

# EXTENSION LIGHT

A VOICE FOR  
EXTENSION STUDENTS  
OF ALGOMA COLLEGE

VOL. I NO I

MARCH 1973

A special meeting of extension students was held March 12th in the College Auditorium after evening classes. The meeting was arranged by Paul Saarinen, the extension student representative on Students' Council, and Pat Speer, last year's representative and who is a member of two college committees this year.

They were aided by a telephone committee who undertook the onerous task of trying to phone over 700 extension students.

It was the hope of Paul and Pat that the meeting would encourage extension students to play a more active role in College affairs, to demand that extension students be consulted before decisions are made at the college which will affect extension students.

The consensus of the meeting was that:

- (1) More meetings should be held;
- (2) The next meeting should be after classes on Tuesday, March 27th;
- (3) Students should be contacted by a newsletter instead of telephone.

It was felt that a newsletter containing background information about current problems would facilitate discussion.

At the last meeting a group of day students rather monopolized discussion of recommendations being made in budget committee which Paul and Pat feel are detrimental to the interests of the extension students in particular and even to the best interests of the college.

THOSE OF YOU READING THE MARCH 12th ISSUE OF THE Northern Light ARE NOW AWARE THAT MANY FULLTIME STUDENTS ARE EQUALLY AS UNHAPPY ABOUT

- (1) The activities of the budget committee AS PAUL AND PAT ARE, AND
- (2) The use to which the student newspaper has been put for over three months.

SO WERE MANY OF THE EXTENSION STUDENTS AT THE MEETING!



The cost of printing and mailing this newsletter was paid for by donations. If the extension students had their own student association, such newsletters could be paid for out of the \$2.00 per course student activity fee which each of you pays every fall when you pay for your courses.

Under the present student council constitution, extension students hold only one of the eight seats on the executive committee of the students society. Worse still, they have only a fifth of a vote each in electing those who hold the other positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Athletic Coördinators (2), and Ombudsman.

This constitution was drawn up the year the college opened and attempts to revise it have met with massive indifference. There does exist a draft for a new constitution prepared last year, and a draft for an extension society prepared two years ago, by an extension group headed by Mrs. Helen Stortini.

Neither has ever been put to a vote!

By the way, the only person — other than the President — who can call a general meeting of all the students (and not in one constituency alone) is the Ombudsman. He also sits on the marks Appeals Committee.

This year's elected ombudsman has apparently withdrawn from school. Despite the importance of the post, nothing has been noted about this in the student newspaper.... but a small notice was posted on the College bulletin board in the coffee shop requesting new nominations by March 16th... so that someone can be appointed to the post.

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If extension students had their own association perhaps something could be done about the habit of Academic Council and its committees meeting during the day.

This practise discriminates against all students having day jobs!

It discourages such students from running for election for seats on Academic Council — the body where faculty and students decide all academic matters subject only to Laurentian and the Board of Governors in financial matters.

It is still discouraging them from joining the various committees which make recommendations to Academic Council, committees which are supposed to be open to any member of the college community who

chooses to join them!

This discrimination is particularly objectionable when you consider that students taking from 1 to 3 courses part-time outnumber those taking from 4 to 6 courses by more than 2 to 1, that these part-time students make up rather more than half the course enrolments winter and summer, and contribute more than half the fees.

Indeed, without the government grants which the College receives as result of extension enrolment, it would not be as economically possible for the College to offer the three-year full-time program. The present number of full-time students might just — between their fees and provincial grants — be able to pay the salaries of our regular core of faculty, but they could not pay the salaries of sessional or terminal staff, much less meet the costs of the library, administrative services, or the physical plant without the present extension enrolment.

Then, too, the larger extension enrolment of the recent past gave the College enough of a profit to pay for the move to Shingwauk when we were pushed off the Sault College site. (Although I suppose we could have tried holding classes in the old, condemned Prince Charles school which was never meant to hold more than 200 children at one time. After all, the rent was cheap!)

Certainly almost all full-time students would welcome greater extension student participation in College affairs.

It is our own lack of organization that frustrates their good intentions — and our own.

