

# Dal Student Movement a misnomer

by Sue Murtagh

What's in a name? A lot, claim both the Dalhousie Student Union and a local political group.

The campus Marxist-Leninist group calls themselves the 'Dalhousie Student Movement' and a nervous Dalhousie Student Union executive doesn't like it.

The Dal Student Movement is not an official society of the student union, says union president Peter Rans. He thinks the name may imply to the outside community that the group represents a majority of the student body.

Rans says that the name creates what may be a deliberate confusion, which would be "unethical and improper".

If and when the group presents the paperwork to be incorporated, they will be asked to change their name, Rans says.

A name like "The Dalhousie Marxist-Leninist Party" would prevent misunderstanding, he says.

Charles Spurr, party organizer of the Dalhousie Movement, says the group would not change its name if requested to.

He says that the name comes from the Canadian Students Movement, of which the Dalhousie group is a member.

The group was founded in 1979 by "progressive students and faculty", he says.

John Russell, V.P. Internal of Dal Student's Union, says that the group has no right to use the name and has not even filed a constitution.

To be recognized as a society according to the student union constitution, fifty per cent of the

group's membership must be Dal students and seventy-five per cent of the executive attending Dalhousie. Also, if a group does not file a constitution every year, it does not legally exist.

Russell says one of the problems with societies in general is that there is no continuity from year to year. The Marxist-Leninist group is not the only one guilty of this, he

noted.

The last thing the Dal Student Union wants to do is deny the right of any group to express its beliefs, says Russell. "God forbid that day should ever come."

If Spurr files a constitution and refuses to change the name of the group, action might have to be taken, says Rans.

Rans does not dispute the right

of the group to free expression, but a responsible union must deal fairly with all parties.

"We have been severely persecuted by the administration of Dalhousie," says Spurr.

"We have always opposed this violently," he adds.

Rans says he hopes the issue can be settled amicably. "I would think they would want to clear this up.

The situation is not doing anybody any good," he said.

If nothing else can be done, Rans says a possibility is issuing a press release disclaiming any association with the group. This is a decision Rans feels council would have to make.

Russell says right now "his hands are tied", although he did say he might seek a legal opinion if the situation warranted it.

## Dr. Linus Pauling on Canadian Peace tour

Dr. Linus Pauling, Nobel Laureate for Peace and Chemistry, will be speaking in Halifax October 25 and 26 as part of a Canadian "peace" tour. His five-city tour coincides with United Nations Disarmament Week.

An eminent scientist, Pauling has the honour of receiving Nobel Prizes in two distinctly different fields. His work investigating hereditary defects and diseases because of structural damage to blood molecules led him to be concerned about the effects of radioactive fallout. He spoke and wrote in favour of stopping all testing of nuclear weapons, publishing "No More War!" in 1958. The same year, he presented a petition of 11,000 scientists opposing nuclear tests to the United Nations.

Pauling was awarded the Peace Prize in 1962, the same year the U.S. and the Soviet Union signed a Partial Test Ban Treaty.

Dr. Pauling will give a lecture at the Theatre Auditorium, Saint Mary's University, this Tuesday at

8 p.m. The day before, Pauling will host a panel discussion in the Dalhousie Student Union Building, on Canadian Perspectives on disarmament issues. Discussion will

include Canadian perspectives on arms control, the future of the Canadian peace movement, and a "woman's view" on the arms race.

Pauling's visit is being sponsored

by the International Education Centre at Saint Mary's University, the Coalition Against Nuclear War and Dalhousie Department of Part-time Studies.



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