

# SMU council president resigns, enrolls at Dal

by Catherine Ricketts

"I am abrogating my responsibility to students, I'm not denying that, but..."

Tim Hill, President of the Student Representative Council (SRC) at Saint Mary's University, will be resigning from his position after only half his term in order to begin studies at Dalhousie's Law School.

Hill wrote the Law College Admission Test (LCAT) in December 1981, and received word that he had been accepted during the SRC election campaign in February 1982. "I didn't know in February 1982. I was unable to reach a decision until the end of June." He informed the University Administration of his intent to resign in early August.

When asked if he had considered deferring his acceptance until the following year, Hill admitted he had not considered that possibility and had not known the option was open to him. He reasoned that it "would be impossible to walk out after a year as president with a four-point grade average", making a second chance of acceptance at law school "highly unlikely". "I have reached a point in my life where responsibility to myself outweighs my responsibility to the electorate," said Hill.

Rose Godfrey, in Law Admissions, concurred that Hill had not

put in a request for deferral, but added that, had he done so, his chances of it being granted were "very good". She felt that his election to the SRC presidency was a valid enough reason, particularly when coupled with his high marks, LCAT scores, and early processing of his application.

Drew Franklin, SMU's VP (Administration), will fill the Presi-

dent's position when Hill officially resigns at the first full SRC meeting on 19 September. He will preside until the by-elections for the seat are over in the end of September. The by-elections will cost the SRC about \$50 to have two booths manned by two people each for a period of eight or nine hours, according to Charlie MacArthur, VP (External).

It is unlikely that Hill will be impeached or that he will be asked to return the \$125 per week honorarium he collected over the summer months. However, Franklin maintains that the decision rests with the Full Council when it meets later on in the month.

Both VP's on the SRC expressed a sense of loss, both personally and for the Council. "He's done a tremendous amount of work over the summer, and will probably bear the brunt of a great deal of flak from people in general and the press," stated Franklin. "I am a little disappointed that he is resigning. I took on the position and the responsibility mainly because I was asked to run by him. Although we didn't officially run as a team, our names appeared together on posters."

Franklin added that most of the goals which the two had hoped to accomplish over the year's term have been completed within the summer period. They included:

- Drafting a two-year lease, renewable annually thereafter, for use of the fifth and some of the third floors in the Student Union Building by the SRC. It is subject now to approval by the Administration's lawyer, and subsequently the SMU Board of Governors Executive.
- "Formerly, if the President of the University said that we were out, we were out," said Hill.
- Reclaiming of final say in tendry

of the Student Health Insurance plan. Decision of which tender will be accepted now rests with a committee formed of members of Student Services, Health Services, the Business Office and the SRC, with fiscal responsibility assumed by the University administration. This should be approved at an early Board of Governors Executive meeting.

- Ironing out problems with Liquor Services. Formerly the student Pub Board of Governors did not have signing authority over its account. It has been proposed to amalgamate it with the President's Committee to form the New Liquor Operations Committee of the Board of Governors. This will give input and reports to the Board of Governors of SMU. Approval is pending, but expected.

- Reorganizing the SRC offices - better outlining and delegation of duties.

- Assuring full-time support staff in the Student Union Building job security, by arranging for contracts between the union and employees which guarantee certain minimum performances.

- Drafting incorporation documents for the Journal. These are now ready to be signed, but discussions are continuing as to who will sit on the Publishing Board of Directors. This will entrench freedom from editorial influence by the SRC and give the Journal financial autonomy.

Dr. Kenneth Ozmon, Administration President of SMU, stated that Tim Hill "has shown a willingness and eagerness to keep lines open". He verified that parameters for the first three objectives are in writing and feels they will likely be approved in an early (first or second) Executive meeting. He said he had met with Hill some six or eight times over the summer to exchange proposals.

Hill noted that there were still a few objectives which had not been met, but he feels the Full Council will be able to complete them, as wheels have already been set in motion. Among other things, Hill would like to see a greater emphasis on intramural sports as opposed to intercollegiate sports. MacArthur, as VP External, seems to be enthusiastic about the idea, but discussions with coaches have not yet begun.

Referring to the discipline problems experienced over the recent years, Hill hoped that a new Disciplinary Committee would be set up jointly by the SRC and the Senate. He would like to see students charged with disciplinary offences have the choice of appearing before a committee of their peers. Offences and disciplinary measures will be more clearly defined, and harsher than in previous years.

Franklin stated that bylaws will be introduced at the first Full Council to prevent a case such as this from happening again. "I and others on the Executive have thought this would be a good idea so this doesn't happen again in the future," he said.

When asked if he will dabble in Dalhousie politics, Hill replied, "I was already involved in the tiger debate. I was anti-tiger."

He does have one post-election promise, however.

"Next time I get elected I'll do it for a full year."



COOMBER/DAL PHOTO

## Dal spirit stays in Montreal zoo

by Wendy Coomber

The cat's out of the bag! There will be no cute, cuddly, furry little feline to launch Orientation this year.

