

Faculty on other NS campuses get better, earlier settlements

By SAMANTHA BRENNAN

Negotiations between the Dalhousie Faculty Association and the administration continue, but most faculty associations in Nova Scotia reached agreement long ago.

Monetary settlements to date range from a high of an 8.5 per cent increase at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design and St. Francis Xavier to a low of 6 per cent at Acadia. Dalhousie's administration is offering the faculty here a 1.54 per cent increase.

Dr. Peter Schwenger is the president of the Mount Saint Vincent University faculty association. The association and the administration agreed last year to a 6.7 per cent

salary increase, he says.

Because the faculty at MSVU are not unionized they meet at a committee level to discuss levels of pay increase, says Schwenger.

At St. Mary's university the faculty are unionized and contract negotiations are still ongoing.

Faculty union president Guy Chauvin says that he hopes St. Mary's administration and faculty will reach a settlement by the end of the month.

The faculty union at SMU will probably not resort to a strike vote to get a reasonable settlement, he says.

"We've done it before," says Chauvin. "And we may have to do it again. But not yet."

Dal faculty move to strike vote

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ing table where he says both sides agreed it would remain.

"Dr. Sinclair-Faulkner's information is not correct and while negotiation continues the Board shall negotiate with the DFA negotiating team and not with Dr. Sinclair-Faulkner unless he joins the negotiating team at the bargaining table," says Crocker.

He refused to comment on the negotiations on these grounds.

Sinclair-Faulkner disagrees.

He says it's essential that students know about issues that could affect them. For him, making students aware of problems the DFA are having is all part of his work for the DFA campus support committee.

Geoff Martin is a student representative on the Dalhousie Board of Governors. He agrees with Sinclair-Faulkner that there are

problems with access to information regarding the negotiations.

"I don't know what anyone else knows but I don't know very much about it," says Martin. "It's being discussed on the board but . . ."

Meanwhile the work continues for the members of Dalhousie's faculty association—for those who sit on the negotiating team and for others like Sinclair-Faulkner who do committee work for the DFA.

He says he spends at least two days a week visiting various groups on campus to talk to them about the faculty negotiations.

"I'm tired of writing letters," says Sinclair-Faulkner. "I don't want to spend the next two months doing this."

He says there are other things he'd prefer to be doing—writing, researching and spending time with his family.

And if the strike vote fails on Oct. 25 he'll go back to doing just that.

Gigeroff says students are chief concern for council in DFA talks

By KATIE FRASER

The Dalhousie student council will not take sides in the Dalhousie Faculty Association (DFA) dispute with Administration over contract negotiations. Taking sides wouldn't be practical, says DSU president Alex Gigeroff.

"I would not support either the DFA or the administration without council support," says Gigeroff.

He added that if such a decision were to be made, council would have to take into account its effects on the students.

"One thing I think council should consider is, what the effects of strike action will be. My initial reaction is that I hope any action taken would not be detrimental to the students."

In a meeting with Tom Sinclair Faulkner, a DFA representative, Gigeroff agreed to the DFA's request for use of meeting chambers in the Dal SUB and permission to set up a DFA information booth in the foyer.

"It's not a matter of supporting either side. If the administration asked [for this privilege] we would say yes, they just haven't asked."

Gigeroff says the request was granted because "students should have every available opportunity to know what's going on. They have the right to know, and this is the most practical way to do it."

