The Student Advocate

Often, students find themselves faced with problems concerning courses, professors, or administrators that are too great to face alone. Needing help, they can turn to a variety of sources.

One source is me, the Student Advocate. Although not blessed with any special powers, the Advocate does have access to information and channels that may have been overlooked. I can attempt to reason with profs, argue with chairmen, or settle with administrators. I can't work miracles, but I can try.

Another avenue open to students that is too often ignored are the various student organizations within the faculties. