

POLI SCI DUMPS DRB

The Poli Sci Department has decided not to apply for grants from the Defence Research Board. The Board has money available to sponsor students who wish to do research work in fields related to the interests of the Board.

A suggestion was made to the faculty of the Political Science Department that the money was available if the Department chose to apply.

The two graduate student representatives at the faculty meeting were reluctant to agree to accepting

the grants, on moral grounds since the Defence Board maintains chemical and biological warfare departments. Another student did not feel that it was worth jeopardizing his integrity for \$3,000 a year.

Professor D. W. Stairs said that

some faculty members foresaw a potential conflict of interests should they apply for grants. "A professor's credentials for acting as an independent critic of government policy might be undermined since it could be alleged that the govern-

ment was supplying funds to the department."

Both Dr. Aitchison, Head of the Department, and Professor Stairs said the department's decision was influenced by the current controversy ranging in the United States over government agencies supplying research grants to universities. Dalhousie was explicitly trying to avoid this type of situation. Prof. Stairs said that the situation in the U.S. had a "profound effect on the issue being raised in the first place and secondly on the decision that was finally made.

However, Dr. Aitchison believes it is useful to have an academic study of strategy although he questions whether it should be supported by the Defence Board. He feels research in the United States has been "distorted and diverted by similar grants."

The Canadian Defence Research Board offers grants for studies in environment, international relations and policy, peacekeeping, riots and insurgencies, and strategic analysis. Any research that might have been done by graduate students on this campus would have revolved around defensive strategy, especially Naval Strategy. All research in this category would be "unclassified".

While the Department has decided not to apply for grants this year from the Defence Board, discussions will be held during the year with graduate students to see what the policy of the Department will be in the future.

CUBA REQUESTS CUSO VOLUNTEERS

A request has been received for ten CUSO volunteers to work in Cuba. The outcome of the proposal could answer questions which have been raised about whether or not CUSO is really independent of government. It is not a government organization, but receives 90% of its money in a government grant, the amount of which is based on the number of volunteers sent overseas.

A request has been received for volunteers have raised some important objections to the way CUSO is organized. The constitution contains a rider stating that CUSO will send people in accordance with Canada's aims for international development. Does this mean the Canadian government will refuse grants if CUSO sends people to countries the government does not approve?

Supposedly the organization responds only to requests. However, in many cases, the Canadian ambassador in a country will offer assistance. When the request for volunteers comes, it is dealt with through the embassy and passed on to CUSO. This fishing for requests for volunteers suggests that CUSO is really sending people only to countries where the government wants them to go.

The returned volunteers say that CUSO may be responding to the wrong countries. Is it sensible, for example, to send Canadian teachers to Jamaica when many of the teachers Jamaica produces emigrate to Canada themselves? It could be argued that many of the Caribbean countries to which CUSO sends volunteers are not really developing. On the other hand, Cuba is a truly developing country, which

has taken her development into her own hands.

Two years ago, CUSO asked the Cuban government whether or not they were interested in having volunteers sent to the country. At the time the Cuban officials were not interested, but last year CUSO received word through the embassy that Cuba was interested in requesting volunteers.

The CUSO executive secretary went to Cuba this summer and spent a week talking to Cuban officials. He returned after a week with ten firm requests for volunteers. The difficulty lies in finding suitable people in Canada who would be willing to work in Cuba for two years at Cuban counterpart salaries. The positions to be filled are all extremely technical. Among the ten people needed are an

expert in the making of cottage cheese and a highway engineer to design curves.

CUSO has authorized recruitment of the people. So far there has been no reaction from the Canadian government. Supposedly, CUSO will now find out whether the rider on the constitution allows the government to refuse money to the organization if it sends volunteers to countries the government does not approve. There is also the possibility that, if volunteers go to Cuba, there might be a public outcry against Canadians' money being spent to finance people to help in the development of a Communist state.

Nevertheless, Cuba is a developing country, and if CUSO does not respond to its request for volunteers, the organization will be violating its own constitution.

POLITICAL SCIENCE COURSE UNION FORMED

A course union is conceived of as a means for students to press their demands for the kind of department they want. On this basis a political science course union has been formed. At the organizational meeting held last Friday, most of the time was spent discussing the purpose of function of the union. Course evalua-

tion and reform will be an important part of the work of the union. The immediate aim of the union is to get students represented on the political science faculty committee.

