

LAST COUNCIL MEETING OF YEAR

# Insult and debate at Council

by Paul Clark

Cheap shots, battles of the sexes, parting speeches and empty pontifications, criticism of the "student movement", and pleas for money. These were the dynamic components of student council's last—and longest—meeting of the school year on Sunday night.

## EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Council president Dick Matthews and vice-president Graham Wells both drew from their year end reports to make final remarks and recommendations to next year's council.

Matthews had particular criticism for Minister of Education Terry Donahoe who "ignored every letter and phone call I sent to him this year, as well as breaking three meetings."

"There is no excuse for the neglect he has shown the student union," he said.

He had two recommendations regarding the National Union of Students (NUS).

First, he suggested they "get their priorities straight" and concentrate more on providing information and cooperation on student services than on political research and political action.

Second, he recommended that next year's council strike a committee to monitor NUS policy.

Matthews said his effectiveness with the Student Union of Nova Scotia (SUNS) was not what he would have liked and, as he had earlier stated in his year end report, only "calmer heads prevented me from taking off on the completely wrong line with SUNS".

He said the need for an effective and representative provincial student organization is now clear to him.

Council will be forced to take a strong stand next year on whether to sanction events like the Stag and Stein which involve "exotic dancing", he said, and recommended that council establish entertainment guidelines ahead of time for them.

Regarding what Matthews termed the "pathetic attendance" at council meetings, he advised next year's council executive to prepare an information packet telling councillors what their job entails.

Wells said he thought he had achieved his goals as a vice-president, though he said he was disappointed he spent so much time out of the building working on the presidential search committee and the Board of Governors.

He emphasized the need for a consistent policy on the part of the Student Union Building Operations (SUB Ops) Committee, which he said had a history of reversing its decisions, and also took time out to, as he put it, "take a parting shot at the DFA (Dalhousie Faculty Association)" for being connected to the breaking of confidentiality in the search for a new Dalhousie president.

Treasurer Nancy Tower

spoke for only a short period of time, recommending that the new council examine the feasibility of renovating the Games Room in the SUB into an area containing a dance floor and capable of accommodating live entertainment.

## FREE ROOM FOR CULTURAL NIGHTS

Wells, as chairperson of the SUB Ops committee, recommended a number of motions in this area which were subsequently passed by council.

The one provoking the greatest debate was the policy that 'B' status societies and organizations be permitted to use the McInnes Room free for a cultural night once a year, provided they are affiliated to the International Students Association (ISA).

Vice-president elect Jeff Champion charged the policy would strengthen the ISA without making provision for international groups on campus wishing to operate independently of it.

Other councillors said, however, that these groups were not required to join the ISA but only be "affiliated" with it.

Wells also put forward motions to bar food and beverages from the Green Room beginning May 1st and to require a strict reservation policy for student 'B' groups wishing to use SUB facilities.

The latter policy, the SUB Ops Committee reported, is intended to eliminate the "illegitimate use of SUB facilities by non-student groups."

## OPPOSITION TO SUNS REPORT

While accepting the SUNS report, council passed a motion of opposition to section six of it, which recommends SUNS hire a full-time staff person if government funds for the position can be obtained.

Matthews said he was opposed to hiring a full-time SUNS staff person, because this would lead to problems similar to those which led to the downfall of the now defunct Atlantic Federation of Students.

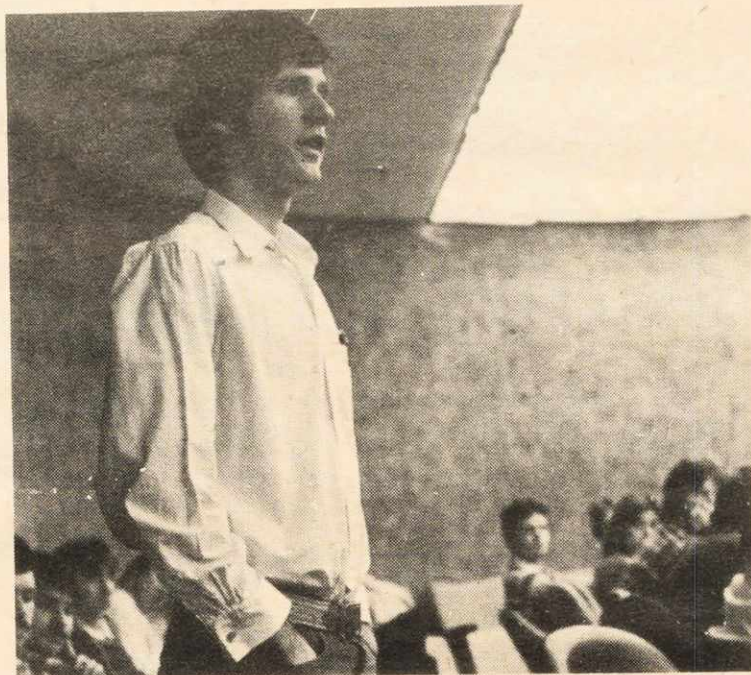
"Part of the problem with AFS was the power the staff people had. They collect power, and only people with ideological bents get attracted to such positions," he said. "I suggest we need active participation by students instead."

