

Make a team happy - vote today

Winston Brooks - Kurt Stoodley



Brooks and Stoodley

1. Having a strong voice on the Senate and Board of Governors is the only way to deal with the administration say Brooks and Stoodley. This would be best accomplished by attending meetings to transfer the anxieties of students. "We will make the administration well aware of student concerns," says Brooks.
2. Stoodley adds the only way to ensure a strong student voice to the administration is to make sure they know what's going on by contacting them through society reps and council.
3. Brooks thinks this year's council did "a fairly good job" but thought there was some "petty politicking far too often." He contends student council is there to provide a service to students. Stoodley says council has to be visible.
4. "There has to be regular communication. Students have to know who their council is and what they stand for," says Stoodley.
5. As Super Societies chair Brooks says he had some involvement with student council, particularly with the Treasurer Shawn Houlihan and VP Internal John Russell. Other than that, he says he had not been officially involved with council this year.
6. Stoodley says in the past he had "tried to stay away from student politics" but had followed the issues. "We figured it was about time to get in," he says.
7. Brooks said one asset of little direct involvement with council was that he had no enemies.
8. Neither Brooks nor Stoodley like the idea of differential fees. "I don't like differential anything," says Brooks. "It comes back to the issue of separation and discrimination, and being
9. Stoodley says if foreign students were cut off, the university would suffer for it.
10. "SUNS is beneficial" says Brooks, adding that it provides a central voice. He feels if this voice were loud enough, people would listen.
11. Regarding the CFS referendum, both Brooks and Stoodley say they would prefer if council would decide the issue. Brooks says CFS has a few major problems, particularly with the Central Committee, but it was only one year ago that Dal decided to join. Stoodley says

- CFS has a lot of potential, but time is needed to allow any large organization to develop.
- Brooks suggested cutting the amount of dues sent to CFS so that when the Central Committee of CFS see revenues dwindling, they would have to listen to what all the student unions are saying."
7. Student issues which Brooks and Stoodley think important are student aid, security, council communication and CFS. "If the government decides I'm not getting a bursary, I'm shit out of luck," says Brooks. He knows other students face the same kinds of pressures.
 8. Cutbacks have had the greatest effect on security and academic programs. Brooks sees cuts in security as a major mistake on the part of the administration, and says it doesn't make sense if the number of students increases to decrease security. As for programs, "I'm sure they're aware the only way to keep enrolment up is to improve the courses," says Brooks.
 9. Effective campaigns can best implement through forums. "You have to get students to some central place and talk to them — they're not going to come to the council meetings," says Brooks. Both candidates consider the Gazette to be another good way "because people read it," and the Dal Dispatch should be used more but Stoodley says "It's an expensive media."
 10. "If there's two positions I don't know, it's academic and external VP" says Brooks. He said the position was becoming more visible because of Tim Hill.
 11. Brooks thinks the position of VP academic is not necessary, and considers it a way to fracture student council and create a large bureaucracy which people are beginning to tire of. "We're not the federal or provincial government — one or both positions should be eliminated," he says. Stoodley thinks three VP positions could be combined and the VP Internal would then be "earning the right to keep his office."
 12. Other than through the Gazette, Brooks thinks communication between upper and lower campus might be improved if booths were set up on lower



