jackson told him that Quebec was "right" to opt out. But, Jackson continued, he had a responsibility: to convince one other province to opt out of just one federal program.

He didn't succeed, because no other province wanted to side with Quebec, Kierans said. The other provinces would have considered that "treason", he said.

Kierans called the idea of an association with the United States "asinine". A monetary union would be "ipso facto a monetary union", he said.

He asked the audience of 70 to imagine the speed with which Quebec culture would erode under the "constant hammering" of North American culture if Quebec left Canada. Quebec's 5 million anglophones are outnumbered 50 to one in anglophone North America, Kierans pointed out.

As it is, he said, Quebec has a "living, breathing, vital" culture.

Margarida A. Krause, molecular biologist at the University of New Brunswick was awarded a \$50,000 grant from the National Cancer Institute of Canada.

The grant is the first ever awarded in New Brunswick and one of the few in the Atlantic Provinces.

The New Brunswick project is an investigation of genetic changes occurring in normal human cells transferred by a cancer virus. Dr. Krause will be assisted by two additional faculty members, Assistant Professors, Ernest W.K. Jay and Kenneth Kam-Yuem Yu.

Foresters help people

UNB forestry students will recommend a major co-operative effort to develop their forest resources at a public meeting Thursday, March 24, to residents of the Minto-Grand Lake Sheffield area.

The students have come up with some viable alternatives industries for the area.

The students have concluded that the only viable industries for

the area are agriculture and forest based.

One of the plans for development which the students are suggesting is modelled on "Operation Dignite", a joint effort of local landowners federal, and provincial government, industry and university foresters in Quebec to tap the forest resource and break the unemployment welfare cycle.

Nominations being received for the position of Editor-in-Chief of the Brunswickan. Nominations should be given to the Managing Editor by Tuesday, March 28, 77 by 6 p.m.