

Election platforms

problems—to name only a few. Unless students know the issues and can act collectively students' union will remain ineffective. And we don't need another year of token representation. We need a critical student body—and informed students.

I propose establishment of a communications network, a Student Hotline, co-ordinated by the secretary. In this way students will have a direct link to the union through the secretary; likewise information and action reports will continuously funnel out through the secretary.

But this is a solution for only half the problem—"the other half of good communications is listening".

V-P academic candidates

John Mason

The average age of students at this university is 22. We participate in the decision making processes of our community and therefore are capable of taking a more active part in decisions affecting our lives on the U of A campus. As academic vice-president candidate, I wish to promote an attitude toward campus issues that suggests the kind of responsibility we accept in the larger community. I believe we are capable of accepting a major role in determining what campus policies and programs are in our best interests. The following issues, I believe, reflect the concerns of students at the U of A.

- Increased student representation on General Faculty Council.
- Further action on the recent student referendum on tenure abolition.
- Increased student involvement in major social issues, i.e. pollution, over-population, native peoples' rights, to effect more responsible

attitudes towards these issues in the future.

- Less bureaucratic treatment of students by the student administration in regard to the use of the SUB.
- I support the stand taken by the student body on the Law and Order Committee. If there are to



John Mason

be regulations for student activity on campus, these regulations should be set out by the student body and not by a disciplinary board with only token student representation.

- As academic vice-president, I would lobby for a re-evaluation of the current grading system; it is unfair and reflects society's "hang-ups". A credit-noncredit system is much more desirable.

Trevor Peach

One of the more interesting aspects of campaign week is merely contrasting last year's promises to this year's realities and extrapolating them to encompass our future executive. It's obvious that power does change people, corrupt some

perhaps, but change them all nevertheless; regardless of whether it comes on a university or a national level the difference is merely one of degree. So, while I write this now, in good faith, I am fully aware that a good part may never be completed either to my satisfaction or yours. Thus the only thing I can honestly 'promise' is that I will, to the best of my ability try to achieve these ends and it is simply for you to determine my competence in that regard.

Presently the administration is acceding to the fact that students are becoming more competent in the running of all aspects of their university life, and as a result are 'awarding' us with greater opportunities to participate in the university government and in the planning of future post-secondary institutions. However, in order for this to be at all effective the committees must be staffed with students who are not only competent but willing to undertake positions of responsibility and accountability. Finding and coordinating the activities of these students is one part of the job of academic vice-president.

Tenure, in spite of the many protestations to the contrary, has become little more than a social crutch for incompetents. In spite of second-hand examples of its virtues in protecting the academic rights of an individual the personal experiences I have seen of its abuse is far too overwhelming and I have yet to hear one valid and rational argument against a substitute system of teaching by renewable contract—administered by students and faculty. The institution of such a system is the second major point I intend to promote.

Presently the Worth Commission is receiving briefs on the future of postsecondary institutions in Alberta, which although having little effect on you will have a direct hand in determining the calibre of your children's education.

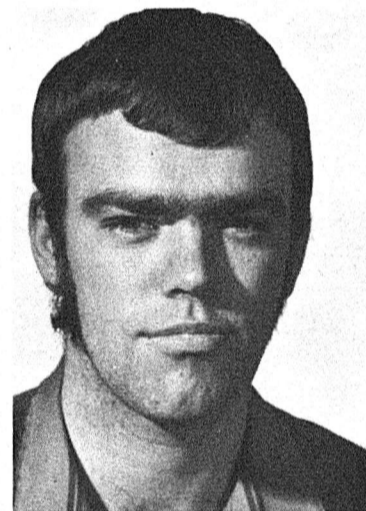
In today's society it is naive and dictatorial to conceive of education as a right in anything but its purest sense; imposing high tuition fees or

raising entrance requirements substantially, simply narrows the scope of the ideal by making a university education a privilege and by perpetuating the hackneyed 'ivory tower' image. Similarly, knowledge is ostensibly unable to assimilate it as quickly and in as large quantities as some other classified intellectual group. Provision should be made in a university to accommodate and challenge persons of any ability.

By refusing to support the growing need for educational facilities the government is forcing the University to adopt discriminatory measures against prospective students. Only by publicizing this fact and by lobbying with the government can we ever hope to achieve even a partial realization of the ideal in a university.

Dennis Zomerschoe

We are at a key point in the development of this university. Issues are being raised as to what kind of education we are getting, the relevance of this education as a preparation for our lives in this



Dennis Zomerschoe

society, and the role of Students' Council in all of this.

Council in the past has shown itself, despite some accomplishments, to be an elitist, unrepresentative body of people. Councillors have an obligation to listen to students, take their opinions and wishes into serious consideration, and act accordingly.

To facilitate this, I would recommend continuation of the Student Council 'Hot Seat', many more referenda on issues relevant to students, suggestion boxes at various crucial points on campus, etc.

If I am elected as academic vice-president, my major task, of course, will be university government, sitting on General Faculty Council, and various other committees. Here major issues which concern students must be placed before the administration.

There are many issues on this campus that demand attention; because of limitation of space, I wish to address myself to the more pressing ones.

The MacPherson report on education, which I enthusiastically support, has a number of far-reaching recommendations, among which are included: (1) a 10-hour class week (including tutorials for every student), this leaves more time for independent study; (2) This leads, almost by force, to a greater emphasis on teaching—which we badly need at this university; (3) The honors system will be abolished.

To conclude, I want to speak on the issues of Law and Order and Tenure. As far as Law and Order is concerned, I would favor that the present committee be abolished as its composition is all wrong; people from all the social sciences and humanities should be involved in creating any set of regulations which could affect academic freedom and life at university. As far as Tenure is concerned, I recommend that we follow the results of the student referendum held recently, that we abolish Tenure and replace it with a contractual hiring system. Vote! There is hard work ahead!

(Continued on page six)

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