Arts rep Shirley Murray said that what SUNS had in mind was an apolitical position.

"We were thinking of a fieldworker, someone to make phone calls and organize meetings", she said.

## NO DISAPPROVAL FOR CAMERON HOUSE GIVEAWAY

One of the more controversial issues of the evening occurred when Science rep Carolyn Zayid made a motion of disapproval for Howe Hall's participation in the Cameron House "giveaway", a recent



much publicized event where a stripper performed and then was "raffled off" after the performance.

After a long discussion, all of council except Zayid and Grad studies representative Peter Rans voted to defeat the motion.

Zayid said in making the motion she did not want to launch a moral crusade against Howe Hall, but wanted to make sure the public image of students is not damaged by the event.

She said it could possibly affect future funding the university receives.

"If people think we have money for prostitutes, they may think we have money for other things," Zayid said.

Councillors opposed the motion on a variety of grounds.

Jeff Champion said it was a "dead issue" and is being handled well by Howe Hall internally. He said there was no need for the student union to get involved and it is pointless to disapprove of illegal acts.

Howe Hall representative Jim Hatheway said there already existed the insinuation student council was trying to interfere with Howe Hall's internal policy and this would add to that.

Wells seemed to think such a motion would have little use. "We would decry war, pestilence or whatever, but that would have little effect."

Science representative Rod Britain said the Howe Hall residence council did not organize the event but only cleaned it up afterward.

Zayid charged council with evading their political responsibility.

"Here is abuse of women and you're approving of it. You shouldn't forget the fact that you are evading the issues," she said.

## NO PAY INCREASE FOR CKDU DIRECTOR

Motions, based on a report from the Honoraria Committee, were passed to increase the honoraria of the student council executive from \$4,700 to \$6,000, but council elected to keep the honorarium for the CKDU station manager at

\$4,580.

Gord Owen, president-elect and chairperson of the honoraria committee, said they recommended not to increase the CKDU honorarium for a number of reasons.

He said the honorarium was increased last year and is sufficient reimbursement for the type of work the station manager does.

He said he was not questioning the dedication of CKDU, but since Wile's is a part-time position, the \$7,500 honorarium which was requested "is way out of line". He added that if CKDU goes FM next year the honorarium will be increased substantially.

Members of CKDU present

## Dal seeks francophones

by Margaret Little

Professors in Dalhousie University's French Department are anxiously searching for francophones to live in the french residences next year.

"It's a perpetual problem to find enough francophones," said Edward Gesner, Director of Les Maisons Francaises. "Ideally we're looking for one francophone to three anglophones," Gesner said.

There are sixteen spots available in three Dalhousie owned houses on Le Marchant St. Francophones plus students who take french courses or have a great interest in speaking french can apply for a room, explained Gesner.

"Because the houses are owned by Dalhousie, the rent is very reasonable. We haven't raised our rent rates for three years," he said. Presently, students pay \$95 a month for a double room and \$110 for a single.

"This year there are only two students whose first language is french," she said. "There needs to be a minimum of two francophones in each house for the program to be successful. If there is only one francophone—he or

at the meeting said Mike Wile is not just a part-time station manager but serves in a number of capacities.

"He works full-time an estimated 107 hours a week," said CKDU representative Neil Erskine. "He does more work than any full-time station manager across the country."

Tom Clahane, who said he has been a member of CKDU since 1972, delved into the history of council relations with the radio station and chronicled some of the ups and downs of CKDU.

He said that if Mike Wile did not receive some assurances in the near future there would be a re-evaluation of his salary, he would probably not return next year as station manager.

Gord Owen then interjected to say that that same day they had accepted Wile's nomination to be station manager again for the upcoming year with no understanding he would receive a salary increase.

Engineering representative Mike Book later charged CKDU with "blackmailing" council and moved that Wile's salary be increased \$10.

Several councillors said the motion was an insult to Wile and it was defeated.

In other business, treasurer Nancy Tower's \$417,800 student union budget for the year ending April 30, 1981 was passed after a few questions and requests for increased funding in different departments.

she has too much responsibility. It can create antagonism between the students," she said.

"Although everybody creates a French atmosphere, the francophones should act as a catalyst," said Michael O'Brien, a francophone resident. A francophone should encourage the other students to speak French and also introduce them to French Canadian culture, O'Brien explained.

"You need someone on the spot to provide animation on a daily basis," Gesner agreed.

One french house does not have a francophone resident this year. "It's a farce without francophones," said one resident.

"It is very difficult to maintain a french ambiance with five anglophones. We are very eager to speak French but it becomes so artificial," said Sheila Strong, a french house resident.

"If necessary—francophones should be paid or given reduced rates," said one resident. "I'd be willing to pay more if the money went towards a resident francophone."