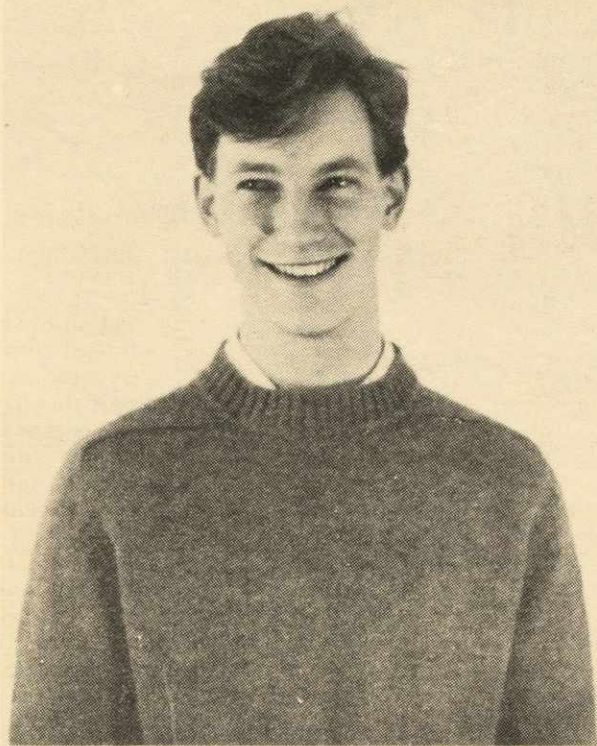


DENT □ PRESIDENT □ VICE PRESIDENT □ PRE



Jamie MacMullin



Sandra Bell

JAMIE MacMULLIN president

1. I've been involved in student council for the past two years at Dalhousie. Last year I was a member at large on council. I've sat on several committees including the external affairs committee and the entertainment committee and I got involved with the Students Union of Nova Scotia as well last year. This past year I've become the Howe Hall representative to council. Basically, that's the society representation for Howe Hall on the council. I've been involved with several committees this year as well; I've been on the communications committee, the recruitment committee and the finance committee. As well, from April to October this year, I was deputy chair of the Students' Union of Nova Scotia. So I've been involved in that capacity in external politics as well.

2. One of the most important things which is facing students not only at Dalhousie but students all across Nova Scotia is the Royal Commission on Post-secondary Education which was released at the end of last year. What we intend to do with the Royal Commission is basically look at it in great detail as a new council; look at each and every recommendation and decide that the DSU's policy is going to be for each recommendation. We'll have to take into consideration the policies of last year's council. They've already decided as to what the policy is going to be. But we feel that as a council, as representatives from the four corners of the campus, the Howe Hall reps, the Shirreff Hall reps, the Arts reps, the Science reps, the Med reps and the Law reps, we can get together as a council and decide what the position will be on certain issues particularly the possible implementation of the Council on Higher Education which the Minister of Education has said he would like to see implemented in this coming term in the legislature. So that's going to be the top issue with respect to the Royal Commission. Overall government funding, of course, is another issue which would tie in

with the Royal Commission as well. The government factor is a big factor in decisions.

3. The Royal Commission has recommended that the bursary system be eliminated and that it be replaced by income-contingent loan programs for the province of Nova Scotia. What we would do is to ensure that this does not go through. In other words we would meet with the Minister of Education, we would say to him we understand that the money is getting lower and that you don't have any more money, the deficit is high, all these are our concerns. If you eliminate the bursary program that's going to cut down accessibility in education. So our first priority would be to ensure that it wasn't.

4. I have been heavily involved with SUNS over the past year. SUNS is a very effective lobbying vehicle. Recently, there has been a march organized by SUNS which went down to the legislature. We protested in it for post-secondary education. I thought it was a very good thing, very well organized; it let the media know that we are concerned about education, it let the tax-payers know that we are concerned with education; it let the government know that we are staying together on this issue. It's up to SUNS to follow a line of constant communication with the Minister of Education.

5. CFS is made up of student unions from all over the country, so it is a much bigger lobbying group than SUNS. There is a lobbying sector of CFS that lobbies the federal government for such particular issues as transfer payments and student aid programs. It's a useful part of CFS. There has to be national organization to do that. Another sector of CFS is the services sector such as Travel Cuts and student saver which to the best of my knowledge have been working very efficiently and effectively to provide students with these services. There has been talk about the possibility of a new health plan for students. Another area of CFS which I'm very impressed with is the area

which has a good base of information as to what's been happening in campuses across the country. For example, if we are doing a march here at Dalhousie, we can have an idea of how other marches have been done elsewhere, the procedure for lobbying the government. The Speaker's program is another service that provides a good information base. All the unions that are members of CFS have access to these programs and I tend to think that that's one functional aspect of CFS that is really impressive. However, I do see one fault with CFS. The information trickle from the executive and the student unions' presidents that make decisions does not seem to be coming down effectively to the grass roots students. It has been with SUNS with the past because of the Royal Commission because of its high profile but in regard to the CFS I've felt that my reps at Howe Hall do not know that much more about the CFS than students do. Basically, I don't know if that is a problem with the organization or just one of communication. Hopefully, it is a communication problem and it can be rectified.

