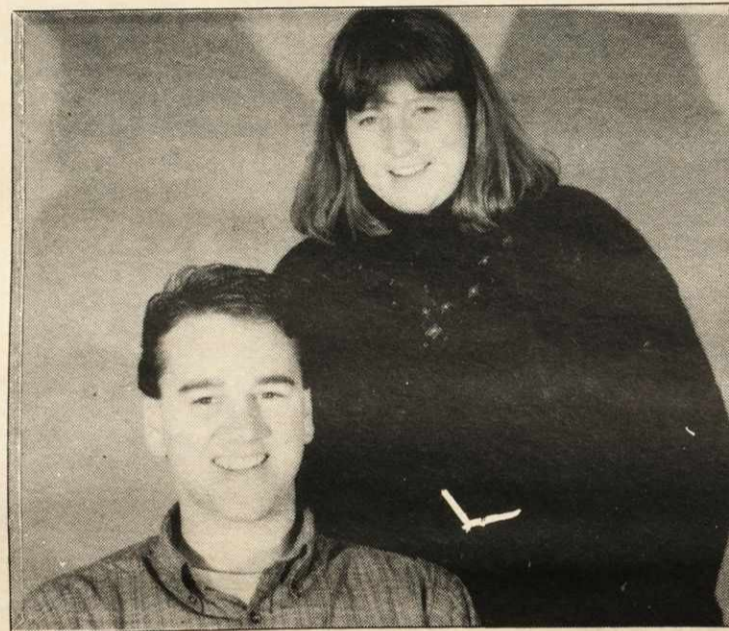


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## Peter Pottier Hillary Wells



1. We have chosen to run for the positions of President and Vice President of the Dalhousie Student's Union because in the time we have been at Dalhousie, and specifically in the last year we have seen a number of positive initiatives taken by the DSU. We are committed to maintaining and improving upon them..

At the same time there are areas of concern and issues of importance to the Dalhousie Students which have not been given the level of priority which they deserve. It will be our challenge to provide all students a balanced and open council where all individuals can have their concerns addressed.

We each come to this decision with a different set of experiences and perspectives

**Pottier:** In my present role as treasurer of the DSU I see the financial side of the council. I know it well. The position has also allowed me to gain experience in various student issues, not solely related to money matters.

I have also come to believe that students are concerned with the direction which Dalhousie is taking academically as well as fiscally. My aim is to ensure that students are heard, but more importantly respected as the university confronts these issues over the next year.

**Wells:** My time at Dalhousie has given me a variety of experiences. The reason I have decided to run for the position of V.P. is that I feel the Student's Council must draw on the experiences of people who make up the exciting and diverse communities of Dalhousie in order to properly serve students.

Another motivating factor behind my decision is the fact that this allows me to bring up for discussion in the campaign, issues which might not have been emphasized otherwise.

For example, student safety on campus, women's issues, and the environment are areas of concern which I hope to discuss during the campaign.

2. We see at least four major areas of concern which will almost certainly be the subject of discussion during this campaign they are: 1) The quality and affordability of education at Dalhousie. 2) The position of disadvantaged and minority groups on campus. 3) Communication on campus. 4) School spirit.

Within these expansive topics various specific issues must be addressed. For example, it is hard to talk about the quality of education at Dal without considering the fact that we've experienced a faculty strike in the recent past we are in the middle of a labour dispute, the fact that classes are overcrowded, and that there are problems getting signed into these overcrowded classes!

3. The role of the DSU is essentially three tiered: 1) To act as a liaison between students and administration. As well as between various student groups on campus. 2) To

provide and operate services for students. 3) To represent Dalhousie students on a national and provincial level.

In its role as a liaison the DSU is responsible both to represent student views at the Administration level as well as report back to students regarding Administrative policy. It must also act as a facilitator between different groups and organisations on campus.

As well as operating and being responsible for the Student Union Building, the Union has a "programming" role which includes booking various entertainers and lecturers. It also organises student oriented events such as Homecoming, and Orientation Week.

The role of the president involves being the spokesperson of the Union; he/she represents the students, along with other representatives, on the Board of Governors.

The resident acts mostly as a facilitator to ensure free flow of information between students and the Administration, various groups on campus, as well as representing Dalhousie Students to the public.

The role of the president is more structured in that he/she deals directly with societies, regulates building policies and deals with the employees of the Student Union.

As a team we act as ambassadors of the students of Dalhousie, and ensure the smooth workings of the DSU.

4. As the *Gazette* report indicated there are groups on campus that are more than the DSU efforts in 1990-91. There are however areas which deserve and require more open council interaction.

The first step is realising that council, or the executive of council does not have all of the answers to how we must address these concerns. It should be a two way exchange of thoughts and strategies. It is imperative that the union sit down with these groups to identify the problems that exist, as well as to receive input into how these concerns can continue to be dealt with.

5. We believe the primary task of the DSU is to deal with issues specifically related to the education of Dalhousie students, with the intent of ameliorating any problems Dalhousie students might have.

