

Motion before Council to stop funding CKDU may be closed down at year's end

by Paul Creelman

"I would anticipate the closure of the station at the end of this broadcast year", said Gord Owen, Student Council President. This statement on the future of CKDU follows a notice of motion to discontinue the station's funding brought up at the last Student Council meeting on Sunday. Scott MacLeod, Treasurer of the Student Union, brought up the motion on behalf of the executive, and the motion will be debated at the next meeting to be held in two weeks time.

Mike Wile, CKDU's station manager, says that he sees the station's future as being "continued financing", and that a serious effort is being made to look at other methods of financing the station. These could include possible government grants, sponsorships, aid from the

King's School of Journalism, and so forth.

One of the main reasons behind the motion to discontinue funding was the referendum held in the recent elections to determine if students were willing to pay six to eight dollars to finance an FM student radio station. After a two to one "no" vote was announced on Thursday night, it became apparent that students did not want to finance a switch to FM.

According to Gord Owen, one of the primary arguments in favor of going FM was the fact that CKDU's equipment was wearing out and needed replacement anyway. If the students weren't willing to finance the FM proposal, says Owen, they won't want to finance the replacement of the existing AM equipment either.

"My understanding is that the equipment which is now

being used by the station now requires replacement, which will require capital financing. Next year's budget simply isn't flexible enough to provide any major financing of new equipment. The FM referendum having failed, it would appear that students aren't willing to put up the money even to finance an AM station."

However, Dick Matthews, last year's Council President and a member of the "no" committee for the referendum, states that he sees no relation between the referendum results and the current operation of CKDU.

"The referendum question was whether or not you wanted CKDU to go FM. If Council wants to shut the station down or to modify its operations, that's their prerogative, but say that the

referendum didn't say that was what people wanted.

Matthews adds that he is pleased with the referendum results, criticizing Council for not making information about the proposal public enough for students. He also states that there would not have been a balanced viewpoint available if the "no" committee had not stepped in at the last minute with an active campaign.

Mike Wile, station manager, says that the need to replace current equipment was only one of the reasons for the FM proposal.

"There are a whole sheaf of reasons for the proposal," said Wile. "The best one was being able to get our signal out everywhere in Halifax to all of the students. I don't think they're viewing the whole picture if they say that the only reason we were going

FM was because of the equipment."

Wile adds that some alternative methods of upgrading the service that CKDU AM is providing are being considered. Such concepts as cable FM, closed circuit radio, and upgrading the present carrier current system so that at least the residences and Howe Hall are able to hear CKDU are a priority. Indeed, both Council and CKDU see a period of negotiation preceding next Council Meeting.

"This is in fact what may transpire before the next Council meeting," said Owen.

"We'll have to get together with the station people and find out what needs to be replaced immediately, and what has a useful life of more than a year. We'll also have to see how much the Union can afford to allow the station to keep running.

Epilepsy—kindling becomes a fire

by Walter G. Speirs

Kindling might provide a model for understanding the genesis of epileptic convulsions and also a model for learning and memory. But this is a kindling of a different kind.

Scientists have proposed that repeated, weak electrical stimulation of part of the emotional center of the brain will cause spontaneous convulsions to occur later. This stimulation is called kindling and was first identified by Dr. Graham V. Goddard, presently

in the Psychology Department here at Dalhousie.

Goddard observed that kindling causes a change in brain excitability or activity that is relatively permanent: animals will have seizures upon new stimulation for as long as a year after the initial period of kindling. Juhn Wada of U.B.C. has seen convulsions in baboons after three years.

Repeated doses of anesthetics, including lidocaine or cocaine that activate the brain's emotional center, have also been found to cause

seizures and aggressive behaviour in lab animals. It is also thought that possibly withdrawal of alcohol causes kindling to occur before the development of observable seizures. But investigators are still not sure whether they are related to the length of time a person has been drinking or the number of withdrawals they have experienced.

Medical attitude was that seizures were benign and caused no damage other than public embarrassment and personal inconvenience. To-

day, emphasis is on the prevention of kindling following head injuries that may cause the development of epilepsy in the patient. Although there is no good evidence that this is effective, the interesting thing is that the drugs that are used so far to prevent these seizures are not the ones that prevent kindling in animals.

Next month Dr. Goddard travels to Mexico where he will give the opening speech at the First Pan American Conference on Epilepsy. According to Goddard, "We still don't know the main cellular changes in the brain that give rise to epilepsy. There is good

reason to believe that it frequently involves the 'kindling' of increased excitability. The possibility of a decrease in inhibition as a cause is also being pursued."

Thus, kindling may help to explain how emotional and psychological problems develop without any apparent physical cause. Behaviours (normal or otherwise) may become increasingly likely in response to repeated stimulation—electrical, chemical, and even psychological—until they become completely independent and self-perpetuating. The behavioural implications of kindling are just beginning to be explored.

Physiotherapy top doners

On February 17-18, the Dalhousie Nursing Society, the Dalhousie Pharmacy Society, and the Student Union assisted in sponsoring the Red Cross Blood Donor Clinic. During the two day clinic, held in the McInnes Room of the S.U.B. at Dalhousie, 740 people gave blood.

Physiotherapy were the top donors with 22% of the faculty coming out to give blood. Nursing came second with 17% participation and Recreation was third with 14.7%.

Thanks to all Pharmacy and Nursing students and all others who helped out in any way. A special thank you to CKDU for all your cooperation.

BLOOD DONOR STATISTICS February 17-18, 1981

Faculty of School	% Participation	No. Donations	No. Students
Physiotherapy	22.7	22	97
Nursing	17.0	54	317
Recreation	14.7	14	95
Pharmacy	14.3	34	238
Medicine	10.8	41	381
Science	8.8	135	1542
Law	8.0	33	415
Health Education	7.5	3	40
Commerce	7.3	59	803
Physical Education	6.5	11	170
Arts	6.4	79	1225
Dentistry	5.2	5	97
Education	5.2	5	96
Engineering	4.5	17	378
Dental Hygiene	2.7	1	37
Grad Studies	2.4	28	1182

King's students—28

Staff—27

Non-university students—17