Dunn and Tremills

Phil Dunn - Colin Tremills

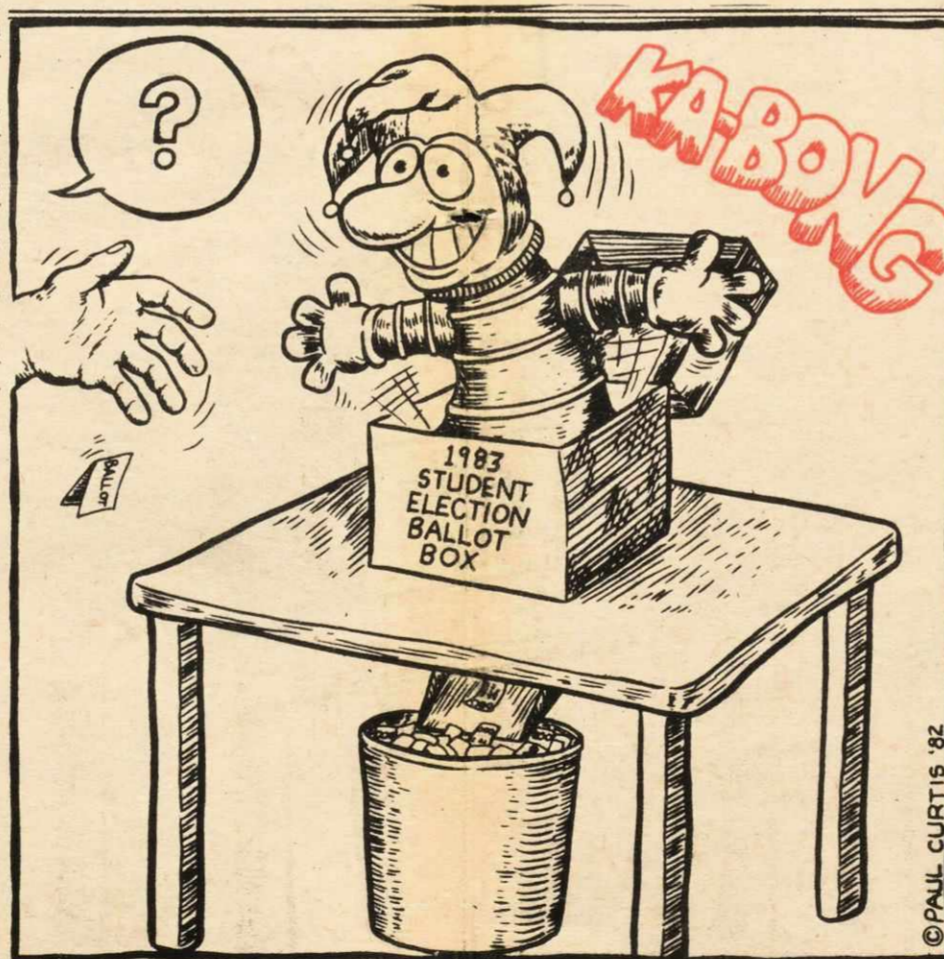
1. The only thing the administration listens to is piles of statistics, said Dunn. The only way to deal with them is to have persistence and to keep banging away at them. What is needed is a good system of information and facts and not as much bureaucracy. "If MacKay doesn't come around, we'll shoot him between his beady little eyes," said Dunn. That would be a very effective means of getting your point across, he added.
2. This year's student council is "a great bunch of guys," said Dunn. It is the first council in a long time that took its job seriously despite the resignations and the impeachments. The people on council are hard workers and they get out to meet people more often.
3. "I was the fabulous Arts Rep and Chairman of Entertainment," said Dunn.
4. "I'm drawn on the issue - but put me down against it," said Dunn. Basically they are trying to make the educational system walk a fine line. For example, many people ask why should an arts student pay for a science student's lab fees. It's a touchy situation but I think differential fees are not really a good idea as education institutions funded by government should be accessible to everyone, concluded Dunn.
5. SUNS is a fairly good body, said Dunn. "I've gone to some conferences and I think with the proper financial base it could do a better job than CFS. They're here and are interested in Nova Scotia and the CFS now isn't. There is a lot of potential for SUNS and most are dedicated to making the thing work.
6. Dunn said that the CFS is probably a good idea in basic ideology if it weren't for "the swine in Ottawa running the show. Students in Nova Scotia are ignored while the CFS gives much aid to Ontario universities. With the proposed referendum, they're scared and are now trying stunts to pacify Nova Scotia Student Unions," he said. He added that there are "a hell of a lot of people on campus who don't know what CFS is."
7. The referendum is a good idea, said Dunn. "From what I've drawn from it I get a very negative impression of CFS and don't see any tangible benefits from it."
8. Dunn sees major student issues to be Student Aid and high tuition. Housing is also a problem but he sees it as being very difficult to attack since council has very little control over it. There is very little you can do from year to year. Dunn stressed the fact that there are minute, petty issues from year to year. For example, this year the Fantastic Tiger Debate took up lots of time on a frivolous issue.
9. "There is a lot of apathy here," said Dunn. People just don't find out about things unless it directly concerns them. People must know a certain amount about an issue first before they can get anything out of it. What has to be done is to get information out where it is almost impossible to avoid.
10. Vice-president (academic) Neil Erskine functioned very well this year, said Dunn. Neil did a lot of committee work this year though people don't see a lot of it. He compiles the information we need to hit the administration with.
11. Dunn said that nothing was done in the office of Vice-president (external) when Dave Rideout held the office. "Dave Rideout tried to educate himself but wasn't able to settle in, so resigned," he said. Things did get done when "my illustrious opponent Tim Hill" came in, Dunn said. "Tim did a good job and has done a couple of reports that educated a lot of people." The report on the CFS was particularly good, added Dunn.
12. "We have a lower campus?" said Dunn facetiously. There is a geographical rift between the two campuses and it is a two-way thing. There have been few overtures in the past on either side. Generally, added Dunn, the lower campus has run its own show in the past. All are apprehensive about doing anything about it but Dunn feels it will pick up in the future. There should be a start made soon with a communications booth on the lower campus. People who man the booth should be "interesting, innovative and shouldn't wear suits," said Dunn.
13. Dunn said that being president of the student union would be a full time job and that he would treat it that way. If elected he said he would not take any courses.
14. You see brief glimpses of Dalhousie's school spirit from time

