

## Council Briefs

by Maria Rey

B.J. Arsenault, president of Acadia University student union and chairperson of SUNS steering committee, briefed council on the SUNS plenary meeting last weekend at St. Anne's. Seven institutions were represented at the meeting. The plenary members did not discuss funding recommendations for SUNS by its member universities, but they did agree on a number of things. The plenary members should gather as much information as possible about student opinion on cutbacks at their respective universities; all of which would go to a one-day information session of the plenary at the next meeting in March. The steering committee will then be able to present a general student opinion on the cutbacks when approached by the government.

The date for formalizing SUNS as a fully constituted organization is set for the spring of 1980. Meanwhile the plenary ask the member universities to pass a motion approving SUNS in principle, and also pass a motion making a commitment to SUNS and take an active part in the plenary.

Also, no stand was taken on the proposal of differential tuition fees for foreign students although the government and MPHEC say the fees may become policy.

The plenary also recognized NUS (Nation Union of Students) as the official representative of students in English-speaking Canada.

Arsenault also stressed the importance of Dal sending representatives to attend the plenary meetings. Two meetings have been held already and no representatives have been sent by Dalhousie. Since Dalhousie is such an important member of the plenary, Arsenault stressed the importance of sending a voting member to reflect Dal council's views.

A motion was then proposed by Norm Epstein that a permanent liaison delegate be sent to represent Dalhousie at ensuing plenary meetings. He withdrew the motion however, after Mike Power said he would attend future plenaries.

The size of the Dal student council was also discussed at Sunday night's meeting. Many members were of the opinion that council was too large, and that over-representation by more than one councillor of segment of students, especially those in residence was hindering council's efficiency as well as confusing the council representatives as to who they are supposed to represent and what problems lie in their jurisdiction. Peter Baltzer said, "I don't feel that someone needs a special representative on council merely because he lives in residence." Others also said that the special problems faced by residence living should be dealt with by the Residence Council.

Council passed a motion to agree in principle with the reduction of council size, and to instruct the constitution committee to investigate the possibility of reducing council size.

Council passed a motion to form an Honorarium Committee, and Gordon Owen, Gary McGilvary, and Joe Wilson were elected to the committee.

President Hicks requested that a student be elected by Council to serve on the Presidential Search Committee to find a replacement for the retiring president. Council elected Graham Wells to the committee.

Ian Wallace and Tab Borden were elected to the non-councillor positions of the Sub-Ops committee.

Council awarded a grant of \$300.00 to the Dalhousie chapter of the National Association of Women in the Law. Other organizations which received grants were Health Care Study group and the Music Students Association.

Reports were submitted by the Constitution Committee, the Finance Committee, the Orientation Committee and the Sub-Ops Committee. From the Finance Committee minutes there arose a motion that the Finance Committee investigate the possibility of using the remaining AFS fees to fund a course evaluation (antecalendar.)

The report from the Health Plan Committee was tabled till the next meeting.

### N.S.C.A.D. resigns

## Who cares

by Alan Adams

All but one member of the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design Student Council have resigned their seats in what has been described as a protest about apathy at the college.

A spokesperson for the council, who asked not be identified, said "it was just

too much" to continue working with the students. The spokesperson added the apathy "on council, of the students and in the school" hindered any representative form of government.

Elections for a new council will be held Monday. A small turn-out of voters is expected.

**Gazette staff meeting  
Thurs. 7:00 PM**

### Kierans at Dal

## Stormy warning

by Mike Burns

Last Thursday, students and faculty at Dalhousie were afforded a rare insight into the economic and political implications for Canadians of the advanced stage of capitalism through which the "global economy" is currently passing. Speaking out of a detectable sense of mission, the widely respected Canadian economist, Eric Kierans, expounded his theme—"groping towards a theory of advanced capitalism", to a large audience in the MacMechan Room.

Throughout the discourse, the focus of his attention was the corporate institution which, he cautioned, is self-perpetuating, immortal (despite Hobbes), and grows at an exponential rate. Of more immediate importance, however, is the fact that, because the corporation is permanent while political institutions are constantly changing, the corporation will inevitably seek to influence such institutions. And Kierans was at no loss to sink the roots of his argument deep into historical grounds, explaining that the corporation is itself the product of change spawned by the Industrial Revolution.

Having laid the groundwork for his theory in a sound and convincing manner, the McGill professor set upon a critical examination of the heartland-hinterland paradigm in Canada, bringing to bear a whole battery of impressive statistics, sector analyses and cash flows in order to demonstrate the dominance of what he terms the "supra-national" corporation.

