

for president

## DAVE SHANNON

Shannon transferred to Dal from Lakehead University in his 4th year of English and is now in 2nd-year Law. He is the founding president of Dalhousie Advocates for the Physically Challenged and has been a Council/Senate member since January. He is also on the Senate sub-committee for Affirmative Action.

### Answer 1

They acted with full intentions to act responsibly and those intentions should be applauded. Mind you, there were some mistakes made. The strike was known to be coming long before it did and there was not a strategized plan to deal with the upcoming strike. This strategy is very important for student leaders to undertake when there is a potential crisis such as a strike.

for vice-president

Crawley is running for re-election and as part of his job description for the past ten months, has chaired the SUB Operations Committee, sat on the president's advisory committee on athletics among other duties. Currently he's taking two non-degree courses and plans to apply for advanced standing in a Masters of Educational Psychology.



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### Answer 2

Of course, it's kind of a contradiction, asking the Exec VP, whose primary role is the services, not the political side. No, the DSU is not too service oriented. If the students could be inside the executive meetings and the council meetings they would see that most of the business there deals with the political end, with constituents concerns.

I'm very happy with the services provided, however there is always room for improvement. Contracts are up for renewal and that's when good leadership becomes important because if you're going to sit down across from somebody, whether it's with Howard Clark or Beaver Foods you



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going to attempt to extend the school year we find that unacceptable.

If the interests of the students are being affected then the word, through a strategized communication plan, must go to a multiplicity of levels so the faculty and the administration not only hear what we have to say, they are also forced to react.

### Answer 2

Underfunding is the central issue that seems to be involved in this campaign, and the effect that it will have on the delivery of services to students could possibly be quite profound. (The administration may attempt to greatly increase our tuition in order to get more monies — that will be unacceptable. We've seen what has just happened to the Rebecca Cohn, the Dalplex, the libraries, and especially the journals and periodicals they receive, and this affects the variety of audio-visual aids and other teaching devices within the classroom. All these issues will be arising as a result of underfunding.

Also, in the attempt to provide Dalhousie's (stated commitment to) academic

excellence, I wonder how they plan to allow for flexibility and academic excellence while at the same time cutting programs. Should dollars be the only criteria for programing? Or is there not the question of coming to an academic institution to be educated?

One more point is that the principle by which all issues are addressed must be looked at and that is an appreciation of Dalhousie's diversity. As a result of the multiplicity of interest groups some needs

or interests are not being addressed. So the first thing is to break down the many com-

TERRY CRAWLEY

### Answer 1

Yes, definitely. (DSU Academic VP) Kim Vance is presently going through negotiations with the printer to have the first anti-calendar since 1981. People should realize that there are some problems — the course evaluation form changes every year, therefore the computer programming has to change, so there are constant delays. But the publication will be coming. We're going to have a standard to follow and the publication will be guaranteed to continue. It's a service that students are paying for, they have to get it.

have to be able to articulate the concerns of students but at the same time remember that they have bottom lines to meet. That's one of the reasons I want to continue, because after going through contract negotiations last year and working with these people all along, I can be very effective across the table.

### Answer 3

What we need to focus on is the role of the A society. If the B society has to approach the DSU, the A society loses total status and total control. Look at the Science Society — it takes care of all the societies under it; they're cohesive, they're solid all through. In this case what we did was try to ensure that the B societies received what they had a just right to, which was funding and any assistance which would come through my office. Now we have to assist the Arts society to achieve what it's supposed to achieve which is to govern those societies and assist them.

### Answer 4

Being the chair of the SUB Operations Committee, which formulated the proposal, the first thing I want to do is explain the rationale behind it. Over the past few years people have been complaining that we have a haphazard way of dispersing our services throughout the building. For example, we have the Gazette and Dal Photo on the third floor but the yearbook is

### Questions for candidates for President

1. Do you think the DSU acted responsibly during the strike? What do you think the role of a student union should be in such situation?

2. What are some of the important issues that will come up in the university's five-year plan? (Note: This is an initiative of President Clark to look at ways of reducing Dal's debt and increasing revenues. A Board of Governors committee will submit their plan sometime this summer.)

3. President Clark and Bryan Mason (VP-finance) are unlikely to renew the current deal limiting tuition increases, which ends in two years. There have been rumours that the cash-starved administration was behind last year's athletic fee referendum, which raised student union fees by almost 25%. In light of this, what approach would you take to best defend student interests?

munities within Dalhousie, ask them what their needs are, and then with that information, develop a cohesiveness that is reflective of the collective needs of Dalhousie. I think that will provide a principled approach to dealing with these other things that arise, namely underfunding and how it affects the delivery of services and tuition fees in the future.

