

Poor scheduling a problem for Daltech students

BY LAURA DAVIS

Getting to class on time can be tough at the best of times, but imagine having ten minutes to trek from Daltech (the former Technical University of Nova Scotia) to Dalhousie to make it to your next class.

Last spring, the Technical

University of Nova Scotia, located on Barrington Street in downtown Halifax, merged with Dalhousie to create a new college Daltech.

As a result of this amalgamation, many students studying computer science and electrical engineering have courses on both Dalhousie and Daltech campuses. With just 10 minutes separating some classes,

getting to class is presenting a number of students with a difficult obstacle to overcome.

This is the first year of a pilot project in these programs. What were once five year degrees have been reduced to four year programs offered through Dalhousie. The programs now have their first year courses solely at Dalhousie, and the remaining years are at

Daltech. Many upper-year students are taking first year classes, but this reality was not factored in when course timetables were set up. As a result, students are faced with the difficult situation of trying to make it to back-to-back classes on two different campuses.

The trek can take up to 30 minutes depending on pace.

One electrical engineering student remarked on his luck in class selections.

"I'm lucky. I have the time to get between classes, but if I didn't have the time, I wouldn't make it to half of my classes," said Tim Covert.

Several proposals have been bounced around to remedy the situation. One suggestion was to delay the class start-time, but this would mean the loss of valuable instructor time.

A shuttle bus that would travel between the two campuses has also been suggested, but this idea is not likely to be pursued.

At the Dalhousie Senate meeting held on 8 September, the problem students and professors were experiencing in their attempts to travel between campuses was brought up. At that time, Dalhousie President Tom Traves was asked if

it "would be possible to quickly implement a shuttle service."

In response, Traves "acknowledged the importance of the issue, and assured members that the Vice-President (Student Services) was attempting to determine the extent of the problem and the most effective means of addressing it."

It was suggested that a long-term solution should be sought, rather than a band-aid for the immediate problem.

The Dean of Engineering, Carl Hartzman, does not see a shuttle bus as a possible solution. He says that the idea of a shuttle bus is not necessarily economical, where the cost of maintaining a shuttle bus system may end up being comparable to paying cab fare for the students to get to class on time.

While the issue is being addressed by University officials, no solutions are in the foreseeable future.

In addition, while ideas are tossed around by Senate and the Engineering Department, affected students are being kept in the dark as to why no solution is being found for their immediate dilemma.

Daltech gets a big Dalhousie perk

BY DANIEL CLARK

The former Technical University of Nova Scotia may soon be reaping its first big benefit of amalgamation.

The Dalhousie Board Operations Committee and the Senate Physical Planning Committee held a special joint meeting on 9 September to discuss the possibility of building a new structure on the Daltech campus.

Currently Daltech leases space in the Maritime Centre on the corner of Barrington and Spring Garden Roads to house the Faculty of Computer Science.

The space costs the University \$1-million per year. The provincial government has awarded Daltech a grant which covers the rent until the year 2006.

The motion passed by this special joint committee would plan for a completion date of September 1999. The building would be financed by the seven years remaining in the government grant.

Allowing for a discount rate of 5 per cent and a 2.95 per cent interest rate which Dalhousie has acquired, and figuring in \$200,000 per annum of maintenance for the new building, that will leave between \$4.6 million and \$5 million.

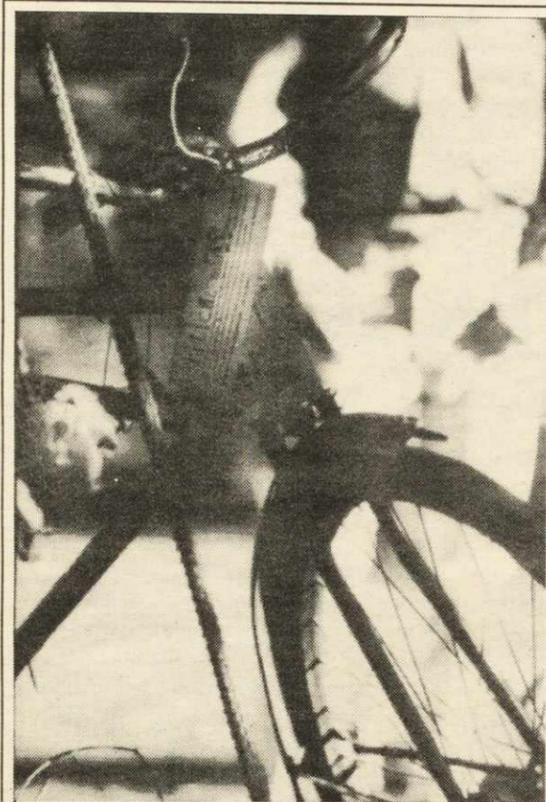
The new building would be around 60,000 square feet and

would be specifically designated for the newly created Faculty of Computing Science.

