

**NATIONAL UNION  
OF  
STUDENTS**



**UNION NATIONALE  
DES  
ETUDIANTS**

SUITE 220, 227 LAURIER AVE. W, OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA, K1P 5J7. TELEPHONE 613-232-7394

**MINUTES OF THE EIGHT SEMI-ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**OCTOBER 1-3 1976**

**CARLETON UNIVERSITY**

The eight semi-annual General Meeting was called to order at 9:20 am, Friday, October 1, 1976, by Ross Powell. Pierre Ouellette welcomed delegates on behalf of the Central Committee. He explained some of the technical problems which were preventing completion of the delegates' conference books, thanked Carleton for hosting the conference on short notice and introduced members of the Central Committee.

**Member Associations Present**

University of British Columbia  
Brock University  
University of Calgary  
Capilano College  
Carleton University  
Dalhousie University  
Douglas College  
Glendon College  
University of King's College  
Langara Campus, V.C.C.  
University of Lethbridge  
McMaster University  
MUN West Coast Regional College  
(Corner Brook)

University of New Brunswick  
Notre Dame University  
Nova Scotia Agricultural College  
Nova Scotia College of Art & Design  
University of Regina  
Collège Universitaire Saint-Boniface  
University of Saskatchewan  
Sheridan College  
Simon Fraser University  
University of Toronto (GSU)  
University of Toronto (SAC)  
University of Waterloo  
University of Winnipeg  
York University

**Observer Associations Present**

Acadia University  
Atkinson College  
Bishop's University  
Fanshawe College  
University of Guelph  
Humber College  
Loyola Campus, Concordia  
University of Manitoba

Mount Allison University  
Queen's University  
Ryerson Polytechnical Institute  
Sheridan College  
Sir George Williams Campus, Concordia  
Trent University  
University of Toronto (ASSU)  
University of Toronto (APUS)

University of Western Ontario

Press Representatives Present

Atkinson Balloon  
Canadian University Press

Co-operative Press Associates  
Young Socialist/Labor Challenge

1. Agenda

Ross Powell announced that the Central Committee had amended the previously-circulated draft agenda, to include a session on National Student Day strategy. He noted that the conference format was new for NUS/UNE, featuring simultaneous workshops on major issues, and daily plenaries.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

MOTION: Regina/Lethbridge  
To accept the minutes of the Fourth Annual General Meeting as circulated.

CARRIED

3. Membership Matters

Pierre Ouellette reported that the Central Committee had considered an application for membership, made subsequent to a referendum of l'Association des étudiants du Collège Universitaire Saint-Boniface. The Central Committee found that Saint-Boniface fulfilled the membership requirements, and recommended their acceptance as members.

MOTION: Winnipeg/Carleton  
That l'Association des étudiants du Collège Universitaire Saint-Boniface be admitted as a member of the National Union of Students.

CARRIED

4. Budget Committee

Harvey Tepner reported the Central Committee's recommendation that each conference's detailed consideration of financial matters be conducted by a Budget Committee elected by regional/provincial caucuses of the conference's delegates. A standing resolution to establish this procedure was to be dealt with at a later session, but delegates were asked to elect members to this meeting's budget committee.

5. Smoking

MOTION: Regina/Winnipeg  
That smoking be banned during plenary sessions and that the decision on smoking in workshops be left to the individual workshops.

The chair ruled that there would be a vote of all delegates, rather than a vote of NUS members.

DEFEATED

#### 6. Facilities and Structure of the Conference

Members of the Central Committee explained the location and use of the various buildings/rooms where conference sessions were scheduled. The purpose of plenary sessions, briefing and discussion sessions, workshops and caucuses was outlined. Delegates were reminded to elect members of the budget committee during the upcoming regional/provincial caucuses.

#### 7. Recess

The chair declared the session recessed at 10:05 am, announcing that it would resume at 2:00 pm.

#### 8. Central Committee Report

Members of the Central Committee presented their report on matters carried out since the last meeting and recommendations for the future. The report included a review of provincial developments which the Central Committee felt to be significant, a list of hirings done over the summer, issues such as international affairs, membership in other organizations, the anti-inflation program and student-labour co-operation, internal developments such as launching of the Student Advocate, planning for work on employment, financing and student aid, National Student Day and the continuing need for on-campus debate of national concerns.

#### 9. Unemployment

Dan O'Connor presented the background report on unemployment, stressing that this was an issue that student organizations had not previously dealt with, yet one in which significant developments have a marked impact on students and recent graduates. Job creation, unemployment insurance and the employment of graduates were three particular concerns deserving attention as students began to deal with the unemployment issue.

Conference documents became available at the end of this presentation, and delegates took time to read the circulated documents.

#### 10. Address by Julien Major

The delegates were addressed by Julien Major, Executive Vice-President of the Canadian Labour Congress, on the subject of the October 14 National Day of Protest and student-labour coalition. Following are notes for his speech.

The autumn of 1976 will see two important events occur in Canadian society. I am speaking, of course, of 1) the National Day of Protest, called by the Canadian Labour Movement for October 14th, and 2) National Student Day, called by your organization, the National Union of Students - Union Nationale des Etudiants, for November 9th.

Both days have been designated as a result of actions by the Federal Liberal Government and in opposition to those actions. In this we are united.

I am pleased to be able to speak to you today. Friendship between the labour movement and the student movement is a natural coalition, although one both of us have ignored for some time. In recent months we at the Canadian Labour Congress have met several times with your executive members and I understand that similar meetings have been held across the country with our provincial organizations. We had drifted apart, but a realization of our common plight has brought us together again and I hope that this liaison will continue in the months and years ahead.

I say ours is a natural coalition because we are the students of yesterday and you are the workers of tomorrow. The problems we faced as students - the financial burdens and limited accessibility to higher education continue and you must face them still. You, tomorrow's workers, will face the massive unemployment and inadequate wages we presently labour under unless something can be done to change the policies of the Trudeau government.

Mr. Trudeau rationalizes his policies as part of the government's fight against inflation and tells us we must co-operate with his government. That we will never do until the policies of the Liberal Party show concern for the working people and the unemployed of this country. And that they will probably never do because the Liberal Party is a party of business and corporations. The party of the labour movement in Canada, as I am sure you are well aware, is the New Democratic Party, a support which was re-endorsed at our convention last spring.

In the meantime, however, we are forced to work with the present government in an attempt to bring about justice and an equitable distribution of income. In the long term, we must continue to publicize the injustices and inequities and call for the defeat of the Liberal Party at the earliest possible occasion.

At the moment, the attention of the labour movement is centred on the so-called "Anti-Inflation" legislation. I say so-called because in fact it is not controlling inflation. It does not control the prices of food at the farm gate, energy and housing which cause three-quarters of our inflation. It does not control the price of imported goods. Any decline in the inflation spiral is not due to Jean Luc Pepin, but to external market forces which would have happened in any case and will continue to happen.

What the anti-inflation legislation is doing however, is holding the line on the wages of Canadian workers. Denying Canadian workers the wages and benefits they won through hard fought bargaining with their employers. As of mid-August, 556,000 employees had had their wages rolled back by the Anti-Inflation Board. This amounts to approximately \$156 million in scheduled first year wage increases. And where is that \$156 million going to go? To spur the industrial growth of the country? To pay for social services that have been cut back by the federal and provincial governments? That will be \$156 million less for Canadians to spend on job-creating goods and services. And that is just in the first year of controls.

But the government did not limit their attack to the working people of this country. They also included those who can least afford it. They have announced cutbacks in health care, children's allowances, unemployment insurance and post-secondary education - all important social services - in the pious name of restraint. And, at the same time they fuelled the arms race

by increasing the so-called Defence Budget at the precise time they were preaching restraint in essential services.