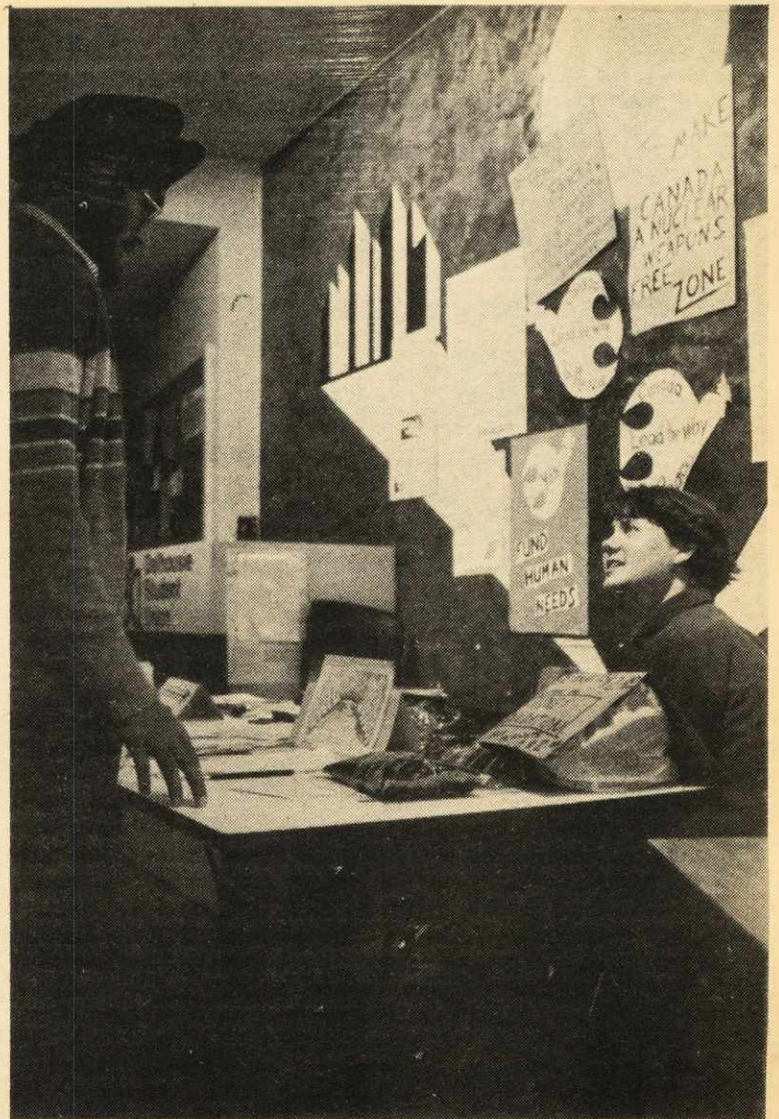
"They [DFA] certainly showed a willingness to get a hold of us. They expressed a willingness to talk. We have been offered to sit on both DFA and administrative sessions," says Gigeroff. "I don't think it's appropriate for us to take action on something that isn't there yet. If the situation arises, when the DFA has a strike vote, council may wish to express the wishes of the students. I am confident that we will make the position very clear on the issue."

But in the case of a strike vote, which might mean partial or even complete cancellation of classes, it would be the students who would suffer, says Gigeroff.

According to Sinclair-Faulkner, "the ultimate weapon is to go out indefinitely." Gigeroff says this is unlikely to happen, but if it does, the student union is prepared to defend the students.

"If enough students come forward and say this is an intolerable situation and are sick of it, we would play hardball with them [the administration], meaning legal action. It's best to think of these things beforehand, just in case."

"They should submit both cases to the student council for arbitration. The student union should be charged with binding arbitration," said Gigeroff with a grin. □



We can't think of anything funny to say about this photo. This is a picture of someone considering signing the Peace Petition Caravan appeal in the SUB. If you can think of anything funny that would work under this photo, write it down, and bring it up to the *Gazette*. We're looking for funny people to write fun things under photos. Right now we're just droll pathetic people too bloody concerned with politics and stuff like that to really have a good sense of humour. We're sorry.

Photo: Ellen McKenzie, Dal Photo

UPEI first university to undergo complete audit

CHARLOTTETOWN (CUP)—

The University of Prince Edward Island will be the first university in Canada to be completely audited.

The university's senate made the decision after reviewing the university's financial situation for the past several years.

But several senators say they fear the move will set a dangerous precedent, allowing the government to have an unwelcome glimpse into the university's operations.

"It makes me very nervous," said J.J. Revell, director of UPEI's business school.

"[Provincial auditor Tim Kaptein] will treat us just like another government department," he said.

But religious studies professor and senator Phillip Davis said the

audit is necessary.

"Other universities don't come as close to the brink of disaster as we seem to do every spring," Davis said.

Another senator, Bob O'Rourke of the business school, agreed. He says the university needs more efficient financial management.

"We're not going to have a horde of blood-thirsty chartered accountants with long fangs running around."

The university board of governors had already called for an audit, but the senate had to give its approval.

The provincial auditor will look through the books because a private firm would cost the university several hundred thousand dollars. □

Computer foul up gives 130 students a boost

VICTORIA (CUP)—One hundred and thirty B.C. high school students will benefit from a computer error, to the tune of \$1,000 each.

The provincial government has blamed an outside contractor for a computer programming foul-up that resulted in the students' names being included on a scholarship list.

Education ministry spokesperson Dick Melville said 3800 students took the scholarship examination and 1100 students were later notified by mail they qualified for a scholarship.

But the programming error

switched the names of 130 unqualified students with qualified ones. When the mix-up was discovered, a corrected list was sent out, Melville said.

The 130 students who received scholarships by mistake will be allowed to keep the money.

"We're not so hard up that we'd ask them to return the money," Melville said.

He added the contractor, the Education Research Institute of B.C., will be billed for the \$130,000 mistake. □



"Put your John Henry here," says Majid Addo to Mayor Wallace who signed a proclamation declaring October International Students' Month.

Photo: Darryl Macdonald, Dal Photo.