Citing several examples, Kierans went on to explain that in the advanced stage of capitalism, the study of macro-economics no longer applies because the supra-national is, for all intents and purposes, independent of savings and investment. Such corporations exercise considerable control of markets to the extent that they may administer prices which are in effect "designed to reinforce their own equity position."

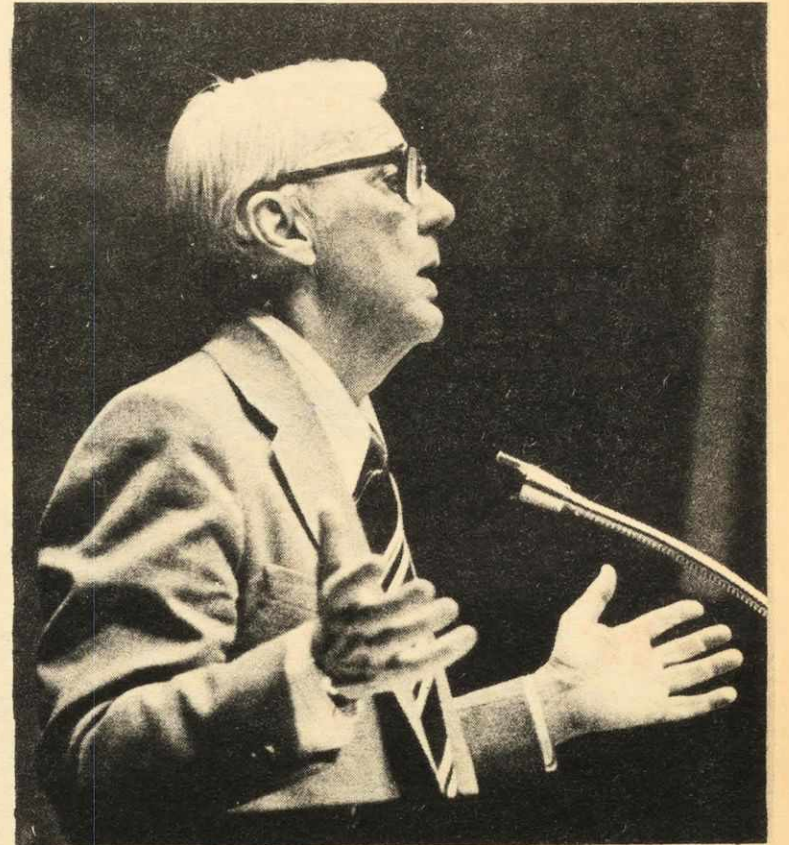
It is apparent that the state has lost control of the large corporations, allowing them to command sources of Canadian funds, and to achieve dominance in other such critical areas as Resource extraction, employee relations and tax policy.

Of more than passing concern to the people of the Maritimes, Kierans alluded to the sequitur that in Canada, Political heartland means economic heartland; which adds weight to the notion that the rest of the nation is being drained in a peripheral capacity. And to make matters worse, a new imbalance has been struck up in the west, where an increasing share of equalization payments will eventually accrue to the existing heartland, rather than back to the west, causing more stresses and strains in the economy which will further "exacerbate political and constitutional problems".

Perhaps the most disturbing aspect of the entire issue is that, as Kierans puts it, "we can expect no action from the Federal government," whose hands are already tied.

Indeed, we are at a stage of advanced capitalism; one which does not augur well for

the economic and political health of the country. Closing on a note of disquietude, Mr. Kierans issued a storm warning to the effect that the economic crisis which is now inevitable will bring about "political crisis and a lowering of living standards all around."



## Dal Nursing Society Ball

Feb. 2, 1979

At the Lord Nelson Hotel

featuring TRACK

\$10 couple

**We're looking** for motivated and concerned students with an honours degree in a variety of undergraduate fields interested in a Master's programme in Urban and Rural Planning. We're located in Halifax, and are training people who are sensitive to the balances and conflicts between rural and urban development, and want to plan **with** people, developing their strengths and capabilities as they develop their own.

Send information (including previous degree) to Dimitri Procos, Head, Dept. of Urban and Rural Planning, Nova Scotia Technical College, P.O. Box 1000, Halifax, N.S. B3J 2X4

## Frosh Week '79

Applications for the separate positions of **Orientation Chairperson** and **Shinerama Director** are now available in the Council offices, 2nd floor SUB.

## Interested?

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