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# the Gazette

## Park Lane off the table

BY REHAM ABDELAZIZ

The Dalhousie Student Union has said no to proposed mega-classes in Park Lane cinemas next year.

"We're really happy with this," new Dalhousie Student Union vice-president academic/external Kevin Lacey said.

"It's the first time, as a team, the executive was able to make a difference together. This shows that students can make a difference.

"Park Lane cinema is off the table."

Lacey, DSU treasurer Ted Chiasson and incoming DSU president Chris Adams were all present at the Facilities Management meeting of the Senate on March 27th when the decision was made.

The idea to hold mega-classes at Park Lane was proposed by the Senate. The cinema would have been used to hold first year psychology classes until the completion of the new Arts and Social Sciences Building. Last Thursday's decision means classes will definitely not be held at Park Lane.

There were a number of reasons why the new DSU executive voted against holding classes in the cinemas. First, there was a concern about the distance from campus. Second, there are already facilities on campus (i.e. the Rebecca Cohn and the McInnes Room) where mega-classes could be held. The executive was also concerned about the academic reputation of Dalhousie.

Psychology professor Marcia Ozier does not share their sentiments. It was her idea to hold classes at Park Lane and she is disappointed with the Senate committee's decision.

"Nobody has explained to me what damage

would be done to Dalhousie University," Ozier said.

"I think that people should lighten up. I think that it is a very creative and innovative solution to a serious space problem. I'm sorry that it wasn't appreciated."

Ozier said that she started researching ways to solve the space problem 14 months ago. She went to the Dean, the university vice-president academic and the head of Facilities Management, but received no help. Instead, she received a reply indicating that she should wait for the new building, slated for completion in September 2000.

"Psychology can't wait that long," warns Ozier.

At the present time, she says that first year psychology classes use too much professor time. Larger classes could remedy the problem and make more time

available for upper year classes.

"Bigger and better," Ozier said.

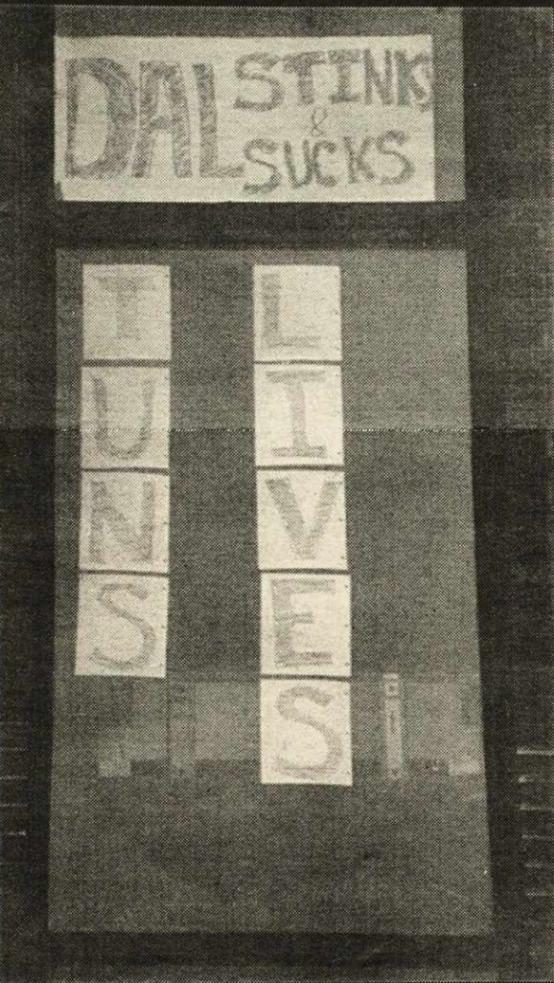
She also said that Park Lane offers multimedia facilities that are superior to those available at Dalhousie.

Universities like Western, Queen's, Memorial and Toronto all hold mega-classes. Ozier visited Western and was very impressed with the experience mega-classes were giving first year students. She says Dalhousie could potentially be offering this experience to its students.

The director of Facilities Management, Bill Lord, said Dalhousie does not have the funds to hold classes at Park Lane.

"The university is not prepared to support classes off campus to Park Lane," Lord said.

"The Senate was willing to support the idea of the McInnes and look into other possibilities."



Not everybody felt like celebrating at TUNS as the champagne flowed on Tuesday to mark the amalgamation of the school with Dalhousie University. Signs hung in the windows of the O'Brien Hall residence shows students were not appreciative of the merger or the institution's new name — Dalhousie University Polytechnic.

