

Study hall security questioned

by Susan Hart

Several students who frequently use the study hall adjacent to the Chinese Library have been victims of theft.

Karen Roblee, a student who frequents the study hall, recently had five textbooks worth over \$200 stolen from the area. This was not an isolated incident as several of Karen's friends have suffered the same fate, but could not be reached to comment on this situation.

The study hall, which was set up by the Chinese Students Association an unknown length of time ago, provides shelves to store texts and

study materials overnight or on weekends.

No one can be found to assume responsibility for the study hall: the people in charge of the Chinese Library, Rutherford staff, and the Chinese Students Association all deny having any responsibility for the area.

These shelves therefore have little or no supervision and students must face the risk of thievery if they wish to leave their belongings unattended in the study hall.

Director of Campus Security, Doug Langevin, said that nothing could be done about the situation

unless people are willing to come forward with complaints. He stated that if such reports were filed, Campus Security would do a survey and investigation of the area and upgrade security where needed.

Lisa Wong, President of the Chinese Students Association, knew very little about the situation and was unaware that the study hall was set up by the Association.

Roblee summed up her situation by stating that she will no longer leave her belongings in the study hall because she cannot be sure they will be there when she returns.

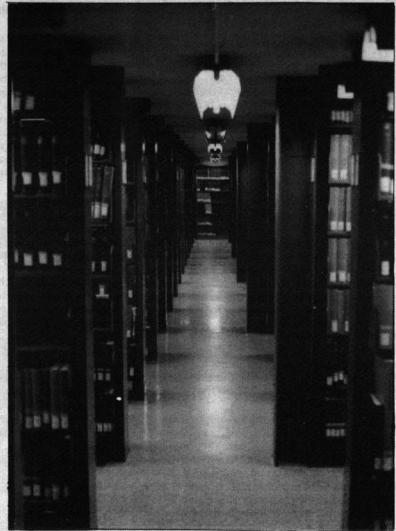


Photo: Dragons Run

The periodical library and its echoing hallways — how good is security?

Religions answer to suffering

by Neil Draper

When faced with suffering, the question which almost immediately arises is "Why?" On Thursday, Nov. 26, Allan McBryan (director of One Way Apathy) addressed this question in a lecture, "Where is God in My Suffering?"

McBryan explained that when one asks God "why?", you bring up the whole issue of God's relationship to the world. "If we discover what is necessary for a real intimate relationship, we will discover two keys about how God relates to us."

The first key which McBryan pointed out was that in a real, intimate relationship it is necessary that there be a voluntary limitation of one's rights. By doing this the initiator of the relationship grants

freedom and authority to the other party which would not normally have been there. Then both parties may enter into and enjoy a relationship together.

In creating us, God has granted us the freedom to choose for ourselves and authority as stewards of the earth. In granting us this, God needed to relinquish his right to interfere every time something bad could happen. The result of course is that some suffering is inevitable.

The second key McBryan pointed out about God's relationship to the world was that God suffers along with us.

"God is described in the Bible as the wounded lover... and the suffering he bears as a result of our rejection of him exceeds the pain

we suffer." Parents who watch their children slowly die of cancer or who lose their child to "some nut who abuses them and then murders them" suffer the same experiences as God does.

God is not indifferent to his world, said McBryan, but he is actively involved in it — and that includes emotions, too. "God is also described as a loving mother who feels the pain of her children," said McBryan.

He concluded his lecture by saying, "Jesus Christ has suffered and carries many marks on his body. He gave the supreme sacrifice — his life for us. God knows of our suffering and he has done all this so that we may know him in a personal relationship."

'Warm' students roast Frum

ST. JOHN'S (CUP) — The author of Linda Frum's Guide to Canadian Universities" faced a room full of hostile students at Memorial University as she brought her cross-country tour east.

"I apologize for any insult I might have given — I didn't realize that what I wrote was insulting. I merely wrote what I saw," she told the audience.

Memorial student council president Anne Marie Vaughan strode into the packed hall wearing a lumberjack shirt and baseball cap, which Frum wrote was the typical garb of Memorial students.

The book chronicles her fact-finding visit to Canadian anglophone universities.

In it she describes Memorial as a place where "dancing, drinking and sex are the only truly accepted recreational activities."

But Frum refused to apologize for calling Memorial a "party school", because she said that is what she saw when she was there.

"There are so many terrible universities in Canada. Lots of universities are full of people who are too intellectually serious. People here are friendly and warm."

She said western universities were especially boring and the people cold. "Personally, I prefer Newfoundland."

Frum declined to discuss her qualifications or research methods.

"I refuse to say how many people I interviewed here," she said. "To my satisfaction, my qualifications are adequate."

"I don't think that I gave an impression of low sexual morals at MUN," she said responding to a question about her book's references to sexual activity at Memorial. ("There's not one girl here who isn't on the Pill.").

Some students accused Frum of tarnishing Memorial's academic reputation.

"I don't want to lay my degree, which I worked hard for, on the table on the mainland when I'm looking for a job, and have it totally ignored and devalued because your guide says that MUN is a school where they only drink, party, and have sex," said one student.

Frum, however, said she never intended her book to be a guide to

academics. If students wanted to learn about the academic side of universities, she said, they could read any of a number of "dry" books about the subject.

Frum said she likes Newfoundlanders a lot.

"Canadians are so narrow," she said. "I think that Newfoundlanders are great people because their personalities are so far removed from the narrow mind-set of the average mainland."

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