

Campus gay groups get shoved back in the closet

WATERLOO (CUP) — In a secret ballot vote January 18, the student council at Wilfrid Laurier University (WLU) refused a campus gay group club status.

Reasons for denying recognition for campus gays included a wish to continue the Lutheran tradition of the university, and the fear of persecution of club members by non-gays.

"I am not prepared within myself to support this club at WLU right now," said student union president Joe Veit.

"I have great difficulty in accepting a club on this basis," said Veit. Vice-president Kate Harley said, "We (the council) have a paternal responsibility to decide the issues in the interests of the students."

A representative of the gay group disagreed. "It's too bad (the council) wants to continue wasting their time and ours with more rankling over our basic human rights because they won't just crawl away. We aren't asking for much and to have to keep fighting just to survive when we could both be doing something more useful is unfortunate."

Campus gays have been lobbying for club status for some

time. Earlier this year, members of an informal gay group on campus applied for club status to the campus operations management board, which usually deals with such matters. Unable to reach a consensus, the board referred the issue to council.

Three members of the gay group (who wish to remain anonymous for personal reasons) presented their case, and distributed a five-page presentation entitled, "Everything you never wanted to ask about homosexuality, though were interested to know." They projected a potential club membership of 30 to 50 and said, based on statistics on the proportion of gays in society included in the Kinsey study on human sexuality, "There may be 150 to 175 homosexuals on campus."

One representative said the group would function mainly as a support group. "Gay people have different problems that other people can't relate to and they need a support group."

The representatives said the small size of the WLU student population would make it easy to control any harassment, and told the council they had all taken self-

defense courses. They also said the club would help other students overcome homophobia, the irrational fear of homosexuality.

But councillors were not convinced. Elwood McKenna asked, "What's the function of the

club, renting hotel rooms or what?" A gay representative replied, "It's not a pick-up service, but a support group."

Councillors asked whether the gays really needed club status, and representatives replied they

were unable to use campus facilities without such recognition.

Results of the secret ballot showed councillors voted 11-3 to reject the group's application for club status.

Solar society energizes U of A

by Richard Watts

A member of the Solar Energy Society of Canada is attempting to organize a university chapter.

Professor Richard D'Alquen will hold a meeting this Thursday in SUB 142 at 4:00 p.m. for all those interested in solar energy and energy conservation.

"The campus is a unique community and it is hoped interested students can form a viable group all of their own," says D'Alquen.

Some unique opportunities could become available to students with the formation of a campus chapter of the Solar Energy Society.

"In the past the federal government has provided funds for summer jobs in researching solar energy and energy conservation," says D'Alquen.

He says this research could not only be of a technical nature but also the environmental or economic aspects of renewable energy.

In addition, it is hoped that the campus group could play an advocacy role in lobbying the provincial government for legislation favorable to solar energy and energy conservation.

"There is definitely a place for solar energy here in Alberta — much more than present government policies allow," says D'Alquen.

The Solar Energy Society gives particular attention nowadays to the concept of energy conservation.

"People interested in solar energy naturally have to be interested in energy conservation," says D'Alquen.

He says that the government of Saskatchewan has played a key role in this area in recent years. This has included sponsoring the

construction of a house that can be heated for as little as \$30 a year.

"We are at the stage where there are some real viable applications of solar energy and energy conservation, let's use them," says D'Alquen.

An invitation is extended to all those interested in forming a U of A chapter of the Solar Energy Society to attend this meeting.



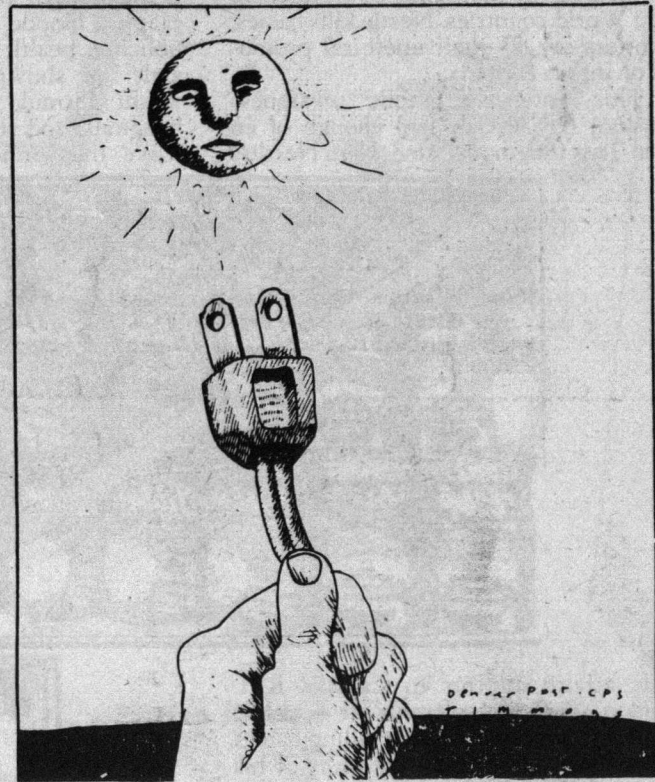
Ivanisko

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though in the rampant rumor mill, of the second floor offices in SUB, Ivanisko's being ousted was imminent.

In a telephone conversation last weekend, Ivanisko said officially he had no comment on his dismissal.

At tonight's Council meeting, members will be asked to hire a consulting firm, Peat Marwick, to study the entire Students' Union organization and to perform a job search for the business manager position. It is reported that the study would cost between \$9-\$12 thousand.



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University regulations provide that the last day for payment of the second instalment of fees and for payment of fees for Second Term only registrants is January 15, 1982. A penalty of \$15.00 will be charged on any payment received after that date.

The regulations further state that should payment not be made by February 1st, registration will be subject to cancellation.

Fees are payable at the Office of the Comptroller, 3rd floor, Administration Building, or by mail addressed to the Fees Division, Office of the Comptroller, The University of Alberta.

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