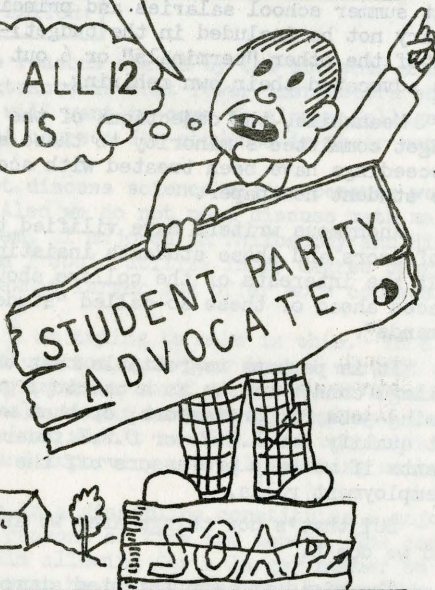
Perhaps those of you who come to the next meeting would like to help form an extension association within the present student society. A decision whether or not to separate could be deferred for a ballot vote next fall (by mail?), if desired.





POWER TO THE  
PEOPLE! ER...AH...  
TO THOSE WHO CAN  
COME TO MEETINGS  
DURING THE DAY!!

FOR ALL 12  
OF US



## BE A FRIEND TO ALGOMA!

The citizens of Sault Ste. Marie need Algoma College, and it is up to us, the present student body, to see to it that Algoma College continues to exist!

Algoma is providing an excellent liberal arts degree programme, as well as an equally-excellent introductory science year which is accepted as first year premed by quite prestigious universities.

And Algoma is doing this at a very low cost to the student — especially if he lives at home. And at an astonishingly low cost to the taxpayer!

Apart from the initial year in 1967 (when there were start-up cost borne by the Provincial treasury) the total cost per student carried by the government has never risen above \$1,600 here.

Usually the government has contributed less than \$1,200 per student (or per 5 extension courses). Elsewhere, the government contributes an average of \$3,500 per student per year for the cost of undergraduate education... according to the government's own calculations. As well, the government advances proportionately more in the way of direct aid to students at other institutions than it does here.

I sometimes wonder whether Algoma students appreciate the advantages our College offers. Certainly people who have attended other universities within the last two years can cite some of them:

our freshman classes never rise over a hundred students, even in the most popular courses. Most of the classes run no more than thirty— and many are less.

our faculty gets to know the student by name not a number, gets to know more about the student's ability, more about his strong and weak points our library is open to all students for longer hours and for far more days a year than elsewhere is usual. Students who have never tried to research a paper in a library with closed stacks just don't know how lucky they are!

Perhaps the physical plant leaves something to be desired. Fortunately the Board of Governors did get started on renovating the Shingwauk before the province froze capital improvements. Thus the Board was able to obtain a grant for the library extension which will not only provide the library with improved housing but will give us a student lounge and cafeteria.

Once again, as in the old Butler building, we will be able to meet and talk with friends met in other classes and other years — find out what they are doing and what their professors whose course we've not taken yet are like. Beats any evaluation questionnaire ever invented as any "oldtimer" (from Butler building days) can tell you!

Maybe it's time more of us in extension started aiding the college's recruitment campaign by singing the praises of the place. A LOT LOUDER than we have been doing to date!



# A REPORT FROM THE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Like all universities, Algoma has seen a decline in student enrolment and the consequent reduction in income.

It is very necessary for the college to budget what income it will have next year in such a way as will ensure the continuance of the college and its excellent academic program. The budget committee should be attempting to work out a budget which will do just that.

Instead, the majority of the committee have dedicated themselves to providing jobs next year for faculty hired for this year only, and whose contracts terminate on June 30th.

To fund this strange priority -- said to be in the best interests of students -- the committee majority has recommended:

- (1) that faculty teach summer courses without the usual overtime pay for overtime work;
- (2) that all faculty salaries be frozen completely regardless of the increase in cost of living;
- (3) that the position of principal not be budgeted for.

This last recommendation amounts to abolishing the office of principal, and if accepted by the Board of Governors, would leave the college to the mercies of Academic Council -- a council then having one less "faculty" seat than it does now.

Presumably Council would appoint someone(s) to carry out the principal's duties. But this person (persons?) would not have to accept responsibility for his (their) actions, or for the spending of public funds -- assuming that the government could be prevailed upon to give us any! ...And that Laurentian agreed to continue to credit our courses for their B. A.

The first two recommendations though violating accepted contract undertakings, might be acceptable to the faculty if

their financial sacrifice was designed to ensure the future of the college.

But it is not. It is intended only to pay for an increase in our staff at a time of dropping enrolment, and we may have trouble justifying to the government the keeping of our regular faculty -- recruited with offers of permanent employment (finances permitting).

Not one of the people who accepted one year terminal contracts was so recruited, and -- apart from one professor on terminal contract who is on budget committee (and who was the mover of the recommendations that summer school salaries and principal's salary not be included in the budget) --- none of the other "terminals" or 6 out of 7 has advocated their own rehiring.

Meanwhile, the objections of the budget committee's minority to these strange proceedings have been treated with scorn in the student newspaper.

