

Social Services denied to International Students.

International Students are being denied the right to Medical Services Insurances (MSI) by the Government of Nova Scotia. The MSI Committee on Eligibility has 'clarified' the term **resident** in the Health and Insurance act and have in the process essentially lifted MSI coverage from those in Nova Scotia on Student Visas.

Over the summer the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students were actively involved in a campaign to change the ruling. Motions in Graduate Council were passed and press releases published. Throughout the summer Graduate representatives did all they could to campaign against the ruling. Nothing has changed.

Approximately one thousand International Students in this province will not be eligible for medical insurance. Insurance that will cost the government less than \$50,000 per year to provide. Considering that more than 80% of all post-secondary education in this province is subsidised by the Provincial Government the figure appears even more absurd. One wonders if the the Government has something other than mere money in mind.

This petty discrimination against International Students is only one example of the "belt-tightening" taking place in all areas of education.

Every day students are faced with the realities of an education that is more and more structured not on the theme of learning and excellence but on available government funding, and Regan continues to warn of worse times to come.

A well orchestrated campaign it certainly is not. Precisely because of this students must stay together in order to oppose the deterioration of social services (be they medical or educational).

The DAGS campaign must be stepped up made into a provincial campaign. The Atlantic Federation of Students would do well to urge all member campuses to pledge resources; Robert Sampson, Dalhousie's Student Union president should show leadership, not only to Dal students but to the student body throughout the province, in unifying and directing the opposition to the government's policy.

The upcoming school year is going to be crucial insofar as government policies concerning students go; awareness and active participation is required of all.

by david gutnick



There will be a staff meeting for anyone interested on Sunday afternoon at 2:30 p.m. in the **Dalhousie Gazette** office, third floor, Student Union Building. New people are especially encouraged to attend. On the agenda will be plans for the upcoming issues, Canadian University Press Conferences, and general policy.

The meeting is a fine opportunity for staff members to become acquainted with each other.

Anyone interested in doing graphics, reporting, writing, production, or anything else, is welcomed to attend. The **Gazette** always needs more staff. Drop by—Sunday at 2:30!

Letters

NSCAD Admin. replies

To the Gazette:

I regret that the **Dalhousie Gazette** apparently chose to write its front page article in the September 8 issue entirely from statements of one of the persons involved in the proposed NSCAD tuition strike, and without consulting anyone else concerned. As a result, the article is seriously misleading, and therefore does a disservice both to the College of Art and Design and to your readers.

On Tuesday night, September 6, the President of the college, Gary Kennedy, and I were present at a meeting of about 30 students, which was called by the Student Union of the college to discuss a tuition strike proposed by the Student Union as a means of protesting an increase in the college tuition fee.

At that meeting, we indicated our concern for rising tuition costs, and explained some of the factors behind tuition increases. We emphasized, however, that the college would apply its usual policy that payment of fees is required for registration in classes. We recognized that students might choose not to pay their fees, but stated that classes would begin, as usual, on Monday, September 12 for all those who had completed registration, including payment of fees.

As so few students were present at the Tuesday evening meeting, a memorandum from the President was circulated the following day to try to ensure that all students were aware of the college's position on the matter, which has not changed

at any time.

Some of those students present at the Tuesday meeting clearly understood the statement of college policy presented to that meeting. It is unfortunate that the **Gazette** got its information from someone who did not understand it.

I hope you will be able to clarify these issues for your readers.

Sincerely yours,
James Davies
Dean

Editor's note:

It is obvious that Don Soucy and James Davies have contradicting opinions on what transpired the evening of Tuesday, September 6. It is not so obvious that the **Gazette** did a disservice to, or misled, its readers.

Student Council replies too

To the Gazette:

Your comment entitled "Family Compact" in the last issue of the **Gazette** both irritated and amused me.

For a start, when listing the Cape Breton Connection the author neglected to mention that I, a council member, visited that area as recently as three years ago. While this connection seems rather vague and tenuous, it is as strong as most of the other associations which are mentioned. I must point out that of the appointments council has made, in almost every case one person stood out as being much more qualified than the rest of the

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the dalhousie gazette

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The deadline for advertising is the Friday noon preceding publication. Articles and letters are due Monday noon. No unsigned material will be accepted, but anonymity, if necessary, will be granted. Letters should not exceed 600 words, and must be typed if more than 100 words.

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