

Horsman gives government line

by Portia Priegert

Tuition fees may be linked to the level of university funding in the future, said the Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower Jim Horsman at a Students' Union forum yesterday.

Such a change would mean that any increase in rate of government funding would be mirrored by an increase in student fees, Horsman told a small audience yesterday in SUB Theatre.

Horsman says the proposal could fix students' portion of the cost of post-secondary education at 10 per cent. The government would pick up the other 90 per cent, removing the uncertainty from the funding situation so that long-term planning could be carried out.

S.U. president Dean Olmstead said the statement is a cause for concern, though he characterized the speech as generally unsurprising.

Horsman also said he was working to facilitate the transfer of courses and students between post-secondary institutions in Alberta and that he was prepared to make moves to ensure a legislative mandate for the changes.

Commenting on the level of funding at the university, Horsman pointed out that a blank-cheque approach to university funding was impractical.

"I believe we provide adequate funding despite what others say. It's impossible for me to please everyone."

The university's Board of Governors is responsible for allocating available funds, he

said, and he added he was confident the university could live within its budget.

He said he was hesitant to interfere with the autonomy of the university by involving himself with changes to the university program.

But he repeatedly stated he wanted to encourage discussion and is trying to be flexible in his approach to funding so as not to unduly penalize those institutions whose enrollment is declining.

Government funding of post-secondary education is no longer based on the total enrollment in the institution.

Rather, explained Horsman, the amount of funding is determined by adding a base amount equal to the previous year's funding, to an annual inflationary increase. Govern-

ment money is also spent each year on special university development projects, such as the grants made to the libraries and for construction of the new Agricultural Building.

If these projects are successful, the money is included in the base amount in the following year.

Horsman also explained the delays to the revision of the Student Finance Board (SFB). He said he had been too ambitious considering the "complex nature of the recommendations and the serious financial implications for students and the people of Alberta."

He said that the Grantham reports' recommendation making loans more accessible, to change the age of independence to 18 would be seriously considered.

Continued on page 2



What are two things sure to run next year?

the Gateway

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1979

Karl Malden's nose and Ted Kennedy.



Myer Horowitz is installed as president of the U of A Friday night. Left to right, Horowitz, Chancellor Jean Forest and Board of Governors chairman John Schlosser.

New U of A president Horowitz installed

"This is the closest I'll ever come to a striptease," quipped Myer Horowitz, as he removed his own academic robes to accept the robes of the president of the University of Alberta Thursday night.

Dr. Horowitz, former vp academic of the university, was chosen last spring to become the ninth president of the University of Alberta. He has had a distinguished academic career, and has, as Board of Governors chairman John Schlosser noted, shared his numerous skills provincially, nationally, and internationally.

To testify to this, university presidents from Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Quebec, and Prince Edward Island were present at the investiture, as well as the presidents of the other three universities in Alberta.

Dr. Horowitz spoke Thurs-

day night about the many concerns facing the university as he begins his term as president. He mentioned the decline in enrollment, the difficulty of re-allocating resources which this entails, and the image of the university in the public's eyes, including those of the government.

Horowitz also mentioned the problems facing university students, including the graduate unemployment problem, financial difficulties, the small number of international students, and the limited accessibility of students to the many faculties which have quotas.

Horowitz discussed the purpose of the university, and concluded that this university can be judged by the quality of the learning experience here, and the excellence of the research. Our graduates should be think-

ing, feeling, committed people, said Horowitz.

Horowitz requested minister of advanced education and manpower James Horsman to convey his thanks to the premier for the money spent in biomedical research and the library. He added that he hoped to discuss further projects with the cabinet in the near future. Horsman later replied, "I'm sure I can work with you, provided we're not defeated on the floor of the house."

The government of the university was the final topic of Horowitz's address. He mentioned that although some students are very involved in university government, most are inactive.

Finally, Dr. Horowitz promised to listen, to seek council, and to act. "We must trust each other," he said. Most of all, he concluded, "I intend to have fun."

Enrollment declines

University enrollment appears to be down marginally this year, according to the U of A's Assistant Registrar (Planning) Brian Silzer.

Although the final figures are not yet available, Silzer says the overall enrollment is down as much as three per cent. The most significant decreases are in the Department of Education, which is down between 10 and 12%, Physical Education, down 10%, and Graduate Studies down 5%.

The most significant increase appears to be in the Faculty St. Jean which may be up as much as 50%, he says.

This phenomenal increase in the French-speaking faculty is probably due to increased publicity and the number of openings currently available for French teachers, says the faculty's Dean McMahon.

As well, the high school

visitation program and special language bursaries have helped bring in more students, he says.

Silzer says the decline in the faculties of Education, Physical Education and Graduate Studies is probably a reflection of the worsening job market.

Pat Bates, administration officer for the Department of Physical Education, agrees that the decline has something to do with the job market.

"We have a 150-person quota for both the Bachelor of Physical Education Programs and the BA in Recreation Administration, but it is not being filled," she says.

Since funding is based on enrollment in the PE programs, money resources may drop.

This is the third consecutive year that university enrollments have declined.

Official figures will be available October 1.

Operation Entertainment

A disappointing crowd of only 253 people made up the Edmonton audience for CBC's *Operation Entertainment* held in SUB Theatre Friday night.

Featuring a number of top Canadian performers and entertainers, the three-hour national program was designed to raise funds for Vietnamese refugees coming to Canada. The show was highlighted by live performances from six Canadian centers. Artists playing here in Edmonton included folk-rocker Murray McLauchlan, singer Roxanne Goulade, local rocker Mel Degen, and country comedian Blake Emmons. The

affair was hosted by Tommy Banks.

Gail Brown, in charge of promoting the Edmonton segment of the program, has mixed feelings about its success.

Though she was disappointed with the small crowd, she feels that the attendance is "not indicative of Edmontonians' interest in the boat problem." She pointed out that poor media response and promotion problems were partial causes for the low attendance.

Those who did show up were treated to an excellent show,

Continued on page 9

The Gateway announces ROOKIE NIGHT

Come learn the fine (and sometimes not so fine) art of newswriting, sports writing, reviewing.

Thursday, September 20, 7:00 p.m.
Room 282 SUB