

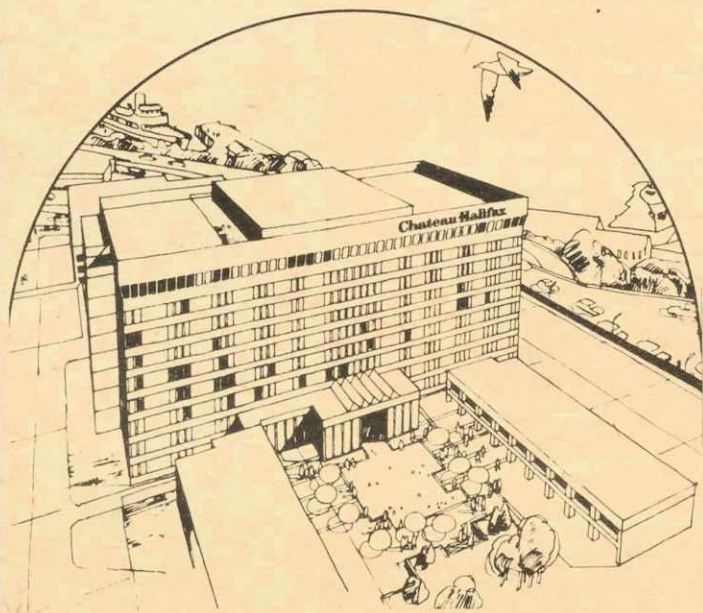
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POLSOC Active !!

POLSOC, the Political Science Undergraduate Society, has started its second full year of operation at Dalhousie. Membership in the society is restricted to students of Political Science, and approximately 60 have joined POLSOC so far this year.

POLSOC made its campus debut last year when it was organized basically for the benefit of undergraduate students. The establishment of a primary social function for POLSOC was deemed necessary to enable students to get better acquainted with one another, and also, to help orient themselves to the ways of the university, generally, and to the workings of the Political Science Department, specifically. POLSOC activities include the purchase of books and periodicals to enhance the Political Science Reading Room with materials which may be difficult to obtain at the Killam Library.

In the spring, POLSOC will send representatives on a "field trip" to several metro area high schools where they will undertake to brief these students on the options available through a course program in Political Science at Dalhousie. A similar venture was tried last year by visits to a number of the local high schools, and hopefully, the plan will be expanded this year. Also, several seniors from POLSOC will visit the 100 level classes to provide any desired information about the upper level classes in Political Science.

POLSOC also serves as a vehicle for students who have a grievance about a particular class or professor. POLSOC has representatives on the Undergraduate Affairs

Committee and sends two representatives to several, pertinent meetings of the Department of Political Science. This effective means of communicating with the faculty has been accomplished thanks to the generous cooperation of members of the Department. One of the aims of POLSOC is to attain a closer relationship between both students and professors of the Political Science.

Another function of POLSOC which would bene-

fit the total university population is a program that would feature guest speakers and films. This program is totally dependent on the budget allocated to POLSOC for all its planned functions. This item must be considered an important function of POLSOC, and hopefully, it will interest a large percentage of the student population from all sectors of the university. All planned events will be well publicized in advance.



TECH SPOT

by John Ross

We just thought we'd write you a few lines to let you know of our existence down here--since we will soon be a part of the great Dalhousie bureaucratic monster, it seemed like a good idea.

We are, in four words, Nova Scotia Technical College, and we're located in downtown (beautiful downtown) Halifax. Most of our small campus is located behind something (behind the infirmary, behind the old courthouse, behind the graveyard, etc). Most of our campus is also parking lot. We number about five hundred in a good year, with a ratio of about one third architects and two thirds engineers.

Since I'm in architecture, most of this column will deal with architecture and what its all about. We're now in the process of finding a literate engineer who, hopefully, will have something to say about his end of things.

Basically, architecture at Tech is a six year programme, but we only study here for four of those six years (the other two years are spent studying anything at another university before we come here, which is the basic entrance requirement). When some of us graduate, we get a degree called a Bachelor of Architecture degree.

We also run on something called a cooperative system, which is actually a modified tri-semester programme, which also means that there are students in the school, at one stage of development or another, all year round. What the cooperative program means is that the architectural profession, by employing us, during our work breaks, provides an additional teaching input, so that we can learn about the more practical side of architecture, leaving the school to be more theoretical (or so they tell us).

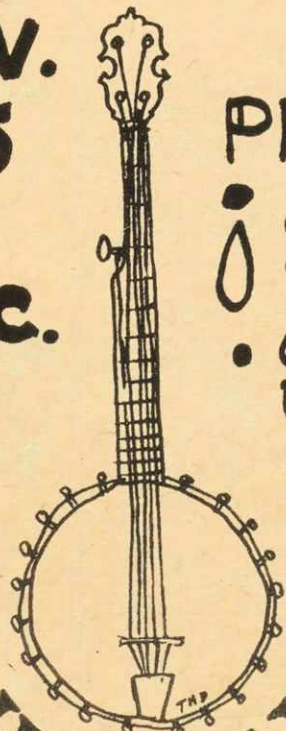
Anyway, that's basically how we become what we are. If you want more, you can read our calendar (but I really don't know anyone who spends their spare time thumbing through university calendars).

We hope to discuss a lot of things in this space (thanks to the GAZETTE, we'll be here whenever we have something to say), things which, hopefully, will have a relatively broad appeal. Issues might range from the role of women in architecture (like any other profession, architecture has more than its share of double standards), the too often ignored social aspects of architecture and building. We have some first year students who have expressed an interest in writing about what its like to be a newcomer here; we can talk for days about the architectural profession and its lack of response to the real needs of people and society in general (how many monuments can you take?), some of these things might be of interest to people in medicine or law, as well.

One of our biggest problems is in a kind of identity crisis which happens whenever the two poles of architectural thought get together (or untogether, as the case may be). Are we into an art or a science? That's the age-old, unresolved question, in that we seem to be occupying a never-never land between two armed camps. Maybe we'll talk about that next week.

We'll also talk about our impending marriage to you folks, since the provincial government seems finally ready to do something about it it would seem an appropriate topic, since not that many people know exactly what's been going on.

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