The joint committee passed the following motion which has to receive final approval from the Board of Governors:

"That the Board Operations Committee and the Senate Physical Planning Committee recommend to the Board of Governors the establishment of a Daltech Building Steering Committee to plan a building to house Computer Science and other academic units currently accommodated in rented facilities. Such a building of about 50,000 to 60,000 square feet would be funded from the cash flow of the Province's \$1 million per annum rental grant which continues until 31 August 2006."

According to an administration source, while no formal site evaluation process has begun, possible sites include the parking lot at the corner of University and Victoria, next to the Tupper Building, and an under-used building on the Daltech campus. The new building could even be placed at an as yet unidentified site.



RIGHTS FOR BIKES - Critical Mass, a group of local cyclists have taken to the streets en masse in an attempt to raise driver awareness for local bikers. Every second Tuesday, the group (up to 30 cyclists) chooses a route, and occupying about one lane of traffic, bikes through the streets of downtown Halifax. Critical Mass was inspired by a similar group in San Francisco. The group's goal is not only to raise local awareness of bikers, but to encourage more people to choose cycling instead of driving in the city. Their next outing is slated for this coming Tuesday, 30 September. To find out more about Critical Mass check out its site on the world wide web. Photo by Ryan Lash.

Looking for a career in health care?



Are you caring, conscientious and self-motivated?

Consider chiropractic—the third largest primary contact health care profession in Canada. We offer a natural approach to health care!

The Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College is one of the finest chiropractic colleges in the world, with a four-year programme leading to qualification as a Doctor of Chiropractic.

To find out more please contact

Admissions

CANADIAN MEMORIAL CHIROPRACTIC COLLEGE

1900 Bayview Avenue Toronto ON M4G 3E6

Telephone (416) 482-2340

1 800 463-2923

Fax (416) 482-9745

e-mail: admissions@cmcc.ca

On The Web <http://www.cmcc.ca>



Deadline for applications is November 30, 1997!

Bikers and Brawlers

continued from page 1...

bouncers were ordered to restrain the students who were trying to enter the brawl in aid of their fellow students.

"By the way the bouncer held me by the throat, it looks as if the bouncer and the [bikers] were friends," observed a squad leader.

One student managed to return to the bar. Upon entrance, he was told, "We'll fucking stab your ass."

Following the brawl, two students were sent to hospital while a third was taken along as a witness in the police car.

-The students were taken by one

of the two police cars that arrived at the scene.

At the hospital, the physician in attendance said that more than a knuckle was required to cause the damage to one student's face.

Key said that a valuable lesson has been learned by the residents.

"The guys are okay, and it could have been a lot worse," remarked Key.

"One guy was badly beaten up, but he's alright and quite honestly the only thing to say is that it's a shame something like this happened. The guys involved have the same attitude; they're not ever going to go back [to the Lighthouse]."

NEWS-IN-BRIEF

Operating Engineers Union protests job terminations

Picketing Dalhousie's campus, the Operating Engineers Union protested the termination of six temporary employees on Tuesday, 23 September.

The Union, which includes employees at both Dalhousie and Daltech, were upset that six men recently lost their jobs after serving Dalhousie for up to 10 years as temporary employees.

"How would you feel if at every Christmas you were laid off so that the University doesn't have to pay you for the Statutory holidays, which all other employees and management receive, and then you are asked to return to work right after New Year's?" The union stated in leaflets distributed during the demonstration.

"Our Collective Agreement clearly provides for 'temporary' employment and we believe that the University has blatantly violated that provision, but more critically, the rights of employees who continue to be denied full time jobs."

According to the union, as a result of its demands that people who are employed as temporary workers over an extended period of time by the University be given full-time jobs, six temporary jobs were terminated.

The union protest on Tuesday was an attempt to protest the loss of these six temporary employees (one of which had been employed by the university since August 1987).

Forum on Student Poverty

The Canadian Federation of Students will hold a forum on student poverty all day Saturday, 27 September.

The aim of the forum is to raise awareness of student poverty, and to work towards possible solutions through public policy, funding and community groups.

The event, to take place on King's campus at Union Local 34, kicks off at 8:30 a.m. with drinks and muffins and will run through until 5 p.m. Although Dalhousie students are no longer members of the Canadian Federation of Students, they are encouraged to participate as student poverty affects all students.

The Gazette needs news writers. Come to room 312 of the Student Union Building.