

Dal bookstore — expensive, inefficient

by Norm Rose

Expensive! Inefficient! The Dalhousie bookstore. No one seems to have been able to control this phenomenon which feeds on students and faculty alike.

The bookstore provides a centralized location on campus where one can supposedly buy some or all of one's books. That is, if the professor in question wasn't one of the many who procrastinated until the end of May to place their order. As of that deadline date, over 80% of the orders for 1971-72 had not been placed with the bookstore.

Late orders are generally not filled on time by the publishers and students are the ones who lose. When late orders do arrive, other difficulties arise — storage labor, wage, shipping and receiving problems.

This lack of co-ordination and communication of all parties concerned plus the unilateral action of the faculty in placing their orders leads to confusion, waste and failure of proper service.

As of April 1971, the store had \$410,000 worth of stock, 50% more than was needed. This overflow still has not been completely returned to the publishers.

The bookstore has returned approximately \$240,000 worth of this overflow. The balance will be sold below cost and accepted as an operating loss on the store's budget. Last year the bookstore lost \$15,000.

As a result of changes brought about through the efforts of a few concerned individuals, the nature of the bookstore committee has been altered this year. The store is now under the jurisdiction of the Student Union General Manager, John Graham, rather than the Business Office.

There have been some changes for the better. The separation of the 100-level texts from the regular selection served to minimize line-ups during registration week. The Department of Business Administration has also undertaken the first analysis of the Bookstore's operation.

An interested and involved faculty member has offered some suggestions for improvement of the operation:

(1) The Bookstore Manager should be an experienced book retailer, to play that particular game with the knowledge and contacts that are required.



(mark roza/dal)

Do you have all your books yet? If not, tell your professor to order them now before it's too late.

(2) Provide the necessary service of text and reference books but with department heads, controlling the order-placing and assuming budgetary responsibility for errors through mismanagement and/or excessive demands. An order of 117 titles was

placed for one course, although this was later reduced to 106.

(3) Increasing the opportunity to really utilize the bookstore by making various publications available to the student body. These should be topical and not

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Suzuki: specialists isolated from community

"The isolation of groups of specialists is the source of most of the major problems facing society today," according to Dr. David D. Suzuki. The well-

known scientist and television personality was speaking at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton on October 8.

"As specialization increases, the specialists, be they scientists devoted to research or police dealing with the maintenance of law and order, tend to be removed from control of the community and put there to be removed from this control," he said.

"Scientists can no longer carry out research without regard to the consequences, but must make a concerted effort to inform the public of the implications of their research." Suzuki illustrated his point with examples of

possibilities opened up through research in his own field of genetics.

Cloning, the production of large numbers of identical individuals from one fertilized egg as described in the book 'Brave New World', may be accomplished within twenty years. This technique might be used to regenerate severed limbs or to mass produce made-to-order people.

"Scientists who attempt to speak to the general public are no longer regarded as serious by their colleagues," he said.

Suzuki's visits to UNB and other universities are being sponsored by the Humanities Association of Canada and the science faculties concerned.

Turn on to these Facts!

- FACT I:** There is an effective and comprehensive employment service at Dalhousie.
- FACT II:** It's located on the 4th floor of the S.U.B.
- FACT III:** Over 1,000 students successfully located jobs through this service.
- FACT IV:** It's Free — It's your Canada Manpower Centre on Campus.

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