

Editorial

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And with that, another step toward the Multiversity of Halifax, as the Maritime School of Social Work became the latest victim of Dalhousie University's ravenous expansion appetite.

Once an independent institution, the School of Social Work has become part of the graduate study program and the property of Dalhousie. All this comes hot on the heels of an innocuous little affiliation agreement concluded last year.

Similar agreements have been reached with Mt. St. Vincent and the Nova Scotia Technical College, on the grounds that increased cooperation would eliminate duplication of services. This, of course, is true and that's the trouble.

There was a time when a student could exercise a degree of choice in picking his poison, and be reasonably sure that he would not become lost forever in endless files of computer cards and classes of 500 people. Education was a far more personal thing involving close relationships with professors and other students in a creative environment.

The trend towards centralization of University services in this area can only be seen as a bad thing when one considers that choice will become more a thing of the past than ever as higher education comes under a single administration. The great grey hordes populating such an institution will be the cause of mass intellectual death by suffocation.

Consolidate... eliminate duplicate functions... economize. These are the slogans of the businessman; they ensure peak production at least expense.

As products, we should all realize that this university is run as a business venture at the expense of education. The Board of Governors draws its membership from the corporate community because they know how to manufacture and sell products at minimum cost. There are no bleeding-heart educators in their midst.

Just as companies become corporations become monopoly conglomerates, the monolithic multiversity will consume the small college and the advantages associated with its autonomy in the interest of efficiency and sound business administration.

Take a look at King's College for example... but look quickly. King's doesn't really have a hope in hell.

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