

# Ombudsman

Continued from Page 3

Chemistry; eight—Physics; and four—English, History, Psychology. Surely not all of these, making up as much as 50 per cent of the staff at that rank, could be one leave at one time.)

Given, then, that the present system appears unfair to the undergraduate student, what can be done about it?

One simple solution is to have GFC or a similar body make it mandatory that all faculty teach at least one undergraduate course a semester. In Arts, this average is generally maintained overall; in Science, the average for Full Professors is somewhat less than one course per semester; but there is, again, considerable fluctuation from department to department, and from individual to individual.

How much of a burden would this place on the Faculty? A course typically runs three hours; allow an extra six hours for preparation (which ought to be ample; TA's do most of the scoring and examining) and this comes to about one-quarter of the weekly working hours of any faculty member. Consider that this is only for the fall and winter terms, so that the staff member is free of teaching burdens for almost half the year (he gets paid extra for Spring and Summer sessions), and it comes to only slightly more than one-eighth of his professional (paid for) time. This does not seem like an excessive amount of time to ask a professor to devote to that which he is primarily being paid to do.

Nevertheless, if GFC were to adopt such a principle, one might want to allow two exceptions. The first is the case of faculty members primarily involved in university administration: the president and the vice-presidents—perhaps the chairman of the Academic Staff Association. Below that, there seems little need to make this exception since only one of the Full, Associate, and Assistant Deans in Arts and Sciences is not presently teaching undergraduates, anyway: indeed, many feel it is important for them to maintain

contact with students in this manner.

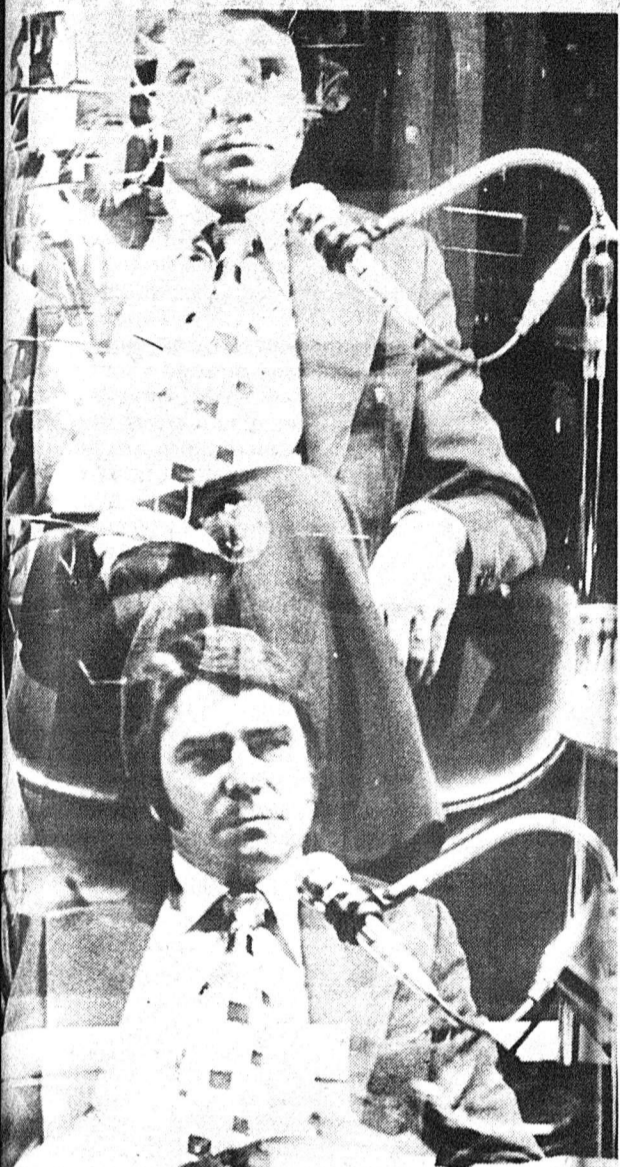
The second exception might be to use the category of "Research Professor" for those people who have special research competence and are lacking in desire to teach undergraduates. This category would presumably be used as sparingly as that of "University Professor" now is, and for much the same reasons of excellence.

It is difficult to estimate exactly what the effect of such a regulation might be, in terms of equalizing the number of students and courses taught at each rank, but clearly it would move the data much closer to equality than is now the case.

A second remedy might be to insure that faculty members at different ranks teach not just a reasonable share of the courses (which could be simply legislated) but also of students (which is more difficult to legislate, since enrolments are sometimes difficult to estimate.) This could be done, however, either by assuring that only courses of a certain size (depending on the departmental average—say 20 to 50 or more students) be counted as "courses"; or by requiring all Professors to teach at least one junior level course per year, since those are the ones in which the largest enrolments are concentrated. A more difficult procedure would involve asking departments to insure that the ratios of students taught at a rank approximate the ratio of that rank on the staff, (that is, matching rows one and three of last week's Table); but this is difficult to legislate clearly.

Either or both of these procedures would go a long way toward ensuring that undergraduates get at least a reasonable share (if nothing near a fully fair share) of the quality teaching available at this university. Although there will probably be heavy objections, should these principles be brought up in GFC, from the entrenched "priveleged" faculty on that body, these recommendations seems both elementary and necessary to the continued health of this university.

— dls



Split personality?

photo Grant Wurm

Busy AFL pres. Reg. Basken probably wished he could be two places at once while speaking to a Monday. SUB forum on working life. Gateway photog Grant Wurm gave him his wish in this multi-exposure.

**Fight differential fees. Protest at the Legislature Friday, April 1.**

## Arts and Science Elections

**2 Student Council Representatives  
6 GFC (n.b.) representatives**  
from each faculty

CAMPAIGNING BEGINS - Mar. 14  
NOMINATIONS CLOSE - Mar. 18

Campaign Speeches  
12:00 noon  
Monday, March 21  
Rm. 104 SUB

ELECTION DAY - Mar. 23  
Inquire S.U. General Office



STUDENTS' UNION

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

## COUNCIL SECRETARY REQUIRED

**Duties:** to record and prepare the minutes of Students' Council meetings (Minutes are not verbatim). Approximately 2 weekday evenings per month.

**Qualifications:** Speedwriting or shorthand an asset but not necessary. Familiarity with the Students' Union also an asset. Must have experience in taking minutes of meetings.

**Salary:** \$30 - \$40 per meeting.

**Apply to:** Eileen Gilgese, Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Room 256, SUB.

**Application Deadline:** Noon, Wednesday, March 23rd.

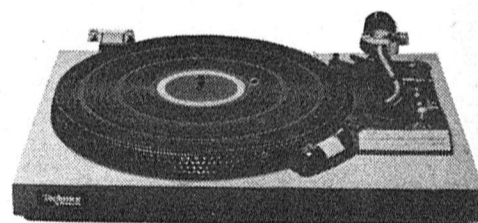
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