Let me interject here to say that restraint has not meant cutbacks in all areas of government expenses however. The government estimates for 1976-77 for the Department of National Defence lists expenses at 3 billion, 371 million dollars, a 34.5% increase over actual expenses of 2 billion, 507 million dollars incurred in 1974-75. We would all be pleased to have our budgets increased at the same rates, I believe.

While the figures are large, they are a mere drop in the bucket compared to the 120 billion dollars spent by the United States and the 300 billion dollars spent world wide on so-called defense.

These are all monies paid to hugh multi-national corporations, corporations taking every advantage of tax laws, corporations taking out of the country of operation, not putting resources back in. The making of defence mechanisms is capital intensive, not labour intensive and so despite the moral implications of making armaments, they are not a solution to our employment problems.

I do not have to tell you what unemployment is doing to this country. There are presently 775,000 people looking for work. There is not active job creation program going on in Canada and we are losing because of it. And we are not only losing financial resources, we are also losing human resources which are just as critical. But if the government were to create jobs, as the Canadian Labour Congress has asked, look at what it would do for this country. For every one percent unemployment is reduced, the economy's production would increase by \$8 BILLION, tax revenues would increase by \$3 BILLION and unemployment insurance payments would decrease by \$500 million. What a shot in the arm that would be for a country that should be concerned about people and services and not corporation profits.

Unemployment is a problem that has greatly affected the student population in this country. I read with interest the articles in your national paper "The Student Advocate" on this subject. You too are well aware of what unemployment means. It means an unfinished education and it means large debts. The education which was promised as a solution to a highly technological society will once more be denied to all but the rich. You will not see the children of working people going to university. It will be as before. The Student Awards plan which was to equalize accessibility to higher education has now become no more than a sham where the grant portion of your award is minimal and the loan portion the major share. And to be repaid upon graduation. How can this be done if there are no jobs to go to?

And the situation will, of course, get worse with the new ceiling on federal contributions for financing post-secondary education. Not only will your living expenses increase, but your tuition fees will become prohibitive.

Thus the Canadian Labour Congress, when we call on the government to institute free universal access to education, is sympathetic to your problems and joins you in your struggle. When we ask the government to create a policy of full employment, we ask not only for ourselves, but for future generations of working people.

October 14th will serve as a focal point in our fight against these injustices. The National Day of Protest will call on all people who have been hurt by these policies - working people, unemployed, low income groups and you, the students. We are going out to fight controls and we welcome you in that fight.

M. Major then reported on some aspects of the preparations for the National Day of Protest. In British Columbia he found widespread support, and plans for the 14th were well advanced. Nationally, only five or six of the over 115 CLC-affiliated unions had announced that they would not go out on the 14th. Even in those unions many of the locals had decided to go out. Alberta had not been expected to show a great deal of support, but had turned out to be quite solid. Saskatchewan and Manitoba had decided on a general strike before the day of protest was called. In Ontario the preparatory meetings were well attended. Many Quebec unions had already been through tough strikes, but generally things looked strong there also. In Quebec the CLC has a common front with the CNTU and the CEQ.

Labour and students were not the only groups to support the National Day of Protest. Others included the Ontario Anti-Poverty Association, the Quebec Council of Women, the Canadian Congress of Women and other women's organizations.

Defects in federal wage statistics which show higher-than-actual wages are ignored when government officials justify the anti-inflation program were cited. The women's support was especially welcome since they had earlier refused to oppose the federal program, giving the government a chance. Police associations proved to be a surprising source of support. Police were an example of a group whose protest would have a chain reaction on October 14th. Some groups of Ontario doctors had also joined the protest, reacting to the hospital closings.

The position of the Atlantic trade unionists was displayed during the Prime Minister's recent trip to Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick. Quebec farmers had decided to go out on the 14th.

In answer to questions, M. Major stated the railway unions and the bus drivers' union were the major problem, but even there the U.S. headquarters opposed going out on the 14th while many locals were going out. In many industries the one-day strike by one unit or local would close down an entire system. There were no accurate figures, but over 100 unions supported the day of protest and over 2,000,000 people would surely protest on the 14th.

Regarding the legality of the protest, it was explained that the strikes were not against employers, but were directed at the government. No other means of expression was left after labour's attempt to vote against controls in 1974. The goal was abolition of the anti-inflation program, and while no result could be guaranteed, the Liberals' desire to keep power and past record of adopting NDP policies show there is some chance. Public opinion had turned against the government, often because of the anti-inflation program. Labour had proposed alternatives for government action to deal with the problems of inflation, alternatives which were ignored when the anti-inflation program was introduced. Further suggestions for the economy are offered in labour's manifesto.

Immediate change would not follow October 14th, but the Prime Minister was showing more willingness to amend the anti-inflation program. It was possible that some Liberals wanted to lose the next election, then regain power for 15 or more years. The CLC's mandate allowed for more action after the 14th, if there was no sign of coming abolition.

Major did not feel that the CLC should tell associated groups like students what to do. Instead, the structure of October 14th co-ordination was explained and it was up to students to decide how to participate on the 14th. The day of protest was quite decentralized, but in most districts there were opportunities for meetings and informational pickets. A well-disciplined and well-organized manifestation was desired, to show maturity and strength.

Trade unions were politically active since so many of their activities and their members' lives were affected by laws. The CLC had a Political Education department to direct its work in this area. It supports and has close ties with the New Democratic Party.

Pierre Ouellette noted that it was time for the session to close, and thanked Julien Major on behalf of the delegates. The chair declared the session recessed until 7:00 pm, closing the session at 6:10 pm.

#### 11. Agenda

The chair called the session to order at 7:15 pm and remarked that there were several suggestions for agenda changes to accomodate the printing delays and the delegates' fatigue due to overnight travel.

MOTION: Capilano/Toronto(GSU)  
That the agenda be suspended, the plenary recess and the Central Committee redraft the conference agenda to provide time for the matters scheduled this evening.

BCSF spoke in favour of the motion, arguing that time for informal consideration of the conference topics and for a good night's rest would be far more beneficial than trying to proceed at any cost. Carleton felt that the urgency of the conference's work was such that the evening's sessions should continue as planned, especially since they dealt largely with unemployment, an issue of over-riding importance in 1976-77. The vote was called on the motion.

CARRIED

The chair declared the session recessed at 7:25 pm.

#### 12. Standing Resolution No. 3 - Budget Committee

The chair called the plenary to order at 8:15 pm, Saturday, October 2.

Don Thompson presented the draft standing resolution to permanently establish a budget committee of NUS conferences. He felt that this would fill the dual goals of democratic and detailed financial considerations, and efficient use of plenary sessions. He read the draft resolution as recommended by the Central Committee. It was explained that passage would make the resolution part of the constitution, although amendable by a two-thirds vote without notice.

## NOTION:

Langara/Toronto(SAC)

That the following be adopted as a standing resolution:

1. In order to provide the member associations with an opportunity to exercise the fullest possible control over NUS/UNE budgeting, without undue interference in the regular proceedings of NUS/UNE meetings, a budget committee shall be chosen immediately before or during the first day of each general meeting, including the annual meeting.
2. The budget committee of a NUS/UNE general meeting shall be composed of:
  - (a) the Treasurer
  - (b) member elected by the Atlantic member associations at the general meeting,
  - (c) member elected by the Ontario member associations at the general meeting,
  - (d) member elected by the Prairie member associations at the general meeting,
  - (e) member elected by the British Columbia student associations at the general meeting, and
  - (f) the Internal Co-ordinator, as a non-voting member to provide the committee with technical expertise.
3. The committee shall use the most recent budget and financial statements, plus any written submissions regarding budgetary matters, to prepare or revise the NUS/UNE budget for the particular fiscal year. (Preparation being done at the first meeting of a fiscal year, revision done at subsequent meetings in the fiscal year.)
4. The committee shall refer to the Central Committee for a decision any matter which the committee cannot come to an agreement on.
5. The committee shall report to a committee of the whole of the member associations, the report to be made no later than 11:00 am on the last day of the meeting.
6. The member associations may not consider a budget proposal or a budget amendment which has not been referred to the budget committee of that particular meeting before the budget committee has made its report.
7. The budget committee of a general meeting ceases to exist and has no authority to act after that general meeting has adjourned.

