

N.S. students' union frustrated over board selection process

By JOHN GUSHUE

THE STUDENTS' UNION of Nova Scotia is frustrated.

Every year SUNS argues with the provincial department of education over who has the responsibility of appointing student representatives to the student aid higher appeals board. Every year, SUNS' advice is ignored as the government chooses appointees recommended from other sources.

"As an organisation representing 20,000 students, we feel we should have some influence in the government's decision," says Geoff Martin, SUNS chair. "Ours (student recommendation) should be the one they accept."

Martin says the problems between SUNS and the government are ones of communication. "It has not proven to be a satisfactory relationship," he says.

Peter Butler of the department of education disagrees. "I hope what we have is a highly open framework (for discussion)," he says.

Butler argues that SUNS has the same influence as any other consultant. "There is an understanding that these are not SUNS appointments," he says.

Shaw years are coming to an end

By ELIZABETH DONOVAN

DALHOUSIE'S VP OF FINANCE Robbie Shaw announced his resignation on Dec. 16 in the midst of deteriorating labour relations between faculty and administration, a \$13.5 million deficit and the capital fund drive project.

"It shouldn't come as a surprise to anyone. I made it clear when I took this job I would leave after five years," says Shaw.

Shaw says he regrets not waiting to give his notice until after the Dalhousie Faculty Association (DFA) dispute was settled.

"If I had thought the DFA negotiations were going to deteriorate as they have I would not have made that announcement at this time."

Shaw scoffs at the rumours that circulated after his resignation.

"There are rumours that I have jobs lined up. One unreal rumour is that I'm running for executive director of the Liberal Party of Canada."

Shaw says he is particularly amused about the rumour that he is hoping to replace Sandy Cameron, N.S. leader of the Liberal party. Shaw's sister, Alexa McDonough, is leader of the N.S. New Democratic Party.

"Can you imagine running against my sister? If I did do that Alexa would probably win."

While Martin agrees the decision is at the minister's discretion, he questions the procedure of selection. "There are no criteria as such," he says, "or no criteria that they're telling us about."

"We're not confident there is a strong student voice on the board," he says.

Patricia Towler, a King's College student appointed to the board late last year, says SUNS' complaints are "not quite fair."

"I'm not sure that's a valid argument," she says. "SUNS develops a 'them versus us' mentality."

Although she has only been able to attend one meeting, Towler says the members of the appeals board are all sensitive to student needs. "I was quite impressed with the way they treated students and myself as a student rep."

Towler was quoted on the back of a pamphlet endorsing Conservative education minister Terry Donohoe during last fall's provincial election campaign.

"Political patronage is very common in this province," says Martin, "and the same probably applies to the appointment of students to the higher appeals board."

There are two positions for student representatives on the board. One remains vacant as the government has yet to appoint another student to the board.

Regardless of who is appointed, Martin says SUNS is concerned about the state of student aid in the province.

"There's a deteriorating situation in student aid itself," he says. "Increasing enrolments have placed a greater strain on the declining number of dollars in student aid."

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Yippie vs. Yuppie!!

The 60's, It was a time of the Baby Boomers, there should have been peace and love; marijuana, music, free love had a place in society.

The hippies proclaimed peace but Nixon said "war."

And that is just what Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin did, declared war on "the establishment," who many felt sold out the country's youth and formed the YIPPIE movement. They organized the youth and led anti-Vietnam war protests which mobilized 100,000 people to march on the Pentagon in 1967. They organized a demonstration in Chicago at the Democratic National Convention in 1968 which resulted in their becoming defendants in the famous Chicago Seven Conspiracy Trials. Hoffman and Rubin shocked the nation by bringing their guerilla theatre tactics into the courtroom and became key targets of the Nixon repression, with Abbie Hoffman being arrested 41 times and the FBI accumulating some 26,000 pages on him in their file.

That was then, but what of them now? Abbie Hoffman (alias Barry Freed) has been battling the transportation of nuclear wastes, and is presently in Nicaragua working to mobilize opposition to U.S. policy in Central America. Jerry Rubin however is a catalyst who changed from "enfant terrible" to money-making businessperson. His successful network of "Salons" at Studio 54 in New York led the media to invent the word YUPPIE or "Young Urban Professional," the buzzword for the 1980's. Rubin believes that anti-war activists of the 1960's will occupy the White House and positions of political-economic power in the 21st century.

"Idealism of the '60's versus the reality of the '80's"



Abbie Hoffman vs. Jerry Rubin

YIPPIE VS YUPPIE — Hoffman and Rubin go head to head in the great debate.

Abbie Hoffman says, "Jerry Rubin is a sellout; he won't last seven minutes with me..."

How does the idealism of the 1960's stand up against the reality of 1985?

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