

S.U. Elitists aren't great - but students are worse

An issue came up in the two preceding issues of The Cadre, concerning the "elitist" Student Union Executive. I'd like to add my voice to the general issue but I'm afraid there can be no retaliation as I was at the General Meeting and the meeting the year before and am presently and have been in the past active and involved in Student Union affairs. Therefore, I can hope to be absolved from persecution for sticking my nose into business which is any student's concern. Namely, the business of the Student Union.

I am proposing that this year's executive is elitist, that it is a small clique that is very close-mouthed, very underhanded, and occasionally damn obnoxious. There is not one of them who is not on a power, or if you prefer, ego-trip except perhaps Marilyn MacPherson.

Let's go back to the beginning. Election speeches and promises. Gordon Campbell: his concern at the time was for apathy and for the editorial rag bag called The Cadre are now laughable. He has done nothing to increase student participation and no damn wonder. Old 100% sincerely yours is about as close-eared to the voice of the ordinary Joe Student as he is close-mouthed to him. In effect he says nothing nor does he hear anything. For instance, why did he not get up and say something at the Objectives Meeting. After all he is our elected representative and when they asked to hear from the students he had nothing to say. The Student Union must be a paying affair. It must make a profit on Fall Festivals, on Orientation, on Winter Carnival, on Radio CSUR, on The Cadre, and on the Pig 'n' Whistles. (This must tell you something about the interests of the Student Union. No wonder Gordon had nothing to say at that meeting.) I haven't seen any profit in the concerns so far met. I realize Fall Festival and Winter Carnival are out of the question but I don't hear or see anymore advertisements on the Radio CSUR of The Cadre -- are they paying for themselves? I do see people getting in FREE of charge at Pig 'n' Whistles. Some are our illustrious council members, some are friends or friends of friends of the Campus Police. I do see free beer going over the counter -- excuse me -- "suds" as The Cadre would have us say.

Now Gordon -- you're lucky

I don't have that much time to spend on all of you so I'll turn my attention to your partner in crime; (and that is just an old well-used cliché so don't get excited) Brian Howatt. Brian, just where did you come from? A Nobody who arose to fame and fortune (of is that another old cliché) as treasurer. This boy's been busy folks, let me tell you. Firstly, he works very industriously to try and get rid of our business manager Micky Place. He succeeds (very successful lad isn't he, he'll go far.) Micky was there to safeguard our treasury in case of slip-ups. Now, there are a few questions I have for you: Firstly, who decided -- the executive of the council -- to release Micky. Secondly, what

were the conditions by which Micky Place went on part-time? and what sort of foresight or insight was used? Thirdly, what is to become of the money from his salary and last but not least is there anyone -- anyone at all who realizes what we lost when we lost Micky except for Jane MacCormac who has now fallen heir to counting money, issuing receipts, trying to keep bills straight and making deposits among other things, yes, she must miss Micky....

Howatt is now doing Micky's job (of course Micky does do the book keeping doesn't he?) his own job, and his school-work all at the same time. Fine figure of the all-Canadian boy isn't he? By the way Howatt -- where is that budget we've been promised?

Marilyn MacPherson is doing a fine job-- no sarcasm intended.

Teddy Crockett (big man on Campus)! How are you feeling? I presume you're feeling no pain as usual! Here's another all around nice guy for you. Comptroller. Won by a fabulous majority--very popular boy. Head of the Campus Police last year--my, my, how active how involved! Did you know that Crockett is still head of the Campus Police? Oh, I know Rennie is doing a fine job but after all they're still Crockett's boys and he'll do anything for them--nothing's too good for my boys-- I'll leave you alone if you promise to go soak your head!

Michael Read! Communications Officer. Did anyone vote for him by the way? Mike knows

What has S. U. done for you?

This is a question to which most people can not answer. Rather there is a question asked in return; "what does the union do with my \$40. each year?" Unless you are on council, (I wonder if any of those people really know) you have no idea. I understand that there is now available a budget for this year which can be picked up in the S.U. office. This is fine and dandy if you know that there is a budget available upon request. But how are the students in general supposed to know this, if the information is not leaked out to the public? and there are ways available for this purpose, i.e. CADRE, CSUR. Why aren't they being used? For what reason have our illustrious leaders not done this? But speaking of our illustrious leaders, where are they, who are they, and what are they doing? What happened to all those glorious promises and threats of last year's campaign?

Would you believe that the five people who are leading us (God knows where) are not even known by 90% of the freshmen on this campus? This is pretty bad. It seems that the big bad monster known to us all as "Apathy" has seeped in and conquered even those who last year were so defiant and ready to battle it in an all out war. Is there no hope for all of us poor bastards who are feeding the union \$40. a year?

In the forboding darkness and gloom, there may be somewhere, a tiny point of light. But there are many obstacles

in the way. Apathy, laziness, and this rip off condition that is prevailing our campus must be stopped now before something or someone bigger gets fed up and wipes it all out. Just like with the 40 days and 40 nights of rain.

There have been a few suggestions thrown my way as to what can be done. I now pass them on.

Dear Exec.,
come down out of your clouds. Let yourself be known, There are alot of us out here and we do want to know you. How you may ask. How about throwing a couple of rap sessions in the dorm lounges? How about coming up to the radio station and being on a question and answer show? Maybe you could have one of your five available during the lunch hour in the barn and cafeteria for questions.

Next. Let's try to get your jobs done. This includes reports being presented on time, making sure we know what your plans are. I mean it's ridiculous if as news director of CSUR I can call up to ask about a meeting or who is running for an office and no one knows.

Of course being an officer is not an easy job, nor is it meant to be. There are people who are willing to help you with your jobs. After all no man (or exec.) is an island.

Yo Willis

Marion MacEachern, Junior,
Science:

Student Union has talked long enough about apathy but

I hope their attitude toward their own jobs wasn't reflected in their presentation to the General Student Body at the general meeting. I for one was very dissappointed in that they didn't bother to prepare reports. I for one have "tried" to be in contact with what is going on but it seems the executive are the only ones who know what's going on and they are quite hush hush! They have tried I realize and give them credit but please executive don't give up - quitting never solves any problem.

Colleen Honeyman, Freshman,
Arts:

I really can not think of anything the student union has done for me.

Karen Stevenson, Freshette,
Arts:

I too can not think of anything the Student Union has done for me.

Crystal Madill, Sophmore,
Arts:

The Student Union has done nothing visibly profitable for the students of U.P.E.I. The student union has become nothing more than a clique hanging around the basement of Memorial Hall trying to avoid thoughts of where lost money has gone, and scheming up ways of dividing the new student fees into deceptive activities dissembling the students completely.

Florence Cahill, Senior,
Arts:

The Student Union provides