CARRIED

## 12. Unemployment

Gordon Bell presented the report of the committee which had drawn together the results of the discussion sessions on unemployment. The committee had



proceeded cautiously, condensing the sessions' recommendations but making as few changes as possible.

The Winnipeg conference (May 1976) had found that the governments were attempting to resolve the economic crisis at the expense of full employment, a situation which affects students and graduates who seek employment. NUS/UNE and other groups demanded that full employment be the governments' first economic priority. The sessions at this conference were held to give direction to the development of an unemployment campaign by developing strategy and tactics for such a campaign.

The discussions centered around proposals in the employment paper presented to the conference, and in many respects the simultaneous discussions were similar. All concluded that this campaign should receive a high priority, and all agreed to basically similar tactics. The sessions differed on the timing for implementation of specific tactics.

One of the prime concerns was that, as students are most likely available for work in the summer, there should be specific programs direct towards creating employment during this period. However it was indicated that in the long range work on unemployment should be directed towards a full employment program.

The first set of recommendations dealt with proposals for new job creation programs. The proposals were reproduced in the employment paper, and the sessions had suggested two changes. The first change, to proposal 8, was to more clearly oppose token representation. The second, to proposal 7, was to refer directly to OFY and LIP although those programs needed changes to account for such problems as low wages and patronage. Adoption of the proposals, as amended, was the first recommendation of the committee.

MOTION: Capilano/King's  
That the job creation proposals on page 14 of the Employment paper be adopted with the following amendments:  
(a) that 8 be amended to read "that the membership of these bodies include significant representation of students and labour"  
(b) that the proposals from NUS/UNE on employment should demand the reinstatement of the OFY and the LIP programs.

UBC acknowledged that part (b) had been expanded by Gordon Bell's remarks, but stated that as worded it was unacceptable. UBC asked if (b) would be amended as suggested by Bell's remarks. The chair suggested that UBC move to divide the motion.

MOTION: UBC/Lethbridge  
That the motion be divided.

CARRIED

The vote was called on section (a) of the motion.

CARRIED

Bell noted that a further recommendation called for a Central Committee meeting to deal with unemployment, and suggested that perhaps it could deal with part (b) at that time. BCSF opposed section (b) because there had been defects such as low wages, patronage and poor continuity in OFY and LIP projects. Toronto(SAC) felt that the section was unnecessary in view of other recommendations coming from the unemployment sessions.

The question was called on the motion, and the vote was put on section (b).

DEFEATED

It was suggested that the entire set of proposals, as amended, should now be adopted.

MOTION:

Simon Fraser/Winnipeg

To adopt the following job creation proposals:

- 1) That a massive job creation program be initiated by the federal government.
- 2) That the program be based on employment projects initiated at a community level.
- 3) That the projects be community controlled.
- 4) That student summer employment programs be integrated into the general employment creation program by either:
  - (a) expanding existing programs during the student work term to allow for student employees
  - (b) allow for the initiation of new projects by students and non-students during the work term
  - (c) allow for student participation in non-service projects of fixed duration.
- 5) That funding for projects be open ended with regular community review as the chief criteria for discontinuing a project.
- 6) That a Project Development Bank be established for the specific purpose of providing projects with access to low cost capital. That this bank have a board of directors composed of a representative cross-section of the constituencies involved in the overall Employment Creation Program.
- 7) That both service (unlimited duration, labour intensive) and non-service (fixed duration, capital intensive) projects be eligible for support under the terms of the Employment Creation Program.
- 8) That the first step towards the development and implementation of the Employment Creation Program be the establishment of Permanent Advisory Bodies at the national and regional levels. That the membership of these bodies include significant representation of students and labour.

CARRIED

Gordon Bell suggested that delegates next deal with the general recommendation on unemployment work, then deal with the individual suggestions for that work.

MOTION:

Douglas/N.S. Agricultural

That employment be the major campus level campaign issue for NUS/UNE following National Student Day.

King's asked if this was a change of policy, for which notice must be given. It was ruled that it was not policy, but implementation of policy in the management of the organization. Gordon Bell felt it should be noted that the words "campus level" were important, since immediately after National Student Day the fiscal arrangements negotiations would be top priority for the office, and so on.

Calgary noted that accessibility had always been the focus of NUS/UNE work, and that student aid was the aspect of accessibility that was important in every province. Housing, another aspect of accessibility, had not been discussed at the conference, yet in Alberta it is a much more pressing concern than unemployment. Calgary wished to be an active member of NUS/UNE, and asked that the priority for campus level work be on an issue such as student aid that all provinces could participate in. Sir George Williams questioned the value of choosing issues now, when the concerns of various campuses were just emerging in the NSD campaign. Also, it was not possible to anticipate government action and the future need to respond to it. It seemed artificial to choose a major campaign now, before National Student Day.

Guelph stressed that it was not possible to wait until May to work on unemployment, as the work just before and during the summer of 1976 has illustrated. Unemployment had to be a major campaign through the school year if next summer was going to be any better. Carleton agreed with Guelph's remarks. Lethbridge said that unemployment could soon become a problem in Alberta, at which time this motion would be welcomed. Also, Lethbridge opposed the idea of working strongly only on what is having a severe impact on your campus. Unemployment might not be the first priority of FAS, but it should be in NUS/UNE.

Sir George Williams wished to make it clear they they did not propose waiting until May to discuss unemployment. They agreed that unemployment would and should be a major NUS/UNE campaign, but the motion seemed to preclude any other major campaign. What if there was a major escalation in cutbacks and tuition fee increases? Would NUS/UNE say that unemployment is "the major campaign" so there can be no other major campaign? Toronto(GSU) felt that right now unemployment was a good issue to receive high priority since there was scope for sympathy from the labour movement, and there was high public awareness of the issue. A campaign to peak in the spring had to start now. Simon Fraser felt that unemployment's effect on enrolment patterns, and the government's own priority for it, made it the issue to work on now.

Gordon Bell reported that the drafting committee felt that the Central Committee should offer some guidance as to the meaning of words such as "the major", "top priority", "a priority", etc. The committee did not intend to make unemployment the only campaign, and drafted the motion four times in the attempt to reach suitable wording. Brock felt "the" should be changed to "a" so there could be a consensus. Other issues could develop, such as the coming round of tuition fee increases. Unemployment should be a major campaign, but everything else should not be put aside. National Student Day would indicate other major campaigns.

AMENDMENT: Brock/Calgary  
That "the" be replaced by "a".

Toronto(SAC) felt that the amendment was foolish, as had been much of the recent debate.

The vote was called on the amendment.

DEFEATED

The vote was called on the main motion.

CARRIED

Gordon Bell suggested that the list of ways and means for the employment campaign be dealt with separately. Delegates agreed.

MOTION: Simon Fraser/Carleton  
That the Central Committee meet two weeks after National Student Day, to assess the results of that day and to discuss the co-ordination of the Employment Campaign.

CARRIED

MOTION: N.S. Agricultural/UNB  
That local student councils begin research on the effects of unemployment and underemployment on their campus. This research should endeavour to determine

- how many students did not return to school this fall as a result of being un- or under-employed,
- how many students were forced to alter their full time status as a result of un- or under- employment during the summer
- the needs of the community as to services that students could be employed to provide.

