

Students anti-war

TORONTO (CUP) — York University students have formed an anti-war coalition to protest the presence of Canadian and U.S. troops in the Persian Gulf.

About 200 students took part in the coalition's first activity, a Nov. 15 "teach-in". And organizers are expecting a big turnout at a Nov. 24 rally.

"People don't like the war and find it bloody and unacceptable, but they haven't heard any reasons to oppose it yet," said Phil Jackson, a coalition organizer.

David McNally, a political science professor in the coalition, compared the teach-in to similar actions taken during anti-war days of the Vietnam war.

"The important thing about the teach-ins in the mid-1960s was they allowed thousands and thousands of young people to hear the other side, what the media wasn't saying," he said.

He said a war in the gulf "would transcend the proportions of Vietnam both in terms of death and in the numbers of people involved."

Krissa Fay, a first-year arts student, said she joined the coalition "because I don't want to see a war happen in the gulf and I don't want to see Canada and the US involved in it."

The coalition decided to only protest the presence of North American troops in the gulf and avoid political statements so none of the participants would feel alienated, organizers said.

Innu rally on Hill

OTTAWA (CUP) — The sound of fighter jets filled the air on Parliament Hill Nov. 10, as protesters gave the federal government a dose of the deafening noise the Innu of Labrador have to endure.

Organizers of the protest didn't actually have a CF-18 jet on hand. Instead, armed with a powerful sound system, they delivered the recorded roar of a low flying jet to over 1,000 demonstrators.

The rally was organized by the Alliance for Non-Violent Action to protest NATO military training missions over Innu land near Goose Bay in Labrador. More than 7,000 flights are conducted every year over the area.

The demonstration on the Hill was relatively calm compared to the protest in front of the Department of National Defence headquarters three days later.

Over 300 people took part in the non-violent demonstration Nov. 13. Demonstrators blocked entrances and splashed red dye on the walls of the building. Police arrested 116 demonstrators.

Some protesters came from as far away as Halifax and Windsor, Ont. to take part in the demonstrations. Many had taken part in protest walks that began on Sept. 23 in Ontario, Quebec and the Atlantic provinces.

Aid for grades?

(CUP/CPS) — Students will have to get good grades to qualify for federal financial aid in the near future, if the U.S. Department of Education gets its way.

Currently, students only have to demonstrate they need federal help in order to qualify for it.

In a speech to college presidents recently, however, Education Secretary Lauro Cavazos said his department, which oversees most federal college programs, would ask Congress to tie aid to grades as well.

"While financial aid programs are intended primarily to equalize access by reducing financial barriers, we also believe there is room for financial aid as a reward for high achievement," he said.

Cavazos would not elaborate about how he would measure "academic achievement," or whether merit-based aid — abandoned in the 1960s as a system that helped funnel aid to middle-class students who may not need it — would replace or supplement existing aid programs.

Campus officials, however, see plenty wrong with the idea.

"It's fraught with all kinds of problems," said Peter Bryant, vice-president of enrolment at Cornell College in Iowa.

"I think it would be very unfair for those in academically competitive schools," Bryant said, adding that a "by-product" of such a measure "could be grade inflation. There would be immediate and unfair pressure on faculty to give good grades."

Students, he said, might choose majors that are less demanding academically to preserve their eligibility for financial aid.

Vote to rejoin next week...

SMU split over SUNS

by Jerry West

The St. Mary's students union will decide Nov. 27 whether to rejoin SUNS, the major student lobby group in Nova Scotia.

Saint Mary's left the Students' Union of Nova Scotia four years ago saying SUNS had "delayed or pushed aside" their suggestions for improving the organization.

"They also believed they could benefit from SUNS's lobbying without having to pay" said Ian Morrison, current president of Saint Mary's Students' Association (SMUSA).

At a Nov. 18 council meeting the SMUSA committee to review SUNS presented its report. Based on their experiences sitting on SUNS committees over the last few months, the committee members recommended that SMUSA "continue our observer status until SUNS re-structures its organization".

John Ratchford, president of St. Francis Xavier student union, was one of three SUNS representatives present at the meeting. Ratchford said maintaining observer status would accomplish nothing, and the only way to change SUNS was to become a voting member.

In its report the committee stated "a student lobby group should not be socio-political". When asked which SUNS policies were offensive, committee chair Terry Brennan said that he didn't believe child care to be relevant.

Lynn MacMichael, VP External of the Dalhousie Students' Union replied child care is an extremely relevant student issue, as it affects accessibility for students with children. When MacMichael pressed for further complaints committee members stated that they didn't believe SUNS should deal with any social issues.

"I just don't think we should talk about the environment and AIDS"

said council treasurer Sutej Kapur.

Chair of SUNS Jeff Phelps replied that the issues dealt with are decided by a vote of the SUNS members.

The committee was also concerned that "SUNS is not organized in a way that allows it to operate efficiently". It suggested SUNS cut down on its membership fees and bill its members more for each individual event.

A third problem cited by the review committee was "SUNS lacks adequate control of expenses".

John Ratchford replied SUNS sets a budget at the beginning of the year and their staff "work like slaves to adhere to it".

A major worry of the review committee was SUNS's cost-to-benefit ratio was too high. "We just can't afford it" said Arts Representative Eric Miller. SMUSA went \$35,000 in the red last year because of unforeseen expenditures and lavish travel expenses.

Dal still discriminates

by Lara Morris

"If we fail to keep the pressure on [to end discrimination], it means we accept the status quo, and I don't think we want to do that," said Mayann Francis, Dalhousie's Employment Equity Officer, as part of a Political Science Department seminar last Friday.

Francis was one of four women participating in "Women at the Front (of the classroom)", a panel discussion sponsored by the Dalhousie Women's Group for the Week of Reflection.

The panel focused on women's experiences as students, faculty and administrators at universities.

Judith Fingard, Dalhousie's Dean of Graduate Studies, is familiar with sex discrimination. She was appointed to faculty in 1969 when women were treated as 'appendages'. "Women were treated as juniors, inferiors, and used as less-skilled labour," said Fingard.

Until 1970 Dalhousie had a policy stating if a female professor was married she was automatically excluded from tenure and sabbatical. Women were given limited term appointments and poor pay.

"There were about six of us in this position. It wasn't until we went to Senate and asked 'why?' that the policy was changed."

Francis related Fingard's story to the systemic discrimination that exists within university administrations.

Francis defined systemic discrimination as exclusion from hiring or promotion on the basis of criteria which hold no relation to the performance of duties.

Jane Parpart, a Professor of History and Women's Studies at

Dalhousie, grew up at a time when women had two choices; marry and have children, or stay single and become a professional.

In the 1960's she observed female faculty were always highly professional. "They were almost frightening. They had no marriage,

no kids, no sex," said Parpart.

At graduate school Parpart realized she did not have to choose between two lives. Her supervisor was a black woman who was married and had children. "I suddenly thought, well, maybe it's possible."

• continued on page 6

Dear Santa,

I want it all!

THINK!

THOUSANDS OF T-SHIRTS

ISLAND BEACH COMPANY
(PRICES YOU WON'T BELIEVE!!)



WE NOW HAVE
THREE GREAT
LOCATIONS

5491 Spring Garden Road
Halifax

Mic Mac Mall
21 Mic Mac Blvd., 2nd Floor

Halifax Shopping Centre
7001 Mumford Dr.