

Law School may withdraw from student union

by Paul Creelman

In two weeks, the Law School will hold a referendum to determine the desirability of remaining as part of the Student Union. The alternatives on the ballot will range from severing relations with the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU), or keeping relations intact, according to this year's vice-president of the Law Society, Brian Casey.

The incoming president of the Law Society, Paul Scovil, is on the committee preparing the alternatives for the upcoming referendum.

"There has been some controversy about the Law Society's role in the Student Union," says Scovil.

"At the present time I am on a committee looking at the feasibility of several alternatives. These would be to stay as we are, opting out totally, and various theories of gray in between."

Disagreements between Student Council and the Law Society have been heated all year, with accusations on both sides of negotiating in bad faith in the talks over the Law Society contract. The conflict was even brought to Council in a motion directing the Student Union executive to "bargain in good faith" with the Law Society representatives. The continual debate and negotiations in contract talks prompted Council president Gord Owen to identify the source of the disagreement as a purely financial dispute.

"They want more money," said Owen. "It's that simple."

However, Scovil does not feel that the disagreements between the Law Society and the DSU are solely concerned with money.

"I don't think necessarily it's that by itself—although you can always use more money. It was a matter of a lot of people saying what's the use of the Student Union to me? The problems have been one of alienation with the Student Union."

Law Society VP Casey says that part of the reasoning behind the move to withdraw is the fact that the Law Society is looking to increase its fees this spring and feels that an evaluation should be made of the fees presently being paid to the Student Union before asking for its own increase.

Casey also says that many of the services provided by the Student Union can be obtained at lower cost by the Law Society, such as the health plan. Other Student Union services, such as the Student Union Building, are underused by law students.

"The average law student is 27 to 28 years old. The sort of things that the Student Union provides, in entertainment and so on, are often not of much value to our students," said Casey.

Duplication of the services of yearbooks and a student newspaper are another issue in the move to withdraw from the Student Union.

"Obviously there are some things that the graduate societies can do better for themselves than we can," said Gord Owen, "just as there are some things that we can do better for everybody."

Owen attributes much of the present rift between the Law Society and the present Council to a lack of communication. Scovil agrees with this in part, saying that while it isn't his position to fix the blame on anyone in the present Law Society executive, that regular meetings with the Student Union could go a long way towards hammering out present difficulties.

SUB could save energy

by Nancy Ross

The Enersave Program operated by the Department of Mines and Energy of Nova Scotia concluded that the Dalhousie Student Union Building could probably save \$18,863 through better conservation methods of energy.

The main part of the program is conducted by a computer located in the Enersave bus which produces a printout on how the S.U.B. could be improved to save energy dollars after being fed the relevant information.

The analysis stated that if the kitchen equipment were converted to other fuels such as propane, \$7,884 could be eventually saved, and if the building's temperature was set back five degrees Fahrenheit all winter, \$5,767 more could be saved. The analysis also recommended a few other energy saving devices that could result in a potential annual saving of 12.8% of the total annual energy cost of the S.U.B. which now stands at \$47,849.

Similar analysis will be conducted throughout the university as part of Dalhousie's promotion of energy conservation.



Moran photo

Last Friday 300 people marched to the American Consul in Cogswell Towers, expressing their opposition to U.S. intervention in El Salvador.

Protesters denounce U.S. military aid to El Salvador

by Cathy McDonald

Protesting U.S. military aid to the government of El Salvador, 300 people marched on the American Consulate in Halifax, last Friday. The demonstrators denounced the \$15 million given to the ruling right-wing junta which is held responsible for the deaths of 15,000 El Salvadoreans last year.

A pamphlet distributed at the march, explains that in El Salvador, a small Central American country, "60% of the land is owned by 1.6% of the people, and it is this tiny group of landowners, businessmen and military commanders who refuse to allow basic social and economic rights to exist."

Reagan's government plans to send \$225 million more in

economic aid to El Salvador, despite condemnations from the United Nations, the pamphlet states.

"We are demonstrating with one purpose in mind: to stop American intervention in El Salvador", said Anna Marie Quiroz addressing the march. "The El Salvadoreans say we will die so that our children have something to eat. This is what the U.S. calls communist forces."

Chanting "No more bombs, no more war, U.S. out of El Salvador", the protestors took an impersonated "Uncle Sam" into captivity, accusing him of "collusion with the military junta in committing crimes against humanity."

In a mock trial on Parade Square, accounts of assault and murder of women and children and raids on the two

Universities, trade unions and towns were presented.

"Babies thrown into the air for target practise" read one of the testimonies, originating from the Christian Diocese of El Salvador.

Susan Johnson of the Latin Information Group, organizers of the march, said that in a previous meeting the American Consul, had admitted the position against intervention in El Salvador had a lot more support than the official government policy.

"The consulate staff have been getting more letters and calls concerning El Salvador than they have since the Vietnam War" Johnson said.

The march was one of many demonstrations across Canada and around the world as a part of "Solidarity Week" with the people of El Salvador.

Possible \$12.50 student fee hike at Dal

by Cathy McDonald

Student Union fees will go up by \$12.50 if the 1981/82 budget is approved, according to Scott MacLeod, Student Union Treasurer. In a marathon 8½-hour meeting last Sunday, council approved all individual parts of the budget without passing it. Realizing the total amount of the increase, council recessed to reconsider the alternatives before next meeting.

The fee hike includes the \$3 approved for maintaining the health plan in the referendum, a couple of new additions and larger budgets for some departments. A projected \$13.50 increase is offset \$1 by revenue from high enrollment in part-time students next year.

MacLeod said the budget was "realistic".

"Every year we spend more than we get from students,"

he said. Rather than liquidate bonds to cover the deficit as has happened each year, MacLeod proposes the increase, asking students for the realistic amount that it costs to run the student union.

"I don't think any of the money is being wasted, it's making up for lost ground in the past," MacLeod said.

The increase includes \$3 per student for the health plan, 50 cents per student for the yearbook and \$2 for updating and servicing equipment at CKDU. \$5000 was allocated to the programming department as a safety fund against possible deficits in entertainment next year. A 30% increase in the grants budget and a 48% decrease in the expected revenue from programming and bar services add to the hike.

MacLeod had some ideas

for reducing the budget, namely using cheaper cups in bar services, reducing the grants budget and encouraging more outsiders to use the McInnes Room.

Other options are to eliminate services that now exist, such as the yearbook or financing for CKDU.

This year's deficit runs in the \$10,000-\$15,000 neighbourhood, mainly from losses in programming and bar services, MacLeod said.

MacLeod said it was good that council reps will have a week to mull over the budget and get feedback from the students over possible changes. Referring to council's inability to stomach the fee increase after approving all the individual items, MacLeod likened it to shoppers choosing their groceries, but getting to the checkout without enough money.