

Council slogs through budget session

by Dale Parayeski

Council discussed matters of the budget at their last meeting. The rather lengthy proposals took nearly four hours to discuss, modify, and finally pass. This all happened on a second attempt — they failed to draw a quorum for the scheduled meeting of October 23.

The majority of the budget was approved with few involved hassles. The remainder was given approval only after some rather stormy debate.

Bob Hyslop, Law Representative, was obviously trying to portray a "white knight" character in his attempts to save the Union money. He voiced disapproval of Pharos and made a move to abolish it en-

tirely. This was only supported by Hyslop and his motion's seconder Bob Mohn when it came to the actual vote.

Hyslop continued on his crusade when he attacked Out Reach Tutoring. He wanted to cut their salaries and office expenses. No one seconded the move.

The GAZETTE was his next intended victim. He questioned "the need for a university paper." His complaints were numerous. He feels our use of pen names is quite improper and said that since we are funded by Council we assume "a licence to print any kind of garbage or trash that (we) see fit." He also voiced the fear that our exposés might result in defamation suits. Again no one would second his move to drop

our budget. The motion was dropped after some discussion in which Ken MacDougall, Dan O'Connor, and Steve Long refuted Hyslop and defended the paper. A complimentary letter that Hyslop had sent to us last year on the Moirs chocolate factory was quoted by MacDougall, contradicting what Hyslop had said earlier. Other members suggested some changes and the budget was passed.

Dal Photo's budget was slightly cut, and their story appears in this issue in another article.

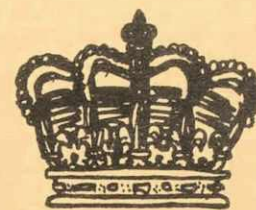
Mr. Hyslop instructed me after the meeting to see to it that his raising of "serious questions about the GAZETTE" got into the paper. Here it is Bobby.

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Budget cut the last straw

Photography heads resign

by Stephen R. Mills

Mark Roza and Jack Novack, co-directors of the Dalhousie Photography department, resigned last week. The decision was made following last Sunday's council meeting at which the proposed photography budget was altered so the co-directors would be paid only \$325 each for a year of re-organization and administration which cut expenditure enormously while increasing the work done by the department.

In an interview following the meeting, Roza and Novack explained the hassles from Council that have plagued them since their appointment to the position last April. The most important issue seems to be Council's attitude toward them; one of caution and mistrust. This attitude first manifested itself when Roza and Novack applied. Because of the incompetence of Bob Jeffries, the former director, and previous administrations, the department was in a shambles. Work was not being done, supplies were running out continually because of theft or mis-use, funds were unwisely spent on items such as movie cameras, and department members were confused and discouraged by the department. Three applications were made to take over the department; Dick Kennedy, who was picked by Jeffries and who would probably have run the department along Jeffries's lines, Elio Dolente, who ran to oppose Kennedy and who was never seriously considered, and the present co-directors.

Though the others filled out the required form, Roza and Novack were the only ones to submit a complete resume in which they examined the philosophy behind the department, proposed definite

reforms, and even gave a budget which was almost identical to the budget considered by council.

The applications came before the council applications committee, made up of V.P. Joan MacKeagan, Bob Mohn, and Art Turner. It was common knowledge that MacKeagan supported Kennedy but she was outvoted and Roza-Novack were recommended to council and were appointed. MacKeagan, however, moved a motion of reconsideration following which she actively campaigned against the committee choice. A special council meeting was held and despite MacKeagan's efforts, council reaffirmed their choice.

With this less-than-encouraging mandate, Roza and Novack re-organized the department over the summer months, putting supplies under lock and key, establishing a file system, establishing portfolios and a bureaucratic requisition formula that would benefit all concerned. In the fall, the department membership was set at ten members as a good working number and a revamped camera club that increased membership and more dark-room hours for members was initiated.

The work was not done without complications. In order to prevent supply theft at the beginning of the summer, it was necessary to transfer all supplies to Roza's home until a storeroom could be obtained. Despite the fact that an inventory was made before the transfer, rumours about colossal rip-offs began.

Continuing throughout this time were hassles with budget. Council treasurer Gary Blaikie, understandably wary because of previous administrations, held many meetings with Roza

and Novack to discuss their proposed budget and council considerations.

The whole controversy stemmed from remuneration for services rendered. Under the constitution, the director gets half of the photography honoraria of \$300. Considering this unrealistic, Roza and Novack proposed a straight salary of \$960. This was disputed by Blaikie who proposed keeping the honoraria and 10% commission; very unsatisfactory as far as the directors were concerned but accepted by them for lack of alternatives.

This salary honoraria budget with 10% commission was rejected by council. Instead, Roza and Novack were given the half-honoraria and \$500 for the years work despite the fact that they had saved the department, and consequently the student union close to \$2000.

Despite the vote against them, there were council people who felt they were unjustly treated, most notably Gary Blaikie who stated "I would have done the same thing in their position." Blaikie, one of the four people who actually visited the department over the year, had nothing but kind words for the directors, feeling they deserved much more than they got.

(The other three visitors were Art Turner and Dan O'Connor, who were interested in how the department worked, and Joan MacKeagan, who wanted to see photos of herself in an interfac softball game).

Roza and Novack also received support from Communications Secretary Steve Long who said he was disappointed in council for their "unfounded mistrust." He felt the directors did a lot of work and deserved remuneration.

Long stated "Maybe this was the role they were expected to play; bust their asses to get the department going and then get kicked out."

Roza and Novack feel the basic issues are mistrust on the part of the council ("They just don't like us personally" said Roza) and a lack of consideration on council's part for

student's interests.

"Council wouldn't give a shit if we came in with a budget of \$7,000 as long as it was padded and we only got \$50 in salaries" said Novack "We've transformed photography into the most advanced department in the union and this is the reward we get, a slap in the face."



HE LOST?