Council Reps say Gillis "irresponsible"

Council Opposition Widespread

Vote Misleading

Science rep Cathy Smiley and memberat-large Kirk MacCulloch both voted against the motion of non-confidence despite agreement with its intent.

C. S. "First of all, I was thinking about whether I was going to resign or not and I decided against resigning because that would be irresponsible and wouldn't be making any move to change the structure it would just leave the same problem for someone else. Then I got to thinking about what I'd done as a Council rep in terms of my own constituents and what Bruce had done in terms of Council and the student body and decided that they were somewhat similar. Therefore, I didn't feel that I was in a position as a Council rep to (criticize Bruce for being unrepresentative and unreflective of what Council was saying, although I certainly realize that he has been... and he's been dead wrong. That's why I voted against the motion of non-confidence, but because, as a student I feel that he hasn't been doing his job as president, I'm going to work against him in the referendum."

K. M. "I voted against the resolution because I didn't feel I had the right to personally vote to throw Bruce out of office. He was elected by the students and a conflict between some of the Council members and the president was not sufficient reason to he has to get out of office, especially in my situation where I'm not elected by the student body at all. I'm elected by council. Secondly, Bruce has done a lot of things that I have found very frustrating and have not approved of at all, but he hasn't made one big boo-boo that I could hang my hat on and say this is an absolute atrocity and I just can't tolerate this at all... it's been more a slow development of a feeling."

The point was brought out repeatedly during the discussion... the feeling of frustration and the suspicion of Gillis' motivation

C. S. "I don't think he's shown himself to be responsible in his position as president. I don't think he's acted in accordance with the desires expressed in particular by council members. He hasn't communicated to Council the things that he should... he's omitted to tell us certain things that he should tell us... little things that he learns from President Hicks and from letters gets in the mail, other things that go on at meetings he attends. It's getting to the point of frustration right now."

K. M. "How sincere is this man?" How interested is he in fulfilling the role of president when he rarely shows up for executive meetings or shows up only for a few minutes, and shows up for council without any great consistency recently?"

C. S. "Sometimes it's hard to say what the interests are that he's got in mind. (Has this become a general suspicion on your part?) Yes."

Commerce Rep Resigns

One definite resignation has resulted from the controversy concerning President Bruce Gillis. Daphne Shedd, Commerce Rep, submitted her resignation to Council last night (December 2). Her action was preceded by the Commerce Society's vote of non-confidence in her Council representation earlier that day.

The Society has consistently supported the position of Bruce Gillis in the dispute over the sale of literature in the SUB lobby. Miss Shedd opposed his position. The Commerce Society instructed her to vote in support of Mr. Gillis in the debate at the Council meeting dealing with the motion calling for his resignation.

She explained to Council members that she would vote against the motion, but because of personal conflict, she was going to resign.

Miss Shedd is the third Councillor to resign this year from the Students' Council. A by-election will be held in the near future to fill her vacated post.

K. M. "I feel a great disappointment in Bruce personally which I have expressed to him in private, and I've warned him that this sort of thing could happen, in fact I warned him last week. I think that no matter who replaces Bruce next year, or sooner, the same problem is going to arise with the structure. We have a lot of weel-intentioned people on council.

Maybe Bruce was well-intentioned when he started, but there a lot of other people who just feel absolute frustration at the whole system and who are well-intentioned... Jeanie Macdonald, Derryn Crowston, the Vice President, hasn't done anything but not because she's not willing... there are a lot of people who just throw up their hands... Bob Hamilton, the most influential and brilliant person, losing him through frustration... really bad"

C. S. "We all started out with really good intentions then... I don't know... it got frustrating and we couldn't find ways and means of accomplishing anything."

K. M. "The Council was spirited... people have become too cynical... you've seen the trouble we have getting a quorum... it's too late now."

getting a quorum... it's too late now." C. S. "I don't think Bruce enjoys the wholehearted support of anyone on Council at this point"

We then asked the councillors if they felt Gillis would win the referendum, and if his attitude would change as a result of the criticism.

C. S. "I think it's quite possible that Bruce is going to win the referendum. I suspect that I'll have quite a time trying to convince them (my own constituents) that Bruce really isn't fit to be president." On his attitude: "It may just harden a bit".

K. M. "I thick he's lost already. There's an unhealthy attitude between the Council and the president, generally speaking, now. It's the result of two things: the office of president is both a personality and a position within a structure. We have had to work with a structure that isn't very effective as far as representivity and efficiency go. Still, given the structure, if everybody is sincerely interested and enthusiastic enough, we can accept an inadequate structure and still do the best job possible. But this is where the individual personality comes in, and if one individual in a key position, the president, is not an initiator, is not a leader, is not open to consensus then the structure which is inefficient becomes inoperative."

How to destroy an able Council – death by suffocation. But even the dying have been known to perform extraordinary acts to save themselves before going under for the third time.