In terms of taking a stand on non-educational items, we believe that the situation becomes situation or issue specific. If our intent is to remedy a specific problem and taking a stand will do this - then we must. However, taking a stand on certain issues does not solve problems. For example, we cannot take a stand on abortion as this would be in conflict with the 1989-90 referendum result. Perhaps this referendum indicates a

general feeling that council should devote itself to solving campus oriented issues, such as the non-replacement of faculty, and overcrowding of classes.

6. Over the past year we've seen a number of initiatives designed to counter campus apathy. One such project was homecoming. Building on last year's experience, homecoming can serve as a focal point for student involvement and activities on campus, as it does on many other campuses. Orientation week is another tool whereby Dalhousie students come together showing pride in our university.

Sports have an important role in generating Dalhousie spirit. This year many of our varsity teams have been nationally ranked. Part of this can be attributed to increased student support and *Gazette* coverage.

Cultural events, such as MISSA night, also increase much needed interaction between students on campus. We are committed to support for these various groups.

Finally we believe that the key to countering campus apathy is to exploit the natural enthusiasm of the individual Dalhousie student.

7. It is very important for the Student's Council to be representative of all the different groups and perspectives at Dalhousie. Only in this way can every student feel free to voice their individual concerns to council, as well as feel that the DSU is adequately and fairly representing their views.

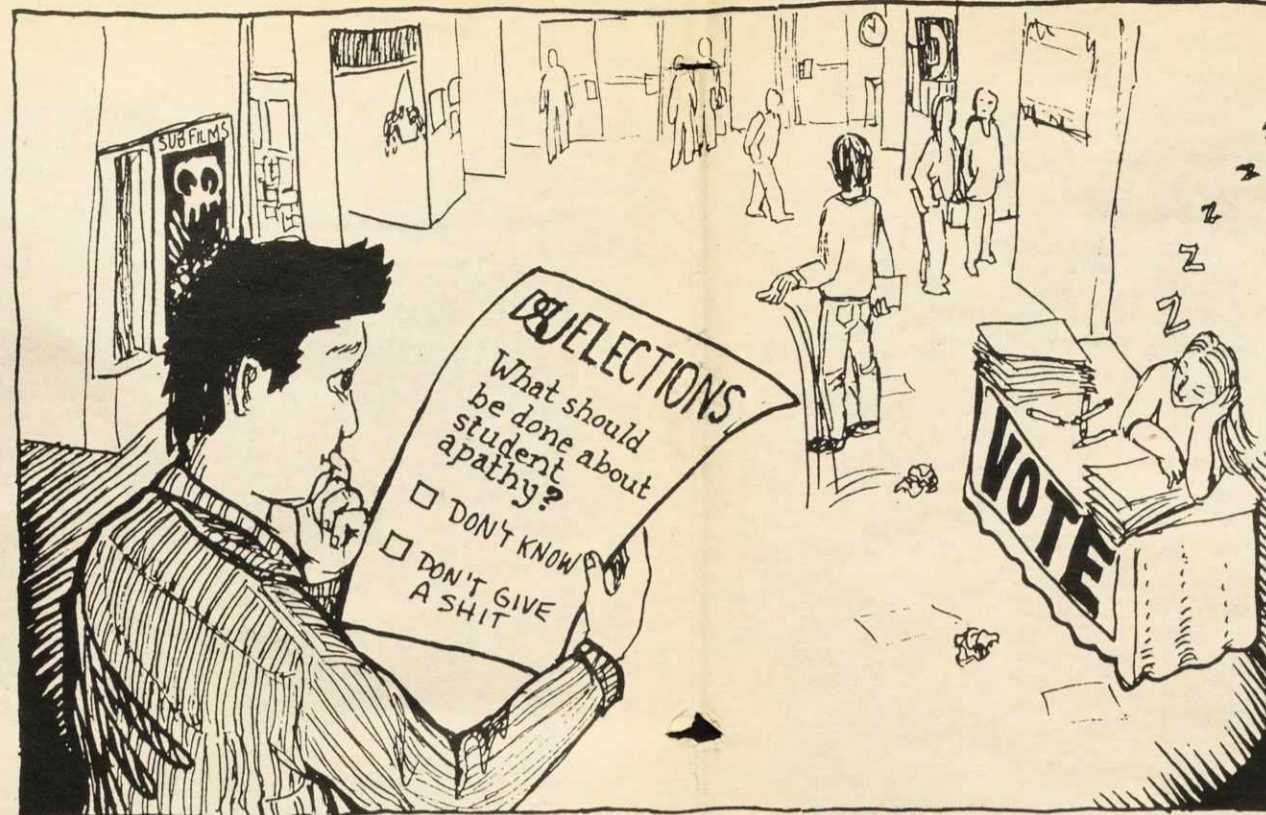
Dalhousie is also divided physically into upper and lower campuses. Often, the barrier of Robie street keeps the two parts isolated. Everyone loses as a result of this situation. There is much to be gained through increasing communication in both directions and through increased interaction.

