

the Dalhousie Gazette

Volume 112

Number 8

November 1, 1979

SUNS BRIEF TO BE PRESENTED TO MPHEC

by Margaret Little

Mike MacNeil, chairman of SUNS, will present the SUNS' brief on student aid to the Maritime Provinces Higher Education (MPHEC) on November sixth. This was decided at SUNS' October Plenary held last weekend at St. Mary's.

The SUNS brief proposes that the age of independence for eligibility in receiving a student loan be kept at 18 yrs., with a review board being established for the under-aged.

Other important suggestions are that the student aid program should measure a student's summer savings according to the time a student actually worked, that part time students be given student aid, and that the student debt load remain at the present level. Mike MacNeil, Jeff Mitchell, and Geri Geldart will represent SUNS in a meeting with Terry Donahue, Minister of Education, on Nov. 27th after the MPHEC presentation.

Eileen Dooley, the AOSC representative spoke on the importance of having a fieldworker in the Atlantic region. She explained that since NUS is short on funds it will avoid appointing a fieldworker for as long as possible. A letter will be written to NUS explaining the necessity of a fieldworker for the Maritime region. In the meantime, Dick Matthews was appointed as interim fieldworker.

The meeting generally centered around a discussion of SUNS' goals for the Fall campaign, which includes increasing student awareness of SUNS as a representative group for all Nova Scotia campus problems.

It is the success of SUNS' fall campaign that will determine whether SUNS will continue being recognized as an official student union for Nova Scotia. Eight universities across Nova Scotia were represented and all actively participated in the lengthy

discussions on student apathy, the rise in book prices, lack of student awareness, and the future of higher education.

SUNS has set up an honorary logo contest with a prize of \$25.00 for the best logo. All logos will be sent from each campus to the next SUNS plenary where they will be judged. The purpose of the logo contest is to stimulate campus interest in the objectives of SUNS.

SUNS discussed the effects that universities will feel because of the government cut backs. It was suggested by Mike MacNeil that suns organize an evening when all groups that will be affected by the cut backs could meet to discuss their problems. MacNeil feels that this type of interaction could produce a solid front against government policy of this kind.

Geri Geldart spoke on behalf of Dalhousie Student Council endorsing their support of SUNS' objectives. She reiterated Dal's proposal for "freedom of action" clause in SUNS' constitution, giving the individual student councils the right to act in ways that are not clearly in accordance with what they accept as a member of SUNS. A new financing system was also proposed, but these suggestions will be examined by the constitutional committee and reported on at the next plenary.

Wayne Hall, a representative for King's College, was nominated as the new treasurer. Jeff Mitchell, and Geri Geldart will represent SUNS in

The November plenary will be held at Acadia University from Nov. 23rd to 25th—SUNS' first birthday.

There will be a SUNS Campus Committee meeting 8:00 pm on Thursday, Nov. 1st in Room 218 on the 2nd floor of the SUB.



Dal Photo / Dayel Dal Photo / DeLorey

Some Strange Sightings Last Night at Dal

ISA SEEKS NEW RATING

by Pam Berman

"The ISA should be made into an umbrella organization for all foreign student societies", said Bukash Roychoudhury, this year's president of the International Student's Association in a letter to the Student Council members.

This arrangement should have been created in the beginning, instead of making the ISA on par with the rest of the foreign student groups since it would have avoided a lot of the disorganization and lack of coordination involved with a lot of foreign student activities, Bikash stated in a later interview.

In the letter Roychoudhury also criticized, the Student Council for overlooking the ISA's importance and negating the role that it has to play in international student relations.

Dick Matthews, President of the Dal Student Council, replied to this by pointing out that the Student Union provides considerable funds to the Overseas Student Coordinator who's function it is to bring Canadian and foreign

students together in order to increase their understanding of each other.

Bikash said that the Student Union's support of the overseas Coordinator is not the point, the ISA is a representative group of foreign students that function in various capacities. It acts as a welcoming party for new students, provided inexpensive temporary housing and tries to familiarize Dal Students with the many different cultures on campus through special programmes such as International Student's Nite and a newly arranged movie series.

These programmes require money, however, and since the association is not profit motivated, the proper funding is needed. This year's award of \$450 is not enough to cover even the minimum costs of an International Nite, continued Roychoudhury.

Matthews said that in awarding money student council gives "favourable consideration to groups that try to raise some funds themselves and who have shown a consistent level of performance

and activity in the past" and stated that the ISA did not live up to those standards.

Roychoudhury countered this argument by saying that most of ISA's involvement is in charitable or non-profitable services and any money-raising functions produces profit not for the organization trying to raise funds, but for the Student Union. Profits are not only taken away for the rental of space in the building but bar sale, the most lucrative profit are exclusively the Student Union's.

"Societies should either be given a percentage of the bar profits or they should be allowed the use of other facilities on the campus where they can get a temporary license to sell liquor", Bikash argued.

Roychoudhury also criticized the length of time it takes the Grant Committee to provide the funds. The ISA application was submitted the 18th of July and no word was received until the 4th of October. This long delay makes it impossible to plan events or book good times for functions

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