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Dal council votes to hold general meeting and referendum

By SAMANTHA BRENNAN

Students at Dalhousie will decide the fate of two council proposals in the coming months.

At a Nov. 13 meeting Dalhousie student council voted to hold a student union general meeting to bring in a new DSU constitution and a referendum on their recent tuition fee proposal.

The tuition fee referendum will be held Jan. 23, 24 and the general meeting is scheduled for Nov. 19.

Earlier in the meeting DSU president Alex Gigeroff moved that the referendum on the tuition fee proposal be held at the end of November. He amended the motion to the Jan. date after councillors expressed concern about the lack of time to organize for a Nov. referendum.

"Will students who want to form a no committee have time to organize?" asked board of governors rep Geoff Martin. Martin said he was also concerned about whether councillors would have enough time to put in a yes committee.

After some initial confusion about whether the proposed redraft of the constitution had to be brought to referendum or general meeting, the council decided to call a general meeting of the union.

Copies of the proposed constitution are available at the DSU offices on the second floor of the SUB.

Quorum for a general meeting of

the student union is 50 members but council will have no problem finding that many students. The meeting is scheduled for noon in the green room in the SUB.

"We'll get quorum for sure," said Gigeroff.

No such regulations about quorum apply to student union referenda. For the recently announced referendum to pass it only requires a majority vote in favour.

The student union announced their tuition fee proposal at the kick off luncheon for the Dalhousie Capital Fund Drive Oct. 13.

"It gives me great pleasure to announce council will by way of referendum increase student union fees by \$15," said Gigeroff. "This will be the student campaign for Dalhousie." In return for council's support of the fund drive the Dalhousie administration will put limits on tuition fee increases.

Tuition fee increases in the following three-year period would be regulated by cost of living increases, a maximum of eight per cent. If the cost of living percentages were to rise above twelve per cent, tuition fee increases would be within four per cent of, but not exceeding, the cost of living.

According to the student union constitution funding must be available for a "no" committee if interested students want to organize a vote "no" campaign. □

CFS hires new Atlantic fieldworker after six month delay

By WENDY COOMBER

Six months of searching ended last week as CFS hired Judy Guthrie as its new Atlantic fieldworker.

Guthrie, executive officer of Students Union of Nova Scotia (SUNS), replace former fieldworker, Mark Lanahan, who resigned last May.

Simon Lono, former CFS Board of Directors representative for Newfoundland, said CFS's hiring committee was split in half much of the time over who to hire. Some applicants had good fieldworking qualifications but weren't bilingual while others were bilingual but not qualified.

Lono said Guthrie's unilingualism was made an issue by John Bosnitch, president of the University of New Brunswick's student council. Lono said UNB, the Université de Moncton, and another

small New Brunswick university objected to hiring Guthrie and said Bosnitch threatened more than once to pull UNB out of CFS over it.

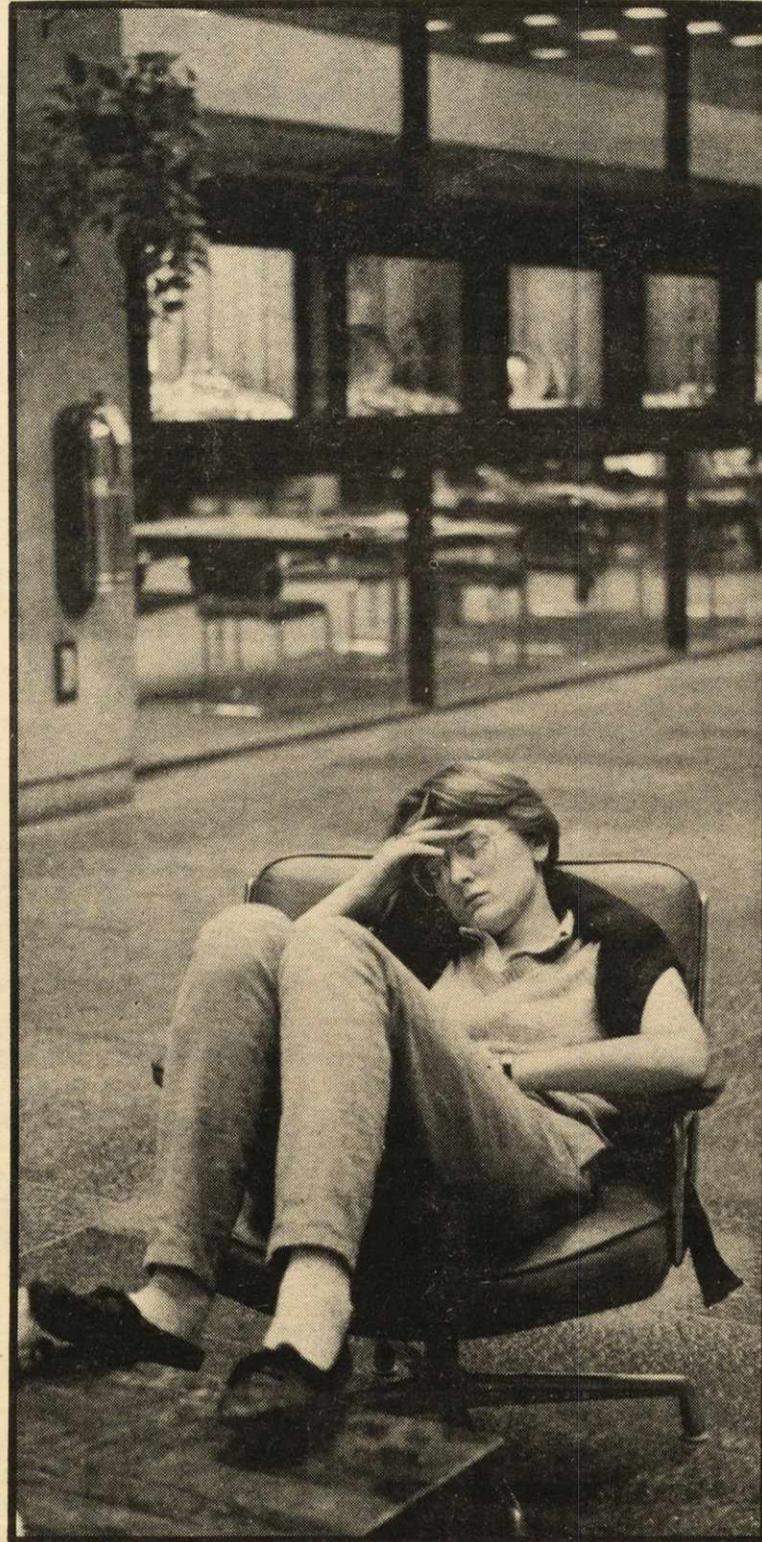
"But the fact was," said Lono, "we hadn't had a fieldworker in six months."

