

Editorial Council's decision to cut CKDU was a mistake . . .

Council's decision to withhold funding from CKDU for the 81-82 year smacks of the logic of the man who wanted to exterminate the human race in order to get rid of war, poverty and injustice — the goals of their actions were lost on the road to achieving them.

Communication, promotion and entertainment are three of the desiderata of all student unions and are three attributes lacking in our own. All year long council has struggled valiantly through entertainment deficits and ad hoc communication committees — to achieve these goals.

Everyone agrees that building a strong CKDU-AM would be a giant step toward reaching these goals. It would communicate information about student and non-student affairs on a local, regional, national and international basis; it would promote Dalhousie Student Union and non-Union activities; it would entertain through its music programming, interviews and documentaries.

It follows, then, that a reasonable council would take the measures it most reasonably sees fit to build a strong CKDU to obtain the goals it has set itself. Unfortunately council did not act reasonably.

Instead of constructively addressing the problems inherent in the now weak CKDU — a small broadcasting range, pressing capital expenditures of unknown quantity and (presumably) programming beefs — council has ignored the great potential of CKDU and decided to simply scrap the station. By quashing one of the few hopes they have of serving students, they have effectively given up. To use another analogy, they are like the sailors who chose to jump their ship and drown rather than repair it.

A far more constructive approach would be to combine efforts with CKDU's newly formed Board of Directors and investigate, in an uncontentious manner, ways and costs of expanding the station's operations onto other areas of campus. Student criticism, alternate sources of funding, the viability of establishing new transmitters in the Dalplex, Life Science Building, Fenwick, etc., all these matters could be looked at over the summer and dealt with. This is the road any student council with long term goals for the Dalhousie Student Union should follow.

. . . but it can be changed

Council's decision is not yet final. There are a few ways by which CKDU may yet be saved.

CKDU's salvation rests with a general meeting of the Student Union to be held this Monday. At this meeting, where all Dalhousie students have voting privileges, the decision not to finance CKDU next year will **not** be up for debate. Students, however, can indirectly affect this decision through their voting in other areas.

In order to maintain existing services other than CKDU council needed to support a student fee increase of six dollars. These increases must be ratified at the general meeting.

The students who attend this meeting, then, will have the power to pass or defeat the recommended student fee increases. If they are defeated, council will be forced to pass a new budget at the council meeting that evening. If student fee increases are again required (and this will be almost certain according to President Owen) another general meeting must be called to ratify them.

The power that this general meeting indirectly has over the budget gives students who support CKDU the opportunity they need. Conceivably they could defeat the increases in student fees and pass a motion reaffirming support for CKDU. While council would not obviously be constitutionally forced to finance CKDU after this motion, it seems clear that a failure to finance CKDU would not be complying with the intent of this motion to support the radio station. If council makes up any excuse not to follow the results of this general meeting it could rightfully be charged with both accepting and rejecting the results of its own democratic processes at its own whim. This is where free government leaves off and fascism sets in.

In the end the final decision rests in the hands of those concerned students who show up at noon on Monday in the Green Room for the Union's general meeting. If you believe (or disbelieve) in an expanded CKDU-AM you should be there.

The Roar of the Crowd

Interviews and photography
by Arnold Mosher



Kathleen O'Neil
2nd Year Russian

The cost of tuition is so high that a few dollars won't make any difference. You need some campus media . . . if they stay they should move to the ground floor.



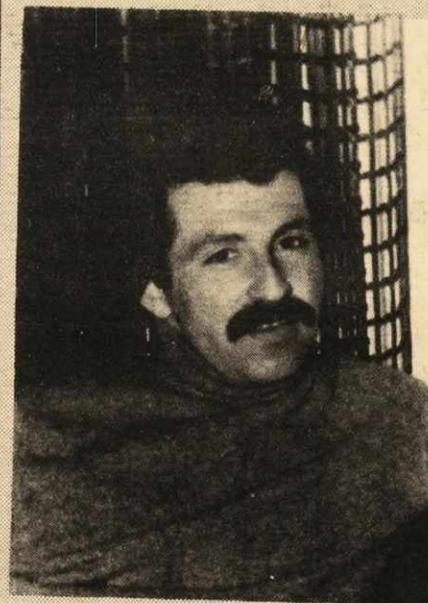
Helen Macdonell
4th Year English

No, I don't think Student Council should stop funding. The problem with fees is tuition not Student Union fees. I don't mind paying \$10 more on Union fees; it's the hundred dollars more in tuition that I don't like.



John Russel
3rd Year Arts

I'd hate to see it go but I'd hate to see it remain as is.



Mike Mackin
Education

No, they shouldn't stop the funding. Media students should have such a tool to use to air their positions and ideas. Also interest groups must have other venues than just the Gazette. It should have gone FM. An FM station could have brought Dal to the rest of Halifax.



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