

The Letters/Opinions section of the Gazette is meant as a campus forum for all Dalhousie students. The opinions expressed within may not necessarily be those of the Gazette staff or editorial board. We welcome all submissions, but reserve the right to edit for style and content. It is the Gazette's mandate not to print racist, sexist or homophobic material.

MORE LETTERS

DFA obliged to strike - for students' sake

To the editor,

Andrew Woods expressed his anger regarding his conversation with me in his letter in the Gazette on March 26. I understand and appreciate his frustration with the current situation at Dalhousie and his worries about his job.

Woods came to my office a day after the DSU rally. He told me that he had a job set up in North Carolina and the faculty must not go on strike because he didn't want to lose his job. He more or less told me that he held me personally responsible for the strike. I told him that the DFA had been doing everything possible to achieve a negotiated settlement for the past eight months, and our struggle was to protect the quality of education at Dal.

He didn't seem to be interested in what I said. I asked him if he had read anything published in the Gazette or anything that the DFA put out. He said he had better things to do so he didn't. I asked him if he attended the rally and listened to the presentations made by his fellow students. He said he had to get his car fixed so he didn't attend the rally either. I asked him if he knew anything about the issues. He said he didn't. At this point I was getting rather annoyed by Woods' comments, and made the statement that he quoted in his letter.

He carried on to say that the strike was unacceptable to him, and reiterated his job in North Carolina. I told him he should go express his concerns to Dr. Traves (I don't think I used the expletive he claims I did). I also told him that I didn't have the time to explain the issues to him to justify the DFA's position. I added that there are 14,000 students at Dalhousie and I couldn't possibly take

20 minutes or half an hour to explain these things to every student if they, like him, decided to come to my office.

I suggested that he should, like everyone else, learn the issues and follow what is going on from the material that the Gazette, the DFA, and the administration put out. To start him off, I made photocopies of some of the material and gave it to him. I also mentioned that if he had any questions after reading those he could contact me.

I cannot agree with Woods that my reference to the fact that I could not individually explain the issues to each one of the 14,000 Dal students is offending. I think the impossibility of this would be obvious to everyone. I must also add that I never heard any student at Dal attribute that "classic Dal attitude" to faculty. On the contrary, all of the students that I have talked to praise the individual treatment that they receive from their professors. My students have been expressing their satisfaction with my treatment of them in their anonymous course evaluations since I started teaching at TUNS 10 years ago.

I have no doubt that Woods is a fine, intelligent and reasonable gentleman, and I hope he won't choose to leave this fine university. As I said to him during our unfortunate conversation, I and all of my colleagues do care immensely for our students and their best interests. In addition, the faculty also do have an obligation to protect Dalhousie and its present, as well as future students, from mediocrity. This is why we had no choice but to go on this strike. I think we would be inexcusably guilty if we didn't fulfil our obligation.

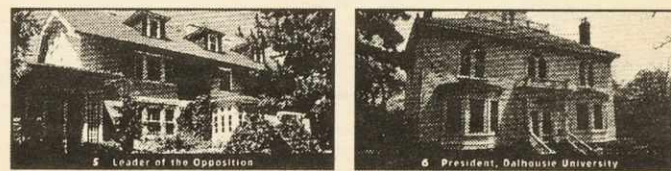
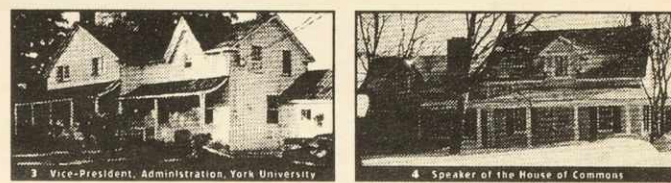
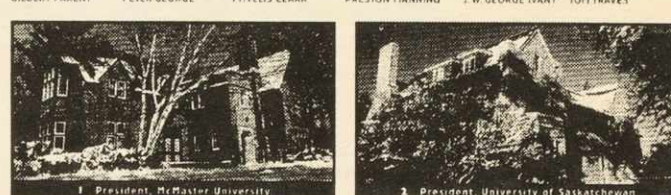
ISMET UGURSAL
President
Dalhousie Faculty Association

Traves in the lap of luxury

Low Rent

Every job comes with its perks, but there's a big difference between getting a discount on pantyhose and moving into your own official residence. Can you match these six lucky employees with their stylish living quarters?

BY BERNICE BARTH



Dalhousie's president has been up to his ears in contract negotiations during the day, but by night he is at ease in the posh home provided for him by the university.

Traves was one of six "lucky employees" featured in an article in this month's issue of *Elm Street* magazine.

"Every job comes with its perks, but there's a big difference between getting a discount on pantyhose and moving into your own official residence," wrote Bernice Barth.

Other "lucky employees" whose homes were featured on the list: Leader of the opposition, Preston Manning; speaker of the House of Commons, Gilbert Parent; and three other university administrators.

Students might be bothered by their president's extravagant home, but we are thrilled that Dalhousie is still investing the money it takes to keep our facilities first-rate.

We're thinking sleepover Dr. Traves. So what if students are pissed at you? There must be tons of room in that big old place, and what better way to improve relations than with a little get-ta-know-ya time?

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Monday April 6	Multiplicity 10 PM - No Cover
Tuesday April 7 10 PM - Close	Open Mic w. Judy Fraser \$50 Prize
Wednesday April 8 10 PM - \$2 cover	Queen Bee & the Honey Hive
Monday, April 13 10 PM - \$2 cover	14 Cheeks

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