

# Union gives out awards and chicken

by Rick Janson

Dispensing awards and chicken dinners to more than 250 assembled guests. Dalhousie's student union did its best March 30 to recognize those who had contributed the most to extra-curricular life.

Dressed in a glitzy red tie and navy blazer, ex-DSU president Peter Rans told the gathering that "tonight is your night to be applauded."

"All of your have done something for someone else," Rans said.

Administrative vice-president Robbie Shaw, standing in the blinding spotlight blanketing the podium, compared the present student government to the one he remembered 20 years ago at Dalhousie.

Shaw said many of the policy interests are similar to those in 1965—lack of provincial support, membership in the Canadian Federation of Students (then the Canadian Union of Students), course evaluations and the per-

ennial "who is going to control the Gazette?"

Shaw said that during the '60's one of the big scandals in student politics was the revelation of CIA involvement in the Canadian Union of Students.

"Today it's (CFS) not supported by the CIA but it's not that much more successful," quipped Shaw.

He said students have much more involvement in the running of the university, although some of the student involvement is still token.

The awards of recognition were handed out by DSU president and vice-president Tim Hill and Susan McIntyre.

**Unsung Heroes:** Ivor MacKay, Dalhousie Arts Society; Fiona Jeyachandran, International Students' Association; Ross Armstrong, Student Association of Health, Physical Education and Recreation; Brian Parris, Maritime School of Social Work Student Council; Richard Bureau, Dalhousie Law Society.

**Individual Society Leadership:**

Nancy Cameron, Dalhousie Science Society; Gary Zed, Howe Hall Residence Society; Lynne Kennedy, Shirreff Hall Residence Society; Dora Carbonu, International Students' Association; Kevin Drolet, Dalhousie Debating Society.

Societies to pick up awards of recognition were: Dalhousie Science Society, International Students' Association, CKDU Radio, Howe Hall Residence Society, and The Costume Studies Society.

Union participation awards went to Reza Rizvi, Peter Rans and Phil Doucette.

A special award was presented to union vice-president (external) Atul Sharma by the newly elected president and vice-president Alex Gigeroff and Rusty James. Citing Sharma's lack of ability in getting elected to anything, they presented him with his own pink bunny suit. Gigeroff and James had used bunny suits in their successful campaign for office.

# Course evaluations to hit Dal

by Colleen Mackey

In an effort to provide quality information to students making academic choices, the student council has accepted a proposal from the academic affairs committee for a 1984-85 course evaluation pilot project.

A Dalhousie Student Union report on course evaluation states the project will attempt to assess courses on the basis of "the teaching, the content, the quality, the components (labs, etc.), the library resources—all facets of the course."

Tom Sinclair-Faulkner, professor of religion, understands the views of some faculty members on course evaluation.

"I feel the same way about course evaluations as I do about death. However we should confront it head on and as courageously as possible."

The Dalhousie Faculty Association was asked to appoint a faculty representative to the course evaluation sub-committee. The DFA refused on the grounds that if, for example, a DFA member was denied promotion on the basis of a poor course evaluation, the union's grievances officer couldn't challenge the validity of the course evaluation if the DFA had a representative on the sub-committee.

Sinclair-Faulkner, who has been involved with the course evaluation issue for three years,

disagrees with this argument.

He says the DFA did participate in a review of regulations regarding tenure and promotion with no undermining of the position of the DFA. Faculty members also sanction public evaluation of their published works.

However, Sinclair-Faulkner is impressed with the Canadian Association of University Teachers' findings which suggest that unpublished course evaluations (i.e., those shown only to the faculty concerned) would be more effective in improving the quality of teaching in the long run. The faculty member would

be less inclined to be defensive and concentrate on self-improvement rather than on self-justification. If the DFA had representation on the sub-committee it would have input into the issue.

Dave McCann, member of the Academic Affairs Committee and Senator for next year's council, questions the validity of claims that unpublished results improve teaching. He and Jill Allen, V.P. Academic, stress the responsibility the Student Union has to its members to see they get adequate information to justify the time and money they spend at Dalhousie.

# Employment centres open in Halifax metro

The Canada Employment Centres for Students in the Halifax-Dartmouth metro area opened Monday and Tuesday, April 2 and 3. This federally funded program was initiated in 1968.

The Student Centre is set up annually to find jobs for students entering the job market for the summer and to assist local employers in finding suitable summer help.

The Centre offers a number of services to employers and householders, including pre-screening from a large pool of

applicants and arranging interviews. The odd-job squad, another service provided by the Centre, offers employers student workers on short notice to do any casual job requested.

Last year the Centre registered 4821 students and 2757 vacancies were filled. On the first day of opening this year, the Centre in Bedford registered 64 students and handled visits from 150 potential employers.

Student employment centres are open from Monday to Friday 8:30 - 4:00.



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