8. As chairperson of the recruitment committee I would not play a role in filling any elected positions.

In terms of appointed positions, the committee in the past has simply received applications from interested students and then proceeded to make its judgement and appointments. As chair of the committee, I would actively seek out applications so as to ensure that at the selection stage we are choosing from a representative sample of Dal students.

We want to make sure that we reach individuals who might not feel free or comfortable to apply for positions otherwise.

We aim to draw on the people who make up the exciting and diverse community of Dalhousie in making our appointments, and if this is affirmative action - then we support it.



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## Mike Zelle Ralph Bastarache



Hi! We are Mike and Ralph, and we are running for President and Executive Vice-President of the DSU. "Why should I vote for Mutt and Jeff", you might be asking yourself, as indeed people have already asked us. Before we can answer that, maybe you should ask yourselves why we want to run a 'Fido-Dido' type campaign.

SENATE CANDIDATES  
ARTS: David Pringle, Stavros Vrettakos  
SCIENCE: Mausumi Banerjee  
GRADUATE STUDIES: Valerie Noflfe  
MANAGEMENT: Kevin Surette

VOTE

QUESTIONS

FOR PRESIDENT CANDIDATES

- 1) Why are you running for the position?
- 2) What do you see as the major issues of the campaign?
- 3) What is the role of the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU), and in particular the President?
- 4) As the *Gazette's DSU Report Card* has recently indicated, many student groups are dissatisfied with the DSU. How will you change this?
- 5) Do you think the DSU Council should take a stand on issues labelled "non-educational" such as abortion, the Persian Gulf War, or the environment?

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT CANDIDATES

- 1) Why are you running for the position?
- 2) What is the role of the DSU, and in particular the Executive Vice-President?
- 3) What will you do counter campus apathy?
- 4) What will you do to make the DSU more inclusive?
- 5) As the Chair of the Recruitment Committee, do you support an affirmative action policy for elected and appointed positions?

It boils down to student apathy. Last year had a record turnout of voters...a whopping 25 per cent of the student body. This occurred during a year where there were three teams to choose from and the major issues were a possible 25 per cent increase in tuition and possibility of yet another faculty strike. The strike was averted but not the tuition increase, and now we must all pay the price.

Student awareness must be raised, so that in the future the students know what the issues are BEFORE it is too late to affect them, so that students may voice their opinions to their student leaders and have their opinions represented when and where decisions are being made. Our campaign is based on communication, commitment and involvement. Teamwork is a logical extrapolation of these ideals and therefore we have chosen, as a team, to answer these questions together. Before the Student Union can increase its communication with the students, before the Lower campus can feel that it is represented, before all the clubs, societies, and groups on campus can be properly addressed in all their concerns, the Student Leaders have to be able to work together themselves.

Once a strong communication network has been established, then as your Student Leaders we can work with all the various groups on campus individually. For some groups this might mean taking part in their regular meetings, whereas other groups will prefer to see us when they have a concern to voice. No matter what manner each and every society or group chooses, we as your Leaders will see that we meet their needs. This will be an ongoing process, insuring that concerns are dealt with on a day to day basis.

That concerns must be dealt with individually is mirrored in our approach to "non-educational" issues that have been put before us. Issues such as the environment have a large following around campus, with the general consensus being that as the youth of our nation, students must take steps to preserve the planet we live on. Some other issues, however, do not have a consensus

among the student body and it would not be appropriate for the DSU Council to attempt to represent the many diverse views with one blanket policy. An example of this is the abortion referendum that was held last year. Many views were expressed, and in the end students voted to not have a policy.

One policy that will be followed is that of affirmative action. We believe in ensuring proper representation within the Student Union from all possible groups. The resulting mosaic can only enhance the multicultural experience that is intrinsic to post secondary education. A lot of what is learned over the course of earning a degree is learned outside of the classroom. It is the job, the responsibility of your Student Leaders to ensure that the broadest spectrum of experiences and people are within your reach.

As such, the President and Executive Vice President have distinct responsibilities while in office. The President is the official spokesperson for the students at Dalhousie, representing them to the Board of Governors, the Senate, and on various committees. The Executive Vice President is responsible for the smooth operation of the Student Union Building and associated events, communication with societies, and to liaise with the Alumni Association.

You may be wondering what experience either of us have as Student Leaders. Ralph has been the President of the Dalhousie Association of Biology Students (DABS), a member of Senate, member of the Student Union Executive (Communications Chairperson - 89/90), and is presently a Night Manager for the Student Union Building. Mike has been the Vice President of DABS, editor of the Looking Glass, Assistant Coordinator of the Second Hand Bookstore, as well as volunteering time at CKDU. Involved both directly and indirectly with the Student Union, we believe that we have built a broad base of experience to draw upon as Student Leaders.

So on February 11, 12 and 13, VOTE. If you want leadership with a difference, VOTE Mike and Ralph.