### Answer 3

The current tuition deal limiting tuition increases is very important and I find any significant leap in tuition fees is unacceptable. At the most, it should not go any higher than the present rate of inflation. I don't believe that the university receives enough monies from students to warrant the tuition increase, (students') incomes are not significant enough to incur a greater cost every year they come back to university. I can appreciate that right now that the university is financially strapped and they are looking to just about any area possible to get more monies.

I think, generally speaking, students didn't mind the \$25 to improve the athletic facilities on campus. I think that's the important objective of the \$25, that there is something for the spirit of all students on campus. If that objective was not being met, then I would disagree with the athletic fee increases, but not if it's a temporary measure to improve the facilities, offer free entrance to sports events and improve the intramural sports.

But, if in fact the university was behind the athletic fee and they were trying to raise more funds, then I think that does go to a more deeper issue. It sounds like there's an ad hoc approach to raising funds and students are eventually going to get nickled and dimed so they're paying hundreds of dollars beyond their tuition fees every year and that I disagree with. As president, I'd make the administration aware of the flawed logic of their (ad hoc) approach and I'd argue with them about what they're doing.

up on the fourth. Common sense would say pull all our publications together so they can feed off on another and provide services.

Now the DSU will have to spend time talking with people in the SUB to see what they need, and then see what we can provide. Right now the student population is also making more demands on us but we're all jammed in here, so we have to consider an addition to the SUB.

The payment program would involve the university and the union working out a cost-share program of the internal renovations and for an extension, we would go into a contract arrangement as we did for the SUB originally and as we have for the renovations which have cost \$550,000.

As for how soon, we're looking at at least a year of negotiating.

### Questions for candidates for Vice-President

1. Would you commit yourself to the publication of course evaluations i.e. an 'anti-calendar' for students?

2. Do you think the DSU is too service-oriented?

3. How will you ensure that the B societies are represented on Council?

Note: B societies are the smaller individual groups on campus (eg. Dal Assoc. of biology Students) which have no direct representative on Council. They are represented by umbrella groups called A societies (eg. Dal Science Society). This year there was a problem because there was no Arts A Society rep. This meant that the B societies were forced to go directly to the executive to get their share of funds.

4. Concerning the re-allocation of space in the SUB: how long do you expect that this will take, who will have priority, and how will it be paid for?

### Answer 1

Being the year of the strike, I think the DSU faced this issue as best as they could. I think that, considering that students have such diversified interest and concerns, it is hard at times to represent or stick on one side or the other. I think that the March for Action was an excellent situation, because what we did was we went to both sides, we went to the faculty and we went to the administration and we expressed our concerns. As well I think now, what the Senate has come up with, which is a strike policy committee, to come up with a plan of action in case we get into this kind of situation again, and coming up with solutions as to what to do with the morale of the students and the university as a whole is an excellent idea. I think that in the future, if we are faced with this situation again, we will certainly be more prepared to deal with it. The Student Union should take an active role and certainly we have to start to drum up, get students more involved on student issues so when we're faced with another situation as we had this year, that students can pull together as a unit to come out and to face the administration and the faculty so that we can come to terms and let them know what the students feel because we are what makes up this university and that's what it's all about, it's here for the students. So therefore it's important that the Student Union take a very active role and seeing as how we may be faced with this situation in two years, that we continue to work on coming up with a strike policy so that when we're faced with it, we're prepared for it.

### Answer 2

The five-year plan is designed to come up with a plan so that the University can look at where they're going for the next five years. I think that the most important issue is the financial strategy that's coming up. I think that coming up with a financial plan for the next five years is vital for Dalhousie University. Seeing what the financial

Smith is sports and recreation rep for Howe Hall, sits on the Intramural Disciplinary Committee, the Council on Student Life and has worked on the SUNS National Week of Action Committee. He was Howe Hall VP for 1988/89 and sat on the Intramural Council for one year.

### Answer 1

No, I would not. The reason is because I feel the students at Dalhousie have the opportunity to learn of classes, course materials and the professors through friends, relatives or peers. To create such a calendar, I think, would be undermining individual professor and faculty aims, and in the end probably causing scheduling and enrolment problems for the administration itself.

situation is now, it is crucial, with the MPHEC (Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission) having come up with a plan to help the universities with their financial problems. Their strategy is that they've come up with pockets of money which will be given out to the universities. Before you can receive one of these, you have to show to the commission your plan of action. By coming up with a financial strategy, they can therefore show this to the MPHEC and look good in that area, so that they can get the funding for special programs. Another issue in the five-year plan is accessibility, looking at Dalhousie as a whole and where it needs to be made more readily accessible, to make it a university accessible to all groups in the community. This past week the National Week of Action looked at some of these areas on campus that need to be made more accessible.

