

Council minutes

Rans criticizes SUNS campaign

by Paul Clark

What should we do if the government cuts short on funding again this year? Should we accept it or march on Province House?

This question sparked lively debate between two Dalhousie student council members at an otherwise uneventful and short student council meeting Sunday.

Discussion began when Jeff Champion, chairperson of the Student Union of Nova Scotia's (SUNS) on-campus committee at Dal and Fenwick representative, presented council with SUNS's decision to distribute postcards on campus, allowing students to express their opinions about the levels of tuition and funding for post-secondary education in Nova Scotia. (See story p.3)

Peter Rans, a grad studies rep, criticized the postcard campaign, saying it encouraged "passive" and not "active" support.

"Five thousand people assembling would be a much stronger form of support", he said.

Champion responded that a march had been tried before, but said SUNS's representatives would be taking the signed postcards to the government.

"Donahue (Nova Scotia's Minister of Education) treats student reps by and large with condescension", said Rans. "We must adapt stronger tactics".

"Occupy Province House", he shouted half seriously.

At this point a few other councillors agreed something should be done if the Maritime

Provinces Higher Education's recommended funding increases are not accepted by the government and it was suggested SUNS begin planning such action immediately.

Champion said this could be brought up at this weekend's SUNS conference at King's College.

Eight student councillors, including Rans, said they would be going to the conference.

Elsewhere, council vice-president Graham Wells, speaking about SUB operations, said the university had approached council to use the McInnes room to hold final exams in. The request was turned down, Wells said, because the student union can gain more revenue from using the room for other purposes.

Asked if the Dalplex had

been considered for holding examinations, Wells said in the event of fire there would not be enough time for everyone to escape through the revolving doors before the air supported roof collapsed.

"It's a wonderful building but it serves little purpose besides housing jocks", he said.

Steve Campbell, council chairman, reported the parking committee decided to "vote itself out of existence" and combine with campus security, due to the overlapping nature of the two committees.

One problem Campbell raised is that in the newly signed contract between the Dalhousie Faculty Association and the administration, there is a clause which requires increases in parking fees to be proportionate to increases in the salaries of faculty members. Students, however, are left unprotected against possible increases.

He recommended a proposal rectifying the situation be taken to the new campus security-parking committee.

Rod Brittain, a science rep, resigned as chairman of the class monitoring committee because, he said, people confuse this committee with the course evaluation committee which he also chairs.

Within the next two weeks Brittain is to meet with Umesh Jain, another science rep, and

anyone else interested in discussing the value of keeping the class monitoring committee.

President Dick Matthews, reporting on Senate, said concern had been expressed that the ad hoc committee's proposal to change the constitution had left off any student representation. However, Matthews said he had lobbied to get a student representative on the "academic planning committee", Senate's new executive, and the "committee on committees", which oversees the formation of committees.

Council passed a motion to make changes in the constitution which would reduce the size of council from 33 to 28, by eliminating a representative from arts, sciences, education Fenwick and Ardmore.

These changes will have to be ratified at a general meeting of the student union.

Treasurer Nancy Tower reported that a capital expenditure of roughly \$40,000 would be required if CKDU's proposed changeover to FM programming is carried through.

She said the CRTC had said they were "very receptive" to lower power FM stations.

Board of Governor rep Shauna Sullivan and Senate rep Ann Maher were elected to the honour awards committee.

Family planning method is a success

by Father J. Hattie,
R.C. Chaplain

On January 18th and 19th, Dalhousie Medical Student Society will host a man and a woman who are a classical example of people who have integrated modern science and religion. They have shown by their work that the collaboration between religion and modern science is to the advantage of both. They have made this integration without violating the respective autonomy of either religion or science, in any way. They have demonstrated that faith and science are not opposed.

The man is Dr. John Billings, the person who discovered and developed the Ovulation Method of Natural Family Planning. The woman is Dr. Lyn Billings. She is considered to be the foremost teacher of the Method in the world. They are a happily married couple living in Melbourne, Australia.

Please do not equate this Method with what is commonly called the Rhythm Method. They are definitely not the same. Nor is this Method a temperature method.

The Ovulation Method is based on the female body's own simple sign of fertility—that is the cervical mucus, externally observed. So simple and obvious is the body's signal of fertility that it has been ignored for centuries. It continues to amaze people when they discover the obvious.

The fact that Dr. John Billings recognized the obvious and accepted its simplicity and then applied it in the context of fertility awareness is an eloquent testimony to his genius. This gift is also attested to by many of his colleagues in his own country, some of whom consider him to have the best medical mind in Australia.

The World Health Organization has also recognized and acknowledged the effectiveness of the Ovulation Method. Last year they released the preliminary results of a study that is being carried on in five countries: Auckland, New Zealand; Bangalore, India; Dublin, Ireland; in the Philippines and in El Salvador. This is a cross-cultural study and has verified that the Method is highly effective; all women can be taught the Method and that couples in the Third World understand and use the Method more effectively than in the First World.

The contribution of Dr. John Billings to fertility awareness could be compared to Louis Pasteur's contribution to Hygiene.

Drs. John and Lyn Billings will be sharing their knowledge and experience with medical people on Friday, January 18th, concluding the day with the Friday at Four Lecture at the Tupper Building. They will give a public lecture on Saturday, January 19th, 8:00 p.m., at Mount St. Vincent University, Cardinal Cushing Auditorium.

Career Information Centre

- calendars
- educational directories
- occupational descriptions
- pamphlets
- books
- audio tapes

New Materials Weekly
Self-service; drop in and browse.



4th floor, S.U.B.
Open Weekdays
9-12 p.m., 1:30-5 p.m.
424-2081

Counselling &
Psychological
Services

SUMMER JOBS

DON'T WAIT UNTIL SPRING
TO LOOK FOR A JOB!

SUMMER JOBS ARE BEING ADVERTISED NOW
AT THE

CANADA EMPLOYMENT CENTRE ON CAMPUS
4TH FLOOR - S.U.B.

OPEN 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
MON. - FRI.