

King's executive having troubles

by Margaret Little

On Sunday, Oct. 21 the student council of King's College held their third bi-weekly meeting of this academic year. It is during these meetings that the executive's efficiency and co-operation is displayed before the student body. Questions have arisen as to the effectiveness of this year's executive.

Student Council President, Frank Beazley, says, "We have our ups and downs, but as a collective body we run smoothly." He added there is greater co-operation amongst the members of the executive and less in-house rivalry than in former years. "We're just not as political," he explained.

Robert Dawson, a day student representative, also believes the executive is running relatively smoothly. "I have reason to believe that they don't see eye to eye but they seem to be giving a united front. They're compromising with each other. . . ." Dawson said.

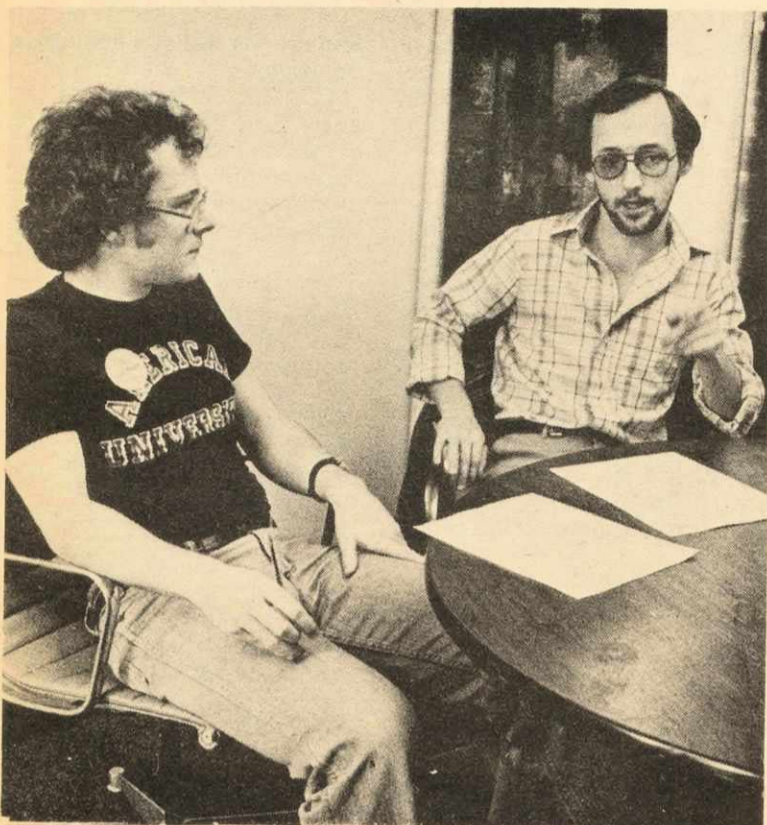
A new feature to council this year is the addition of a chairman. Brian Fisher, Internal Vice President, believes that the chairman will be an asset to council proceedings. The chairman will "give Frank (Beazley) a chance to say what he wants" and also curtail unnecessary debate, explained Fisher. He believes that the council meetings will be shorter as all members become adjusted to the new format. "We have cut an hour off every meeting so far," Fisher said. The first council meeting was four and a half hours in length and the last one was reduced to two and a half.

Outside council, Fisher believes the major problem of the executive is the members' accessibility to campus. He said all members of last year's executive were in residence whereas this year two of the members are off-campus. Contacting members and scheduling executive meetings is difficult, explained Fisher. "We all get along," he said, "but we just haven't

been able to work together and this lack of being together shows up in council."

Up to now, this year's executive meetings have consisted of four of the six members discussing immediate problems for about an hour. Fisher believes this problem will be rectified after Monday, Oct. 22 when the full executive meets for a lengthy discussion of all issues.

Fisher said this will give the executive a chance to "sit down and talk about everything." The executive believes that policy meetings of this kind are the solution to "problems of technicalities" that have occurred during council meetings.



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Dick Matthews with Frank Beazley



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W-5 remains unrepentant over Racist Program

OTTAWA (CUP)—Racist, seriously and deliberately distorted, and inaccurate: those are some of the reactions to a recent television report that claimed international students were keeping Canadian students out of Canadian universities.

But the producers of the report, CTV program W5, have refused to back down in the face of continuing, widespread criticism.

In a response broadcast Oct. 14, the program said it stood by the story and did not intend to retract it. According to W5 executive producer Lionel Lumb, "If anything we underestimated our figures. The figures are worse than we thought at first."

But that's not the view of many students, faculty, and educational associations, who have questioned the accuracy of the program and the figures it presented.

John Helliwell of the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE) said the program interviewed him for half an hour, but only quoted him for ten seconds "out of context". He termed the report "very seriously, and, I think, deliberately, distorted."

"There is no excuse for CTV's very irresponsible report," Helliwell said, since CBIE "supplied them with every bit of accurate information they needed to do an accurate presentation."

In a letter to W5, the association of universities and colleges of Canada (AUCC) said the program contained many "distortions and inaccuracies."

Much of the program was based on the case of a Canadian student at the University of Toronto, who implied she was refused admission into the U of T faculty of pharmacy because the space was taken by an international student. But the AUCC pointed out that the faculty had no international students.

W5 generalized the student's case into an implication that Canadian students were being denied spaces in science and professional programs in universities because of international students.

But in all Canadian universities, international students

account for only 4.7 per cent of the total student population. In Ontario universities, only 561 of the more than 27,000 students in "health profession occupations" programs are international students.

The program was also accused of encouraging racist attitudes by its implication that all foreign students were non-white and all non-white students were foreign. University of Toronto tutor Agi Lukacs termed it "dangerous and racist", and said CTV "owes the Canadian public an apology."

According to York University professor Christine Furdy, the W5 report is being used in a Canadian minorities course as "a classic example of the way prejudice can be created by the media."

The distorted information presented in the program could even lead to violence, warned Don Armichad, the foreign student advisor at the University of Guelph.

He cited a documented case where an international student was "violently beaten and hospitalized. . . simply because he was a foreign student."

"The show has prevented Canadians from having a balanced view of the issue," Armichad said, adding "there could be increased potential for friction and it could bring out elements of subtle discrimination present in narrow-minded people."

Lumb said W5 had prepared a response to the AUCC letter, "which we feel answers all the points raised in this letter."

"The AUCC was not in possession of the latest facts," he claimed. "In fact, I would go as far as to say that they were abysmally ignorant of the latest facts."

But Helliwell, whose main

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