

editorial letters

Felt pen marauders

Confidence is leaving early

It must be nice for a person to feel very secure in his or her position, like some members of General Faculties Council. You can admire the type of confidence some councillors display when they leave meetings half completed thus breaking quorum and ending the whole affair. It sure beats having to go through with the time-worn procedure of making a formal motion to adjourn, voting upon it, and all that other messy stuff.

At the last meeting of GFC, the exodus occurred when there were still three items left on the agenda. Two of them could have been passed in five minutes, should GFC have five minutes to spare to consider the business in front of it. But the other involved a representation from another institution, and I hope that other institution got an accurate depiction of how the U of A sometimes conducts its affairs with regards to visits from people outside its boundaries.

I hope the representatives of Concordia College realize just how important the imposing General Faculties Council of the University of Alberta (QUAECUMQUE VERA, and all that) sees itself, and others who have the good fortune to be connected with it. After all, Concordia is such a "little" place.

GFC had just completed about an hour and twenty minutes debate on what the U of A's academic priorities should be. During that lengthy discussion, it came up numerous times that it is becoming more and more important that the university be understood by the public if it is to be further supported by the public, and that lay members of different governing bodies on campus should be given more input into the decisions those bodies make. This is part and parcel of the university's extension function, at least in my mind.

But how soon they forget the heavy philosophical ideals on which this campus was founded, and under which it still professes to operate.

Perhaps its just a misunderstanding on my part. It could have happened thus: at the end of a long debate, five or six members decide its time for coffee or a visit to the biffy round the corner. Everyone else wakes up and sees these people walking out and thinking the meeting ended while they were asleep, figure it was time they buggered off too. A chain reaction could have been started, one impossible to stop, one which the importance of the two representatives could not allay. Its possible, but I doubt it. They tell me deans and department heads can never be caught napping.

Oh well, its not really that important. The representatives will just have to arrange for another visit some other time. Perhaps in two weeks or so, GFC will be a little more disposed to talk with visitors from other institutions. No guarantees, mind you, just keep coming back and we'll get around to you sooner or

Greg Neiman

This letter is directed at certain individuals on this campus but more specifically at the person(s) who shall herein after be referred to as the "felt pen marauder(s)'

Now the felt pen marauder is quite a unique individual whose lilly white values have lead him to believe that honesty is the second best policy, being white is the first. With these thoughts in mind, and his felt pen in hand, he has been frequenting various washrooms around the campus and proclaiming his racist propensities for everyone to see by scrawling ethnic slanders on the walls, mirrors and urinals

etc Well, people saw- but I doubt if they were impressed. Now the last thing I would do is to lecture these felt pen marauders on social equality, consideration, or any other "weird" thing like that. Hell no, l would ask or rather defy these guys to stand up and be counted. That is fair isn't it? I'll bet there are many people who would like to meet you.

Furthermore, I'll bet that if you opened a booth in SUB you could become real popular and you would be killing two birds with one stone (you'd like that wouldn't you?) 1. The janitors would not have to clean up your propaganda and 2. You'd be able to do some real good public relations for your cause. Henri Ferguson

Gish vs logic

With reference to the Dr. Gish forum held Feb. 21/75 12-3 p.m. SUB Theatre.

In my presentation I pointed out that Dr. Gish's argument can only exist because, "Evolution has never been witnessed by human observers;...". In other words it has never been documented and therefore is not substantiated by fact.

I recognized this as being a problem of not being able to find an entity that has evolved fast enough and in a period of time that man may observe and document the process

I held as my premises: 1. Natural laws apply to

- all things in the natural world. 2. Society is an entity in
- the natural world.
- 3. Society is an entity distinct from man in the same manner that man is an entity distinct from the single cells that compose his body.

I then pointed out that:

- 1. Society and the process by which it develops does fulfill all the requirements of the evolution theory
- 2. It has been substantially observed and documented by

therefore conclude that evolution is a fact of this world.

Those who were at the Forum are witness to the fact that Dr. Gish did admit to the fact that the process of societal development was and is an evolutionary one.

He then attacked my argument on the points:

1. He did not recognize different societies as distinct

2. He did not recognize society as distinct from man.

3. Because the process applies to society, which he does not recognise as distinct from man, it does not necessarily hold true for the organic

In response to this I should like to point out that Dr. Gish's rebuttal is not an argument against my proposition as stated, but it is an argument against logic and perception.

Dennis Wilson

Money story

Let me tell you a story. I took out a student loan for 1000 dollars about 5 years ago, through The Bank of Montreal (Lynnwood Branch). Every year since then I have been registered in the University, and have received confirmation of enrollment forms to be filled out. This year I didn't get a confirmation.

Since I have my current account at the Campus Towers Branch, I decided to get my loan transferred to that branch as well; the woman I talked to said she would transfer the loan and send me all the necessary forms. This was in December, I told her that I was still registered at the U of A.

On Feb. 19 I received from the Bank of Montreal (Campus Towers) my cancelled cheques. and with them was a REPAY-

MENT OF LOAN statement, which was a receipt for about \$60 that they had taken out of my chequing account WITHOUT PERMISSION WITHOUT ANY WAR, ING. If I had only a savings account, its likely that I never would have known that they were taking money out of it.

I went in to ask them about it, and a nasty lady told me it was my fault that the bank hadn't sent me the forms, and I still had to pay interest on the loan. She also said that the bank did not make a mistake - that it was common practice to take money out of people's accounts for loan payments without warning them beforehand.

Hence, I withdrew all my money from that bank. However, I am keeping my student loans there. I would recommend to anybody who has a bank account and a student loan (especially at the Bank of Montreal) NOT to have them both at the same bank. That way you can pay back your loan when you want to instead of when they want you to.

Larry Saidman

Bankrupt union

The low turn-out in this year's Student Council Executive election represents an outright repudiation of the whole concept of our Students' Union.

This institution is not only financially bankrupt, it is bankrupt of the confidence, respect, and support of the very people who are obliged to form its membership. It is not a student government, but rather a small clique whose function it is to arrange social and athletic events for the few, at the expense of many. And let's not forget HUB, the union's disastrous fling at real estate development. As the situation stands, the megalomaniac representatives of twenty per cent of the students are quite free to play big time Monopoly with the huge amount of money they annually confiscate from the majority.

I believe the game should be called. If formal discolution of this organization is too rash a suggestion, perhaps the same thing could be accomplished by allowing students to opt out of paying as well as voting.

Don McMann