### Answer 3

This is an issue of major concern. In 1985, the DSU signed the tuition fee agreement and it's something the students worked hard for. And it's something we have to continue to work hard for to get that agreement again, we have to start now. We can't wait two year's time. We have to start work on a philosophy, getting the students together, pulling them together so that in two years, we can come together as a unit and fight for the tuition. Dalhousie should be a university that is accessible to all aspects of the community, costs should not be a major problem because if it is then we will just create a system of elitism. Through getting actively involved in the community, the DSU can work toward the fee agreement in the sense that if the community is supporting Dal then when the tuition fee agreement comes up and we

for vice-president

### Answer 2

No I don't. I think there are a great many service benefits that the DSU offers, and that the problem is not too many services, but not enough student awareness. That is why Shannon and myself feel that it is important for us to have a full-time commitment to the DSU so we can get out of the societies and make them aware of the services that we have to offer them. We're both graduating this year and it is our intention to take token courses only to ensure this 110% commitment.

### Answer 3

I see the problem here being that within the societies themselves, as in the Arts society, they have no set executives, which is why Terry Crowley and Frank de Mont had to perform that function. I see the Entertainment Committee as being the means to this desired end. I want to create this committee immediately in May, not at the beginning of the year or in second term. It will consist of a rep from each society, these people, along with the individual society reps and myself, can work to motivate their membership in participating both socially and politically, especially in the case of the Arts society, where the reps and myself will ensure that the creation of an executive is our immediate priority.



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for president

## SHANNON HESSIAN

Hessian is currently VP of the Students Association of Health, Physical Education and Recreation (SAHPER) and helped plan the Students March for Action during the strike. Last year she was SAHPER rep on the DSU and was involved with entertainment and policy committees. Hessian is also past president of the Students Varsity Athletic Committee and of For the Health of It, a variety charity show put on by health professionals.

go back to the government and say 'yeah, we need more money, we are being underfunded', the community can be behind us. Through such events as 'For the health of it' the clown troupe, as well as other events with the community, we can pull their support behind us. As far as the referendum is concerned and last year's administration being behind the thing, I think that over at Dalplex, there are a number of students that work with the administration, so perhaps there was a little bit of overlap there. This year the students are coming together, they are going to come up with a 'yes' campaign for the referendum so that it's students coming for the issue. If it isn't students, it isn't for the students. So the students are working together now to come up with a 'yes' campaign for the referendum.

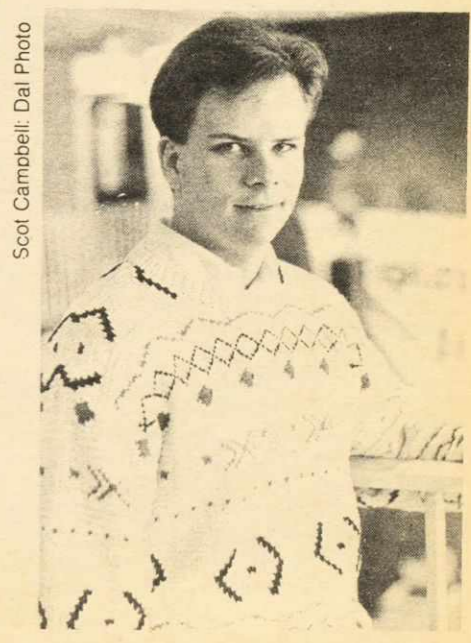
STEVE SMITH

the money will be created from these avenues perfectly.

### Answer 4

This proposal has just been handed to council, and it is very rough. The Physical Pant hasn't even been in to give their feasibility of the proposed structural changes. Because of this, no blueprints have yet been created. So I feel that the re-allocation of space in the SUB will take at least two years. In the next year, the major goals of this office would be to make sure that the changes are immediately undertaken. As for who will have priority, that of course will be the students. We do have an agreement with the University that they have some space. The Director of Student Services vice-President McKee now has his office here, which I think is of great benefit to the students, as we are more aware of what he has to offer, and can get in contact with him much easier.

How will it be paid for? We have the new Grawood. It's a great success this year. It has been doing well. We expect that it will continue to do well with added work from the council, this money can be implemented in the new changes as well as the appointment of a new treasurer, someone with the same commitment as Frank de Mont had this year, because we have pulled ourselves out of a deficit situation. I feel that with these commitments and the hard work of our new council coming in, that



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