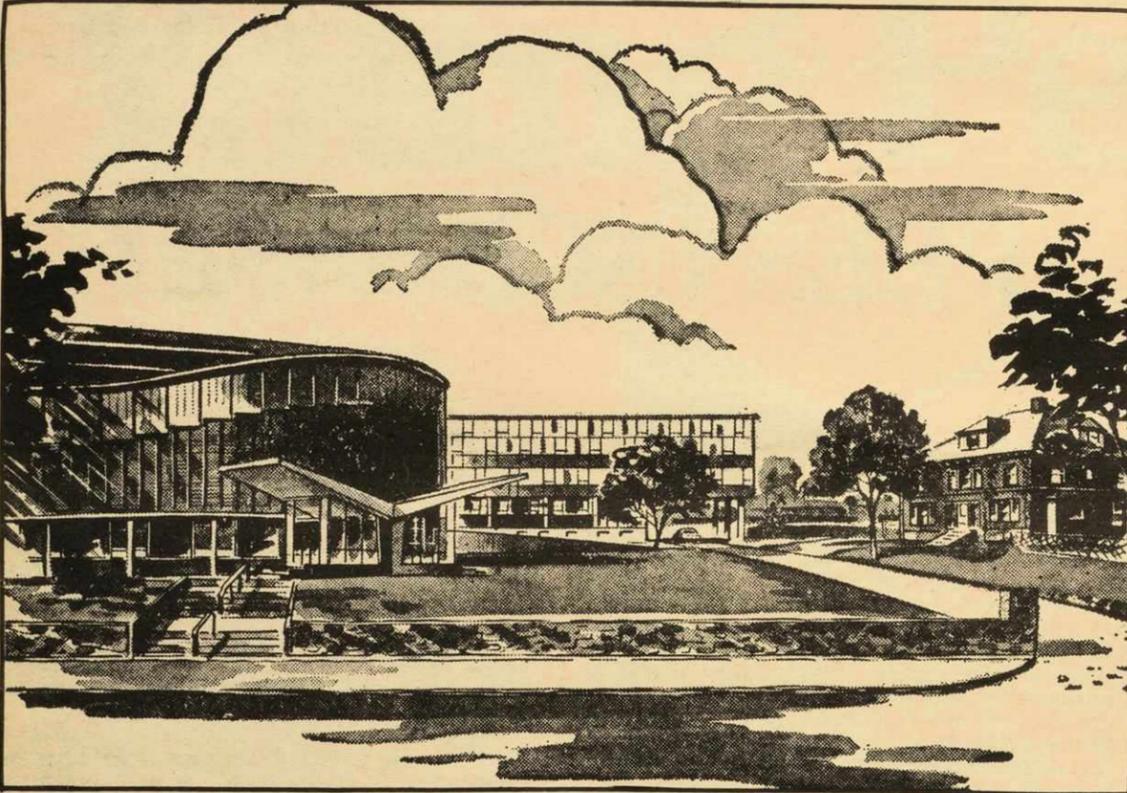


Dal-Tech Agreement

Start of Something Big



An announcement last week that Dalhousie University and the Nova Scotia Technical College will participate in a five year "trial marriage" appears to be step one in the long process of establishing a University of Halifax. Despite official denials, the tenor of a supper hour press conference last Friday evening indicated that Halifax universities are moving in the direction of streamlining and eventual consolidation.

The agreement for an initial five year trial period will begin in September 1969. In the proposal which must be ratified by both institutions, Nova Scotia Tech will assume the over-all responsibility for curricula and programmes at all levels in Architecture and Engineering, while Dalhousie will take on responsibilities in the fields of Engineering Physics, Applied Mathematics, and the Material Sciences. There will be a joint registration and students will be able to claim degrees from both institutions.

The Student Council Presidents from Tech and Dal will jointly consider collection of student union fees and establish some policy in this regard.

Though both institutions will maintain their separate administrative apparatus, it is expected that they will work during the five year trial period to eliminate any unnecessary duplication.

The agreement between Dalhousie and Nova Scotia Technical College came after a Committee was set up by the Nova Scotia Grants Committee to study inter-university co-operation, especially in the Halifax area. These committees broke off into sub-groups to study the possibilities of co-operation between Dalhousie and Tech, Dalhousie and the Maritime School of Social Work, Dalhousie and Mount St. Vincent and Dalhousie and King's College. At present only the negotiations between Dalhousie and Tech have progressed to the point that they are prepared to make a statement to the press.

At the press conference Dr. Arthur Murphy, Chairman of the Nova Scotia Grants Committee, stated that this proposal should in no way be construed as part of any "grandiose" scheme to create a University of Halifax. However the Gazette has learned through usually reliable governmental sources that the Grants Committee is attempting to tighten the financial screws to force the University of King's College into an amalgamation with Dalhousie. It seems likely that official denials to the contrary, surreptitious attempts are being made to create that "grandiose" University of Halifax.

The provincial government would like to see a University of Halifax (or better still a University of Nova Scotia) to ease its own financial burden. It is expected that such a single institution would create huge savings with a single administration and elimination of duplication of facilities. It is also expected that better teaching would result from a single University.

The hope, according to reliable sources, is that a University of Halifax would be established first, and would eventually lead to a University of Nova Scotia including Acadia, and St. F.X.

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