6. The role of students in any university is definitely a priority. That's what the universities are here for — to teach the young people in Canada and students play a high priority in the university system. There is no doubt about it. With regard to the financial aspect — we have three Board of Governors positions on the student council as well as myself as president, if elected. So that's four positions on the BOG. We do have significant input on certain issues in the BOG and on the Senate, and a means to affecting how things go through the BOG and with the Senate. If at all possible, I'd like to see the student members on both the BOG and the Senate increase; I tend to think there could be more student participation. Again, we would tend to use council very effectively next year. We feel that the link between the Senators and the

academic constituency reps should be better; so that the Arts rep can inform the senators as to what is going on in the Faculty of Arts, the problems in certain programs, with professors, or things that are going well, with the BOG, particularly affecting the Howe and Shirreff reps as being two areas of the ancillary budget at Dalhousie and dealing with financial aspects of the Dalhousie campus. These two reps should have more direct contact with the BOG. We would set up bi-weekly meetings between the senators and these reps, thereby enhancing communication.

7. We would work as a council. The council being a representative body from the four corners of this campus. We as an executive would set the agenda for council outlining what the issues are and what the government plans to do. We would meet the society presidents to establish links on that level because these are the people that students have put in office to represent them. From there we would go to the general meetings and express our concerns there; and basically through the *Dal Dispatch*, the *Gazette* as well and CKDU. There are other forms of direct consultation with the student population.

SANDRA BELL executive VP

1. I've been involved in student council at Dalhousie for three years. My first year I was involved in residence council at Shirreff Hall as representative on the floor on that council. This year, I've been involved. I'm president of Shirreff Hall so I've been actively involved in student government with student concerns in the capacity of residence this year.

2. That's definitely a priority. On council we have a large body of students that are representative of this campus and to ensure that students of Dalhousie are made aware of what's available, Jamie and I would realize that council on political issues as well as entertainment issues. The services that are available on campus can be advertised through the council. They can use the representation of their specific societies to take the information back to the societies making sure that they are doing that effectively. As well I would personally make regular stops at their meetings, to let them know that I am available as well and that the information is coming from us as well. So it's ensuring that the council is working with us as well, has the information and knows what is available as far as services go and making sure that information does get back to the societies.

3. I don't think it has taken a back burner, I think that there is a lot of potential, a lot of spirit at Dalhousie. We believe that it is there and hasn't taken a back burner at all.

4. The students pay \$100 a year approximately for the services they receive, and I think it is a matter of them being aware of what the services are and that the services are there for them to use. I think students like to see where their money is going and in pro-

8. The Royal Commission has to be one of the most important documents that has arisen over the past number of years. It cannot be taken lightly — the government is making plans to implement one of the recommendations already. This has to be one of the top issues facing students in Nova Scotia. We have to ensure that any fundamental changes that are made to benefit students make the system more efficient. It is a top issue along the lines of government funding as well.

9. We are very concerned with the off-campus students here at Dalhousie, specifically the first year students. What we would like to do is set up some kind of program of assistance to first year students coming to Dalhousie through the orientation program in which possibly you would have one student assistant for every 20 new students. We would have to do this in consultation with student services — we have not approached them in any official capacity. If elected, we intend to do so. If we did do this, there could possibly be a tie-in with the housing service of the University as well as other services such as counselling.

viding services like that I believe they will see, and if the services are communicated to them then they will use them more effectively.

5. A key role. He or she has the potential of finding out what students want and implementing that. I think it is a service-oriented position and in order to provide a service that's effective for the majority of people, you have to find out what the majority of people want to do. If elected, my role would be finding that exact question by utilizing council representation and going about implementing what the majority wants.

6. We have representation from four corners of the university, and there is a lot of potential there to get input. My duty would be to use this representation as effectively as possible. The role of societies is to represent certain groups on campus and a representative of that group usually is a member of council. They are very important in terms of contributing to Dalhousie as a whole and my role is to make them aware of their whole input into what happens at Dalhousie.

7. Jamie and I are a team so as involved as he would be, I would be as well. My concern is for students as a whole. My specific job has separate duties than the president's role does but we are a team and what concerns the presidential role will concern the vice-presidential role as well in terms of our personal input as well as my responsibilities and Jamie's. The external issues are just as much a concern to me as they are to Jamie and I intend that whatever is decided by council, we would definitely represent as an executive. I would also make council reps aware of external matters.