Questions: President:

1. How would you deal with the administration on cutbacks and other student issues?
2. How would you evaluate this past year's student council?
3. Were you involved with this year's student council? In what capacity?
4. What do you think of differential fees and quotas?
5. What do you think of SUNS?
6. What is your stand on a CFS referendum?
7. What are student issues?
8. What would you consider an effective campaign promoting education about student issues?
9. How do you think the roles of VP's external and academic functioned this year?
10. How would you improve communications between upper and lower campus?
11. Do you have enough time for the job, and what other commitments might you have?
12. What do you think of Dal's school spirit.

Vice-President

1. Is SUB management good and what changes would you propose?
2. How can students be made more aware of student union societies?
3. What is the role of societies in the student union?
4. How would you improve communication and involvement with lower campus and people who don't normally frequent the SUB?
5. Is the campus media fulfilling its mandate?
6. What do you think of corporate sponsorship in general, and in terms of campaigns and events?



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Chris Hartt - Erin Steuter



Hartt and Steuter

1. Both Hartt and Steuter feel the only effective way to deal with the administration on student issues is in research and preparation. Hartt thinks the Students' Council should be in a perpetual state of readiness when discussing cutbacks with the administration. "We should be prepared not to let the students be taken by surprise," said Hartt. "I'd like to see any fees above yearly tuition rates announced to students before registration, in the calendar."
2. Steuter stresses the importance of constructive action in negotiating with the administration. "The main thing," said Steuter, "is to have the answers the first time we approach the administration on any issue."
3. While Hartt believes this past year's Students' Council started off with a bang, he's convinced council effectiveness has been sacrificed to internal strife and bickering. "Council looked good when we came into it last year, but it hasn't worked out the way I thought it might. There has been lots of infighting and a 25% turnover in members," he said.
4. Steuter agrees but goes further, suggesting council should limit the number of committees currently working on problems and unite on vital issues. "That way," said Steuter, "communication will be 100% better."
5. Hartt has been heavily involved in this past year's Students' Council. He was elected last year as a student senator.
6. He's been active on council's security and constitution committees. Hartt is a student representative on the joint Senate-Board Committee on financial restraint and the Senate discipline committee. He's also on the President's committee on Parking and Security.
7. Steuter, elected last year to council as member-at-large, has been active principally in the problems of security at Dalhousie. She sits on the Security Committee and the President's Committee on Parking and Safety. She's also been concerned with improving relations between the Students' Council and the student body. In her capacity, she's been active on the women's committee.
8. Hartt thinks the government

