

Gateway summoned by DIE ;

finer or suspension claimed possible

# Gazette by-law revived, but SU needs DIE to enforce it

by Dave McCurdy

A hearing of the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement (DIE) Board of the Students' Union has been called for next Tuesday night to investigate the controversial Gazette bylaw.

Students' Union president Don McKenzie has asked that the DIE board take disciplinary action against the Gateway for failing to comply with the Gazette bylaw, which directs the Gateway to publish one-half page of council news, free of charge, each issue. The board will hear arguments from both sides, and then make a decision. According to Darryl Ackroyd, DIE board chairman the board has the power to either "fine the Gateway or suspend its publication, which has been done before."

Gateway editor Bob Beal claims that he has not been notified of the charges laid against the Gateway. Beal said he received a note from Ackroyd on Tuesday past stating that the hearing would be held on Tuesday coming; however, no statement of charges was given.

Mackenzie could not be contacted for comment, but Academic vice-president Dave Biltek said that as far as he knew the DIE board had been requested by Mackenzie to merely interpret the bylaw, that is to decide whether it was within the Students' Council's powers to impose such a rule. This was denied by Ackroyd, who confirmed that the board had been asked to discipline the Gateway.

Biltek, when asked why the executive had gone to DIE board instead of trying to compromise with the Gateway, answered,

"Why didn't Gateway try to compromise with us instead of calling that Canadian University Press commission?"

Beal later explained that Gateway did not call the commission, but that it was requested by the Western region of CUP and called by CUP's national office. "Also, said Beal, "the commission was merely an advisory board made up of people in the journalism business who are in a position to make recommendations on the dispute. It has no legal power whatsoever, whereas DIE board has. I'm very disappointed that the executive has decided to deal with us in a legalistic manner instead of trying to communicate with us."

The Gazette bylaw uproar arose in September when Students' Council passed a

bylaw forcing Gateway to publish one-half page of council news each issue, free of charge. The Gateway published one issue of the Gazette, but has refused to print the Gazette since. All union advertising since the first and only Gazette has been paid for by the Students' Union.

The DIE board is a seven-member body "appointed annually by Students' Council for the purpose of enforcing discipline among members of the Students' Union, interpreting the Constitution and all legislative acts and motions of the Students' Council, and enforcing compliance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Students' Union and the University Regulations." Its

members, five of whom are regular members (including a chairman), with the other two acting as substitutes, must be in second or further year, and at least one must be a woman.

The penalties which the Board can impose are: monetary fines to a penalty of 25 dollars in the case of an individual and 100 dollars in the case of an organization; suspension of any of the above penalties for a period of up to one year; and disqualification of union members running for election to Students' Council. Thus, contrary to what Ackroyd said, the board cannot suspend publication of the Gateway.



SU pres. McKenzie

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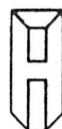
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