### ... cont'd from previous page

reductions. Finally, as there's only three people on our accounting staff, we have lots of day-to-day grunt work to do.

#### Chris Lydon, Vice President Academic

1. I'm the VP Internal. I'm a liason for societies and I sit on committees. It's my responsability to do the Course Evaluation Guide. Also, I'm a link for student advocacy - I can help students get legal consultation and counsel for internal university affairs or external business. Anything to do with academics, curriculum, the library, the computers...I'm involved with anything that isn't external.

2. Over the summer, I worked on options for the content and distribution of the Course Evaluation Guide. It's a trial for every executive, but it has to be done. I want to make it a nicer, more useful publication. This year, we went through private tendering. That increased the competion and thus, lowered our costs. Also, we're going to get it out in June and include it with the registration material so its usage is maximized for the student.

3. My number one goal is the Course Evaluation Guide. Number two is getting the Senators on-line and ensuring a smooth transition with the new-look Senate. Finally, with David and Erin, I'm a buffer with the administration concerning the issue of rationalization.

#### Erin Ahern, Vice President External

1. My job is to represent Dalhousie student interests with all three levels of government and

other external organizations. These would include the Students Union of Nova Scotia (SUNS), the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA), and the Atlantic Federation of Students (AFS).

2. Over the summer, I went to the CASA conference in Montréal, which was phenomenal. We came to some common ground on a lot of issues like student funding, student loans, and ways to improve education at the university level. I think we came up with some realistic alternatives to proposed government cuts in education. However, it's vital that we get input from the student level.

3. I hope there is a real link between my position and people in the Dalhousie community. It should be a two-way relationship instead of information stopping with me; there has to be a flow both ways. I can get information out through the Gazette and other means, but it's important for me to get feedback. I plan to go to the residences four times each term just to talk with everybody. Communication is the key.

#### James Dann, Vice President **Community Affairs**

1. I'm a link between students and the Halifax community. I'm in charge of raising money for

2. I did a lot of legwork over the summer - set things in motion. The reality of my job is that things start happening in October, so September is a big preparation

3. This year, I'm hoping that Dalhousie can raise \$40,000 for charity. This total does not include Shinerama, which will probably

bring in \$20,000. Last year, I believe about \$8,000 was raised, so We're looking at a 500% increase. We're hoping to raise a bundle.

#### **Curtis Cartmill, Vice President** Communications

1. My general role is to communicate between every single member of the union, council, the DSU executive, the university administration, societies, as well as the outside public, such as representatives, media and the government.

I am also a resource for questions and if I don't have the answer, I will re-direct them to the person who can.

2. I've been deputy chair of the Shinerama committee and we've done a student survey. I've also done two credits towards my statistics and Science BSc

3. I've campaigned towards having a World Wibe Web site.

Another project is the Info-line. The DSU has owned the phone system for three or four years now

but has not utilised or promoted it adequately.

I am aiming for better contact with lower campus societies.

I hope to do small surveys throughout the year so the DSU can get a good feel for what's going on.

I have been planning student appreciation night during the summer, and have already set a date, a budget, and have booked a room. It should all be together by the end of November.

# Cox Talks

Question: In your capacity as student union president, what have been the highlights of your summer?

It has been a very hectic summer at the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU). Over the past four months, we have completed several Student Union Building (SUB) renovations and we renegotiated our contract with Beaver Foods. The Grawood has had a \$90,000 makeover and it looks fantastic. Now the Grawood has two serving areas to eliminate the congestion that the old layout caused every time the bar had a crowd. We also renovated the Information Centre and are getting ready to start work on the elevators. Both of these areas will be accessible for students with disabilities and were funded by the University, DSU, and the Accessibility Fund in your student union fees. Furthermore, I am proud to announce that the Grawood is the only bar in Halifax that has a section designed to be wheelchair accessible. Finally, we moved Travel Cuts to the third floor and we created more meeting space.

We have spent a lot of time negotiating a new contract with Beaver Foods. I'm proud to announce that Pizza Hut and Robin's Donuts will be providing food service in the SUB. We decided to bring a "food chain" concept into the SUB because they were popular in the food survey done last year. Now the SUB has a pizza delivery service close to campus, a smoke-free coffee shop that offers soups, salads, and stews each day, and a Union Market grill that offers daily home-cooked meals prepared by an Executive Chef.

Politically, we have had a very busy summer. The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) has had an excellent summer lobbying the federal government. In June, I was in Ottawa with the National Director Alex Usher to lobby against the de-designation clause in the new Canada Student Loan Act. The new legislation would have disqualified students from universities with high loan default rates from receiving student loans. We managed to get this put on the agenda at the Liberal National Caucus where it was taken out of the legislation. In Nova Scotia, the Students' Union of Nova Scotia has had a very rough summer. The organization has been plagued with severe internal problems and this could play a major role in the outcome of the referendum being held here in October. There have been some internal changes at SUNS, most noticeably the resignations of Chair Hal Maclean and Executive Officer

Well, that is the summer in a nutshell. We have fulfilled our promise to contact every Dal student and survey their opinion on DSU fees and services and we intend to publish these results by the end of October. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please drop by the Executive offices anytime to chat. Have a great year!



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