

CROSS CANADA

Dal tackles racism

HALIFAX (CUP) — Dalhousie University leads the way in accessibility programs for black students in Atlantic Canada. Dalhousie boasts three programs to aid disadvantaged students — the Transition Year Program (TYP), the law school's Indigenous Black and Micmac program, and a black student advisor.

Delvina Bernard is an instructor with Dalhousie's TYP, which helps indigenous black and Micmac students acquire skills necessary for a university career. Established in 1970, the program also grants tuition fee waivers for students who maintain a B average.

Dalhousie has an excellent record on accessibility, but it results largely from community pressure rather than university initiative, Bernard said.

"When we talk about a problem as significant as racism in education — which has been 350 years in the making — it won't be resolved in 20 years," she said. "I see TYP being around for a long time."

"Illegal" fee increases at UWO

TORONTO (CUP) — A University of Western Ontario plan to fund scholarships by hiking student fees is an illegal "cash grab," say student groups.

UWO currently spends \$3.8 million of its operating budget on student grants. But the new plan would replace that spending with a new student fee of \$225, phased in over three years and charged on top of any regular increases in tuition.

UWO is claiming the grant plan will help under-represented groups afford university by increasing student aid.

But student groups say the funding mechanism is not only unethical, it's against government rules. OFS and the UWO graduate student society are appealing to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities to declare UWO's plan illegal.

If UWO's move goes through unchecked, it could set a precedent for heavy fee hikes at other universities, said OFS researcher Chris Lawson.

Campus parties "censored"

TORONTO (CUP) — Students accusing recent Trent University party organizers of trivializing date rape have been dismissed as politically correct "censors."

Two weeks ago, students at Trent's Lady Eaton College promoted their winterfest party by selling shirts that said "It's better to beg forgiveness than to ask permission."

Last weekend, Catherine Parr Traill College named its weekend bash "Kamaneiwannaleiu" — intended to be pronounced "Come on I wanna lay you".

Student council and women's centre members criticized the t-shirts and party name for trivializing the issue of date rape.

Bowry recalled nearly all the t-shirts sold and re-screened them with a new slogan.

But later, he decided he'd been bullied into switching them. "It goes one step beyond the issue of violence against women. It falls smack dab into the middle of a big issue this year, and that's political correctness," Bowry said. "It's a matter of freedom of speech."

BC wants to legalize pot

BURNABY, B.C. (CUP) — Legalized dope is the latest addition to a British Columbia student lobby group's list of demands.

In addition to calling for free tuition and improved financial aid for students, the B.C. wing of the Canadian Federation of Students adopted a policy advocating the decriminalization of marijuana at its annual general meeting Jan. 26.

Langara College's student council led the charge, citing "uncounted revenue" lost by the illicit sale of marijuana which could be used to fund colleges and universities.

The CFS-BC committee said it "did not want to risk being delegitimized by the media for taking a stance on the decriminalization of a currently-illicit drug."

Only the North Island's student association opposed the policy. North Island delegate Dan Anfield agreed. "Let's smoke a joint and think about it," he said.

The federation also adopted a policy calling for "free access to drug rehabilitation."

Howard Clark sentenced

BY SHANNON GOWANS

President Howard Clark was sentenced to lead the life of a student next year.

The judge and a jury composed of Dalhousie students pronounced Clark guilty of grand theft and extortion of \$1.7 million from students. Clark was also convicted for his relentless autocracy, incestuous fraternizing with the anti-student establishment and his flagrant 'ismism' — racism, sexism, classism, elitism and tuition hikeism. He was also found damn guilty of blatant self-interest, alluding to his \$300 000 home renovations and new administration offices in the MacDonald Building.

Present at the Feb. 6 trial were Judge Alice Cooper, prosecuting attorney Paula Cornwall, defence attorney George Piercy, bailiff Alex Boston, an effigy of the president, and about 30 student jurors.

"Howie has committed crimes against democracy by deciding university affairs from his ivory tower," said Cornwall.

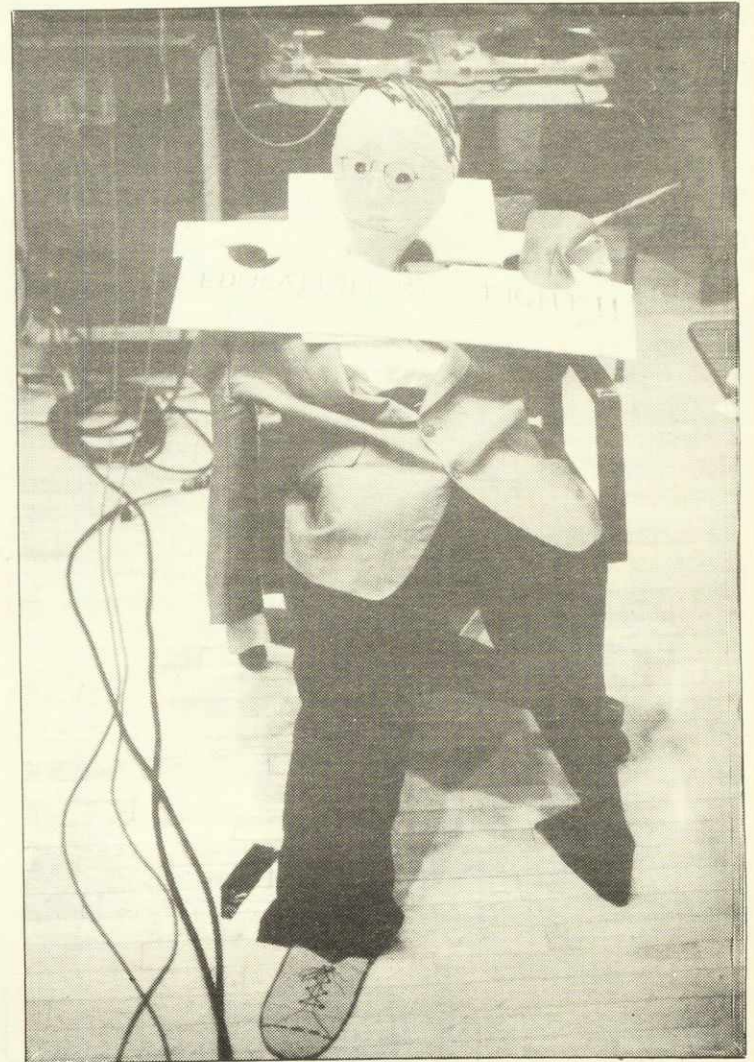
Clark's punishment is to live on a diet of Kraft Dinner for two years, and take a full course load next year including Biology 1000 (with no labs), Women's Studies and Black Studies courses, and a Philosophy course in social justice. His tuition is \$1.7 million, payable immediately.

When the effigy of Clark was unable to pay his tuition bailiff Boston was requested to remove the president's arm and leg as an acceptable alternate.

Witnesses were sworn in by placing their left hand on a box of Kraft Dinner and repeating the phrase, "I swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the latest gossip so help me J.L. Kraft."

"Clark is destroying not only Dalhousie but the rest of the province's universities," said Scott McCrossin, chair of the Student's Union of Nova Scotia, through his inability to work with other university presidents to establish a firm plan for rationalization.

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