## Sleepless library planned

by Amy Gillard

University of Alberta students may have access to an all night study hall by Christmas exam time.

The planned arrangement entails having the first floor of Cameron Library remaining open throughout the night immediately prior to and during exam week, rather than having it close at 2 a.m.

Michelle Kitt, SU academic commissioner, said, "this service is a need for late night studiers who find studying at home distracting." She also said it will be useful to those living in residence who find it difficult to arrange for a volunteer monitor while they

study. Arranging for someone to act as a security guard is necessary if one wishes to study in a designated residence area late into the night, she said.

"Potential security risks are the main concern surrounding this project," said Kitt. She explained the risks involve the possibility of vandalism and a potential safety risk to students who are isolated while utilizing the service late at night.

A solution to these concerns would be to increase security personnel during the new hours, said Kitt. The Students' Union is willing to pay half the tab that such an increase would incur, providing the administration would pick up the rest of the costs, she said.

However, Kitt noted that the offer to share costs is a temporary one. "Should the service receive a significant response, we would hope that the administration would then take over the entire cost," she said.

Kitt said the idea of an all night library is not a new one. A few years ago one had been set up in V-wing, but failed, due to limited response. Kitt attributes the failure to the fact it was located in an area which she described as "uncomfortable."

She added that the lack of student use was also due to a lack of promotion. "We plan on doing a lot of advertising about this service" she said.

Kitt has met with Peter Freeman, Chief Librarian and Director of Libraries, along with other personnel involved in space allocation. Kitt said Freeman has expressed positive interest in the project and has directed her to seek approval and funding from the administration.

Freeman said that the all night library is still in the planning stages. "At present, it is not certain as to what the needed arrangements will be," he said. Freeman referred to administration funding, saying, "If the resources are made available, we will be able to respond."

Kitt meets with administration officials this week and hopes to receive confirmation about the all night library proposal.

Food day forum

by Jon Romalo

This Sunday, October 16, is World Food Day. As declared by the United Nations, its purpose is to raise awareness of food issues world-wide.

An annual event since 1981, World Food Day has been recognised in Edmonton since its inception, according to Angela Bischoff of the Edmonton World Food Day Group.

The group is holding a public forum at 2:00 p.m. Sunday at the Chinook Theatre, located at 10329 - 83 Avenue. The forum will examine current issues of food security, says Bischoff, and it promises to be an interesting and vital learning experience, considering that there are now more than a billion people on this planet who are undernourished.

Planned events include a half-

hour play that touches on food issues, written by Edmontonian Jane Heather. The playwright will then hold a half-hour discussion period. As well, several groups will give short talks on their connection with food issues and how the issues affect the audience. Ethnic foods will be served, with a highlight on Salvadoran food and music. Admission will be \$4 for the general public and \$3 for students and lowincome individuals, with the proceeds going to a women's farming cooperative in Nicaragua.

A variety of groups will be giving talks representing educational, environmental, consumer, labor, government and religious interests. Some of these include C.U.S.O., the Red Cross, the Canadian Peace Pledge, Farmer's for Peace and the Edmonton Learner Centre (which advises

Alberta teachers on global education.) University of Alberta groups that will attend include the U of A, the International Center, Ten Days for World Development, and a campus environmental group called the U of A Bicycle Commuters.

Now is the time for all *Gateway* staff to decide on the fate of our cartoons.

Staff meeting Tuesday, October 18 at 5 p.m. Room 282 SUB

## New plant classes

by Dawn Lerohl

New courses about drugs, pollution, and biotechnology have spawned an increased interest in plant science at the University of Alberta.

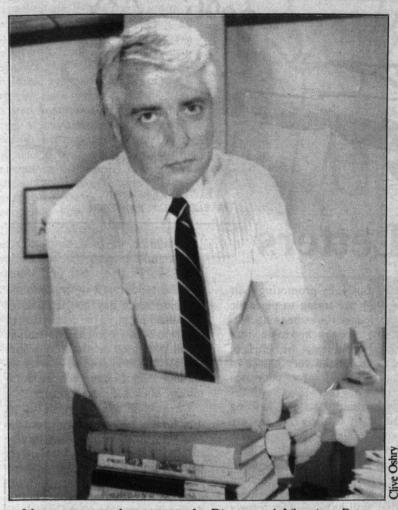
For the last seven years, there has been a 55% increase in the number of students enrolled in botany courses. This year alone has shown a 9% overall increase.

These changes may be attributed to the four new second year courses the department has instigated. "Pollution Biology", "Introduction to Plant Biotechnology", "Biology of Economically Important Plants", and "Drug Plants of the World" have a total enrollment of around 600 students. "Drug Plants of the World" is especially popular with over 300 students.

The Chairman of Botany, Dr. Keith Denford, is attempting to dispel the former image of botany as boring and dull by giving students what they want — something interesting.

Denford is trying to attract attention of students who have always been somewhat interested in botany. He is also attempting to arouse curiosity in students who have not been attracted to plant sciences.

Denford feels possibilities of botany related jobs in the future may be a cause in the growth of Botany enrollment.



It's never too late to study Director of Libraries, Peter Freeman, watch in hand, thinks an all night library will benefit late night study bugs during exam time.

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