

A capsule of Dalhousie student council

by Ralph English

Proceedings of the November 20 Meeting held at Howe Hall

—Atul Sharma, Vice President (external) presented a brief report on the recent Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) conference held in Ottawa. Sharma said CFS has moved to accommodate the concerns of the Atlantic region. "We came out of that conference with most of what we wanted to see. I would not like to see a pull-out referendum," said Sharma.

DSU president Tim Hill advo-

cated deferring the referendum decision until January. Agreeing with Sharma he said, "I think we got what we wanted."

—Council accepted the recommendation of its Grants Committee granting \$300 of a \$500 request from the Dalhousie Christian Fellowship. An additional \$700 was granted to the Pharmacy Society in response to a request for \$800. Both grants were for general expenses.

—Council joined University Security and the president of the university in supporting a request to municipal authorities for a pedestrian corridor across South

St. to the Dalplex.

—Rusty James, of the *Dal Gazette's* "Rusty and Dave", was ratified as Winter Carnival Chair.

—Quote of the meeting, by Atul Sharma: "I don't often quote Machiavelli; I usually leave that to Tim Hill."

Proceedings of the November 27 meeting held at Shirreff Hall

—Council passed a resolution calling for additional financial support for computer sciences at Dalhousie, and for a public statement of administration's plans for computing science over

the next five years.

—The resignations of two members of the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement Board, Nick Kasapontes and Rod Peterson (chair), were brought before council. The resignations were prompted by council's October 30 censure of the Board for its tardiness in investigating irregularities in Nursing Society elections.

—The DSU voted to express its concern about the treatment of Palestinian universities in the Israeli occupied territories by sending letters to the Canadian Minister of External Affairs and

the Israeli Ambassador to Canada. In addition, \$300 will be donated to Birzeit University for the purchase of textbooks and supplies.

—A second hand bookstore will be set up early in January. Council is seeking a Bookstore coordinator.

—DSU executive was requested to meet with the executive of DAGS to discuss the Graduate House's reading room expenditures. A motion censuring DSU Treasurer Shawn Houlihan, for "high-handed" wording of a letter to DAGS president Liz Bedell, was defeated.

—Tim Hill gave notice of a motion to impeach councillor Bernie McDonald for his poor attendance at council meetings.

—\$275 was granted to the Graduate Education Society for general expenses.

Milne elected to seat on senate

by Ken Burke

Newly-elected Dalhousie Senator David Milne is looking forward to serving on council—with some qualifications.

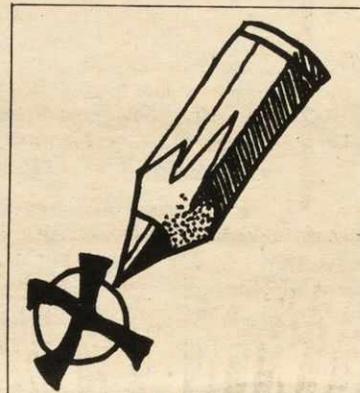
"I think student council should be concerned with issues which directly affect Dal students," he said.

For Milne, a second-year Science student, this means less attention should be paid to issues such as the international political situation.

"I don't think student council should be terribly concerned about international events such as condemnations of another country's policies," he said.

Milne was elected to one of six student seats on Dalhousie Senate during a by-election held Nov. 22 and 23. Milne received 313 votes, or 34% of the 919 votes cast for Senate in the election.

Milne says he is "interested in determining academic priorities with regards to the financial situation.



"In this era of restraint and renewal, there'll have to be hard questions asked about how programs can be funded," he said.

Milne also said council had to be flexible on the issue of tuition hikes. "I think it's inadequate to say we shouldn't raise tuition costs," he said. "In the long-term, perhaps a little (increase)—but not excessive this year," said Milne.

Long-term planning is vital to ensure any tuition raises were justified and in the best interests of students, he said.

Milne said he ran for the seat in Senate, which had been vacant since Craig Carnell resigned early in the term, to get involved with student council. "I wanted to find out more about how the university and Senate ran," he said.

Elections returning officer Michael Tilley said there were no irregularities in the election campaign, which included a referendum to allow CKDU to become an FM radio station.

"I was thrilled with the voter turnout," said Tilley. "It was higher than the general election last year."

Milne spent \$15 in campaign expenses during the election.

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Dal council supports U of Bir Zeit

by Bob Morrison

For Dalhousie students who worry about academic freedom, attending Bir Zeit University for a semester would be a real eye-opener.

The Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) recently passed a resolution expressing support for the Palestinian students of Bir Zeit University on the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

When three Palestinian Universities on the West Bank, Bir Zeit, Al Najah and Bethlehem opened again in the fall of 1982 after being closed down by Israeli authorities, all foreign staff and students were required to sign a statement stating they would not support "directly or indirectly, the organization known as PLO or any other terrorist organization that is considered hostile to the state of Israel."

At Bethlehem University, this meant 40 teachers and 285 students were refused permits to work at the university and were turned away from the campus by armed Israeli soldiers.

All such actions by the Israeli Government follow from its Military Order 854 of July, 1980. This extended the existing Law 16, which originally concerned control over primary and secondary schools, to include universities as well. This power was originally given to the Jordanian Education Ministry but was in



David Milne

Fear of getting caught—the only deterrent at Dalhousie

by A.D. Wright

The Killam Library will get a new book security system over Christmas break, at the possible loss of three jobs and an expense of \$38,000.

The system will involve magnetically charged strips in book bindings and a detector by the front door. A librarian will demagnetize borrowed books by the front door.

Currently three Commissionaires check book bags and parcels. Dr. Birdsall said they will stay on for about a month after the installation. Max Keeping, head of Dal Security, said no decision had been made at this time. The Commissionaires have received no formal word.

The new system is similar to systems in use at the Saint Mary's Library and the library at the Technical University of Nova Sco-

tia. It is scheduled to be installed December 20.

Effectiveness is the reason given for installing the system. According to Head Librarian Dr. William Birdsall, an average of \$40-50,000 worth of books are stolen from the Killam and Macdonald Libraries every year. It is hoped the new system will reduce this by 80-90 per cent, he said.

Three Commissionaires work at the Killam; two full-time on weekdays and one who works weekends.

There is some confusion as to the current duties of the Commissionaires. Max Keeping said, "They merely check book bags." Dr. Birdsall said that was their primary duty. The Commissionaires say they do much more.

"We do 101 things a day," said Cpl. Commissionaire Ann Amiraault. She listed the locking of

fire exits, elevator control, key control, enforcement of the food and drink ban, noise control and general public information. "We save Security 25 trips a day over here," she said.

Dr. Birdsall said that the library staff and Dal Security will be able to do these functions "with no major difficulties."

The Commissionaires wonder. "We're hoping for the best, and the best would be to stay here."

Students complacent over Fenwick hikes

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versity, had for years (for its own purposes), registered with the Rent Review board. The first time the board questioned the increases, the university claimed it had no jurisdiction.

It appears that if student apathy could be overcome, tenants could benefit from the

use of the excess rents charged by the university, and perhaps even force the university to question its complacency.

Meanwhile, the appeal may not be given until after Christmas, and rents for the conventional apartments at Fenwick may be due before that date. Students who rent apartments at Fenwick

may consider withholding rents in lieu of rebates they should have received.

There are two types of apartments at Fenwick: apartments rented by the room to Dal students for the university year and conventional apartments available on a year-round basis and rented by the month.