

VP External trying to make post-secondary education more affordable

2 proposals to revamp remission

by Dean Bennett

VP External Mike Hunter has a plan to make post-secondary education more affordable to more people while relieving students of overburdened debt loads; and the money to do this, he says, is all in the system.

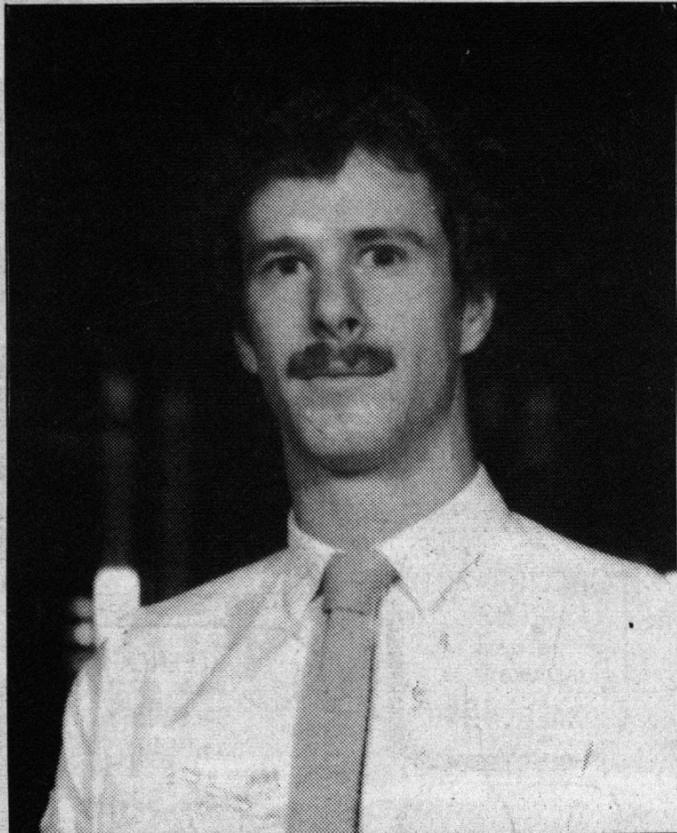
"The whole idea of student aid and remission is to get as many people into school as possible and to try and control the debt load. I think (with this plan) we can take some significant steps to try and achieve that," said Hunter.

The problem that Hunter and other student unions around the province are dealing with concerns the remission scale for student loans. They feel the current system is unfair.

"We have what is called a sliding scale here in Alberta. Up to 50 per cent remission is paid on your first year of study; up to 40 per cent on the second year and 25 per cent on the third and subsequent years. What this has meant is that colleges, because they have a two-year program, get effective 45 per cent average remission rate. This doesn't mean they'll get 45 per cent but they're eligible for it.

Universities, on the other hand, because we only get 25 per cent for third and subsequent years, end up with a 35 per cent average remission rate. And the problem can only get worse. If you were here five years and took out loans every year you wouldn't even get 35 per cent," said Hunter.

To combat this problem, student unions from the U of A, Lethbridge and the University of Calgary have put together a program whereby a flat remission rate of 40 per cent is paid on every year of study, regardless of university or



Vice-President External Mike Hunter

college, graduate or undergraduate program.

"That (proposal) has been agreed to by every university graduate and undergraduate association in the province," said Hunter.

Hunter, however, has a program of his own that he feels does the proposal one better. "This program calls for a one thousand dollar exemption," he said. "What that means is a thousand dollars a year

you do not get remission on and you get a flat 40 per cent after that. So if you had a four year program the first four thousand dollars you would receive no remission on."

"We put this proposal together for a number of reasons. First of all, we want to follow the philosophy of the Student Finance Board with regard to remission, which is to help control the debt load of students in post-secondary institutions."

"Students who need one or two thousand dollars to finish their schooling are not in dire need of assistance. It's not a huge debt load."

"Students who have twenty thousand dollar debt loads, on the other hand, really need some help and the whole idea of the one thousand dollar exemption frees up at least ten million dollars a year that we can target to groups who really need help."

