

NOVA SCOTIANS HAVE THEIR OWN 'SUNS'

by Valerie Monsour
Canadian University Press

Nova Scotia student representatives have called for opposition to any and all tuition fee increases. Delegates from seven post-secondary institutions met November 25 and 26 at Acadia to continue work on the new provincial student organization which is to be called Students' Union of Nova Scotia (SUNS).

A steering committee was established to prepare a brief to be presented to the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission, and to meet with the province's education minister.

The chair of the committee is B.J. Aresnault, Acadia student union president, who will be the spokesperson for the organization.

Students plan to continue local campus work against cutbacks. "Students should demand that administrations take a stand on cutbacks,"

said Gene Long, Atlantic Fieldworker for the National Union of Students.

"Administrations have always talked about the quality of education, but then they accept the level of government funding. That's surprising because of the year to year difficulties they face."

Student aid was also a major concern of the delegates. The MPHEC will this year begin a comprehensive study into student aid. The committee will include student representation although the commission has yet to decide how students will be chosen. The committee will

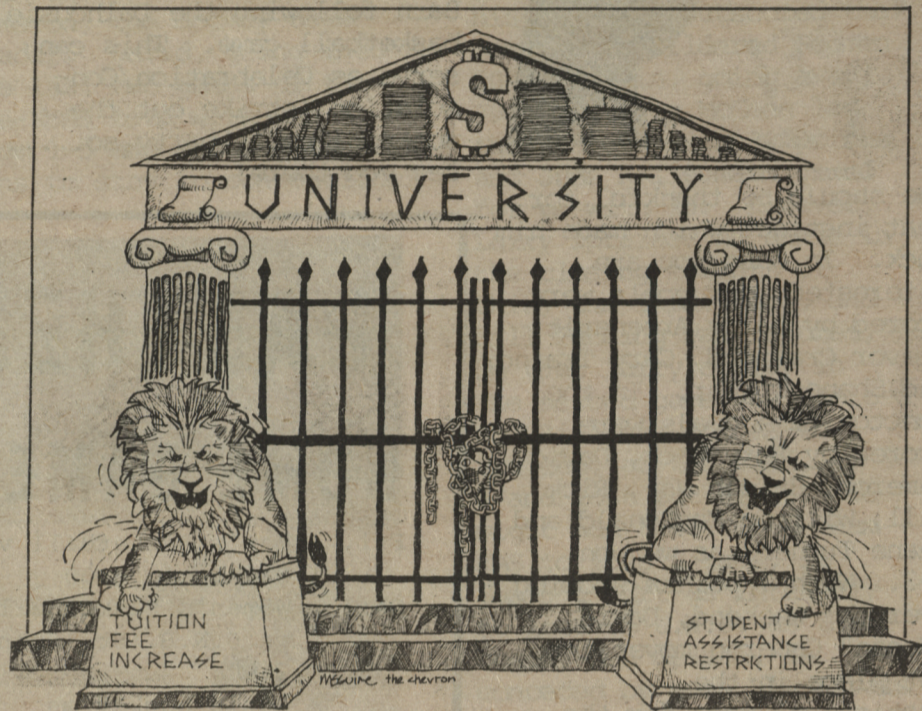
have representatives from all three Maritime provinces.

"If the government is going to raise tuition to an outrageous amount perhaps we can decrease the increase," said Howard Bashinski of Acadia. "But I can't stress the importance of student aid."

Mike MacDonald, Nova Scotia rep on the NUS central committee, told delegates of the need to discuss issues such as cutbacks with the province's labour officials. "It would be good to get union support," said MacDonald. "Workers' families are most affected by government cutbacks and tuition increases."

John Wiles from Kings said that both staff and faculty have vested interests. "They are all affected by cutbacks. If all parties are together we can get more done fast."

MacDonald will be meeting with Union people to discuss these issues and report to the next meeting.



DISPUTE OVER PROF FIRING

by Valerie Monsour
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The 1973 disputed firing of Acadia University music professor Robert McCarthy should be resolved by March 15.

Acadia Board of Governors gave approval November 25 to university president Alan Sinclair's recommendations and rejected the president's resignation.

Sinclair had tendered his resignation October 18, only five days after his installation, because he wanted freedom to resolve the McCarthy controversy.

McCarthy was refused tenure in 1973 after teaching at Acadia for one year. An independent hearing committee had recommended he be retained for another year after which his contract would be reviewed, but he was formally removed in 1975.

Sinclair had recommended that a two person committee, one member chosen by faculty and one by the board of governors, appoint an investigator who will study and resolve the dispute. The

investigator will be appointed by December 31 and must be completed by March 15, 1979. Oral and written reports by interested people will be received by the investigator.

"The feeling at Saturday's board meeting was quite good," said William Parker, spokesperson for the Board of Governors. "People are looking forward to the McCarthy case being resolved for once and for all."

Roger Lewis, Acadia faculty association president, said that the faculty wanted binding arbitration all along. "Now we've come down to the nuts and bolts". Lewis said the faculty was concerned that the arbitration would be in private. "It will be important to have the opportunity to protect our position and challenge

statements when necessary."

"But I have confidence in Dr. Sinclair," Lewis said. "I'm sure whatever happens will be accepted common practice in the country."

Lewis said the faculty will be bound by whatever the arbitrator recommends. "He can recommend anything from immediate reinstatement to no action on grounds of no merit, and anything in between."

"The faculty's position all along has been immediate reinstatement," said Lewis. "The procedures for McCarthy's re-evaluation were never carried out. The original non-renewal of this contract gave no reasons for his dismissal."

"The board of governors has had the attitude that they don't have to give a reason," Lewis said. "But that's obsolete now. If you don't want to renew someone you have to give them advance notice, and you have to provide reasons."

The executive of the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) decided November 4 to recommend to their council that Acadia be censured for their handling of the McCarthy case. If a settlement is reached before the May meeting of the CAUT, the motion of censure will be dropped.

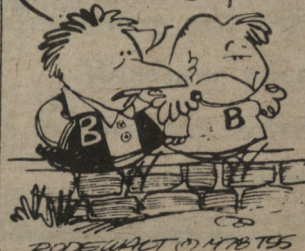
Delegates worked out a constitution for the new organization calling for membership by campus referenda with a per student fee levy. Student councils will be discussing holding these referenda in the spring so that the organization can officially begin next fall.

The constitution also calls for the implementation of campus committees to carry out the work of the organization.

The next meeting of SUNS will be at Church Point, N.S. hosted by the Universite Ste-Anne, the last weekend in January.

THE BYRDS

IT'S GOING TO BE A ROUGH SEMESTER. MY ALGEBRA PROF WON'T ACCEPT MY SEASONALLY ADJUSTED FIGURES.



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