

# Generous Council donates room to senior citizens

The U of A's spring session for senior citizens has come of age.

At Monday night's Student Council meeting, a unanimous vote of approval was given to a motion calling for the rent-free allocation of the Meditation Room during spring session as a senior citizens' drop-in centre.

It was the students' clear acceptance of the senior citizens and their program - an experimental venture formed last spring that gained wide acceptance. Its ten general interest, non-credit courses attracted more than 200 of Alberta's senior citizens, the majority of whom recommended that a similar program be held this year.

A grant from the provincial government's department of advanced education and manpower to the Society for the Retired and Semi-Retired has resulted in the fulfillment of that recommendation.

And the anticipated strong response to the session has prompted the addition of three courses and a corresponding number of instructors.

The session, which begins May 3 and runs for three consecutive weeks, carries registration limits on each class. As well, a person must be registered in a particular class in order to attend it.

The deadline for registration in the non-credit courses is April 16 and early registration is advised.

Preference will be given applicants from north of Red Deer as other senior citizens programs are now operating in Calgary and southern Alberta.

The 13 general interest, non-credit courses will be taught free of charge during the three-week session. Credit courses offered as part of the university's normal spring session May 3 to June 11 will also be available tuition-free to senior citizens.

March 31 is the deadline for registration in the credit courses. Those persons wishing to take courses for credit must have university entrance requirements or meet mature student qualifications.

Daily classes will include

The Well-Read Grandparent; Basic Design Workshop; Writing Fiction For Pleasure; Indoor Gardening; Rocks and Minerals; Contemporary Canadian Issues; Writing Your Community History; Living on a Reduced Income and the Asteris of Man.

Open discussion sessions will be held from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. each afternoon.

Free room will be provided in Lister Hall on the university campus for senior citizens from outside Edmonton. Free board will not be available this year but a variety of foods will be listed and registrants can choose their own meals.

The provincial government grant, which will be ad-

ministered by the university's Faculty of Extension, will provide transportation rebates to out-of-town registrants.

The session is open to all residents of Alberta 65 years of age or over and to their spouses who may not yet be 65.

Sponsors of the session are the University's Faculty of Extension and Special Sessions office and the Society for the Retired and Semi-Retired.

Additional information and descriptive brochure may be obtained by telephoning 432-3033 or by writing The Director, Faculty of Extension, 228 Corbett Hall, The University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2G.

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## U.S. should change its role

by Mary MacDonald

The problems of international politics were discussed by the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Barbara White, in a forum held here last week.

While some nations would like to see greater interdependence, others oppose this attitude, said White. Nationalism within the member countries of the U.N. seems to her to be on the increase.

Speaking of the U.S., Ambassador White said that country needs to revise its international role. If not, she foresees a confrontation on issues of world economy. She pointed out that during the Yom Kippur War and the oil embargo the most seriously affected were the countries of the Fourth World, the poorest of the poor. These nations she says are

desperately fighting both inflation and famine.

A large number of the resolutions arising from the United Nations are just recommendations with no power of enforcement, she said. The General Assembly process is weak because it has very little to do with the reality of the outside world. Each nation has an equal vote now regardless of population - if the vote was by population the underdeveloped nations would have the greatest number of votes, she pointed out. The large number of members (144) in the Assembly makes it very cumbersome, she added, and block voting by nations "has threatened the existence of the General Assembly itself."

"The United Nations usually does not create problems but reflects them," she said. Even if it were abolished these problems would still remain. The U.N. is a means to bridge these difficulties, White contends.

One change White proposes is a "trend toward decision making by concen-

sus." Those nations with the greatest stake in a problem would sit down, discuss the issue and not return until the solution had been found. The best groups, she believes, consist of the smallest possible numbers. For example, she says that if a problem involves the OAS nations, then they should resolve it and not the UN. Forums should be set up for the

principle producers and consumers. When there are global problems to be discussed, the entire U.N. should be called upon.


The conscience of the world community can be raised by the U.N., believes White. Restructuring of the world economic order is one issue in which the U.N. has an important

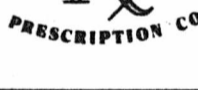
role. "Developed and underdeveloped world cooperation," says Ambassador White, "is better than confrontation."

Without this cooperation she feels "the problems of interdependence will grow and multiply."

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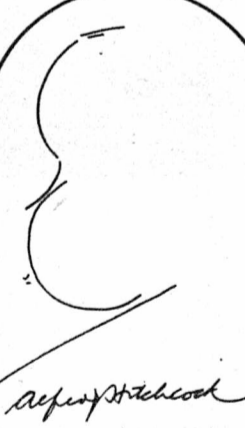


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