The committee has already offered to allow student representation. Last year, when it was first offered

there was no response from undergraduates in the political science faculty. The graduate students have two representatives on the committee. It was not exactly clear what part the student representatives would play, but presumably they would have an equal voice with faculty members and would participate in the reaching of consensus decisions on

the subjects discussed at the committee meetings. It was considered especially important to get students on the committee because of the fact that the political science faculty may make policy recommendations to the Senate. In this way, students may be able to influence the political science faculty's position regarding the George report.

The three students chosen to at-

tend the faculty committee meetings were Judy Peacock, Jim Oliver, and Anne McLellan. Although they are designated student representatives, they recognize the fact that, so far, they represent only the ten people who attended the first meeting of the union. If their voices are to have any credibility in the faculty committee meetings, the union must have mass participation.

UNION "TOO RADICAL" - LONEY

A soon to be unemployed Martin Loney told a national television audience last Sunday night that the death of the Canadian Union of Students could be traced to apathy and the fact that in the eyes of many, the union was "too radical".

The benefits of the union were in many ways not tangible, said Mr. Loney, and thus were not recognized by many members of the union.

CUS expressed no student views but rather was a voice for the Students Councils of the Member

Colleges. In Loney's view both a motherhood organization and a vanguard radical movement will emerge from the CUS ashes. The so-called motherhood organization, he said, would concern itself primarily with travel plans and such, while the radical group would be modelled after similar groups in France, the U.S., and Germany.

Mr. Loney told television viewers that he has no plans in becoming involved with CUS' successors and gave no indication as to his future plans.

George Replies

To the Editor:

The report on the functions and responsibilities of Deans of Faculties and Chairmen or Heads of Departments have obviously stimulated considerable discussion in the University. I and my colleagues on the Senate Committee on University Government welcome this, since we believe that all members of the University community should be concerned about everything which affects Dalhousie. We have produced six reports over the last three years and have always invited briefs or comments from members of the University before we embarked upon our investigations, only to be disappointed by the poor response.

We do however ask that one point be borne in mind in the present debate. We were required to describe the functions and responsibilities of Deans and Faculties and Chairmen or Heads of Departments in the present structure of university government at Dalhousie. We were not charged with making recommendations for changing this structure, and we did not do so.

At its last meeting, Denate instructed Senate Council to consider initiating a broader enquiry into the government of Dalhousie. We hope that the interest provoked by our description of the present structure will continue and that all sectors of the University will contribute to such an enquiry.

Yours sincerely
R. E. George

DENIES CONTACT

Student Union President Bruce Gillis has registered only one minor disagreement with Gazette allegations against his conduct during the CUS referendum and note about racy of reports on the George.

Mr. Gillis claimed that he did not file material with Canadian Press after the defeat of the Canadian Union of Students. The story which came out over the Canadian Press and Broadcast News wire services carried numerous errors of fact.

The Gazette phoned Canadian Press to ask who had supplied the information shortly after the story began to be used by local radio stations. The answer given in the presence of several Gazette staffers, was that the information had come from the President of the Student Council.

A spokesman however, denied later that Gillis had been contacted although several efforts were made. Mr. Gillis was not in his office.

Councillor Quits

Law Representative Bob Hamilton has resigned from the Student's Council. Submitted in the form of a letter to President Gillis, Mr. Hamilton simply asked that his resignation be accepted, effective "upon the election of a new representative from the Law Faculty."

Later in an interview with the Gazette, he expanded on his reasoning in leaving the body, saying: "In essence, I've found that outside activities have been taking too much of my time." He went on to state, "the time spent on Council, as well as the various committees and sub com-

mittees, is just too frustrating." A third year law student, Mr. Hamilton has served on a number of Council committees, but acted most notably as chairman of the Constitutional Committee. As such he has often been instrumental in many crucial decisions of the assembly. His resignation will necessitate action by Council to elect a suitable replacement as chairman.

He stressed that his decision to resign was not due to any disagreement or dispute with President Gillis. He concluded, "it's for purely personal reasons".

Despite his value to Council, councillors accepted his letter of resignation.

He is the second member of the student legislative body to resign within the year; the first being Arts Representative Steve Ballantyne, again for "reasons of a personal nature".

A by-election for the Law School Representative's position will be held in the near future. One person in the audience was heard to mutter, "It's too bad he chose to resign: he was about the best member on Council—but seeing the way this bunch is operating, I don't really blame him."



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