

# Orientation policy would increase involvements

Student Council has adopted as policy the report of the Committee studying the Orientation recommendations in the Task Force on the Quality of Student Life. The new policy will demand of students "that they make some new acquaintances, change their high school habits of awareness and study, decide why they want a university education and assume a certain responsibility as members of the university community."

The nine-man committee, while realizing that this "blueprint for action" is "necessarily a long-range goal," says that Orientation is an important contributing factor to the quality of student life. The most immediate asset of orientation is "the availability of personal and social contact with others" of the university community.

Three distinct groups seem to

be present: those who become involved, those who will become involved if asked, and those who won't become involved at all.

For most Dal students, the committee says, "there is no university community at Dalhousie. Instead there is a place to attend classes, a place to eat, a library, a clique of friends, a dance. Each of these is locked into a mental compartment, with only a minimum of interconnection."

One reason for this non-involvement is that there is no difficulty getting into university and there is, therefore, little incentive or motivation to put anything into the university community.

At the same time, "when, for any reason, it seems to be more of an assembly line rolling towards a job ticket, it is unlikely that a majority of students will become involved

in university life."

Students must define their reasons for attending university it says.

In this light, the new Orientation policy will begin with a high school visitation program comprising both students and faculty at which time, the realities of university and alternatives to it will be presented.

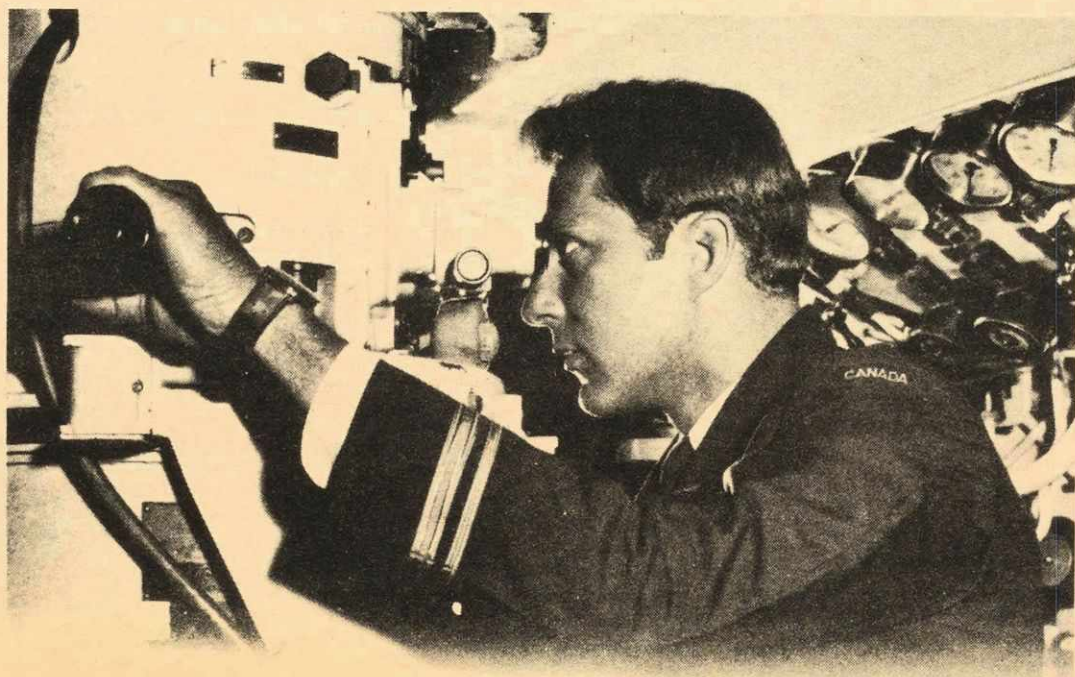
In the summer months, the Student Union and the Dean of Freshmen will provide academic and guidance counselling with wide publicity in the high schools.

Upon the acceptance into the university, the students will be divided into groups of ten to twelve with one faculty member and one student assigned to give help in any way.

During orientation week, each group will do things together, pretty much as they

wish. Information on types of studies, university offices, organizations and clubs will also be provided. Implementation of this report depends largely on the time and

effort students and faculty are willing to devote to improve orientation. "Lack of true involvement," says the committee, "would kill this approach to Orientation."



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