

Nova Scotia organizes AFS kaput

by Valerie Mansour
Canadian University Press

Faced with the loss of all but one member from outside Nova Scotia, the Atlantic Federation of Students has decided to disband. At a conference last weekend notice of motion was given to dissolve the organization in two weeks at which time the Nova Scotia institutions will meet to form a Nova Scotia student organization.

The only member from outside this province is Memorial University of Newfoundland, Cornerbrook campus. Students recently voted against retaining their AFS membership at Mt. Allison and St. Thomas Universities in New Brunswick, the University of Prince Edward Island, Memorial University St. John's campus, and Acadia University in Wolfville, N.S.

These campus referenda were the result of growing disension within the organization for the past two years. Student council executives felt the organization no longer represented their interests and that there were structural difficulties within the federation.

Bill White, president of the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students said if questions of structure were discussed up front at an earlier date, things might have worked out. White, who was at the founding meeting of the federation in 1975, said "There has been a lack of desire to discuss structure and how it facilitates policy."

Most Nova Scotia delegates are looking forward to the formation of the new organization. Wally Stevens, president of Kings College student union, said there will be a problem getting every institution in the province to attend the next meeting, but "it should still be a success." "A solid purpose has come out of this conference. I think a Nova Scotia organization will be extremely effective—more effective than AFS", Stevens said.

Diane Wright, president of the Mount Saint Vincent council, one of the strongest supporters of AFS, said the Nova Scotia federation can't replace AFS since it lobbied regionally. "But now, more work will be done in Nova Scotia than the Nova Scotia

caucus of AFS ever did", she said.

A working committee was established at the conference to discuss possibilities for the structure of a new organization. Tony Kelly, AFS staffer, who had presented an executive report on structure which was not thoroughly discussed, said, "These people cannot build a strong organization by stopping and starting again. There was a concerted effort not to specifically address restructuring at this conference."

Denise Soucy-Roberge, an AFS executive member, agreed that the conference did not deal with restructuring thoroughly. "I don't mean they should have adopted final pro-

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Election results

Rodney Brittain was elected to Dal student council as a science representative in Wednesday's by-elections.

Dave Woods was elected as arts representatives.

The elections were held because of a number of resignations from council.



Dal Photo/Sinervo

Council Briefs

Student Council has cancelled the referendum on Dalhousie's membership in the Atlantic Federation of Students (AFS). At last Sunday's meeting council decided that since AFS is in the process of disbanding, the referendum would be meaningless, and that Dal would remain a member of AFS until it officially dissolves on November 4. Debts incurred by the organization will be paid by its member institutions in a formula agreed to at the AFS conference this past weekend.

Dalhousie will be hosting a conference on November 4 and 5 to form an organization of Nova Scotia students to succeed AFS. The invitation had been extended during the AFS conference, but council gave its official approval of the move at last Sunday's meeting. A special committee consisting of Mike Power, Denise Soucy-Roberge, Jim Prentice and Dick Matthews was elected to determine Dalhousie's policy on the question. The committee will be meeting with any interested students at 5:30 on Sunday, October 29 in the council chambers to discuss the formation of a new student organization.

Also decided at the meeting was a new policy for discos sponsored by various societies. From now on the student union will be co-sponsoring all open functions of the various societies, and will share the expenses and profits evenly with them. This is intended to combat poor quality entertainment and ticket problems which have caused trouble at previous events. It will also prevent conflict of interest between discos and other SUB events.

Council will express its disapproval over the timing of Christmas exams, which are scheduled to start at 8 a.m. It was felt that it was asking too much of commuting students to be in Halifax for a three-hour exam scheduled so early in the morning.

Power, Prentice, and Keary Fulton were directed by council to approach the Inter-Faculty Sports office of the university administration regarding the implementation of a calibre hockey system this year to replace the inter-faculty competition of previous years. It was felt that the manner in which the decision was made was authoritarian and that no room was allowed for student input.

Nick Peters was appointed as the new Ombudsman, while Chris Harris was appointed Assistant Ombudsman. Harris resigned from his position as member-at-large of student council because of the time required with his new appointment.

Hunting for another Henry

by Eric Simpson

An Ad Hoc Committee of the Dalhousie Senate has been asked to review its report which recommended direct student representation on the Presidential Selection Committee. In a meeting held on

Monday October 16, the Senate exhibited signs of disorganization, indecision, and disinterest as it requested further study on the procedure to choose a successor to Dr. Henry Hicks.

The existing procedure,

which was drawn up in 1970 but has not yet been used, calls for a joint Committee composed of three members of the Senate and three members of the Board of Governors. An additional blanket clause adds "that appropriate members of the student body be included".

The Ad Hoc Committee had recommended that a broader spectrum of representation be established and that the Selection Committee be composed of three Senators, two Governors, one student representative, one representative of the Faculty Association, and one member of the Staff Association. They also suggested that the term of the president be limited to six years and that briefs be solicited from outside as well as inside the university community. In contrast, the existing recommendations call for a ten year term and only require briefs from within the university.

The Board of Governors, whose representation would be reduced from three members to two, has final veto powers over the Selection Committee's nomination.

As the retirement of Dr. Hicks draws near (he chose to attend the opening of an Industrial Park rather than preside over this meeting of the Senate), the question of a clear procedure for the choosing of his successor remains unresolved.

Dal debators win at Mt. Allison

by Scott Gray

One of three Sodales debating teams captured the first debating competition of the year at Mount Allison University. Cathy Maclean and Bruce Thompson won all five of their preliminary round debates and then defeated another Dalhousie team, composed of Jim Wentzell and Terry Graham, in the championship round. Maclean and Thompson, clearly the class of the tournament, rolled up 372 points on their way to the championship.

Wentzell and Graham went to the championship round on the basis of a solid three win, two loss record. They accumulated 292 points in their first five debates. The third Sodales team of John Fahey and Scott Gray only won two of their five debates but totaled 305 points. Also entered were teams from Mount St. Vincent, University of King's College, and Royal Military College. Mount Alli-

son had two teams in the preliminary round, although they were ineligible to win their home tournament. Congratulations must be sent to all participants on a very successful competition.

Over the weekend of October 21 and 22, Sodales also sent the team of John Robinson and Cass Sunderji to the University of Toronto tournament. Unfortunately, results of that competition were unavailable at press time. In the future, Sodales members will be attending the Canadian championships at Queen's University, as well as some international tournaments in the United States.

Sodales has changed the time and place of its meetings. Meetings will now be held in the Haliburton Room at King's on Thursdays at 8 p.m. All interested persons are asked to lose their inhibitions and join us for an interesting evening every Thursday night.