

# Dalhousie acts on ban

by Lara Morris and Chris Bellon

Dalhousie students, faculty and staff are beginning to address the issue of campus safety as a result of concerns raised by the banning of a man from the Dalhousie campus for verbally assaulting women. (see Gazette Oct. 18)

Plans are underway to form a committee, comprised of representatives from Dalhousie Security, Physical Plant, Student Services, and the President's Advisor on Women.

The committee will also have student representation according to Bill Lord, Director of Physical Plant.

The banned man, Donald Way, was charged with common assault after an alleged incident involving a faculty member of the Nova Scotia College of Art & Design (NSCAD) on Oct. 2.

Richard Apostle, Chair of the Sociology and Social Anthropology Department, declined to comment on reports of incidents at the Sociology Building involving the banned man. However, he circulated an internal memo, dated Oct. 19, to graduate students, faculty and staff.

The memo refers readers to Gazette reports from Oct. 18 and

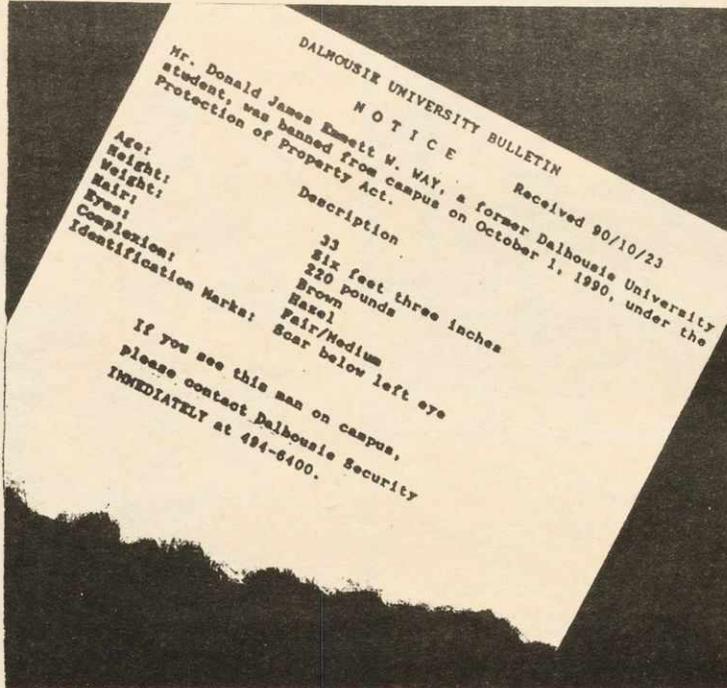
provides a physical description of the man banned from campus. It also states Department officials will monitor the criminal proceedings against the man charged with common assault.

A bulletin dated Oct. 23 was circulated by Physical Plant to locations "where [Way] is known to have been in the past, plus the women's residence and Fenwick," said Lord. Locations include the Sociology Building, Killam Library, the Registrar's Office, and the Student Union Building.

Dalhousie Security personnel were prompted to issue the notice before Way's possible release from Corrections Services. "Presumably he's been out of commission, but he could be released after the court date (Nov. 6)," said Lord.

The bulletin gives a physical description of Way, and asks anyone who sees him on campus to contact Dalhousie Security immediately.

One problem frustrating Dalhousie Administration and Security is the lack of information they receive from people who have been harassed. "I think they should contact Dal Security immediately... one of our problems is often incidents aren't reported," said Eric McKee, Vice-president of Student Services.



Both Dalhousie Administration and Security see the need for further action on issues of sexual harassment and assault on campus.

Barbara Harris, the President's Advisor on Women, wants a formal policy ensuring the campus community will be informed of incidents of sexual harassment and assault. Currently, no specific policy exists.

Lord said he is aware this creates

a problem. "We've been heavily criticized for not warning people," he said.

Lord said both liability and the volatility of the offender must be considered.

"I'm not saying this [having no policy] is a good thing or a bad thing. I think it would be difficult to have one. Until a person has been charged and convicted... the law protects that person," said Lord.

# Course guide gets reviewed

by Kevin Speight

The future of the student Course Evaluation Guide, produced by the Dalhousie Student Union, is in doubt.

The uncertainty surrounding the future of the guide is apparently due to student complaints and difficulties in finding someone to work on next year's guide.

The Evaluation Guide, which is

funded by the DSU through student union fees on the basis of one dollar per student, is mailed to students in the spring. The guide was published this year and last year for the first time since the 1970's.

The guide lists specific comments students made about courses, and results of questions in which students rank statements such as "The professor appeared to be organized, concise, in command of

subject matter" and "This course stimulated my interest to learn more about the subject" on a scale of one to five.

DSU Academic vice-president Av Singh said the student union has placed ads for the position of Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator of the guide, but there has been no response so far. The positions pay \$1000 and \$750 respectively.

"If we get someone to fill the position, we'll go through with it, but it will probably be modified. It's hard to justify spending \$18,000 if not a lot of students use it," Singh said, adding some students have told him the guide didn't meet their needs.

"I don't know how many students use it. Most students don't have too many electives, and most just

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# Equity plan "important step"

by Paul Webster

Speaking to a group of faculty, staff and students, Ontario College of Art teacher and video artist Lisa Steele gave a charged account of the events which led up to that school's decision to implement a controversial gender parity program last spring.

The OCA Equity Plan, introduced last spring, is controversial because it actually guarantees affirmative action starting immediately, through a clause which insists

that all new faculty and staff appointments be women.

Steele, speaking at NSCAD on Saturday, said the Plan had to be seen as an important step towards opening up all aspects of academic and institutional hiring, towards democratization along lines of race, handicap/disability and gender. "The women's committee was the very first to notice that there were virtually no visible minorities on staff, which gave no model for students," she said.

Phase I of the OCA Equity Plan addresses gender parity, Phase II will address other forms of equality in hiring.

The formula devised at OCA is "a very bloodless way to introduce women and ensure no one would lose their job," Steele said.

Discussing opposition at OCA to the Equity Plan Steele said this came mainly from "an extremely small core of faculty, often in traditional practices, often older men,

very few women (the faculty being only 13 percent female in any case), who would be leaving in a few years, many of whom had been on the governing board."

"I did some research and found that private promises had been made to a few guys who wanted more work after they retired. These guys felt threatened by an Equity Plan which depended on replacing

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# Bubble, bubble, money troubles

by Jeff Harrington

HALIFAX (CUP) — Universities will never be more than a warm political potato, says the head of an education inquiry touring the country.

"If you look at productivity in terms of votes per government dollar spent, universities are a low-productivity area," said Stuart Smith, commissioner of the Inquiry on Canadian University Education and former Liberal leader of Ontario.

That does not bode well for the impact of the commission, which is holding hearings in major cities on how to "revitalize the educational mission" of Canadian universities. Smith said he intends to submit a draft report to the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada in late winter or early spring.

## "no 'great other answer' except devoting more money"

But he said his report will only accomplish something if it is credible and the "timing is just right."

"If we just say 'give us more money, it's a matter of underfunding,' we won't be taken seriously by anybody," he said.

But as students, faculty and administration and government representatives made pitch after pitch Oct. 25 in Halifax, it quickly became obvious that money is one of the major problems faced by Canadian universities. Deteriorating buildings, gutted library collections, salaries, tuition, student aid, equipment, research, affirmative action. The list went on. And on.

"There is no 'great other answer' except devoting more money, more resources to education, recognizing it's of social benefit," said John D'Orsay of the Nova Scotia Confederation of Faculty Associations.

D'Orsay said he hopes the report will form the basis of a lobbying strategy for university presidents.