UBC urged that only those who would actually carry out such research vote in favour of the motion. Langara felt that the workshops called for in the next recommendation would unreasonably increase the burden of work before NSD. Gordon Bell pointed out that the motion before the delegates had nothing to do with time limits for stages of the campaign and that the motion calling for the campaign said "following National Student Day". Toronto (ASSU) remarked that one workshop had suggested a December 1 deadline for the local research. Guelph asked if the local research could be done profitably before a standard survey was developed, questioning the ability to develop a standard survey, the usefulness of many uncorrelated local surveys, the lack of time to do the surveys by Christmas and the difficulty of now finding those who have not returned. Regina did not know how to do the local research, but favoured it. Even uncorrelated surveys would give some indication of the trends, some information. Simon Fraser agreed, saying that UBC was wrong to insist on total commitment since anything would be helpful.

Carleton reminded delegates that this local research was a stop-gap to deal with the Statistics Canada failings, and that for next summer Statistics Canada would be collecting the information again. It was possible and important to survey non-returning students, and those who switch from full to part-time status. N.S. Agricultural ascertained that the motion set no time limit. UBC agreed that any survey could gather crucial information. Dalhousie felt correlation could be handled by one day's central work, since the questions were quite straight forward. York suggested that, with some modifications, the survey used on some Ontario campuses could be used elsewhere. Carleton offered the survey they had developed.

The vote was called on the motion.

CARRIED

MOTION: York/King's

That in addition to this research, local councils stage NSD workshops dealing with employment, and that these workshops discuss the NUS/UNE employment proposals, the above mentioned research, and plans to conduct an employment campaign on campus.

Further that the results of these workshops be sent to the NUS/UNE for consideration in the NUS/UNE employment program.

UNB and Waterloo wished to be sure that this motion would not bind the local councils, since some plans for National Student Day excluded employment while others had not yet finished their plans. Regina assured delegates that the motion was not binding, its effect being that of a recommendation. Carleton urged that this plan be used for all workshops, so that the minutes of National Student Day discussions could be sent to NUS/UNE for correlation.

The vote was called on the motion.

CARRIED

MOTION: UNB/Regina

That the NUS/UNE comprehensive brief on employment programs be submitted to the government, before the government finalizes their employment program.

Regina presumed that the motion meant "as soon as possible" since no one knew when the government would finalize its program. The vote was called on the motion.

CARRIED

MOTION: Lethbridge/UBC

Demand that the government reinstate the Statistics Canada survey on youth and student employment, and that local, provincial and national efforts be directed at lobbying the government to this end.

Simon Fraser felt that not all campuses would be able to carry out such a recommendation.

AMENDMENT: Simon Fraser/Saskatchewan  
To insert "where applicable" after "efforts".

The wording of the amendment was made clear, and the vote was called on the amendment.

CARRIED

The vote was called on the main motion as amended.

CARRIED

MOTION: York/UBC

That NUS/UNE develop a standardized employment survey to be used nationally, and to present the survey form for distribution to the Annual General Meeting.

Carleton spoke against the motion, feeling that it was covering the same ground as the previous motion and calling for a very expensive program. If a survey was needed it should be specified, but under no circumstances should NUS/UNE start taking on programs abdicated by the federal government. Regina found the motion imprecise, giving no direction for implementation of its proposal. Simon Fraser felt that the motion simply repeated the earlier decisions to conduct some form of research on unemployment, and opposed it. BCSF agreed that there were some difficulties with the proposal, but argued that its influence in favour of government action, and the need to get such information in any possible way, were reasons to support the motion. UBC and York agreed that information on student unemployment was so necessary as a base for the other work that NUS/UNE should be prepared to go this far to gather that information.

Carleton saw no reason to pass the motion now, since in May it would be clear what surveys the federal government was going to conduct, and what NUS/UNE was able to do. There would be time then to act. Guelph suggested that a consensus could form around an amendment to make the NUS/UNE survey contingent upon federal refusal to conduct its survey. Guelph also felt that a NUS/UNE survey would have to be drafted and distributed before May. Toronto(SAC) declared the the motion made no sense, and proposed that there be pressure for a federal survey and discussion of alternatives such as this only if that pressure fails.

The vote was put on the motion.

DEFEATED

MOTION: McMaster/Toronto(SAC)  
That NUS/UNE collect the existing survey data on post graduate employment and that this data be distributed to post-secondary institutions upon request.

Simon Fraser stated that such information was already available. Regina agreed that the motion called for needless activity. The vote was called on the motion.

DEFEATED

MOTION: Carleton/York  
That NUS/UNE distribute its employment demands along with explanatory letters to the NDP, Conservative and Liberal federal caucuses, as well as the CLC and provincial labour bodies and the press by October 11.

CARRIED

Gordon Bell reported that two of the sessions on unemployment had suggested the creation of a national poster as a means of developing the campaign. However, there was disagreement on when the poster should be designed and distributed. One session wanted the poster to be available before National Student Day, to incorporate it as part of NSD material. The other felt that there was not enough time for this due to already established priorities for the NSD work. The uncertainty of central distribution of a poster was another factor for the second session.

The chair suggested that delegations could vote for either one proposal or the other, unless a motion to adopt one was presented.

MOTION: Regina/Winnipeg  
That a national employment poster be prepared and distributed as the initial focus for the post National Student Day campaign on employment.

Regina said that campuses who were making employment one of their focuses for National Student Day could proceed, but that it was not needed and would not be used nationally until afterwards. It was explained in answer to questions that under the division of responsibilities for National Student Day, materials such as an employment poster were<sup>a</sup>provincial or campus responsibility. Guelph felt that there would be enough national material for NSD without such a poster. Carleton agreed that campuses who wanted such a poster could do it on their own.

The vote was called on the question.

CARRIED

Brock mentioned that several delegates were concerned that post-secondary students work more closely with one of their natural allies, the secondary students. An opportunity to do so arose from work on unemployment issues.

MOTION: Brock/Waterloo  
That graduating secondary students be included in the survey mentioned in the motion regarding local research on unemployment and underemployment.

There was considerable doubt among delegates as to the feasibility of the motion. The vote was called on the motion.

DEFEATED

### 13. Fiscal Arrangements

Hugh Sommerville reported for the drafting committee from the simultaneous sessions on fiscal arrangements, rising tuition and educational cutbacks. The drafting committee had attempted to resolve the differences which arose between the sessions.

MOTION: Toronto(SAC)/Brock  
Be it resolved that NUS/UNE accept the "Draft Brief on the Negotiations of the Fiscal Arrangements" as the basis for a submission to the appropriate government bodies.

UNB pointed out that one section of the brief called for equalization to the level of the three highest provinces, averaged. They felt that equalization to the level of the highest province was more equitable. Others agreed, and it was pointed out that existing policy and direction implied equalization to the highest. The chair agreed that members' sentiments would be noted and the final version of the brief would call for equalizing provincial revenues to the level of the richest province.

The vote was called on the motion.

CARRIED

MOTION: Simon Fraser/Toronto(GSU)  
Be it resolved that NUS/UNE demand the establishment of a national inquiry on post-secondary education in Canada (with full student participation) and that the membership of NUS/UNE attempt to set up, on local levels, a national student inquiry, throughout the year.

Several speakers questioned the value of the recommendations, and the necessity of dealing with them in one motion.

MOTION: King's/Toronto(GSU)  
To divide the motion at the word "and".  
CARRIED

Speaking to the first part of the motion, Guelph declared that such an inquiry would be a waste of time in view of who would be members. Experience in Ontario, and perhaps in other provinces, showed that government inquiries did not provide a good public debate nor a clear focus for on-campus debate. Miguel Figueroa felt that recent federal interest in the direction of post-secondary education would make them look favourably upon such a proposal. Toronto(GSU) said that the proposal for an inquiry had seemed to be more concrete and directed when it came from one of the discussion sessions. Carleton saw some value in the proposal for a national inquiry, but as stated the proposal was vague and open to misdirection.

