

# Council denies money allocation for Suzuki lecture

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council didn't pass it [the motion] because of money problems," said Vethan. "Dr. Suzuki is an excellent speaker, and I don't give much chance to bringing him in this term; at least not by the SU."

Vethan could not understand why council would refer the question back to the committee stage. "All the presidents of the Faculty Associations were in agreement, but the problem was that SU's watchdog committee didn't look at it."

Pessimistic about the chances of getting the committees together in time to allocate the appropriate funds, Vethan said "even if COFA could get together quickly it must then also go to the Administration Board, which has no power to allocate funds of this nature."

Besides, said Vethan, Students' Council must still make the final decision, and their next meeting isn't until February 7.

"By referring it back to COFA, they killed it," said Vethan.

Arts representative Wade Deisman agreed with Vethan and went on to say that the council decision "pre-empted the possibility for U of A students to see Suzuki."

"Because of this action there will be no David Suzuki and this is unfortunate since there are very few opportunities for the SU to do something beneficial for all students as a whole," said Deisman. "In cases like this there should be times when one could go straight to the council."

Deisman said that certain members of the executive were being "too technical in their objections" and demonstrated a "classic case of filibustering."

Deisman claimed that this is the same type of situation as last fall. At that time SU president LaGrange brought directly to council a money motion for Freshman

Introduction Week (FIW) which passed "because of an appeal of time factor." At that time a \$16,000 motion was introduced straight to council as a whole, bypassing the committee stage.

Both LaGrange and vp finance and administration, Chris Welsh, disagreed with Deisman's claims that this motion was the same as the \$16,000 request for FIW. "The FIW motion was created by the Administration Board and they wanted council to examine it in greater detail," explained Welsh.

Deisman says that this is "demonstrative of the inconsistency

...a classic case of filibustering...

of the SU executive which operates an often inconsistent 'cut and burn' policy towards money items." If they could pass a \$16,000 motion for FIW, he said, then surely they could pass an \$8,300 request to bring in Suzuki. "This is definitely going to be a setback to the SU in bringing in top level speakers in the future," Deisman said.

"While we won't get Suzuki, we can still get other good speakers," said LaGrange. "It was a timing problem, and there was not enough work put into the proposal before it went to council. There has to be a properly documented budget to spend money like this. Not only that, there is just not enough time to advertise. I don't care if it's David Suzuki or Sting, you don't bring someone in without properly publicizing it."

Welsh, who chairs the Administration Board, said that the motion was "properly documented and explained the proposed spending step by step." In this case (the Suzuki motion), council didn't have "a properly proposed submittal presented," and this is because "there just wasn't enough legwork put into it."

LaGrange agreed with Welsh on the differences with the two motions and stressed that they were "two totally different issues." He also discounted Vethan's suggestion that Suzuki will not be able to come in this semester. "If they wanted to they could still bring him in at a later date, but they could and should still look at other speakers."

In any case, the Friends of the Old Man River Association are getting Suzuki in for a speech at the Butterdome on March 17.

# Lease agreement disputed

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and lease agreement, some of the rules are also included in the Code of Student Behaviour, a document which covered two full pages in fine print in last week's *Gateway*.

HFS official Wyn Gittins acknowledged that a new, one-piece contract is in the works, and that the terms will be less stringent. He said that most universities in western Canada have a one-month notice rule, and only "about five percent" penalties. Tupper and SU president Paul LaGrange are expecting the fees to be eight to ten percent.

However, Tupper, LaGrange, and Gittins seem to be in agreement on one point: that this case did not set a precedent for other disgruntled Lister-ites. Tupper said that the argument of HFS breaking the contract because they didn't serve hot breakfasts, or serve food from Subway, would have carried a lot more weight if it was earlier in the year.

LaGrange also noted that it is hard on residences when students move out in the course of a school year, because "There's not a lot of demand (for housing) in mid-semester". Both LaGrange and Tupper felt that the deciding factor in this case was that the student had so exhaustively worked all the available channels to improve his situation before deciding to move, including sitting on the Food and Maintenance Committee at Lister. "Housing and Food was very careful (to stress the student's effort) in attempting to avoid setting a precedent," said Tupper.

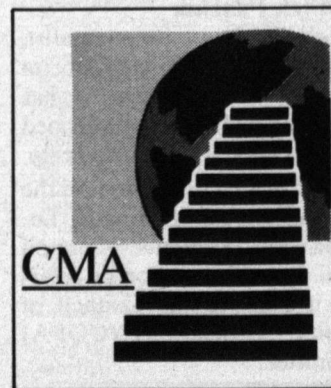
Gittins denied a precedent had been set, "We review each case on its own merits," he said, "there's been less than a dozen requests (for refunds) since September. Some we've acceded to, some we haven't."

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## Grapevine

Who says engineers don't have a conscience? Geers all across Canada are revving up for the first annual National Engineering Student Week. Unlike the fabled local version, which sputtered to an end recently, Geers in the National Engineers Week will be reaching out to lend communities a helping hand, rather than reaching for another cup of draft.

This Wednesday, University of Alberta Geers will strap on their bowling shoes to strike up some funds for the A.C.T. Telerama — or the United Way. Anyone wishing to see an Engineer try to perform and interact in a normal human environment is encouraged to sign pledge forms being circulated around the campus. All sociopathologists and anthropologists searching for a thesis subject are encouraged to show up at Scona Bowl Wednesday and observe.