Anonymous writers have vilified those professors and those students insisting that the interests of the college should be placed ahead of these so-called "student demands".

It is perhaps regrettable that the college cannot be run as a charity, guaranteeing jobs for professors, or that we do not qualify for L.I.P. or O.F.Y. federal grants if we keep professors off the unemployment rolls.

BUT that's how things are: we aren't and we don't.

The rigid and shortsighted approach to our real budget problems on the part of the Budget Committee's majority has brought the whole committee system into disrepute. The majority's attitude has delayed the drafting of a responsible alternative which would enable the college to properly plan for next year.

If the present proposals are accepted -- unchanged -- by our Academic Council, then the responsible alternative will have to be drawn up by the Board of Governors.

No Board, aware of its responsibilities to the College, and to the community, could possibly accept a budget encouraging administrative instability and faculty grievances.



It is my hope, as a member of the budget committee minority, that extension students -- now aware of the facts -- will encourage all members of Academic Council (and some of these are members of the budget committee majority) to ignore the present majority recommendations and work out a more far-sighted alternative.

Pat Speer.

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When the time comes eventually that everyone has a Ph. D. the last garbage man will make a fortune!

\* \* \* \* \*

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

One of the reasons stated by the students and faculty supporting the non-termination of terminal contracts is that fewer instructors equals fewer courses with the result that fewer students will want to come to Algoma College in the fall and there will be a poorer choice of courses for students in their second and third years.

We need not discuss science majors because we only offer the first year of their program here. Also we do not need discuss math majors because their five course are laid out for them. I majored in Philosophy and History and both departments offered more course than I could utilize in my degree program. All other departments I believe are somewhat larger and offer more courses.

This point I am trying to make is this. In a B. A. program at Algoma College there are offered more courses each year than a student can possibly take. It would be far smarter move to maintain staff at last year's core before terminals were hired. (In two cases terminals simply temporarily replaced faculty on leave now returning! In another the terminal wasn't needed). And concentrate on improving existing courses, removing some, and improving overall teaching methods.

Five course in a discipline constitutes a major and not too many people take over that number for reasons of time and money. The courses offered are usually rotated on a three-year basis allowing for a larger number to be offered to the second and third year student so that he or she does not suffer from a limited program in a previous year.

It is my own experience that faculty and students have not used the available resources that we already possess at the college.

B. McDougall

(EDITORS NOTE: statistics made available to members of both the budget and curriculum committees bear out Mr. McDougall's contention that our regular core of faculty can offer all the courses required for any major in any discipline where we give a B. A.

There may be some point in offering more courses towards a B. Sc. or B. Comm. --- areas where student interest seems to be increasing).



POWER TO THE  
PEOPLE! ALL THOSE  
WHO CAN'T COME TO  
DAY MEETINGS



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and various slaves conscripted hither  
and yon.

Printed by: ESSCO press.

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For the first time Algoma College graduating students will attend Convocation ceremonies in Sault Ste. Marie. Previous Convocations have been held on the main Laurentian campus in Sudbury.

Convocation will be held on Saturday, June 2. President Monahan will be present to represent Laurentian University which grants the degrees. Those attending the ceremonies will hear the first local performance of the Algoma College Convocation Suite composed for organ and trumpets by Professor Thomas Hahn. Following Convocation there will be a reception for graduates, students and guests. A Graduation Dance will be held in the evening.

Further details will be released in the near future.

theatre algoma presents:

the garden party

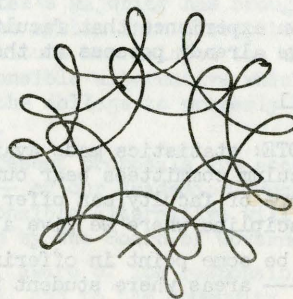
by

vaclev havel

april 20, 21 and 22  
auditorium

a satire on bureaucracy in a socialist  
state.

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# EXTENSION STUDENT MEETING

— TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 1973 —

10 PM

THE COLLEGE AUDITORIUM

## AGENDA

Planned Summer Course offerings - curriculum committee.

Proposed Scholarship and Bursary Program - scholarship committee

Further news about the Budget - Budget committee

Other items.

PAUL SAARINEN  
EXTEN. STUDENT REP.

POWER TO THE  
PEOPLE! ALL THOSE  
WHO CAN'T COME TO



*Donald R. MacDonald*

TUESDAY, MARCH 27 1973

PAT SPEER

10 PM

PAID

THE COLLEGE AUDITORIUM

*[Handwritten signature]*

PAUL SAARINEN  
EXTN. STUDENT REP