

GATEWAY — continued from page 1

Issues during the week of the Executive elections. No Gateways were published last week.

After personnel board made its recommendation, council immediately moved into closed session, making it impossible for Gateway staffers to explain why they had chosen Yakimchuk and why they opposed Jackson. When council moved out of closed session, they had already moved to vote immediately on the personnel board recommendation. Thus the original appointment was made without Gateway staffers ever being given a chance to state their case.

Tuesday morning the Gateway staff voted to end their strike pending the outcome of the Commission. They are still adamantly opposed to Jackson and to Council's original action and will unanimously refuse to work for the paper next year if Jackson is editor.

However, they feel there are events which need to be communicated to the students, for instance, the effects of the recently proposed University budget cuts, and they therefore feel a responsibility to resume publication.

They also expressed a fear that a continued strike would seriously demoralize the paper's staff. "The paper is the only thing that holds us together," commented one staffer, "even if we win this struggle, we are liable to be too disorganized to get a paper together if we stay on strike."

Fears were expressed that ending the strike would remove the present dispute from the terms of reference of the Commission. The Commission is mandated to recommend procedures to be used in future appointments of the editor and if they think it necessary to recommend in the present dispute. None of the Commission's recommendations will be binding on council.

Ending the strike "may be just what McKenzie wants".

Council supports abortion law repeal conference

Students' Council moved to give at least token support to a conference on abortion law repeal at its last meeting.

In a representation to council, committee for abortion repeal spokeswoman Chris Bearchall asked council to support a national conference to be held in Winnipeg on March 18 and 19.

She said that the committee would like to send at least 50 delegates from Edmonton.

Bearchall asked that council support the conference, in principle, and send one or two delegates. She also said that the committee estimated that about 10 of the 50 delegates would be unable to pay their own way to the conference, and asked that the students' union pay the \$435.00 bus fare for these people.

Council passed a motion to support the conference in principle.

They also passed a motion to send two representatives to the conference. This, however, ran into a budgetary hassle, and council referred the question of whether they should even pay for these reps to finance board.

accused a staffer, "now he can argue that the problem has been solved and it is outside the scope of the Commission."

McKenzie, as far as future appointments are concerned, will probably advocate his idea of an incorporated Media Board which would take the legal responsibility of publisher away from the Students' Union. The Board would be responsible for the operation of the Gateway (including the appointment of editors) and possibly student radio, CKSR.

The Media Board would include representation from Council, Student Media, and the student body and would sign a contract with the Students' Union each year for a set bulk sum grant.

The Media Board is an idea that Gateway and CKSR have been seriously considering for the past year. The organizations feel that such a Board would be in much closer touch with them than Students' Council and would, therefore, be able to deal with their problems in a much more realistic manner.

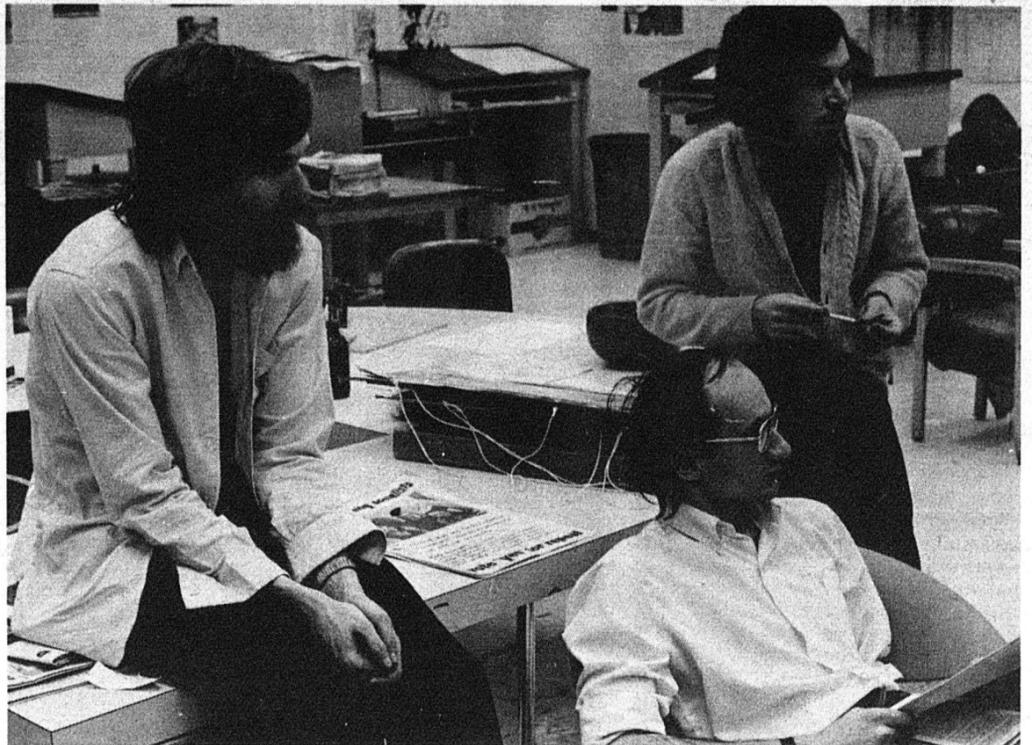


photo: Vic Post
Editor Bob Beal, Editor-elect Ron Yakimchuk, and Features Editor Rick Grant (left to right) ponder the future of the Gateway on the first day of the strike.

