

Cont'd from pg. 9

Other members questioned Cheyne's assumption that CUGS had been functional in the past. The Manitoba representative said that the CUGS national conference had historically been a gathering and exchanging of information process with no firm direction.

Finally, the member from Laval proposed that CUGS place an emphasis on future direction, and establish what is precisely needed on both a short and long term basis.

CUGS did not entertain the idea that they work within the already established structure of NUS. The feeling at the conference was that NUS could not adequately represent

graduate students.

However, a major problem reiterated throughout the conference was the heavy burden placed upon the executive who are not full-time staff, but students working on their theses.

The problem facing CUGS was reflected in the attitude to the International Students issue. Placed rather down the line on the agenda, by the time the issue had been reached, the executive was so heavily saddled with other chores the president could only reply that he did not have the time to devote to it.

CUGS, did, however, achieve as much as was possible given its constitutional restrictions. It decided to publish a bi-monthly news-

letter which would be circulated to grad associations across Canada, as well as to the appropriate news agencies (eg. Canadian University Press).

Similarly, the International Students issue was discussed and action was proposed. A study done by Dalhousie revealed that a lack of information and misinformation were being fed to international students. Apparently not all the options were made aware to International students.

DAGS are in the process of finalizing their own information which will supplement and correct the information distributed by the immigration department and the university. Such things as clarification of student visas, and

advising the International student about minimum monetary support required to gain entry into Canada (\$4500) are part of the report.

CUGS adopted Dalhousie's report and decided to draft a letter to be sent to the Minister of Immigration, the Deans of Faculty at universities across Canada, and the International Students Association at the individual universities.

The conference was primarily one of information exchange. During the three days much of the time was spent discussing Grad association—student union relations, social facilities, etc.

Out of the conference came a feeling that a more active CUGS is needed, otherwise membership will drop as members look elsewhere for that which CUGS cannot, and will not provide them. The member universities in attendance were: UNB, Western, Memorial, Manitoba, Laval, Calgary, Dalhousie, Carleton, University of Alberta, Windsor, Victoria, Queens, and Guelph.



Graduate students meet to discuss Guinness' rules of order.

Dal Photo / Fulton

## Council

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repairs to and/or replacement of natural teeth required as a direct result of accidental injury sustained to the teeth while insured".

The cost of the program is estimated between \$3500-4000 per year, and will be covered by the \$38,550 allocation for the Prescription Drug Plan. Keep on smiling.

Another addition to the ever-expanding services to Dal students was proposed in Students' Council.

It was felt that the services of Dalhousie and Nova Scotia Legal Aid are not readily available to Union members because of the

socio-economic requirements placed on the clients (ie. one needs to make less than \$65 per week, even during the summer). Additionally, relatively few members can afford to retain private legal counsel.

What was suggested then, was a Dalhousie Student Union Legal Aid Service which would be staffed by members of the Union who are senior law students at the Law School, and who could handle relatively minor actions such as landlord tenant relations, damage and repair questions, etc.

It was suggested that office space could be found within the Student Union Building, and that a little

honararia for staffing would be necessary since the practical experience itself would be valuable to the participating law students.

A committee consisting of housing secretary Barbara Beach, Member at Large Gord Neal, and President Bruce Russell was formed to look into the possibility.

In other Council matter, \$200 was given to the Physical Education Society for the publication of their newsletter. Another \$100 was given to the NDP Association of Dalhousie.

The Winter Carnival Report was accepted from Joe Rosa, who recommended that more co-operation is needed from SUB operations. Similarly, the Elections Report and the Carlton House Report, both by Warren Meek were accepted. Meek stated in his Carleton Report that construction of social facilities on the lower campus is being affected by other construction going on around Dalhousie. His report states: "Insofar as we are concerned, the factors affecting us are the Forrest Building Renovations, the Dental Centre, the Sports Complex, and the future of University Houses in the area...our Carleton House is being rolled around in the middle of them like a ball in a revolving drum".

The most likely site for the facilities is the Philae Temple. However, nothing is certain. Meek called it "a waiting game".

stated, "People would be wise to stay out if they are concerned solely with getting a job".

Both professors warned against the dangers of across the board cutbacks, as facilities are not spread equally across the province and further constraints in certain areas would seriously endanger the quality of education. Professor Ricker said he thought the cutback was too large to impose at this time and expressed his agreement with Nova Scotia Teachers Union President Dominique Henry's statement that it would "be very unwise to cut a swath across the provincial education system with an axe, when a scalpel would do."

Professor Ricker further stated that the current low school enrollments afforded an excellent opportunity to implement needed reforms in the provincial education system. He expressed hope of seeing lower teacher-student ratios across the province and increased amounts of in-service education to upgrade the methods of those teachers already in the working force.

## Education cutbacks

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At a departmental meeting earlier this week, several students voiced their concern over the proposed cutbacks which will hamper their job prospects. Professor Ricker then stated, and repeated in an interview, that the future demand for teachers was difficult to predict and that graduates often had difficulty finding jobs because they were unwilling to work outside the Halifax-Dartmouth metropolitan area. He further stated that the university did not guarantee the graduate a job and that it was "not their business" to tell students if there were already too many teachers in the working force.

When asked how the cutbacks would effect the Education department, Professor Ricker said "we will see far fewer applications". Professor Roald concurred with this view and when asked if he would discourage students from enrolling in the education program, he

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