

Students to remain on committees...

As council rejects hard line stand on parity, openness and agreement

By GATEWAY STAFF

Students' council Monday night rejected a move to get students off university governing committees and put the future of its academic vice-president in question.

Councillors defeated a motion by dent rep Jerry Connolly that would have allowed council participation on committees only under three conditions:

- that there be at least parity between students and faculty or administration representatives.
- that committee meetings be open.
- and that students' council agree with the functions and purposes of the concerned committee.

The motion went down 11 to three with five abstentions. Mr. Connolly brought the mo-

tion to the floor in an attempt to convince council that "we have to set up our own parameters and start to work from there."

He said it was useless for council to continue its membership on committees controlled by the administration.

Had council voted in favor of the motion, it would have meant student pull-outs from General Faculty Council and the Board of Governors, as well as many other lesser bodies.

Students' union President David Leadbeater moved an amendment that council wait until after meetings of the GFC committee on student representation to put the motion into effect.

The amendment was defeated after both Judie Quinlan (rehab. med.) and academic vice-president Liz Law accused Mr. Leadbeater

of stating a principle and then refusing to act on it.

Mr. Leadbeater told council there was no sense in pulling out now before councillors found out what recommendations were being made concerning student representation.

Voting against the motion were Dennis Fitzgerald, Kenneth Stickland, Willie Heslop, Graham Begg, Trevor Peach, Frank MacInnis, Barbara Huston, Ellen Singleton, Wayne Armstrong and David O'Reilly.

Voting in favor were Jerry Connolly, Liz Law and Judith Quinlan.

Abstentions were David Leadbeater, Sue Good, Karen Campbell, Lucien Royer and Jennifer Shuman.

Mr. Connolly's motion closely coincided in purpose with a move

by academic vice-president Liz Law to have council remove her from the committees she is now on, with the exception of GFC.

Councillors split on that motion, and chairman Dennis Crowe killed it with his deciding negative vote.

But early this morning Miss Law said her resignation from the committees is still pending.

"It depends if I can stand the contradictions I pointed out to council," she said.

"What I was trying to do was to force them to take some principled stands and follow through on them. I have to consider that it was a tie vote on that question and in that way it is now my decision."

She made the following heated discussion by council over the GFC law and order report. The report had recommended that a general disciplinary board be created to "adjudge general offences now being heard by deans' councils", and that it be composed of three faculty and two student representatives.

Miss Law adamantly disagreed with that proposed composition.

She said the law and order committee now works on a consensus basis, and that any inequalities

between student and faculty members make democratic decision-making impossible.

"Now is the time for a strong confrontation between students' council and GFC to determine the students' role in the university's new Bill of Rights," she said.

Miss Law suggested that if the law and order committee cannot work through the democratic process, students' council should move to withdraw its representatives. She said all GFC committee meetings and documents should be opened to the public.

To back her demands for parity on GFC committees, she moved for her resignation "from all university government committees, to which I have been delegated by this Council, with the exception of General Faculty Council, where I am elected by the student body at large".

Explaining her motion after the meeting, she said "operation as a quote, 'representative', of this council on university governing committees has become a contradiction which I cannot support when direction from this elected Council is either completely missing or totally contradictory."



—Forrest Bard photo

IT'S CAPITALIST CORRUPTION you see in the sneer of the cop when Vancouver Street Theatre puts on a show. The four-member troupe visited SUB Theatre yesterday. For story on how they use theatre to cause social change, see page 8.

Philosophy undergrads to sit on tenure body

Two undergraduates may be elected Thursday as voting members of the Philosophy Department's tenure committee.

The Department has asked for two undergraduates to sit on its Tenure Advisory Committee.

Thursday night, philosophy students first decide whether or not they want two members on the committee. If so, their election will take place immediately. The meeting is 8 p.m., Tory 13-15.

At a meeting Monday, originally called to hold the election, 15 undergraduates decided to postpone the election until all persons taking philosophy know about the department's offer. Some persons thought not enough were present for a fair election. Others were against having the election at all.

Discussion centred on whether to put undergraduates on the committee. Most of those present were in favor. They thought students ought to help run the department and help select the people who would be teaching them. One student said the aim should be to get teachers who are working on research now, and not those who teach out of someone else's books which are ten years old.

Another student said that a professor's teaching ability is more important than his academic qualifications or number of articles published.

One student suggested that two members on the committee would be just a token representation. The other members of the committee are four faculty members who have tenure, and two graduate students. Richard Dalon, one of the two graduate students, replied that the student members are not supposed to be representatives of the students, but are supposed to make an objective decision from the evidence like any other member.

Another student said that electing students to the committee might give tacit approval to the tenure system. Someone else said she agreed that tenure was a bad idea, but was in favor of putting members on the committee. Another question was whether a student on the committee would be able to vote against a faculty member without risking discrimination. Mr. Dalon insisted that all the information would remain within the committee and would not become public knowledge.

Defense Fund requests grant

The Native People's Defense Fund's request for a \$1,000 grant from the students' union was tabled to next week at Monday night's meeting.

Rose Auger, president of the NPDF, told council native people are starting to realize their rights, but they can't depend on the legal aid available through normal channels. "Most lawyers aren't as interested in Indian cases as in their other private cases," she said.

To help alleviate this problem, the NPDF provides legal assistance to Indians. The requested grant would help extend this service to more Indians sooner. She said, "Cases keep coming up and we just haven't enough money right now to help people who have been sitting in jail eight or ten weeks."

After Mrs. Auger's speech, strong disagreement among council members became apparent. It was during this discussion, after 11 p.m., that Liz Law moved the issue be tabled.