"Right now I would suggest married students with children coming back to university or college need a lot of help. So what we've suggested with this ten million is that it isn't used to extend anyone's loan because that's not going to help them with their debt. Instead, it's money that goes straight into student's pockets; straight grant."

"The losers in this program are the students who don't have to borrow a lot of money. The people who need only one thousand dollars a year to go to school get nothing."

At present the proposal has the support of Fred Hemmingway, Chairman of the Student Finance Board, the Chancellor at the U of A, the U of A grads and undergrads and the Senate Executive. Outside campus, students' unions from the University of Lethbridge and Athabasca University support the proposal but the University of Calgary graduate and undergraduate associations do not. Don Kozak, VP External for U of C undergrads, could not be reached for comment.

Both proposals were presented to Advanced Education Minister Dave Russell on July 29. All the proposal needs to be implemented is his signature. "There's no legisla-

tion to change," said Hunter. "When the (Students' Finance) Board makes a recommendation, he will decide whether it's a good recommendation, and if it is, he will put it into policy. But it all comes down to the minister. If he doesn't want to change it he could just say no. He would have to answer for such a decision, but it is well within his power to do so."

Quips 'n' Quotes

(a) the industrial sector in which employees of the employer are employed, the location of the employer and employees, the number of all employees of the employer and the number of persons in designated groups so employed;

An excerpt from Bill C-62 as recently passed by the House of Commons.

—Staff member had car tires flattened several times in Stadium Car Park. Investigation indicates it is likely neighbours in St. Albert who dislike his dog.

An excerpt from the July report of the director of Campus Security, Doug Langevin.

JUMBO®S

... located in the



named as having the "BEST BURGER"
—based on the survey in the Thursday, July 17, 1986 edition of the S.U.'s Summertimes.

2nd floor Students' Union Building

RATINGS:

A five-point scale was used to rate the burgers on four attributes. The ratings from our four experts were collated, and the results were tabulated.

The attributes:

Taste was the easiest to rate: if the burger tasted good it received a good mark. If it didn't it didn't.

Appearance referred to how the burger looked: the better, more appetizing it looked, the better the rating.

Freshness was the most difficult to rate, since all the burgers were prepared after ordering. However, freshness of the bun and fixings were also taken into account.

Ingredients referred to the fixings: the pickles, the lettuce, etc. Included in the ratings are the quality, quantity, and selection of the various things put onto the burgers.

From each place, the burgers in contention was the basic, ordinary cheeseburger.

Ratings:

- * - poor
- ** - fair
- *** - not bad/average
- **** - good
- ***** - outstanding



A1 Burgers & Submarines

109 St. at 88 Avenue

Taste: ***

Appearance: ****½

Freshness: ***

Ingredients: ****

Hub Burgers

#8912 - HUB Mall

Taste: *½

Appearance: *

Freshness: **

Ingredients: **½

Windsor Pizza & Burger House

87 Avenue at 116 Street

Taste: **

Appearance: **½

Freshness: **

Ingredients: ***

Whyte Mill Burgers & Pizza

Whyte Mill Plaza, 100 St. at Whyte (82) Ave.

Taste: **

Appearance: **½

Freshness: ***

Ingredients: **½

South Point Burgers and Subs

Calgary Trail (104 St.) at 63 Ave.

Taste: ***

Appearance: ****

Freshness: ****

Ingredients: ****



Jumbo's

The SUBway, Second Floor, SUB

Taste: ****

Appearance: ****

Freshness: ****

Ingredients: ***

This burger, served on a toasted sesame seed bun, was the panel's favorite. The meat was tasty, the ingredients okay, and it looked delicious. It was the only burger to be served in a styrofoam box rather than wrapped in paper. "Tastes like a burger should," said one panelist; the meat was also fairly thick. The only drawbacks noted were that the cheese was "melted to death", and one burger was a bit soggy on the bottom. Overall, though, this one rated highest.

Jumbo's is located in the Subway, next to Greenfield's. It's right on campus, right in the middle of things.

