Dal council gives ok

SUNS constitution supported

by Darrell Dexter

Student's Council Sunday night decided to support in principle the Students' Union of Nova Scotia (SUNS).

In a series of debates which lasted over an hour, the Dalhousie Student Council decided to accept the constitution presented by SUNS. Council was not totally satisfied with the constitution, but most members said the best way to solve any problems was from within the organization itself.

There was some concern that SUNS was pushing the council into accepting the constitution. This stemmed from the fact Dalhousie would not have a vote at the next meeting of SUNS unless they passed the motion.

Jeff Champion, representative for Fenwick residence, pointed out that up to this date the co-operation received

by SUNS from Dalhousie Student Council was at a minimum. "The main problem with the lack of progress was just personal animosity and a lot of that is a result of the attitude right from the start", Champion said.

Dick Matthews, student union president at Dalhousie, started the debate with a series of questions about SUNS and their actions over the summer. He remarked that he did not have any official correspondence with the organization over the summer and that in his opinion the last meeting of SUNS had been rather unconstructive. He went on to say there was no need for a full time student organization in Nova Scotia. A motion then came to the floor that Dalhousie support a per institution fee for the organization rather than a per capita fee base. After the motion was

discussed at length, the council supported Matthews' stand by the margin of one vote, 6-5.

The council then moved to go into committee of the whole so that the issue could be more clearly debated.

Gerri Geldart, a member of the SUNS steering committee and a Dalhousie councillor, said that it was a lack of participation on the behalf of Dalhousie that facilitated some of the problems between the student union and SUNS. She went on to say that if Dalhousie wishes not to participate, then "SUNS didn't need them". However, if Dal was interested, then SUNS wanted Dalhousie's time, its opinions, and its participation as well as the revenue it generated.

After adjourning committee of the whole, the council decided to strike a committee

to look into the organization more fully. In addition, the council passed a resolution to participate fully in SUNS until such time as it was decided to review their position again.

The council also took the first step toward organizing a campus committee for SUNS and appointed Jeff Champion the chairman of that committee. The aim of the campus committee is to get more direct involvement from the actual student body. It consists of one member of executive, two members of council and two members of the student body at large. The committee is used by SUNS as a way to get work done on campus and a way to get feedback at a campus level.

In an interview after the council meeting, Matthews again expressed some reservations on the idea of a full

time student organization. He said, however, that his job at the last council meeting had been to bring the SUNS question out into the open and that he was pleased with the results of the meeting. He said the council seemed eager to get more information in order to be able to make a more responsible decision on SUNS, the last council meeting being the most interest shown in a student organization for as long as he could remember.

The next meeting of SUNS is on the 30th of September at Truro's Agricultural College and it will be there that Dalhousie hopes to iron out some of its difficulties. Matthews said that, although he was on the committee to look into SUNS, he may not be going to the next meeting. He added that the decision of who was going had not been addressed yet.

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Dal Photo / Dayal

Faculty-administration negotiations

No end in sight

by Margot Griffiths

Negotiations between Dalhousie Faculty Association (DFA) and University Administration continue with still no sign of a settlement. Although agreement has been reached concerning most issues, key points concerning holidays, sick leave, the Rand Formula and librarian's salaries remain unresolved.

On Monday, the long-awaited proposal for holidays

and leave was submitted to DFA. Dr. Cross says that the Administration is prepared to grant sick leave to faculty members only if they can arrange for replacements. This includes maternity leave as well as emergencies. The proposal also defines a vacation month as twenty working days, when by most standards, a month's vacation is twenty-two working days. Cross termed the proposal

"outrageous" and stated that "the provisions were worse than other universities and even most factories."

Another major problem involves Union Security and the RAND Formula, which allows employees to be excluded from union membership, yet still be entitled to all benefits won through negotiation. Dr. Michael Cross, Chief Negotiator

Student activists denied readmission

by Brent Melanson

MONCTON — Five students have been refused readmission to the Université de Moncton for participating in student demonstrations last winter.

The Secretary-General of the Student Federation and the editor of the student newspaper were also denied entrance for publishing an article that was critical of university employees, but the editor was later readmitted.

Victor Ross, Vice-Rector of the Université de Moncton, said "five of the students who were, or seemed to be, leaders in the demonstrations would not be readmitted." At no time did the university administration support the student occupation of university buildings and the students involved had committed "illegal acts", he said.

In a letter to the students not to be readmitted the administration quoted general rule number one of the university calendar which stipulates: "The University reserves the right to suspend, expell, or refuse admission to any student who does not follow university rules or whose conduct has been judged detrimental to the university."

Last winter's demonstrations involved about 1500 of U de M's 2400 students. The students boycotted classes to attend workshops on student aid, tuition increases, unemployment and the high rents in the city. They also occupied university buildings and marched through downtown Moncton.

The article published in the student newspaper 'le front' criticized the university's Director of Student Services and an officer of the department. The university alledges the article is libelous and the case

is now before the New Brunswick Supreme Court.

Ross said, "the actions of the students responsible for publishing the article bring shame upon the university and justifies the actions of the university."

"It is the responsibility of the university to defend its employees against accusations of this kind," he said.

Jean Nadeau, Comptroller of the U de M Student Federation, said "the Federation is studying the legal aspects of the situation and feels the students have a good case."

"The editor and the Secretary-General should not have been refused admission until the New Brunswick Supreme Court had made a decision," she said.

Morna Ballantyne, Executive Secretary of the National Union of Students (NUS), said "it is the organization's policy to oppose any administration that hinders the activities of a democratically elected student group."

At the last meeting of the Dalhousie Student Union, the union executive condemned the U de M administration for its refusal to re-admit the seven students, and will send a letter in support of the students' cause.

Dick Matthews, president of the union, said "the two U de M students refused re-admission for the publication of the article should be re-admitted until the New Brunswick Supreme Court reaches a decision and the other five students should be immediately and unconditionally re-admitted by the university.

A.J. Tingley, registrar of Dalhousie, said "every university has such a clause, including Dalhousie."