

# Gillis Sells Out Again

## Has the Senate Killed Academocracy?

by Trevor Parsons

The Dalhousie Senate has just given approval to the controversial "George Report". While they did not approve the report in whole, they did approve each separate recommendation in it.

Fear has been expressed by many student leaders that these recommendations are designed to suppress "democratization within departments." Specific reference has been made repeatedly to last years situation within the Sociology department in which the concept of student participation in Faculty Committees was challenged. It has been suggested that the George recommendations will give the Senate the power to prevent departments from becoming democratic.

At a special Sunday meeting of Student Council it was decided to oppose the George report through Council President and student senator Bruce Gillis. Council members ex-

pressed surprise when told that Gillis had gone against their wishes and voted for the recommendations.

Alan Ruffman, another student senator, supported the recommendations as well-in fact, when the question of the necessity of the recommendations was raised, Ruffman was the only one who attempted to answer the question. When questioned by the Gazette on the fact that by his vote he did not seem to represent interests of the students Ruffman said, "Just because I'm elected to the senate by the students doesn't mean that I'm responsible to Council or anybody else."

Science Representative, Cathy Smiley, seemed upset by the way both senators voted on the report. She said that in her opinion "Council didn't want the report accepted." She also said, "I don't believe anybody else who attended Sunday's Council meeting would have voted the same as Bruce."

Council member, Kirk MacCulloch, was also dismayed by Gillis' action



and said that Gillis had definitely not expressed the feelings of Council.

Damborgs, the third student on Senate, was the only one of the trio who opposed the report. He questioned its importance and on at least

two occasions he attempted to get permission for students in the gallery to speak. This permission was not granted.

Among others to oppose the report in Senate were Prof. Keith Jobson

and Dean McLean. Dean McLean made a motion to have the report sent back to the committee for further study. Damborgs voted for the motion while Gillis and Ruffman voted against it. The motion was defeated.

# Council Defines its Position On George Report

by Andrew Cochran

Student's Council has made its feeling quite clear concerning the passage of the contentious "George Report" in Senate last week. Member-at-large Kirk MacCulloch (Law) concisely struck the body's sentiments in a resolution he presented at Council's meeting of October 21.

It stated:

"Whereas the 'Report on Function and Responsibilities of Deans of Faculties and Chairmen of Departments' (otherwise known as the George Report) recently issued by the Senate Committee on University Government is in essence a report on the decision making structure of Dalhousie University;

And whereas the recommendations and text of the report accept and reinforce the existing undemocratic structure of the university and are in spirit con-

trary to the belief held by the Dalhousie Student Union Council that the university is an institution that should lead the development of participatory democracy;

And whereas this Council has passed a resolution on March 31/69 in support of the principles of equal student participation in the university decision making process;

Be it resolved that the Council of the Dal Student Union express to the Senate its dissatisfaction with the Report on Functions of Deans of Faculties and Chairmen or Heads of Departments; and also that the Council express its disappointment that the recommendations (with minor changes) in the Report were adopted by the Senate.

Be it further resolved that the Senate be advised of its concern that unless the decision making process of Dalhousie University

is more responsive to the needs of students and other segments of the university such as younger faculty members, it is foreseeable that Dalhousie may experience the same turmoil that has occurred at some other universities. And be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Senate."

Discussion on the "MacCulloch Resolution" was minimal for, as one councillor stated, "It reflected so completely the thoughts of all of us"; Council was quick to adopt the piece of legislation, enforcing it by a unanimous vote in favor.

It is interesting to note that included in those voting unanimously in favor of this condemnation of the "George Report" was President/Senator W. Bruce Gillis. It is further of interest that he (Mr. Gillis) voted - IN FAVOR of THE SAME George

Report at the Senate meeting at which it was passed.

This leads one to question if, in fact, the honorable President/Senator is of one opinion in the senior body (the Senate, that is) and of another - completely to the contrary - in Council.

Is he trying to establish his priorities as a Senator first and the President of the STUDENT Union second? Or is he attempting to be all things to all people? Where exactly does he stand?

Assuredly, it is time that the students got some answers.

## Gazette Poll

At the last Student Council meeting the Gazette polled as many of the Council members who had attended the Sunday meeting as possible. The question and the results follow:

Question - Do you believe that the feeling of Sunday's Council meeting was as Bruce Gillis stated in Senate: "The feeling at the Council meeting

was that the proposals in the George report were good, given the present structure of University Government."

Results	YES	NO
Larry Fredricks		x
Daphne Shedd		x
Diana Ranson		x
Cathy Smily		x
Kirk MacCulloch		x
Cathy Henson		x

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