El Salvador book campaign success

by C. Ricketts

Like their counterparts at the University of El Salvador, students at Dalhousie's Spanish department had a hard time holding classes by late October.

Seventy boxes contining 1500 mostly medical and science texts effectively blocked the blackboard in the department's class /seminar room.

The books were donated by Dal students to be sent to the students at the University of El Salvador. Spanish professor John Kirk organized the drive for money and books here on campus. "I'm extremely pleased and very grateful to colleagues and students for their initiative" he beamed.

A committee of ten students helped Kirk pick up and box books and collect donations totalling 2100 dollars to ship them to El Salvador. Faculty contributied 1100 dollars and the Student Union gave a grant totalling 1000 dollars. The Student Union also donated books left over from the Second Hand Bookstore held in September.

Of 35 universities in Canada participating in the campaign, Dal collected the most money and books. "It's important to be involved with things like this," said DSU president Tim Hill. "It's apolitical and it's supporting education."

The Unversity of El Salvador was closed in 1980 by the government and since that time has been occupied by the military which has inflicted some 20-30 million dollars damage. Until the government agreed to reopen the university this year, classes continued in rented or donated premises but risks of arrest and detention for both faculty and students was high.



Spanish Professor John Kirk and able-bodied student pack boxes and boxes of books to be shipped to the University of El Salvador.

Ivory Tower the Inside

Take

by Samantha Brennan

Lights, camera, action . . . Dalhousie's student union (DSU) goes prime time on community cable channel 10.

Inside the Ivory Tower, the new student union program, aired for the first time on Oct. 31.

Dal student council, on Sept. 11, voted to produce a television show aimed at showing the community what the university offers them for their tax dollars.

Tim Hill, DSU president, submitted the proposal for the show to council for approval. Hill describes the idea as "a flash of inspiration." Councillors often refer to it as "Hill's baby."

It will cost DSU \$2,627 to produce fifteen shows, honoraria for the students involved making up \$1,500 of this amount. At the council meeting DSU treasurer explained funding for Inside the Ivory Tower will come from a miscellaneous or contingency fund. Cable 10 are providing their services for free.

Hill sees the program as a way to give the people whose tax dollars fund the university some positive information.

"Inside the Ivory Tower is actually a paradoxical title," explained Hill. "We're trying to show people that it's not an ivory

But students have mixed reactions to the program.

At an informational booth the DSU organized over October 2829 in Simpson's Mall, Scott Broderick, student and assistant producer of the program, experienced negative reaction to the show. Several students stopped to ask why the DSU was producing a "public relations show for the university."

"I hate to hear students saying that," said Broderick. He hopes to have the chance to address issues the public relations department wouldn't touch.

No one involved with the Ivory Tower sees much room for coverage of student issues. "Our first goal is to educate," said Hill. Broderick agreed, speculating there wouldn't be any "controversial" content until the spring.



Both the administration and the public relations department at Dal are happy with what the student union is doing. Hill describes the administration as "very supportive" of the show.

The first edition of the Ivory Tower featured a general introduction to Dalhousie. Other proposed topics include the marine sciences department, the art gallery and the professions at Dal. "This is just the tip of the P.R. iceberg," wrote Hill in his proposal.

Content of the show must be approved by a committee of the DSU. The committee is composed of Hill, Broderick, Community affairs secretary Caroline

Zayid, student host Bob Heinrich, senator Donald McInnes, a cable liaison person and the director of the university's public relations department. Broderick and Heinrich are non-voting members of the committee.

McInnes was originally vehemently opposed to Hill's proposal because he felt no one watched channel 10. He questioned the effectiveness of this

means of communication. But McInnes now sees some potential for the program. "If it's going to go ahead anyway, I'm going to do my damnedest to help it work," said McInnes.

Inside the Ivory Tower has already experienced its first hitch. The premiere edition was rescheduled because of a Hallowe'en special. Of six student councillors contacted, none saw the first showing of Ivory Tower.

"If students watch the show they will soon realize it isn't a public relations piece for the university," said Broderick. "So watch it." Inside the Ivory Tower is aired at 7:30 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays, every second

CKDU: An idea whose time has come?

by A.D. Wright
"It's going to be radio as it should be," said CKDU Station Manager Keith Tufts.

Dal's student radio station wants to go FM. Whether or not it will depends on the outcome of an upcoming referendum, the exact date of which will be determined by Student Council on November 5.

CKDU is proposing a lowpower 50 watt FM stereo transmitter be mounted on the roof of the Physical Plant which would have a broadcasting range of about 8.5 km (5.4 mi).

If CKDU wins the referendum, full-time Student Union fees will rise by \$6.49. Currently, \$2.53 of Student Union fees go towards CKDU.

The reason for the increase is the \$78,593 worth of new equipment needed for CKDU to go FM. As well, \$17,859 is set aside for Canadian Radio and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) hearing expenses, taxes and a contingency fund, bringing the total capital expenditure to

"Right now, our programming is geared towards the SUB ence" said CKDU Programming Director Eric Taylor. He said the station had to respect times when people study, among other

"Under FM, people will be able to turn us off," he said. FM programming would be different because it would have to hold listeners by playing what they wanted to hear. Alternative music, local acts, unestablished material and new releases will be included, said Taylor. "You'll

hear stuff on us that you wouldn't hear on C100 for weeks," he said.

Putting CKDU on the FM dial is an involved process. If it wins the referendum, CKDU's first step is to pass CRTC hearings. The CRTC, government watchdog of the airwaves, issues broadcast licences, prevents duplication of existing services and regulates programming's Canadian content. CKDU hopes to submit its application in Janu-

Campus stations have historically had little difficulty with the CRTC; there are currently 18 of them in Canada, only one of which has had to make a second submission. The entire process takes 2-3 months. If all goes to plan, CKDU's approval would likely arrive in March.

Once approved, CKDU will order new equipment. Installation and testing will continue through the summer of '84, and CKDU-FM will be broadcasting by next September.

Turning CKDU into an FM radio station is not a new idea. In March, 1981, a student referendum was held with a 64% majority voting against the proposal.

Since last year, a lot of effort has gone into creating another FM proposal. This past summer, several reports were compiled, constitutional changes made and Station Manager Keith Tufts and DSU Treasurer Shawn Houlihan toured campus FM radio stations in other parts of Canada.

According to Tufts, the 1983 CKDU proposal is a viable one. "There is no good argument against it," he said.