MOTION: Carleton/Simon Fraser  
To refer the first half of the motion back to the fiscal arrangements, et al, drafting committee for further consideration.  
CARRIED

Simon Fraser felt that there was an essential relationship between the two parts of the motion.

MOTION: Simon Fraser/Saskatchewan  
That the second half of the motion be referred back to the drafting committee.

McMaster opposed the motion to refer, urging quick defeat of the second half. It seemed completely unnecessary and extraordinarily vague. Simon Fraser asked permission to withdraw the motion, and the delegates approved the withdrawal.

WITHDRAWN

The vote was called on the second half of the motion.  
DEFEATED

MOTION: Regina/N.S. Agricultural  
Be it resolved that any local campaigns regarding the future cutbacks which are a direct result of changes in the F.A.A. should be oriented to the manifestations that occur both at post-secondary institutions and in the community;



And be it further resolved that the thrust of any central NUS/UNE actions on this issue be directed towards lobbying the federal government.

Sir George Williams asked why the motion had not been divided, expressing a preference for discussing it as two separate motions. Regina had proposed the first half in a discussion session, and explained that its intent was that material focus on manifestations, not the Act itself. Guelph agreed that the FAA itself should not be discussed, but rather that it should be raised in connection with the various on-campus manifestations. Also, this permitted discussion of other sections of the FAA affecting students and co-operation with other groups affected by the FAA. Guelph thought it was all in one motion simply for convenience. John Doherty said it was all one motion since it was direction on how to lobby for changes in the FAA, for both the campuses and the centre. It was a co-ordinated program.

The vote was put on the motion.

CARRIED

Hugh Sommerville referred to a motion from Simon Fraser which was being brought forward by the committee to ensure that it was discussed. The chair ruled the motion out of order, and suggested that it be raised under the New Business item on the agenda. Simon Fraser challenged the chair.

MOTION: Regina/Lethbridge  
That the chair be sustained.

CARRIED

#### 14. Central Committee Report

Pierre Ouellette pointed out that the report had been presented earlier, and that members had copies of it.

MOTION: Brock/Glendon  
That the Central Committee Report be accepted.

Saint-Boniface asked why the Central Committee had not followed the direction that a minimum of one fieldworker be bilingual. Pierre Ouellette explained that due to the operation of seniority principles the only open fieldwork postings were in the Western provinces, and that the Central Committee saw little sense in posting a fully bilingual fieldworker to those provinces. He reminded delegates that the hiring process had been extended to ensure that the directions for office staff bilingualism were followed. Future hiring was likely along the lines of the Winnipeg directions, but this was a matter that could well be raised in the next negotiations of a collective agreement. Saint-Boniface asked that the next representative to visit them be bilingual.

The vote was called on the motion.

CARRIED

#### 15. Fees of UBC Alma Mater Society

Pierre Ouellette reported that the situation at UBC had received further Central Committee consideration during the summer, and a recommendation was

being made to the members. The Central Committee recommended that in view of the special situation at their institution this year, UBC's fees for 1976-77 be reduced to 30 cents per full-time students, under by-law 27.5. He explained that there were difficulties with arrangement of a referendum, that last year's had failed to reach quorum, and that the resulting uncertainty and pledge to hold a referendum concurrent with the AMS and BCSF fee referenda led to the Central Committee recommendation.

MOTION: Simon Fraser/Lethbridge  
That the Central Committee recommendation regarding UBC's fees be accepted.

Winnipeg ascertained that the effect of the motion was that, should the upcoming UBC referendum pass, they would pay the \$1.00 fee in 1977-78. The vote was called on the motion.

CARRIED

#### 16. Resignations from Central Committee, and Elections

Pierre Ouellette announced that after long consideration, several members of the Central Committee - Bob Buckingham, Elspeth Guild, Don Thompson and himself - were resigning at this conference. A letter explaining their reasons was being prepared and would be circulated the next day. It was made clear that the four people had worked hard for the organization, believed in its principles, continued to support it and would continue to work hard for the student movement. They had been involved for a long time, and felt that it was time for a change. It was time to keep moving forward in building a progressive and significant student force in Canada. They had good years in NUS/UNE, enjoyed it and in no way should the resignation of four people be taken as a criticism of what the organization was doing. It had nothing to do with that, but rather stemmed from personal considerations. On behalf of all four resigning members he thanked the delegates for the opportunity to work hard in NUS/UNE.

Those present applauded the resigning Central Committee members.

As a recently-elected member of the Central Committee, John Doherty said that the four people had contributed a great deal to the organization - much direction and leadership. What was positive in the organization was due to them and others they worked with in the formation and first four years of the organization. A great deal was owed them.

Pierre Ouellette said that the resignations took effect at the adjournment of the conference, and suggested that the provincial representatives be replaced as soon as possible. He announced that Hugh Sommerville had already been chosen as the new Alberta representative, and pointed out that the two new members-at-large would be chosen on the next day.

Simon Fraser said that nominations should start now, to give time for informal discussion with nominees. Ouellette reminded those present that a member-at-large must be a delegate of a member association, and can be nominated by any member association. The chair declared nominations open.

Riel Miller and Sheila Ryan were nominated for member-at-large.

The chair said that nominations would remain open until the election was held on the following day.

MOTION: Regina/King's  
That NUS/UNE thank Bob Buckingham, Elspeth Guild, Pierre Ouellette and Don Thompson for their contribution to the organization and wish them every success in their future endeavours, both in and out of the student movement.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The session recessed at 10:25 pm and was called back to order at 2:15 pm, Sunday, October 3.

#### 17. Financial Matters

Harvey Tepner reported for the Budget Committee. One matter it dealt with arose from the request of the women's caucus for a grant. A recommendation was made.

MOTION: King's/Simon Fraser  
To accept the budget committee recommendation that the Central Committee establish a policy concerning the financing of standing committees and conferences, this policy to be implemented, if at all, by the May conference.

Tepner explained that this recommendation was a response to the lack of money to fund caucuses as well as being a result of fear that precedents for such funding were about to be established. The vote was called on the motion.

CARRIED

Delegates' attention was drawn to the audit and final financial statements, and Harvey Tepner noted that the auditor's reservation was not a major one.

MOTION: King's/York  
That the financial statements be accepted.  
CARRIED

As a final item, Tepner explained that cash was short during the summer, as usual, and that prompt payment of the first fee installment would be most helpful, since a few creditors were presently allowing debts to collect in their NUS/UNE account.

#### 18. Constitutional Amendment

The chair reminded delegates of the circulated amendments to the by-laws, presented to implement the first stage of the restructuring of student organizations. Dan O'Connor explained that the effect of the amendments was to substitute the provincial or regional organization for the members in a province for the purpose of electing, removing or replacing provincial representatives on the Central Committee.

MOTION:

Simon Fraser/Regina

To delete the last clause of by-law 12.2 and replace it with, "and the other members of the Central Committee shall be elected by having the members of the regional or provincial organizations recognized through the procedures established in sections 4.2 and 4.3, hereinafter referred to as recognized organizations, elect one member of the Central Committee from each of the respective provinces, and in a province where there is no such organization, by having the members of the Union from that province elect one member of the Central Committee."

To delete by-law 14.2, and replace it with, "14.2 The members of recognized organization, or the members of the Union from a province where there is no recognized organization, as the case may be, may, by a mail vote of at least two thirds of the respective members or by the vote of at least two thirds of the respective members held at a meeting of the recognized organization or of the Union, remove the member of the Central Committee from that province before the expiration of her term of office."

