

SUNS split with CFS widens

by C. Ricketts

Separatism is not confined to Quebec within to leave Canada. A conference held by the Student Unions of Nova Scotia (SUNS) seriously questioned its involvement with Canada's national student organization.

Hearing of discontent, the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) sent executive Officer Diane Flaherty to sit in. "I came here expecting to hear concerns — I guess I was fairly correct," said Flaherty. She said SUNS appeared to be fairly frustrated and added most of what was said was justified.

SUNS Chairperson Eric Walker began the opening plenary on a grave note, stating the extent to which Atlantic institutions are upset with CFS. "We must discuss if Atlantic universities will continue to be a component of CFS," he said.

Dalhousie student union president Peter Rans said he was "extremely disturbed" with CFS Atlantic fieldworker Steve Alexander's performance. Alexander had worked only 7 weeks from May until October, and was notably absent before and during the National Week of Information.

"My feeling is we didn't get any fieldworking at all" said Rans. He said it made him wonder about contact between the national and provincial organizations.

CFS Central Committee rep Christine Soucie said hiring a new fieldworker would take place during January in Halifax. But by the end of the conference both she and Flaherty were convinced to move hiring a fieldworker up to late December.

There was also heated discussion over Canadian University Travel Service (CUTS), the national students' travel agency. CUTS is part

of CFS-S, the services wing of CFS. Services rep Mike Crystal reported CUTS had made a gross profit of \$320,000 for 1981-82.

Charlie MacArthur VP Internal at SMU asked how CUTS could make large profits if it was providing the cheapest flights. "It's ripping students off," he said.

Crystal offered MacArthur two reasons for the profit. The best rates were given on overseas flights

by arranging for charters, and current Canadian legislation on travel agencies prevents discounting domestic airfares.

Crystal also felt the Board of Directors for CUTS were becoming more concerned with its maintenance as a corporation rather than a service for students. They tended to funnel profits back into the business instead of redirecting them to other CFS services, he said.

Acadia stays out of CFS

by Mark Hamilton

(reprinted from the *Athenaeum*)

Wolfville — Acadia missed its change to become prospective members of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) as the October 30 deadline passed without SRC ratification.

Acadia can still ratify prospective membership at any subsequent SRC meeting, however the CFS will not recognize Acadia as a prospective member until the next national conference which will be held sometime in June '83.

Steve Gaetz, Acadia Student Union President, will be attending the CFS national conference in Vancouver from November 8 to November 15.

Acadia's role at the conference will be as an observer. The university will have an active voice in preliminary meetings and caucuses, and this will allow ideas to be presented through other Atlantic schools such as Dalhousie and St. Mary's, who are presently full members of CFS and have a vote in the plenary.

Had the SRC ratified prospective membership, Acadia would

have had a vote in the CFS plenary.

Gaetz now feels that missing the Saturday deadline will not be as detrimental as first thought, because some new issues have come forth that need clarification.

According to Gaetz, the CFS executive has been somewhat lax in executing policy decisions formed at previous CFS conferences. For example, the CFS plenary at the last conference ratified a motion to hire an interpreter. Unknown to the members, the CFS executive disregarded this decision and instead hired a researcher. This apparently had not been discussed at the conference.

Gaetz wants to make sure this practice is not continued. Once the plenary has decided on national policy the executive's job should be to implement that policy, not decide whether it's right or wrong.

Gaetz also wants to see that CFS Services' profits are not only returned to the already established services such as Travel CUTS, but that some of the money is invested in new services such as a national information bank.

Students stall B.C. faculty strikes

KELOWNA (CUP) — Three post-secondary institutions in B.C. are on the brink of shut-down due to labour disputes, but students have played a major role in stalling strike action.

In a last-minute appeal at Okanagan College, students convinced the faculty association to hold off strike action planned for November 4 until they could present a plea to the administration to resume bargaining.

More than 370 students sent letters to both sides calling for binding arbitration but the administration flatly rejected the idea.

"Students at all four campuses (of Okanagan College) are unilaterally opposed to any disruption of student services," said Kelowna student society staff person Nobu Ono.

The dispute primarily concerns a clause calling for binding arbitration if the two sides cannot reach a settlement during contract talks. The faculty wants the clause, but college principal Peter Williams says binding arbitration could lead to settlements that the college cannot afford.

At Capilano College in North Vancouver, the faculty association voted 75 per cent in favour of striking as early as November 7 but students are making last ditch

efforts to pull the two sides together.

Meanwhile, clerical and support staff at the B.C. Institute of Tech-

nology in Burnaby are threatening job action that could close down the campus. They voted 89 per cent in favour of withdrawing services if contract talks failed.



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