- should be providing students from the Third World with a strong incentive program for study, wiping out the necessity for differential fees. "We should be taking the initiative to help Third World students, but the onus should be on the government."
- Hartt is opposed to quotas in principle: "They are never fair. Admission should be on the basis of merit." Steuter agrees with Hartt on differential fees and quotas.
- Hartt thinks SUNS has been better this year than in previous years. Still, he stresses, the organization has managed at times to "screw up." Hartt thinks SUNS can be strengthened and made into a "viable lobbying body," effective against the provincial government.
- Both Hartt and Steuter perceive CFS with jaundiced eyes. Both approve the CFS referendum, citing the organization's unresponsiveness to the maritime region and internal disorganization as reasons for review. Hartt and Steuter are drawn on exactly what to do after the referendum. Steuter favours pulling out of CFS completely. Hartt thinks this drastic action may not be called for after a referendum brings the Federation's weaknesses into focus.
- Both Hartt and Steuter see tuition as the big issue facing students. Hartt says that while tuition is going up all over the region, so is the cost of living.
- "When I first came to Dalhousie three years ago, I paid \$900.00 tuition. Now I pay \$1300.00," said Hartt. "Lack of student aid combined with the poor economy drives students into poverty." Hartt wants to alleviate the problem for Dalhousie students by creating job-aid programs in the Students' Council.
- "The Students' Council could use students in research capacities, working on some of the problems council deals with all the time."
- Steuter sees housing as another big student issue. She notes the high prices on apartments in Halifax, and the distances many students have to cover to get to classes.
- Hartt says any education campaign on student issues must address what concerns students vitally.



Hill and McIntyre

Tim Hill - Susan McIntyre

1. Hill said the best way to deal with the administration was to adopt a set position and lobby towards that end. "This wouldn't happen until you've thoroughly researched the issue," he said. As an example, Hill said, "We're asking the Board of Governors not to make a decision on tuition until they see what the criteria on student aid is."
2. Hill said he is "very keen" on Dalhousie sticking to 6&5 per cent government guidelines for tuition hikes. He also expressed hope that students may soon get a voice on the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC), after talking to MPHEC members recently. He added he would lobby in Dalhousie's Board of Governors.
3. Both Hill and McIntyre thought Council was generally effective this year. Hill said there have been internal squabbles, but most councillors have been motivated by a genuine desire to help the people they represent. Hill praised outgoing president Rans in particular for a "helluva job".
4. McIntyre said she was more involved with internal issues, and praised the new ideas brought forward by council last year.
5. Hill and McIntyre were both on the council executive this year - Hill as V-P (external) for the past three months, and McIntyre as Community Affairs Secretary all year.
6. During his term, Hill wrote a lengthy report on the controversy between CFS and SUNS, a report on the state of student aid with respect to bursaries, a report on lobbying towards keeping tuition down next year, and also took part in the recent re-organization of SUNS. Hill added that his report on bursaries was distributed to every student council in the province and the entire Dal student council.
7. McIntyre, as Community Affairs Secretary, felt she was successful in presenting alternative programming at Dal, such as the Hauser lecture and the Thursday at Noon series. She was also the chair of "the most active women's committee Dal's ever had", and sat on the Security committee, the daycare committee, and the President's parking and security committee.
8. Hill came out strongly against differential fees for foreign stu-

- dents. He said the proposed increase in differential fees could result in tuition doubling for non-Canadians at Nova Scotia institutions. "It's expensive enough for third-world people to come here," he said, adding, "We should discourage elitism, and differential fees encourage it."
- Hill was against foreign student quotas at Dal for the same reasons as differential fees, he said. "They're pretty arbitrary," he said.
- Hill said SUNS had done a good job this year, but it could do far better next year, stating he had committed much time and effort to the organization. He noted that in the province, only the College of Cape Breton had not been involved in the organization.
- McIntyre and Hill agreed that if a referendum were held right now, they would vote to get out of CFS. "They pay very little attention to what we say," said Hill. McIntyre, who has attended several CFS conferences, concurs. The \$3,000 in fees going to CFS from Dalhousie were of concern to Hill, considering the lack of response from CFS. "We both agree with the idea of a national student movement," added McIntyre.
- Hill identified two different types of student issues - those relating to problems involved in getting to university (accessibility, unemployment), and those problems relating to the quality of life while at university. Hill said they were very concerned about student housing, wanted the provincial government to release its bursary qualifications sooner in order to adjust tuition accordingly, and were strongly against user fees and secondary charges levied by the university.
- "One of the other big issues is the attrition rate," said McIntyre. She explained that a study revealed a 30% rate for first-year Dal students not returning for a second.
- Hill said any effective campaign would have to work on three levels - that of students, administration and faculty, and the general public. Students would be fairly easy to educate because of their direct involvement, and the administration and faculty depend on education for their existence, said Hill. He said the most important level to educate was the general public. "The