"The tiger issue is dead," announced a bemused Peter Kavanagh after a special council meeting, called August 26, fizzled into non-matter. The meeting was hoped to decisively end the matter "once and for all". That it would not even gather quorum was not at all considered.

The idea to bring a tiger cub to the Dalhousie campus was initiated by George Fraser, Orientation co-Chairperson '82-'83, to boost student spirit and emulate the school's sports teams which bear the 'tiger' name.

The cub was to have been transported to Dalhousie from the Granby Zoo in Montreal at a cost of \$270. Fraser assured council there would be no cost beyond that. The tiger would be kept in the Animal Care unit under the responsibility of a non-drinking person.

Fraser intended to display the animal at Orientation events such as the Powder Blues concert, the Sunday worship, and the Super SUB, although when John Russell pointed out liquor laws would not permit the tiger at a licensed function, Fraser decided the Super SUB could be cut from the tiger's itinerary. He added Dalhousie's chaplaincy planned to write a sermon around the cub showing how like the tiger in spirit were the students of Dalhousie. Fraser said the purpose of bringing the tiger cub to the campus was to praise it, not degrade it.

Apparently, the cub resides in a section of Granby known as the 'petting zoo' where upwards of 5,000 children daily pulled its ears and tail, and this, thought Fraser, would prepare it for the large numbers of Dalhousie students. Fraser said the tiger would be kept in a cage throughout each event, and not on a leash, exposed to the masses.

Ken Edgcombe, council repre-

sentative of the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students (DAGS), then brought forward a motion from his group in condemnation of bringing the animal onto the campus, saying Dalhousie and organisations involved with Dalhousie should "never bring animals, especially those on the endangered species list, on Dalhousie campus for promotional or special events purposes..." and asked that a fund be set up for the tiger as an endangered species.

David Joliffe, also of DAGS, thought the fact the animal was being billeted with the university's experimental specimens would drag Dalhousie into a lot of adverse publicity and the research department would suffer for it.

Council also received correspondence from the student councils of St. Mary's, Mount St. Vincent, and NSCAD and from Vice-President Klassen, Academic and Research, pointing out the consequence of any bad publicity to the school and asking council not to bring the tiger on campus. In addition, it was rumoured the St. Mary's football team had vowed to steal the tiger while it was here.

Vice-President Robbie Shaw, Administration and Finance, and John Graham, General Manager of the Student Union Building, both welcomed the idea of the tiger and President MacKay said if the tiger did come he would not turn it away.

Voting on the motion was clearly split down the middle. Unfortunately for the pro-tiger side, council treasurer, Shawn Houlihan, had to leave before the actual vote and when the results were tallied up, it was 3-2-2 in favour of the motion.

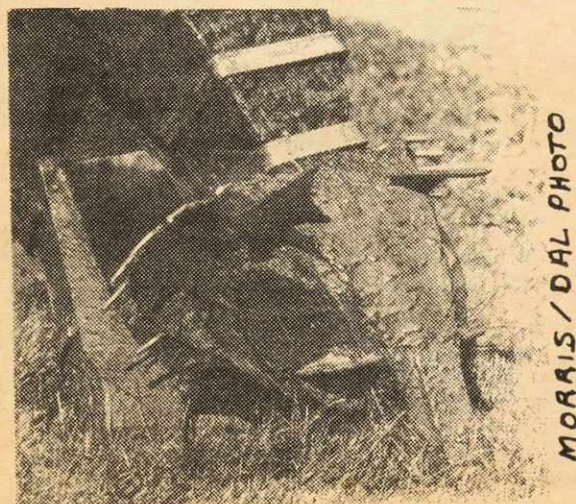
George Fraser then asked John Russell the next day to call another

'special' council meeting to reconsider the tiger issue. However, the meeting, called two days later, failed to reach quorum, that being six members, partly because a large number of councillors were out of town that day, including Fraser and Peter Rans, and partly because the meeting had been rescheduled an hour earlier than originally planned. Even if there had been a meeting, however, Ken Edgcombe was prepared to dissolve it as being unconstitutional.

According to Edgcombe and the DSU constitution there was no such thing as a 'special' meeting and any regular meeting of the summer council required written notice and an agenda at least 72 hours before the meeting was to take place, something which did not occur in this instance.

When the special meeting was first called, said Peter Kavanagh, chairperson for the summer council, some members thought it was to discuss the three million dollar cutbacks the provincial government had just announced. At the meeting which introduced the tiger idea John Russell expressed hope that Dalhousie and its student council could get as worked up over student aid and similar issues. Kavanagh said the three main issues of the summer council, judging by time spent in discussion and enthusiasm, had been the increase in squash-ball fees, bicycle security, and the tiger issue.

Sitting in the Grad House, contemplating the demise of the freshly dead 'special' council meeting, one councillor suggested perhaps they could toss the chaplaincy an acorn and let them write a sermon on that or, better still, instead of the tiger, why not bring in Dalhousie's real mascot, the unicorn?



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