

opinions

Kaurélie gets the last word

It's somewhat appropriate that I find myself submitting an article in the Gazette's last issue of the year. People always did say that I have to have the last word. (I don't believe it though). Well, what can I say... there is so much!

My first year at Dalhousie... it makes a bus ride in India seem tame. It will be hard to beat this year's drama (some say satire) in student politics next year. However, I am up for the challenge and I have an inking the tone has been set for the next semester to come.

There are a few ideas that I wish to share with you. Some of them are already familiar with them; if so, then my admiration goes to you. Maybe this will just be a reminder. I, on the other hand, went through a lot to come to this realization and it only just occurred to me quite recently. I guess this just shows the complexity or possible simplicity that each individual must go through to arrive at a common thought.

I want to begin by asking you a few questions: Do you believe a person is entitled to just claim and legal guarantee? Do you think the system should be morally, legally and ethically proper? And do you believe that individuals or groups should advocate liberal reform and revolutionary change in the established order?

If you agree with these questions then you are agreeing with both the

'left' and 'right' political ideologies (please excuse the colloquialisms), as defined by the Webster's Dictionary.

If you're wondering what my point is, it is one of vision. Over the past year I have been part of various groups, which consist of many sub-groups that affiliate themselves to a particular political attitude. Though the variation is positive, I find many have lost sight of what is truly important. Too often people gobble up rhetoric without first filtering it and analyzing what it means, let alone applying it to their own reality. The beauty in having so many views is that the differences complement each other.

We all want to live in an environment that is safe, that offers accessible services and resources. Yet, we have adopted the divide and conquer attitude when instead we could utilize the common ground that we share and unconditionally upholds these interests. I think what makes the earth such a dynamic and interesting planet, is the diversity of the many individuals that roam around it. This isn't a plea for everyone to get along, hold hands, and respect each other (though that would be fun).

Unfortunately, there are persons who don't agree with any of the questions I asked earlier and subscribe to such a personal agenda that everybody else is merely peripheral. This is when it is of the utmost importance that we stand in solidarity and

through collective strength, voice or passion for justice and morale. Now some of you may be asking, "she only just realized this?" Well, yes it is.

I have always thought that standing up for myself and others is vital and an integral part of today's society. Yet, there were times that I am ashamed to say that I was personally ideologically centric. Maybe I'm just getting older and this isn't such a big deal, but I think my emphasis is one of balance and seeing the world as

neither black nor white, but a hazy shade of yellow. Some of you may read this and think it is terribly idealistic and naive. But I believe that too much cynicism hinders development and improvement.

I want to finally just add that today I am proud of the students of Dalhousie that are active in the betterment of our quality of life here. You know who you are, and whether it was an article/editorial in the Gazette, or one on one connection with

someone. Thank you for your voice, your courage, and integrity by sharing it with others.

"Security is mostly a superstition, It does not exist in nature, nor do the children of men as a whole experience it.

Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than outright exposure.

Life is either daring adventure, or nothing.

To keep our faces toward change and behave like free spirits in the presence of fate is strength undefeatable."

The last word by an inspirational writer — Helen Keller

Kaurélie Hagkull

Ask Jo & Joe

The year is over, and we'd like to put some things into perspective. Just a few thoughts on what you thought and what we thought and what we did over the year.

People have told us that they liked the column because it made them laugh, or because we were just irreverent shits, but none of that is the real reason why we did it.

Jo: I think Jo & Joe has been about freedom — free speech, free thought, free action. We've been controversial. Frankly, I think we were controversial to make the point that we can be. As students here we represent more than our colours, religions and heritages. As students, we represent change, dissent, free will, movement and strength.

More than anything, I think writing this column has made me appreciate that there was a lot going on behind the scenes that I didn't know about, that no one is told about. It has been the premise of the Jo & Joe column to speak out about the things that we see, and we tried to spark some debate and perspective. Live Love & Laugh!

Joe: I think that we've given you all a good read — sometimes funny, sometimes serious, but always from the heart. We set out at the beginning of the year to bring some of your ideas to the fore, and we've done that. We wanted to be in your face, and I know we've done that. I hope we've given you a few laughs and raised some awareness about things here on campus. I hope we've give you some inspiration to speak up about things that piss you off. I've had a great year doing this and I hope you've enjoyed us doing it. My word to all of you: Don't walk in anyone's shadow.

To all of those whom we offended, we'd like to say that we're sorry, and that you should try to take the things we said as the jokes that they were meant to be. The best way to raise the issues we pissed you off about is to fight back and get your piece heard. Hell, that's what the opinion section is all about. It's about saying: Hey, I've got something to say. That's what we did this year. We wanted a voice, and we wanted to give you a voice.

But hey, who are we, anyway? Just a couple of average Jo(e)s, just like you. And that's our point. Any average Jo(e) can speak their beef too.

Thanks for the laughs. See you next year.

"I love you, I kiss you, bye bye!" — Jojo (psychic)

Joanna Mirsky and Josef Tratnik

Student Bus Tour

for International Students
from Commonwealth Countries

Where: Peggy's Cove, Chester, and Lunenburg

When: Saturday, April 29

The bus will leave the Dalhousie S.U.B. at **9:00 am**.
Return between 5:30 - 6:00 pm.

Cost: \$5.00 - Lunch will be provided.

We will be eating at the historic Boscawen Inn in Lunenburg.

Registration: Phone 422-8649 after 5 pm.

Deadline for registration is Thursday, April 27.

Number of Participants: Minimum 25
Maximum 46

MOVERS FROM HELL

- Local, Regional and Long Distance
- International Shipments
- Truck to Ontario Mid-April
- Student Discounts

Call Mike:

477-6435, leave a message or
499-8682 (cellular).

CRUISE JOBS

Students Needed!

Earn up to \$2,000+ per month working for Cruise Ships or Land-Tour Companies. World Travel (Hawaii, Mexico, the Caribbean, etc.). Seasonal and Full-Time employment available. No experience necessary. For more information call:

(206) 634-0468

ext. C40013



DO YOU HAVE A B.A., M.A., B.COMM., B.B.A., M.B.A.,
B.SC., M.SC., B.ENG., ETC?

OUR ELEVEN MONTH PROGRAM
CAN TURN YOUR
FOUR-YEAR DEGREE INTO A JOB.

ACI is the largest information technology training organization in Atlantic Canada. Our unique 11 month program is specifically designed for university graduates from a broad range of disciplines and with little or no background in computing. Courses include Novell, UNIX, Visual Basic, C, Oracle, Powerbuilder, Object Oriented Design

and Analysis, and much more. At ACI, you will study in a completely modern facility and have access to the latest hardware, software, and network technologies. ACI also features an individualized career counselling, work term, and job placement service to successfully launch your new career as an information technology professional.

NEW CLASSES START JANUARY,
APRIL, JULY AND OCTOBER.

CALL (902) 423-8383 FOR A
BROCHURE OR TO
ATTEND OUR FREE
INFORMATION SEMINAR.



YOUR SPRINGBOARD
TO A JOB IN THE
NEW ECONOMY.

aci
Atlantic
Computer
Institute