

# Students prisoners of Faculty-Admin war (?)

by Alex Burton

Roughly 300 students marched across campus Friday demanding

a settlement to the Dalhousie faculty strike.

The crowd of students was led by Dalhousie Student Union

president Juanita Montalvo and community affairs co-ordinator Beth Beattie. The crowd, composed of students of all ages and

from all departments, marched from the SUB to the A&A building shouting "settle now" and "negotiate to educate." They

cramped into the foyer of the A&A to announce the opening of a mock jail. Montalvo said "the jail will be occupied by students until the end of the strike," adding "it represents that the students are being held captive by the strike."

The crowd was invited by president Howard Clark into the Senate chambers to ask him questions about the strike. The emotional 40-minute session saw students vent their frustrations as well as ask questions. One student accused Clark of not caring enough for Dalhousie or "he would have done everything in his power to get more funding." Clark responded by saying he had held over 100 meetings with government officials in the past year and a half to try to secure more funds. Another student accused Clark of spending much-needed funds on renovating the president's residence. Clark ignored the question.

Many questions focused on what effect the strike will have on people's education, particularly the professional students. Clark said he felt that "strikes are inappropriate for universities." He also said "students will not pay for a settlement" in answer to a question from a student worried that higher tuition fees could be levied next year to help cover the expense of this year's contract settlement.



Raymond Mah: Dal Photo

DSU exec front and centre in Friday's march on the A&A. Note DSU president Juanita Montalvo (far left - really?) dressed for the mock jail.

# Students push to clarify labour situation

by Ellen Reynolds

With conflicting information and rumours running rampant, students are in a confusing position during the Dalhousie Faculty Association strike.

Residences are emptying as students return home but the effects of the strike vary depending on whom you ask. According to the DFA, over 80 per cent of full-time

faculty are on strike and not teaching classes. The Board of Governors puts that figure closer to 50 per cent.

Many students are unclear about whether or not they will be academically penalized for crossing the picket line to attend classes. A senate resolution states that students will not suffer any "formal academic penalty." The DFA

interpreted this resolution in a statement: "Any classes held during the strike will have to be re-offered after the strike to students who have respected our picket lines, if the material covered is to be examined or the class content otherwise evaluated. However, the DFA cannot enforce this.

Student Union President Juanita Montalvo invited President Howard Clark to discuss the strike with some members of the council executive. During this meeting Montalvo requested that "to avoid all confusion," the university should cancel remaining classes. Clark refused, claiming that "40 per cent of full-time faculty are still teaching." He described the meeting as "general discussion about the concerns of the students" and said it was very similar to the open press conference held on Friday when students questioned Clark about the strike. "And it will probably be the same next time we meet," says Clark.

Clark also met this week with Premier John Buchanan about

"general university funding." But, says Clark, "I have had no meetings with any government representative in relation to the strike and none are planned. The

provincial government has made a formal statement that it will not step in with funding to help settle the strike.

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Pauli Grandy: Photo

The waiting bargaining table in the SUB lobby . . .

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