To delete by-law 15.3, and replace it with, "15.3 (a) Should a vacancy occur with respect to a member of the Central Committee elected from a province where there is a recognized organization, the Central Committee shall ask that organization to name an acting member of the Central Committee from that province who shall hold office until the next meeting of the members of that organization, at which time an election shall be held to fill the vacancy. (b) Should a vacancy occur with respect to a member of the Central Committee elected from a province where there is no recognized organization, the Central Committee shall forthwith call a meeting of the members of the Union from that province, to fill the vacancy."

CARRIED

York felt that some members had not had sufficient time to read the text of the amendment.

MOTION:

York/UBC

That the motion be reconsidered.

DEFEATED

19. Elections

It was announced that Mary Thauberger had been elected as Saskatchewan representative. Vincent Dureault was nominated for member-at-large.

20. Fiscal Arrangements

Miguel Figueroa presented resolutions for a group of delegates interested in developing the motion that had been referred to the drafting committee concerning the NUS/UNE call for the establishment of a national inquiry into post-secondary education. It was noted that the strategy resolution was intentionally vague so the Central Committee would be the body to develop

the details of a strategy to implement the resolution.

Figueroa explained that the primary thrust of the rationale was that it is difficult for students to deal with attacks on education because students are in isolation. Students are isolated to the extent that in education, as in other social and community services, there is a lot of misunderstanding and not very much accurate analysis and discussion in public. As a result the government can justify major cutbacks in education by pointing to incidental aspects of mismanagement and misappropriation. There is usually no thorough public discussion of the extent of mismanagement, and as a result the government can rationalize a withdrawal of essential services. The inquiry proposal deals with the fact that students' position is weak because of isolation, because students have no way of rallying public support, because education is not being discussed and debated publicly.

The rationale points out that an inquiry is risky, but many would argue that it is better to take a risk than to lose the battle by default. Figueroa was confident that students, faculty and the general post-secondary community could, with the help of labour and other groups, gain support and criticize the mentality of "restraint" and its inequitable application. This had been done in the McKenzie Valley pipeline inquiry.

Another major point was that the inquiry was a major take-off point for the whole concept and purpose of National Student Day, which is a reflection and analysis among students of where education stands in this country. When lack of democratization in the university and college structure, lack of analysis in government policy, and other problems are being discussed, it is appropriate to say that the problems in education have to get out into the public and therefore students demand a public inquiry into the direction, goals, function, etc. This could include continuing education and vocational education, bringing to light the situation in those and other fields. The inquiry would provide the focus for public discussion which has been missing.

Another question is the practicality of the inquiry - will governments accept it? There are arguments to suggest that they will. The federal government wants a higher profile in education, some provinces would like to delay the implementation of new fiscal arrangements. The inquiry is valid under old or new fiscal arrangements, since coherent planning will still be absent.

There will be public support for an inquiry since the public wants to know what is going on in education. The demand for such a public inquiry will show the public that those within post-secondary education are also concerned about how the money is spent, who can't go to school, why not and all these related questions.

Finally, there could be some concern that efforts to get a national inquiry will affect efforts at local organizing, that one will draw resources from the other. Figueroa did not see this as the case. If anything it would complement a lot of the local work and provide another focus for concerns and grievances about quality and accessibility.

The motion itself was straightforward, and Figueroa noted that structure was dealt with in general terms since if the governments were at all interested there

would have to be consultation on the inquiry's structure. The final point in the presentation was strategy, and subject to decisions by the office staff and Central Committee Figueroa felt that the outlined strategy was not too much for the office and executive resources existing over the balance of the year.

MOTION: UNB/Winnipeg

WHEREAS accessibility of education is threatened by regressive fiscal policies at all levels of government;

AND WHEREAS this is having serious effects on the quality of post-secondary education;

AND WHEREAS there is no national or provincial educational policy in relation to post-secondary education;

AND WHEREAS both federal and provincial governments have failed, to date, to develop in a public and accountable manner a comprehensive educational policy;

AND WHEREAS the total absence of discussion and articulation of educational policies in this country has led to a disjointed incoherent pattern of development in post-secondary education, resulting in irrational educational policies implemented by default;

AND WHEREAS the present renegotiation of the Fiscal Arrangements Act has long term implications for the future direction of post-secondary education in Canada;

AND WHEREAS the public has a right to know and further to participate in the development and direction of post-secondary education for all Canadians;

BE IT RESOLVED that NUS/UNE call upon the federal government in consultation with the provincial governments to establish a national inquiry into current issues, long-term direction and goals, and financing of post-secondary education in Canada. This inquiry to invite public submissions on the following areas of concern:

- 1) issues relating to accessibility to post-secondary education in Canada
- 2) the quality, scope and function of post-secondary education
- 3) the degree of public financial commitment to post-secondary education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this proposed national inquiry be conducted by a Board of Inquiry consisting of: federal and provincial representatives; representation of the academic community, including students and faculty, selected by their representative national bodies; labour; business; and community representatives.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Board of Inquiry hold public hearings across Canada and make public their findings and recommendations.

CARRIED

21. Student Aid

Bob Buckingham presented the report of the student aid workshop. The workshop discussed ways that pressure can be put on the provincial and federal governments. The Ontario post card campaign was outlined. With regard to student aid appeals, the limited discretion and absence of standard procedures was noted. Also mentioned was the inequitable operation of maximum allowances, eg. for supplies.

MOTION: UBC/Douglas  
To accept the Student Aid report with the amendment to existing policy that "in the short-term, repayment should be extended to begin six (6) months after full employment has been secured, following withdrawal or graduation from a post-secondary institution".

There was some discussion to clarify the wording of the motion.

CARRIED

MOTION: Lethbridge/Langara  
WHEREAS we see the need to continue and escalate the NUS Student Aid campaign  
AND WHEREAS much of this work has to take place at the local and provincial level  
BE IT RESOLVED that we urge members to carry on this work by putting more pressure on the provincial appeals procedure and student award offices,  
and further that we urge members to increase pressures for more student representation on provincial student aid decision-making bodies.

There was discussion to improve the wording of the motion.

CARRIED

MOTION: King's/Lethbridge  
WHEREAS in 1975 Statistics Canada completed a survey titled "The Post-Secondary Student Population",  
AND WHEREAS this survey deals with the socio-economic background of Canadian students and their career expectations,  
AND WHEREAS this survey was only made possible by NUS endorsement,  
AND WHEREAS Statistics Canada agreed to release their findings to NUS and this has not yet been done,  
AND WHEREAS we have every reason to believe that the federal government is presently using the results of this survey,  
BE IT RESOLVED that NUS demand that the federal government immediately release the results of this report to NUS and the Canadian people.

CARRIED

## 22. National Student Day

Gavin Anderson presented the report of the drafting committee on National Student Day.

MOTION: NSCAD/McMaster  
BE IT RESOLVED that we reaffirm our commitment to National Student Day. We will direct our energies as individuals and as organizations to insure the success of National Student Day and will encourage all organizations to do likewise;  
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that National Student Day be the priority of NUS until November 9th.

McMaster stated that the motion was simple in wording but not in intent. In the next five and a half weeks one could ill afford to forget National Student Day as it was outlined in the original resolution, its size, complexity and importance. People realized that there was a great deal to be done, and that it could be done. As part of the attempt to make National Student Day the success it could be, the following declaration was going to be distributed.

The time has come for the students of Canada to participate in decisions which will affect the future of post-secondary education.

The time has come for the students of Canada to examine their obligations to society; to the future students of this country; and to each other.

The time has come for the students to hold a National Student Day and begin the search for a just and wise future for post-secondary education.

That time is November 9th.

That time is National Student Day.

McMaster stated that the time to being working in earnest is now.

The vote was called on the motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## 23. Central Committee nominations

Patrick Palmer was nominated for member-at-large.

