

Concordia refunds difficult

MONTREAL (CUP) — The administration may be denying it but Concordia students say that they are not being fully informed about a fee they are paying to fund the school's future libraries.

The \$1 per credit charge, described as a voluntary contribution, is automatically charged to students when they register. Those who want to opt out can get refunded if they sign a special waiver form.

Members of the student council

say however that the school is trying to discourage people from opting out by hiding the existence of the waiver forms to new students.

According to former council co-president Karen Takacs, this year the university did not send the waiver forms it usually sends in the package it sends to new students. She also mentioned that information booths, where the forms were also available during registration, were set out of the way.

"I think that not sending out the notices is disgusting," said Takacs. "They probably think that the best way to get students to contribute is not to tell them anything."

Takacs said the university is trying to make it more difficult to opt out because a lot of students asked for refunds last year.

"Considering the amount of money they gave, it's unfair that they're not being informed," said Takacs. "They're being abused."

The so-called voluntary fee has a controversial history. Shortly after its introduction in 1985, an executive of the student council was urged by school officials to make the refund process "as bureaucratic as possible" to discourage requests for refunds. Last year, over 30 percent of Concordia undergraduates opted out. The remaining students contributed over \$250,000 to the funding campaign.

University official Gary Richards denied the university was trying to withhold information, saying that information letters about the funding campaign were included with the package sent to new students. But Richards, who is working on the campaign, said that it would be "illogical" to include the waiver forms.

"If I was promoting a campaign, I wouldn't tell you how to get out of it," he said.

Richards added that the booths were placed far away from registration tables because "there would have been a huge crowd" if they had been any closer.

Greenspan talks law

by Brad Johnson

Toronto criminal lawyer Edward Greenspan, renowned for his high success rate defending the accused, gave a talk to U of A law students on Thursday.

He had just recently written a book, *Role of the Defense Council*, the topic on which he came to speak.

A question he's commonly asked about his job, he told about the 200 or so students attending, is "how can you defend these people?"

"To me," he said, "any lawyer worth his salt learns not to make moral judgments."

The right of council, said Greenspan, is the "most significant manifestation of our regard for individual dignity." This is an "absolute right," no matter how obnoxious or guilty the accused is.

"Defense of a client does not import defense of your client's

crime," he said.

In trying to answer the oft-asked question of just how he can defend those who are quite obviously guilty, Greenspan said "moral guilt is no more in the province of a lawyer than it is in the jurisdiction of the court."

He went on to describe how an innocent man in England was hanged for murders he did not commit because his lawyer did not believe him, and therefore only half-heartedly defended him.

Later, Greenspan answered students' questions and left a bit of advice for law students playing student legal games. "I believe that law is a very, very serious business," and these games can teach bad habits, he said.

Greenspan's achievements include helping defeat the recent Capital Punishment bill brought forth in the House of Commons.

OT Awareness week coming

by Wendy Joy

An attempt is being made to increase public awareness of occupational therapy during the National Occupational Therapy Week, held from October 26 to 31.

Several activities will be taking place across the city during this week.

The University of Alberta Hospital is having a public display with information about OT in its courtyard. Edmonton hospitals are giving lunch time seminars about OT to staff and patients.

There will be an open house at the Glenrose Hospital on October 29, in the Adult Rehabilitation Unit and the Pediatric Unit.

On October 29, the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists will be honouring Dr. Skelton and the Alberta Development Centre with Canadian Citation Awards, for their contributions to OT as a profession. This ceremony will take place at the Faculty Club.

Tania Sweet and Mary O'Conner, both third year OT students, are the student representatives for the Alberta Association of Registered Occupational Therapists (AAROT). They function as liaisons between participating OT's and students.

To become an occupational therapist, students must take a four year Bachelor of Science degree with a major in OT. Practicums are taken during the summer at hospitals. An accelerated program is available because of the high demand for occupational therapists.

Occupational therapists use a holistic approach in treatment, focusing on every aspect of a person's life. OT draws upon many disciplines, and employs several frames of reference for use in therapy.

The Occupational Performance

Model looks at a person's productivity, self-care and leisure. The actual conceptual frame of reference used in therapy depends on the patient and the specific problem being dealt with. More than one frame of reference can be used.

This far-reaching approach allows OT to be used in diverse problem areas.

Sweet and O'Conner offer spe-

cific examples of OT. It can range from teaching schizophrenic outpatients such life skills as using a transit system to showing a homemaker with arthritis how to use adaptive devices in the kitchen and ways to manage her time.

Other areas in which occupational therapy helps people vary from distress management to helping the disabled in wheelchairs learn how to use computers.

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