Caroline Zayid, former CFS central committee representative for Nova Scotia, said Memorial University of Newfoundland had planned to withhold their fees until the Atlantic hired a fieldworker.

Zayid said she'd like to see the new fieldworker work on firming up ties between CFS member schools and to consolidate them on issues. She thinks meeting MP's to lobby for more funding and fighting the proposed \$85 million cut-backs in Employment and Immigration—student jobs—are two good areas to start in.

Lono, on the other hand, would

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Gazette Sleepers Series: Siobhan Lane is caught cat-napping in the Killam Library this week. As exams and essays become due, more and more students will undoubtedly be catching 40 winks around campus. For more of the Gazette sleepers series see page 19. Photo: Leone Steele, Dal photo.

UNB students lose jobs after SUB takeover

FREDERICTON (CUP)—Some University of New Brunswick students are outraged that they have lost their jobs as a result of the administration's takeover of UNB's student union building.

"I've been working here (SUB) for three months. I thought I had a job. I thought I was hired. I received paycheques . . ." said student Maggie Toner.

But new SUB director Kim Norris says the students were never "hired" because his predecessor, Mark Slipp, had no authority to do hiring or firing.

"I found that the system in place just wasn't working," said Morris. "So I advertised for the positions. I told all the people working that

they had to re-apply."

Another student on staff who was passed over in the new hiring process says he was upset by the move. "I thought I had a job for the year. It was all settled," said Ian MacIntyre. "You can't start looking for work again in the middle of October."

Both MacIntyre and Toner criticized Morris' methods.

"He's supposedly here to serve students," said MacIntyre. "Well, I don't feel very good."

UNB administration president James Downey dissolved the SUB's 11-member board of directors Sept. 28 and replaced it with six university trustees.

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CFS sues St. Marys for last year's fees

By WENDY COOMBER

The Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) is suing St. Mary's student council to regain \$14-\$18,000 in student fees. The fees were collected for CFS but withheld when St. Mary's pulled out of the national student organization in March of 1983.

The anti-CFS posters read, "Thanks for Nothing". Sixty-nine percent of the St. Mary's students who voted supported the pull-out.

Caroline Zayid, former CFS central committee representative for Nova Scotia, said the CFS has contacted St. Mary's often with letters and phone calls, asking for their fees. She said when St. Mary's finally referred the matter to their lawyers, CFS did the same.

Simon Lono, former CFS Board of Directors representative for Newfoundland, said the lawsuit was "a matter of controversy among the [CFS] Executive. Suing your own members or ex-members is just not kosher."

However, said Lono, CFS has tried every other means to recover their funds and this lawsuit "is the last resort."

"We don't want to antagonize [St. Mary's]," said Lono, "we just want our money back."

Zayid said chances of CFS winning the lawsuit are strong.

"The argument that they weren't getting the services [of CFS] probably won't hold up," said Zayid. She added that as long as St. Mary's was allowed to vote at CFS meetings and were treated according to CFS's constitution, there won't be a lot they can complain about.

St. Mary's was CFS's first member when it started up in 1981. Two years later St. Mary's VP Internal and co-chairperson of the CFS no-campaign, Drew Franklin, was quoted as saying, "I don't feel CFS is representing Nova Scotia students here. Until that changes, we don't want to be members."

Zayid said CFS hasn't ruled out yet the possibility that St. Mary's may still pay CFS the fees before the case comes up in January.

According to Zayid, CFS is involved in two other lawsuits right now. CFS-Pacific is suing the administration of a small college in British Columbia for withholding their fees, and CFS and the University of Waterloo are suing each other also over withheld fees.

St. Mary's student council representative Dave Phillips was unavailable for comment. □