## 24. Membership of Notre Dame Student Union and Selkirk Student Society

The chair reported a Central Committee recommendation arising from the situation at Notre Dame University and Selkirk College. They had been separate institutions, but a recent government decision has forced the use of the Notre Dame campus for provision of second and third year courses only, and the bringing of Selkirk students onto that campus for first and second year courses. The Notre Dame Student Union was informed by their administration that they would have to merge with the Selkirk Student Society.



The Central Committee recommendation was in line with the reasons for its decision that the Students' Union at the Corner Brook college of M.U.N. were a member.

MOTION: Notre Dame/UBC  
To accept the Central Committee recommendation that the combined student associations of Selkirk College and Notre Dame University, who have both separately hold successful referenda to join NUS, and are currently members, be recognized as a member in good standing.

CARRIED

## 25. Women's Caucus

Shirley French presented the report of the Women's Caucus. The report consisted of several recommended motions.

MOTION: Capilano/Douglas  
WHEREAS there estists a women's committee of NUS,  
AND WHEREAS the women's committee requires a stronger commitment from the NUS membership, Central Committee and staff in order to function effectively on a regular basis,  
AND WHEREAS the women's caucus recognizes the need for the women's committee to meet in between NUS conferences to exchange information, to develop a women's programme for NUS and to prepare workshops and resource papers on female post-secondary students for NUS conferences;  
BE IT RESOLVED that the NUS women's committee be composed of one national coordinator and one female representative from each province to be elected by the women's caucus at every spring conference of NUS,  
AND FURTHER that the women's committee meet the day before every NUS conference,  
AND FURTHER that there be a women's workshop at the spring 1977 conference of NUS, open to both men and women,  
AND FURTHER that the women's committee prepare a paper and provide a resource person for the women's workshop,  
AND FURTHER that NUS, in its May 1977 budget, allocate sufficient funds for the women's committee to meet once between NUS conferences,  
AND FURTHER that the NUS Central Committee be responsible for ensuring the continued existence of the women's committee by seeking women to fill any vacancies on the committee which may occur between conferences.

Simon Fraser raised the question of the effect of the resolution calling for a method of funding committees and caucuses which had been passed earlier. The chair ruled that while the previous budgetary motion called for preparation of a method, it did not forbid re-establishment of particular commitments to committees or caucuses which, presumably, would eventually be funded under the new method agreed to at the May 1977 conference.

McMaster supported the motion but questioned the second-last clause, asking if the standing resolution on the Budget Committee was in effect for future conferences. McMaster asked that the chair rule whether the second-last clause was out of order due to the effect of section 6 of the Budget Committee standing resolution. Several members commented on possible meanings of the standing resolution and of the motion on policy for funding committees and caucuses.

The chair quoted s. 6, "The member associations may not consider a budget proposal or budget amendment which has not been referred to the budget committee of that particular meeting before the budget committee has made its report." The chair stated that the phrase "that particular meeting" meant the May 1977 conference in the context of this resolution. The chair ruled that under the operation of the standing resolution the second-last clause of the main motion would have the effect of a recommendation to the budget committee of the next conference.

Calgary supported the motion. The planning needed for the conference discussion of issues before men's and women's workshops was stressed. There were problems gaining women's involvement at the campus, provincial and national levels, including their participation on the staff of the organizations. Women have to be politicized, and the campuses that were strong in women's organization need a way to get their ideas and methods to the campuses where women are weak. NUS itself will be stronger if that half of the student population are active and involved in student issues. NUS's words in favour of women's participation are not worthwhile without activity, and activity requires advance planning, funded in methods like those proposed in the resolution.

AMENDMENT: Toronto(SAC)/Capilano  
To add, "subject to the decision taken by the Central Committee regarding the funding of interim meetings of standing committees" to the second-last clause.

CARRIED

McMaster spoke in favour of the motion, urging NUS involvement in issues of women's role in post-secondary education, an area where NUS had been deficient in the past, just as people at the provincial and local levels had been deficient. Coherent and forceful action was needed in this area. McMaster hoped that the amendment would not be taken as a watering down of the motion.

The question was put on the motion.

CARRIED

MOTION: Toronto(SAC)/Brock  
WHEREAS the Women in Colleges and Universities (WCU) conference provides an opportunity for female students to meet with female academic and non-academic staff,  
AND WHEREAS NUS played a significant role in the 1975 WCU conference,  
AND WHEREAS the WCU conference strengthens the role of women in college and university life,  
BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the ad hoc women's committee,

with the support of NUS, seek a government grant to cover travel expenses for the 1976 conference, and that if the committee is unsuccessful in obtaining such a grant, individual institutions be encouraged to subsidize delegates to this conference.

CARRIED

It was announced that an ad hoc women's committee is being formed from the women's caucus of this conference in order to coordinate preparation for the women's workshop proposed for the May 1977 conference. Members of the women's caucus who are willing to serve as provincial contact persons should contact Marianne Pringle, an OFS fieldworker.

MOTION: Simon Fraser/Capilano  
WHEREAS most issues in post-secondary education have particular effects on women, and  
WHEREAS student organizations have generally not dealt with the special concerns of women in an active way,  
BE IT RESOLVED that all documents prepared or presented by NUS on issues which have particular effects on women include an analysis of these effects and explicit recommendations on dealing with such problems,  
FURTHER, that NUS encourage its member institutions to include sessions on women in post-secondary education in their NSD programmes.

CARRIED

MOTION: Toronto(SAC)/Douglas  
WHEREAS the Income Tax Act discriminates against students by not allowing them to claim childcare expenses as an income tax deduction,  
BE IT RESOLVED that NUS and its member institutions write letters to Revenue Canada objecting to this policy, and further that the Students' Union of Ryerson Polytechnical Institute be responsible for initiating this work.

Toronto explained that the motion came from Ryerson, but was moved by Toronto since Ryerson is not a member. Ryerson fully accepted the responsibility.

The question was put on the motion.

CARRIED

Regina expressed a reservation about the women's report, since their delegate (male) felt left out of the standing committee. Toronto(SAC) explained the purpose of the various forums for discussion, pointing out that male-female discussion takes place in the workshop.

## 26. Bilingualism

Pierre Thibault reported verbally that a workshop had been held, but that the participants found there was not enough time to recommend action on their concerns. Bilingualism in Canada generally, and bilingualism inside NUS, were

both discussed. Several wishes were expressed by the people in the workshop. The first was support for the principle and practice of bilingualism in NUS, and acceleration of the process in day-to-day work and relations with francophone and bilingual institutions. Another wish was for the previous conference's motions on bilingualism to be implemented soon. A third wish was that NUS work equally with the francophone associations outside and within Quebec. Finally, the next conference must be fully bilingual, with all the services necessary to support a bilingual conference.

St Boniface spoke on bilingualism. First, the favourable impression created by anglophone delegates' acceptance of the value and necessity of francophones in NUS. The awareness of student problems and eagerness to act on them deserved congratulations. NUS needed a fully bilingual member on the Central Committee who understands the French position in Canada. Conferences and documentation should be fully bilingual, so that one could see resolutions in action, not just read and hear them. French institutions would not join unless NUS acted as a bilingual union. Bilingualism was important in relations with the federal government. This was not a desire to use the French language as a threat, but a desire for respect of that language. NUS had theory, but not practice. Immediate action on bilingualism was demanded.

There was some discussion on how the conference could express wishes on this issue, since there was already a policy. Some suggested a request for the fastest possible implementation, others mentioned some form of quota for Central Committee membership.

MOTION: York/King's  
To reaffirm the policy on bilingualism.  
CARRIED

#### 27. Central Committee elections

Nominations were closed for member-at-large on the Central Committee. The four nominees, Vincent Dureault, Riel Miller, Patrick Palmer and Sheila Ryan, accepted the nomination. Each spoke briefly, and the members present were asked to cast two votes each by secret ballot to elect two members-at-large from among the nominees. Business proceeded while the election was held.

