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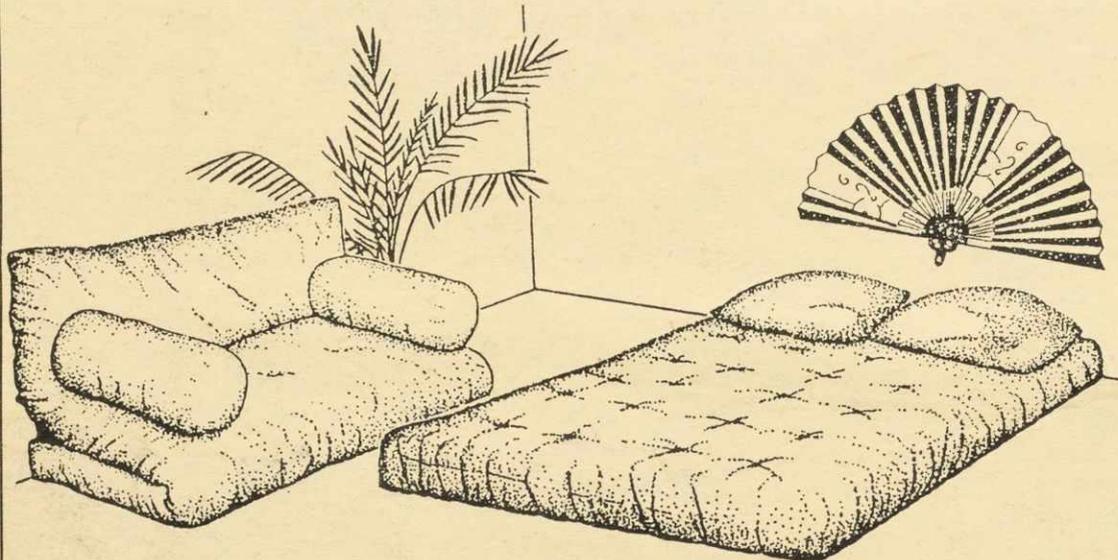
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## McGill, Concordia support tuition fee hikes

MONTREAL (CUP) The two major English-speaking student unions in Quebec both propose increasing tuition fees for students in the province.

In briefs presented to Quebec education minister Claude Ryan, the McGill Students' Society and the Concordia University Students' Association suggest tuition fees should be increased if there are guarantees of better quality and increased accessibility to justify the increase.

The joint McGill Students' Society/McGill Association of University Teachers' brief recommends a 75 per cent increase for 1987/88 and additional annual increase of \$500 until a ceiling of \$2,500 is reached in 1990/91.

The largest student organization in the province, l'Association Nationale des Etudiant-e-es du Quebec (ANEQ), will not accept a tuition fee increase.

Jean-Pierre Paquet ANEQ secretary general, says "we intend to fight any proposed increases and we're convinced we have good arguments. It is not only a question of money — we are also worried about the utilitarian and elitist attitude the government has shown toward education.

"This can be seen in the large number of arts programs that have quotas on them, or have been cut altogether. The right to an education is being attacked, and we will not engage in false compromises."

The Liberal government has already slashed over \$20 million from the province's contribution to universities this year, despite vowing during last fall's election campaign not to make further cuts.

## Lesbian dispute postponed

TERRACE, B.C. (CUP) — A lesbian college instructor will have to wait until May before she learns whether her contract will extend medical insurance to her partner.

Elizabeth Snyder, who teaches pre-vocational courses for mentally handicapped adults at Northwest Community college, has been working since last fall to gain medical coverage for Maureen Bostock, her partner of three years. Until August, Snyder believed a grievance between the B.C. Government Employees Union and the college administration would go to arbitration this fall.

"I brought the grievance forward because there was a human rights clause in the contract, but the union realized it needs to do more bargaining," she says, explaining the contract comes up for renegotiation in May. "We specifically need to state that same-sex couples are eligible for medical coverage. "I was disappointed when I heard of the delay, because I was really geared up for the arbitration," she says.

The college maintains the dispute should be settled between its insurance carrier, the Medical Services Association and the union, but Bostock disagrees. "the employer must recognize that the family is not the traditional male-female group, and the health carrier must recognize the nuclear family is changing."

Snyder says the union has been tremendously supportive in pressing the issue with the administration. "I know the contract committee will be there to back me up on this," she says. Snyder said such contract provisions are important in the struggle for gay and other human rights.

"Finally we are getting some equality and recognition that the lives we lead are valid and good ones," she said.

## SUNS sets taskforce

The Students' Union of Nova Scotia will establish a student aid taskforce to examine the structure and delivery of the student aid system in Nova Scotia.

The taskforce will examine the student aid system and determine how it is and is not meeting the needs of post-secondary student in the province, says a SUNS release. From this examination will come reforms which SUNS says it will take to the provincial government.

Barney Savage, chair of SUNS, says the taskforce was struck because his organization believes accessibility of students to universities is gradually being eroded by worsening government commitment to student aid. "The most recent provincial government action to raise the minimum loan to \$2,7540 before a student qualifies for a bursary is indicative of the government's waning commitment," he says.

At its conference last weekend, SUNS also decided to find out what views are held province wide by university administrators, faculty, staff and students regarding international students and the differential fees they must pay.

## Dal legitimizes leisure

(CUP/Gazette Staff) Dalhousie has joined the ranks of universities across Canada which are abolishing recreologists from their premises.

On August 11, Senate permitted the school of recreation and health education change its graduate degree designations to M. Sc. (Kinesiology), M.S. (Leisure Studies) and M.S. (Leisure Studies).

At the University of Ottawa, Recreationology will become "Leisure Studies" after receiving departmental, faculty and senate approval.

Sources say the new terminology is expected to clear up much of the confusion over just what a recreologist does.

**CUP BRIEFS**