## Where did the yearbooks go?

BY AMIT BATRA

As the class of '97 approaches graduation, the students from the classes of 1995 and 1996 are still waiting for their yearbooks.

"I'm at the point where I just want my money back," said Lori Coughlin, a frustrated graduate of the faculty of management from the class of 1995.

However, the 1995 yearbooks — for which students paid \$5 per year during the course of their studies at Dalhousie — may finally be here. According to Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) president Brad MacKay, the books were delayed due to a combination of the 1995 yearbook editor leaving her position, and eleven missing pages.

At the beginning of this academic year, MacKay and 1995-96 DSU vice-president executive Lilli Ju were able to obtain the material to complete the 1995 yearbook and send it to the printer, Herff-Jones Canada, Inc.

Two weeks ago, the DSU received a letter from the printer stating, "Your yearbook order has now been finalized and, based on your copy receipts, is scheduled to ship from our plant on or before May 17, 1997."

This should put to rest the inquiries the DSU and Alumni Office have been receiving over the

past two years. Alumni from 1995 will finally get a concrete answer.

"I've asked several times and I feel like I'm getting the runaround every time," explained Jason Varner, another 1995 graduate who has inquired on several occasions as to the whereabouts of his yearbook.

The yearbook situation for the class of 1996 is still being resolved. MacKay explained, "There was a referendum two years ago where they cancelled the fee, which effectively cancelled the yearbook."

The cancellation of the fee ended the yearbook because of the unusual way in which yearbook production had been funded. Each class's yearbooks were paid for in part by the fees collected from the students in the following years. According to a draft letter that will be sent out to 1996 graduates, "this method soon grew outdated — with the price of yearbook production increasing every year."

The letter also states, "Each year, the yearbook fee collected was not sufficient to cover the costs of the yearbooks; less yearbooks were printed so not all graduates received yearbooks; and monies collected from fees in subsequent years had to go towards paying off the previous year's

outstanding printing bills."

In order to save the 1996 yearbook, the DSU has entered a partnership with Alumni Affairs.

"Saving the yearbook is in their [the alumni office's] best interests," Ju said.

Together the groups have recruited sponsorship and advertising to allay the costs of the yearbook. They will now be offering it on a per unit cost basis to graduates. The graduates can choose to order the yearbook, but if they decide otherwise, the \$15-\$20 they paid during their studies will not be refundable.

Currently the financial support of Alumni Affairs has not been fully secured, and the 1996 yearbooks will not be made available until then. Ju anticipates that "once financial support from the university is secured, production on the '96 yearbook will continue and we expect to complete it by the summer of '97."

The unit cost method of paying for yearbooks will be the way of the future. Graduates of Dalhousie will now have the choice of ordering a yearbook and the price will be dictated by the number of students ordering. The DSU is still in need of society photos for the 1995-96 and 1996-97 years. Anyone interested in helping out can leave their name and number/e-mail at the DSU office.

## TUNS no more

BY MONICA GILLIS

The merger between the Technical University of Nova Scotia and Dalhousie University is now complete.

The two schools are now one, and the technical university is now the "new" Dalhousie University Polytechnic.

As of April 1st, the legislation amalgamating the two universities took effect, leaving some former TUNS students still angry. Signs were erected in the windows of students' residences stating "Dal sucks" and "TUNS 4 Ever."

The name Dalhousie University Polytechnic has left some students and professors at TUNS upset. They argue that the name sounds like that of a

college, not a university — a distinction they believe will lessen the worth of any degree received under the new name.

"A polytechnic in Europe is a college; they don't give out a university degree," stated a TUNS student who wished to remain anonymous.

Many students at TUNS said they still feel that the amalgamation was something in which they had very little say.

"It's not really a merger, it's more of a takeover," said TUNS student Jim Burford.

The heads of the merged universities maintain that the merger was a good idea. The new combined school still has bugs that need to be worked out in its administrative services, but solutions are being sought.

## September 2000: Planning under way for new Arts and Social Sciences Building

BY GINA STACK

If all goes according to schedule, Dalhousie students will be walking into the new Arts and Social Sciences Building in September 2000.

Three years ago Dalhousie approved, through the joint deliberations of Senate and the Board of Governors, plans to build a new building for the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. Since then, fundraising has been ongoing, and funds are "sufficiently advanced that it is now time to com-

mence detailed planning for the building."

An Arts and Social Sciences Building (ASSB) planning committee has been struck, and it has already held two meetings this year.

The planning committee has been divided into three subcommittees: the Arts and Social Sciences Advisory Subcommittee; the Teaching Facilities Subcommittee; and the Accessibility and Environmental Subcommittee. Each committee has two student

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