

Owen proposes to 'wait and see'

by Paul Creelman

Gord Owen made some cautious statements regarding his upcoming term of office next as President of the Student Council early Tuesday afternoon.

Refusing comment on a number of questions, Owen stated that he planned to take a "wait and see attitude" towards issues such as control of rising tuition costs.

"If the MPHEC (the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Council) is receptive to some of our proposals then we may not need to take other action," said Owen.

He also said that he plans to formulate a position on this issue and the question of student representation over the summer term of office.

When asked about his perception of Dalhousie's role in SUNS (the national Student Union body), Owen stated that he would like to see increased involvement in this national body, starting with the election of a delegate from Dalhousie to the SUNS executive.

When asked to comment on



Dave Grandy

recent criticism that SUNS was all talk and no action, Owen replied that SUNS hasn't been organized for very

long. "You've got to remember that SUNS has only existed for a little over a year. There has

got to be a lot of talking and organizing to lay the groundwork first. Anyway, at the last plenary, SUNS passed a motion to encourage the addition of two more student representatives to MPHEC, so that one student from every province could have input into the decision making process of the commission."

CKDU radio recently won a plebiscite on its proposal to expand its service to the student body by changing to an FM format. Owen stated he plans to see that the required information is gathered this summer, and a referendum held to see if the student body is prepared to fund the FM station.

(The plebiscite which was just held is not binding on student council, while a referendum would be.)

"We will not present a referendum to the student body until we have an accurate estimate of all the costs and administrative changes that will be necessary."

Owen says that a priority next year will be getting

freshmen involved in student activities.

"I think that this is where our interest comes from—the new students. Also, this issue (student involvement) should be the object of a longer term process of two or three years."

The pilot production of the course evaluation calendar is one project which that Council is undertaking next year, says Owen.

If this evaluation of the first and second year English courses is successful, then the calendar will be extended next year to cover all first and second year arts and science courses.

On the problem of obtaining sufficient student input into the administration, Owen said that the Dalhousie Student Union already has four representatives on the Board of Governors.

Student representation on the Senate is a question that is up in the air right now, due to the recomposition process, but Owen states that he plans to formulate a stand on this issue over the summer term.

EXTRA!

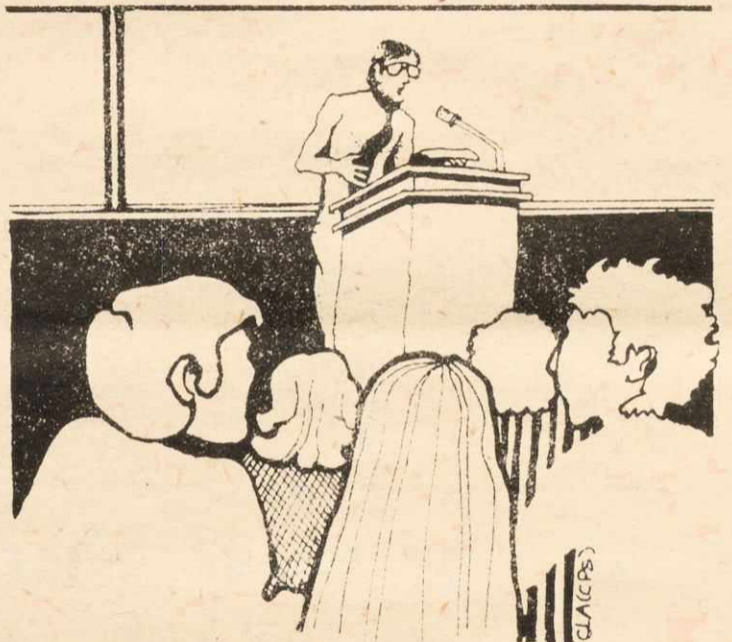


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Finding out ahead of time

by Pam Berman

Tired of straining to hear a mumbling professor, plowing through obscure and meaningless reading assignments or falling asleep in an overheated and overcrowded hole in the Life Science Building? Wished you had known beforehand and chosen something else? Well, hope may be on the way!

A questionnaire to evaluate English 100 classes is being distributed this week by the Student Union's Course Evaluation Committee as a pilot project for a full scale evaluation scheme next year.

The Course Evaluation Committee sees the project as a test of effectiveness. If the English 100 evaluation is determined as useful the committee is planning on expanding the evaluation guide to include first and second level arts, science and commerce courses.

The English evaluation guide is expected to be pub-

lished this fall and be distributed in the Arts and Administration building where incoming students will be registering.

The class by class analysis will be based on student assessment of lectures, course content, reading material, class scheduling, assignments, tests and facilities.

Once the questionnaires are completed the data is going to be put through a computer program drawn up by Ken Ling, a Dalhousie student. Dean Marriott, head of Student Services, has agreed to pay the costs of keypunching, computer time and half of the Course Evaluation Director's honorarium for this pilot project.

After the statistics have been compiled, in order to make the guide more readable, people are going to be hired to write summaries of the results stating the highlights or abnormalities of each class.

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