

Conciliation goes ahead

Faculty contract talks resume

by Alex Burton

Tuesday, the Dalhousie Administration and the Dalhousie Faculty Association (DFA) met for the first time since the Administration ended negotiations August 20 and called for a provincially appointed conciliator.

Negotiations lasted eight hours, as the two sides attempted to come to terms on a new contract.

Talks were carried out under the supervision of William Mc-

Callum, Director of Provincial Conciliation Services.

McCallum was appointed last Wednesday, and both sides appear to be satisfied with the conciliator. "I think it will serve the university well to have him working with the Faculty and the Board," said Bryan Mason, Vice-President of Financial Services and the Administration's chief negotiator.

Neither side would comment on the progress of negotiation, however, David Williams, Presi-

dent of the DFA, described relations between the Association and the Administration as "cordial".

Although the conciliation process has begun, it is unclear whether a resolution is any closer. "At this point, in the middle of conciliation, we have no greater knowledge of the likelihood of a lockout or strike than we did at the time the Board broke off negotiations," said Williams.

Dalhousie Student Union President Ralph Cochrane was pleased the two sides had returned to the

table. "We're hopefully a step further towards a resolution now that the conciliation process has

begun," he said.

A second conciliation session has been scheduled for Friday.

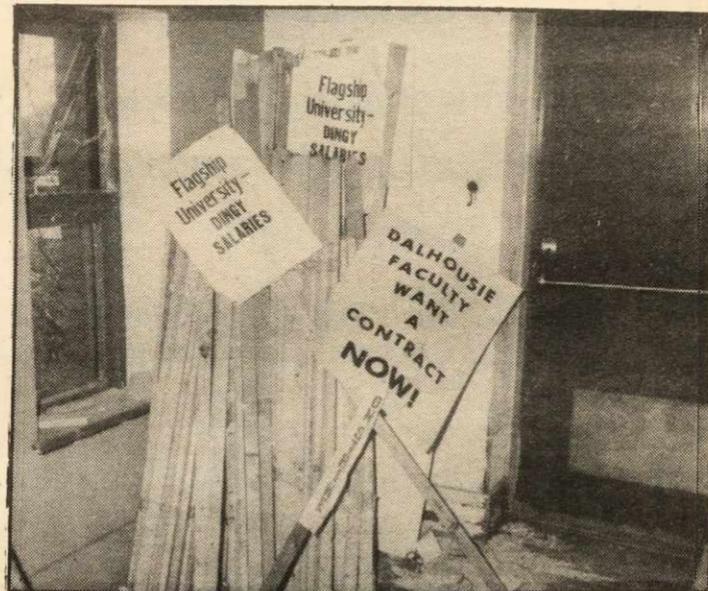


photo: Angel Figueroa

Old picket signs. Dormant for how long?

Black and Micmac law program up in air

by Jeff Harrington

OTTAWA (CUP) - It isn't easy being black in Nova Scotia. It's even harder if you want to be a lawyer.

At Dalhousie this fall, nine black law students don't know whether they'll be able to finish their studies. A lack of funds may force the school to cut back on a program designed to increase black and Micmac participation in the Nova Scotia justice system.

Since the program began last fall, the law school and the provincial government have been jousting over who should foot the bill for the black students. The eight Micmacs in the program receive assistance from the federal government.

This year, the Nova Scotia government has contributed \$50,000, which will last only "until November at the latest," said Davies Bagambiire, director of the program.

The law school had asked for \$130,000 from the province to fund the nine black students and help cover the operating costs of the program.

Premier John Buchanan endorsed the program in October 1989, when he opened the law school's new library. According to Innis Christie, dean of the law school, Buchanan's remarks gave the audience the impression the province would fund the black students at the same level the federal government funds the Micmacs. Then, last month, the law school rankled the government by publicly complaining about the \$80,000 funding shortfall.

Black activist and second-year law student Rocky Jones said the province has a responsibility to fully fund the program.

"It's important for people to understand that historically the black community in Nova Scotia has been denied access to educa-

tion. We deserve not only support for this program, but certainly other programs, to correct this historic injustice," he said.

Of 1200 lawyers in Nova Scotia, there are no Micmacs and only 12 blacks. There are no Micmac judges and only one black judge, who is at the family court level. The law school is also planning to change its curriculum to reflect the experience of black and native peoples.

Last December, a royal commission on the wrongful conviction of Micmac Donald Marshall Jr. made 82 recommendations to improve a justice system repeatedly denounced as racist.

One of those recommendations called on the federal and provincial governments and the Nova Scotia Bar Society to support the law program. The Buchanan government agreed to implement the recommendations.

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In arms about Oka

by Alex Burton

Over 400 people gathered at the Parade Grounds last Saturday to protest the recent military actions of the Canadian Armed Forces at Oka, Quebec.

The protest was organised by The Committee in Solidarity with Native Peoples, an ad hoc group of non-natives who wanted to voice their concerns over the recent events at Oka.

The protestors carried signs with a variety of messages including "get the army out of Oka" and "support Native land claims". One sign likened Prime Minister Mulroney and Premier Bourassa to Hitler, Ceausescu, and Hussein.

Following a brief statement by Noel Knockwood, a spiritual leader and Director of the Micmac Native Learning Centre, the ceremony of the burning of the sweet grass was held.

Dan Paul, Executive Director

of the Confederacy of Mainland Micmacs, also addressed the crowd, telling the native peoples they were no longer prepared to stay on the sidelines. "We won't go back to the status quo," he said.

The protestors marched from the Parade Grounds to the Commons, where a series of speakers condemned the government and expressed support for the Mohawks at Oka.

Trish Monture, a professor at Dalhousie Law School and a Mohawk, was one of two keynote speakers. In an impassioned speech she lashed out at those who have called the Mohawk actions criminal. "It's the Canadian Government who is responsible for not honouring their treaty, so I don't want to hear about breaking the law" she said.

Monture ended her speech with a reminder to the mostly non-native crowd. "I want you to remember" continued on p. 4

New logo doesn't copy

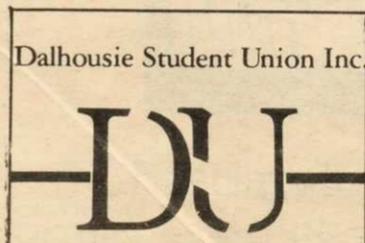
by Alistair Croll

The DSU has a new logo, but you won't be seeing copies around for a while, it doesn't photocopy. "We have to outline the yellow in order for it to photocopy," said Kathryn Larry, a receptionist at the DSU offices, "it doesn't photocopy too well."

This summer, the DSU decided to change their logo from the old "double-D" symbol to something more contemporary. Ralph Cochrane, president of the DSU, said he decided the DSU "needed something new. Not many stu-

dents understood what the old logo meant."

Over the summer, Cochrane de-



Most of the new DSU logo

signed a black-and-gold logo for new DSU letterheads. Peter Pottier, DSU treasurer, said that an

outside artist completed the logo based on Cochrane's suggestions. "I am not at liberty to say how much (the new logo) cost."

Cochrane said the original intent was for the logo to appear in black and metallic gold, which he feels would have photocopied. Instead, the print run was done in black and pale yellow.

The new logo was completed about a month ago, said Cochrane, but the design was not photocopied until after the letterheads were printed. Cochrane said the DSU will ask for the yellow to be outlined in the next print run.

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