

NEWS

CAB becomes official student government

by Herschel Marshall

Students in the faculty of fine arts have voted overwhelmingly to fund their own student government.

In the Oct. 30-31 referendum, fine arts students decided to transform what is currently the Creative Arts Board (CAB) into their official student government, effective September 1, 1991.

Ninety-five percent of the 344 fine arts students who voted favored establishing a faculty-based government, while 86 per cent also approved funding the government with a 50 cents per credit levy.

CAB president Ian Kelso called the decision a "landslide" vote of approval for the CAB.

"Having autonomy gives us a solid foundation for funding and recognition that might otherwise fluctuate from year to year," Kelso said.

In the interim, CAB will be drafting a constitution that should be ready before the end of this year.

Kelso said that CAB will act as the interim student government until the duly-elected government takes its place next fall.

According to the agenda for CAB's next meeting, the club is planning to change its name to an alternative that more accurately reflects a students' association or federation.

CAB will also be holding elections next spring to give its new executives time to consolidate their positions over the summer.

The executive portfolios will include a cultural liason officer, a programs officer, and an internal officer.

To retain stability, Kelso told *Excalibur* that he will maintain control over the the finance portfolio until the transition from CAB to student government is complete.

"We [CAB] will be turned into a completely different entity with a new name and a new mandate," Kelso said. "We will finally be able to tackle issues as a federation: issues we couldn't address as a club."

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