

LETTERS

Want speeches moved

Dear Editor,

I find it very disturbing that the candidates' speeches are going to be held in the Duffy Amphitheatre.

First of all, I believe more people can fit into the library lounge, which leads to a better student awareness of the candidate's and the campaign, and a possible larger voter turnout.

After all, isn't that the whole idea, more participation, not less?

Secondly, the atmosphere in the lounge is better for this type of meeting; students can relax, perhaps have a coffee or sandwich while the speeches are taking place.

Also, the location of the library is better, simply because it is the main centre of student activity.

I think the results of the speeches would be far better if they were held in the library lounge, and I therefore ask the Student Union to take steps to correct the situation.

I also ask that students

with similar concerns speak to their SU representative about this before it is too late.

Sincerely,
Mark Taylor

P.S. Why change a good thing?

Vet comment

Dear Editor:

I read the article on page 3 of the February 7, 1985, edition and would like to request that you inform readers of two errors in fact contained in the article:

1) There is no stated average which students must attain;

2) First year courses will have a considerable component of applied aspects in their content.

From your report, it seems that the students were otherwise very well informed by Dr. Bond.

R.G. Thompson, Dean
Atlantic Veterinary
College

Did attempt — Meincke

Dear Editor:

I was very surprised to learn from your lead article on the students' meeting with Premier Lee that he apparently believed that the lack of communication between his government and the University is the most immediate problem in relations between the two groups and that "the University was going nowhere but down before the Vet College agreement".

I found those and other statements attributed to him so incredible that I was seriously tempted to doubt that you were reporting him correctly.

There is no doubt that the University has had several very bad experiences when we communicated through what we thought were the proper channels and then later found that key government people knew nothing of the information we had given government through those channels.

When we tried communicating with everyone we thought should be informed we heard, via the grapevine, that there was considerable dissatisfaction with that technique.

Your report is the first time I have heard that Premier Lee feels that communications between the University and his government is such a problem.

During the review of my

presidency, the Review Committee told me that my relations with the Provincial Government had been described as "mixed to poor".

I found this rather surprising because, until we had a very serious disagreement about the degree of involvement of the University in the building of the Veterinary College, I thought that our relations were quite good.

I tried to find out more about this particular concern, but was able to find out very little except for vague hints that perhaps I was lobbying the government far too much.

I think it is important for your readers to know what steps we have taken to try to improve communications with the Provincial Government over the years. If these steps have been so ineffective that Premier Lee still sees it as the major problem, then it is very important for your new President and the Board to know what steps we have already taken so that new avenues can be explored.

Perhaps the present government can also consider what steps it might take to ensure that the efforts the University makes are more successful.

When I set up the steering committee for the new athletic facility in 1980, I tried to get representation from all groups that could possibly be interested, especially if we were going to use the facilities for the Canada Games.

In particular, we had

hoped to have someone from the Provincial Government. Although everyone else, including the City of Charlottetown, responded positively, no representative was named by the Provincial Government.

Nevertheless, we continued to keep in touch informally, and when plans were completed a small delegation met with many of the cabinet ministers individually and then with the full Executive Council.

I remember being surprised when one cabinet minister complained that he had never seen our overall plans and priorities which we had submitted through the normal channel of the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission.

There is no doubt that we have many serious problems communicating about the Veterinary College over the past five years, but I really thought we had solved these problems when we worked so closely and effectively together to finalize the agreements in the first half of 1983.

It is particularly hard for me to believe that Premier Lee would say that we have been in the position of having to "pick up what's going on from your President's speeches to Rotary," when I have consistently briefed the Minister of Education on developments at the University, especially on anything that I thought might be controversial.

There may well have been

continued next page

At a staff meeting some weeks before nominations for the Student Union elections closed, the staff of the Netted Gem decided that staff members running for office will not be permitted to write articles or editorial comments during the campaign.

This was done to eliminate any possible allegations of biased coverage of the campaign and elections.

The Netted Gem

March 7, 1985

Volume 2, Issue 20

Hi ho, hi ho, it's off to Halifax we go. Some of us are going to an Atlantic Region Canadian University Press conference hosted by the SMU Journal this weekend, but barring a better offer there, we shall return in time for next week's issue. This week we are: Robert Bodrog-Goodland, Glen Boswall, Ron Lewis, Brian Linkletter, Brian MacLeod, Jonathan Orłowski, John Pendergast, Nancy Ross, Carolyn Ryan, the Shadow, Bob Stanley, Phil Stanyer, Jill Warburton, Dave Yorston, and Michael Zinck. Welcome as well to Dan and Reynold ... please come back ...

Views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Student Union, the staff, or anyone in particular. We reserve the right to edit copy for space, style, or legal reasons. Letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced, and submitted before noon on Mondays. All letters must be signed by their author(s), but name(s) may be withheld upon consultation with the editor. Phone 892-4121, extension 387. Staff meetings are Mondays at 6 p.m. All students are welcome to join the staff.



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