Graduate students severely affected by budget cuts

If University Administration proposals for budget cuts are accepted, graduate students will probably be severely affected. Financial cuts proposed by President Wyman would chop \$482,000 from the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, slashing its budget by nearly 20% - the highest percentage cut of any faculty.

In response to the concern voiced by many students, a special meeting of the Graduate Students' Association has been called for 7:30 p.m. tonight, in room V-124 of the Physics Building. All graduate students are invited to attend.

Originally the meeting was called to reconsider a previous motion by which the GSA agreed to voluntarily recommend a \$100 reduction in tuition fee allowances for Graduate Teaching Assistants, and to recommend a reduction in graduate student travel grants. Since that time, however, a large number of graduate students have made clear their discontent at the discrepancy between the size of proposed cuts for their Faculty and those proposed for other faculties and areas in the University.

Proposed cuts in other faculties and Schools range from 1.2% for the Faculty of Science to 4.0% for the School of Library Science. The Administration has proposed a 5.3% cut for the total combined three areas of Administration, Miscellaneous Expenses, and Public Service. On the other hand, proposed cuts in Student Services total 39.1%.

In contrast, the Academic Staff Association President Dr. Lloyd Stephens-Newsham has reaffirmed his Association's determination to obtain a major portion of the 4.5% increase in salary recently negotiated for academic staff.

Dr. D.G. Tyndall, Vice-President for Finance and Administration, stated Wednesday that even in view of the present University financial difficulties "I suspect that there will be some increase, but that it will be smaller than the increase which was earlier negotiated on a conditional basis", and that he personally thought that "there

should be some increase".

At the same time, the Administration's proposals would completely strip the Post Doctoral Fellowship program of any funds. This program affects graduate students who obtain their PhD and wish to stay at the University to continue research.

In view of these discrepancies, graduate students are upset that student-related areas are being so severely hit by the proposed cuts. Reports reaching the Gateway office indicate that proposals will be put forth at tonight's meeting for combatting what many graduate students regard as the unfair and unequal amount of the University's financial difficulties which it seems they must shoulder.

Intercession bursaries, which are awarded to graduate students

to financially support their program during the summer months, appear to be in danger of being cut. Gateway attempts to ascertain how much of a reduction there will be on these Bursaries have been unsuccessful. Officials of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research were unavailable for Gateway interviews, "because of their busy schedule", until Friday, the day after the GSA meeting. Department Chairmen contacted by the Gateway stated that they had received no word on the amount of Intercession Bursary money available, but that "things don't look good".

Dr. Wyman, when asked Wednesday about the policy on which the Administration's proposed cuts were drafted, stated: "I feel that the priorities that this university should use in

a situation of this kind is to protect the welfare of people, that is, all the people on the University staff, the continuing staff of all kinds, and even part-time, and Graduate Teaching Assistants. ...My Number one priority is of two types, the welfare of people involved, and to protect our academic and research programmes." He indicated that from feedback has been receiving, there may well be modifications in the cuts proposed for the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research.

In view of his statements, graduate students hope that a strong stand taken at the GSA meeting tonight will be effective in obtaining a reduction in the proposed cuts in graduate-students' areas.

by Doug Mustard

Grape continues

Van school board bans paper

VANCOUVER (CUP) Vancouver high school students will get their birth control information the hard way with a school-board ban this week on distribution of an underground-style inter high school paper the *Oganookie Standard*.

The Vancouver School Board has frequently tried in the past to ban the paper from secondary schools but until now a majority of board members were content to merely reprimand the paper when it dealt with areas like high school reform and sexuality.

However, the school board's ban has had little practical effect in Vancouver high schools where thousands of copies of the paper have been distributed since the Board's 5-4 decision early this week.

Oganookie staff Neil Tessler said Wednesday, distributors have occasionally been chased through school halls by staff since the ruling, but in most cases have been left alone.

The article that offended the school board was about birth control. It contained no profanity or photographs and no diagrams other than those

already available to women on tampon boxes.

Tessler pointed out that the board members of Vancouver's two major civic political parties, the right-wing Non-Partisan Association who voted against the paper's distribution and members of the more progressive Electors Action Movement who voted for it.

Board chairman Ian Kelsey (NPA) broke the tie deciding against the paper.

School Board policy in Vancouver states that students seeking birth control information must go to a school counsellor and ask for it. Birth control handbooks and other birth control information is banned from schools.

On another front of the alternate press movement both Vancouver's underground papers the *Georgia Straight* and the breakaway *Grape* - continue to publish.

The *Grape* collective, composed of former staff members of the *Straight*, occupied the *Straight* office Jan. 19 and proceeded to publish the *Georgia Grape*. The paper now has its own office and has published issues.

The collective was forced to leave the *Straight* office Feb. 2 after *Straight* owner and publisher Dan McLeod got a B.C. Supreme Court injunction against the occupation and preventing the use of the name the *Georgia Grape*. The newspaper is now simply the *Grape*.

The occupation and breakaway by *Straight* staffers protesting McLeod's individual ownership of the paper has resulted in much bitterness between the two camps, now working out of neighboring offices in Vancouver's Gastown.

McLeod controls all the *Straight*'s equipment and a few original staffers and writers. The *Grape* collective has almost no equipment but lots of former *Straight* writers, layout people and typesetters.

Although occasional bargaining is taking place between the two groups, no agreement seems likely to be reached in the immediate future.

In many locations in the city, the *Grape* is now outselling the *Straight* and McLeod is thousands of salary dollars in debt to staffers from both papers and at least \$5,000 in debt to his printers.