#### 28. Central Committee resignations

The chair reported a Central Committee recommendation that the members accept the resignation letter of Bob Buckingham, Elspeth Guild, Pierre Ouellette and Don Thompson. The letter was not available due to another printing breakdown, but the chair stated that the letter would be circulated.

MOTION: Langara/King's  
To accept the resignation letter of Bob Buckingham, Elspeth Guild, Pierre Ouellette and Don Thompson.

Brock felt that thanks for their efforts and leadership should be added. The vote was called on the motion.

CARRIED

Lethbridge asked that their opposition to the motion be recorded.

29. Colleges' caucus

Gordon Bell reported for the college caucus. It discussed the work of the college committee, which had put considerable effort into encouraging participation in the ACCC conference, November 1976. A report would be submitted to the Central Committee on behalf of the colleges committee. A reconfirmation of the commitment to get more colleges, vocational schools and technical institutes involved was desired. The following motion and its implementation was the caucus's proposal for reconfirmation of that commitment.

MOTION: St Boniface/Notre Dame  
That NUS members take upon themselves the task of encouraging student associations at colleges in their area to attend the ACCC conference to be held in Ottawa the weekend of November 13, 1976.

Bell explained briefly the role of ACC and the existence of parity representation at its conferences. The conference was an efficient way to have ideas exchanged by college student associations, but often these associations were not informed that they could attend.

The vote was put on the motion.

CARRIED

It was announced that Riel Miller and Sheila Ryan had been elected as members-at-large.

30. Notice of constitutional amendment

Simon Fraser and Carleton gave notice of a constitutional amendment to add "that at least one member of the Central Committee must be fluent in both official languages" to by-law 12, section 5.

31. Thanks to conference host

MOTION: McMaster/Regina  
That NUS express to the Carleton University Students' Association its most sincere thanks for hosting this conference, and congratulations for the admirable work done by members of the Association in the organization of this conference.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

32. Location of next conference

The chair reported a Central Committee recommendation that the next conference site be Charlottetown, should that prove impossible the site be St. John's and should that prove impossible the site be Calgary.

MOTION: Brock/Dalhousie  
To accept the Central Committee recommendation regarding the site of the next conference.

Dalhousie favoured the choice of Charlottetown since it would help make the organization's work better known.

The vote was put on the motion.

CARRIED

### 33. Active political participation

MOTION: Simon Fraser/Carleton  
WHEREAS the interests and further development of NUS can be expected to require more active participation in the area of political lobbying at the various levels of government;  
AND WHEREAS NUS should seek to establish itself as a viable political force by forming an active political wing which would have as one of its purposes support for appropriate candidates at the various levels of government;  
BE IT RESOLVED that a workshop be held at the next conference which will deal with the exchange of information that directs itself towards the establishment of such a wing.

Simon Fraser spoke to the motion, explaining that the purpose was to hold a workshop, despite the disguising rhetoric. It could be seven or eight years until action such as that mentioned in the second clause would be appropriate. At some time the organization would be called upon to play a political role, and the motion called for the start of discussions to prepare for that time.

Winnipeg felt that the assumptions of the second clause were not the sentiment of NUS members, and that the clause made the motion unacceptable. York felt that the workshop was more action-oriented than Simon Fraser had implied, and suggested that students would not favour such political involvement by their organizations. Saskatchewan felt that there was still such a need for effort in NUS's growth and development, that conference agendas were already so crowded, that there was neither time nor effort for the kind of work proposed by Simon Fraser.

UBC agreed with Saskatchewan, and felt that NUS should continue to be an independent lobbying group. Such a workshop would create division and tend to associate the organization, in students' minds, with political parties. The chair asked that speakers confine their remarks to the proposal for a workshop.

AMENDMENT: N.S. Agricultural/Capilano  
To delete the wording and substitute the following:  
"Be it resolved that a workshop be held at the next conference to address itself to how NUS will lobby best in the future."

N.S. Agricultural felt that the thrust of the motion dealt with NUS's future direction, and that the amendment put the concept into more acceptable

terms. There was some consultation on the wording of the amendment.

Lethbridge preferred the original wording, and felt that the amendment would change the wording so much that the point of the original motion was lost. Carleton disagreed with Lethbridge, saying that the workshop could look at alternatives such as lobbying through a political wing, through a group in Ottawa, etc. The workshop would move discussion beyond the stage of just saying "let's have a lobby". Toronto(SAC) had problems with the amendment, supporting the original wording as simply a call to support and work for establishment of the policies that were adopted with such consensus as usually existed within NUS.

Bob Buckingham pointed out that Elspeth Guild was leaving the conference, and would soon be leaving Canada for an extended period. He briefly described her four years of work in student newspapers and student unions, at the local and national level of both. He offered her best wishes.

Brock called the question on the amendment. There were objections to putting the question, a vote was held on the matter and it failed.

York felt that the motion could have a dangerous effect, that the second wording could permit the matters mentioned in the original wording to be raised, and so both should be defeated. Simon Fraser responded that the debate on the original wording had been productive, that discussion in the proposed workshop could also be productive. In any case the organization's political role needed debate, as the discussion on the motion indicated. Those who wanted such a discussion deserved the forum which the amendment would clearly create. Even if the workshop made recommendations it was open to the members to defeat those recommendations.

The question was called on the amendment. There were objections to calling the question, a vote was held and the question on the amendment was put to a vote.

CARRIED

McMaster felt that the original wording called for discussion directed to a particular end, with the new wording the intent remained so McMaster opposed the motion as amended. Simon Fraser repeated that it was not action-oriented. Brock noted the sentiment in favour of a workshop, the concern about intentions.

MOTION: Brock/Dalhousie  
That the motion be referred to the Central Committee.

Simon Fraser claimed personal privilege on the references to the motion's intent, and was ruled out of order.

WITHDRAWN

There was some discussion regarding the wording of the main motion as amended, the intent of the main motion and the probable effect of the motion.

The main motion as amended was put to a vote.

CARRIED

34. Manpower training

MOTION: Waterloo/Douglas  
Be it moved that NUS rejects in total the stand taken by the Senate committee report on the Canada Manpower Training Program to change the direction and scope of the CMTP until such time as a funding formula is worked out by the federal and provincial governments whereby the present services that are offered by the CMTP will be continued and hopefully expanded.

Waterloo explained that the program was carried on largely at community colleges. Further information was available in the October 1976 issue of the Student Advocate, or could be gained by questions raised in the discussion. McMaster noted the lack of information other than that in the newspaper.

MOTION: McMaster/Brock  
That the motion be tabled.

DEFEATED

Waterloo stressed the urgency of the matter, since the Senate committee report could be approved, and cutbacks hitting the community colleges, before NUS had another conference. The CMTP helped people to gain the basic skills needed to be constructive members of the society, and it had to be preserved.

The chair ruled that the motion opened up new policy areas, and therefore approval by the conference would have the effect of submitting the motion to a vote by mail of the NUS members.

Waterloo explained that under the CMTP there were programs to give some academic and life skills to the illiterate; to upgrade from Grade 5, and give life skills, to prepare people for work; to provide academic upgrading and vocational training at the levels normally offered by the colleges. Elimination of these parts of CMTP was a recommendation of the Senate committee. Constitutional questions were involved.

The vote was called on the motion. The chair noted that the effect of approval was to send the motion to a vote by mail.

CARRIED

Miguel Figueroa remarked that he had prepared a paper on the subject of CMTP for the May 1976 NUS conference, and urged that there be full documentation of the matter to show the differences between general skills and job skills.

35. Adjournment

MOTION: Brock/Winnipeg  
That the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY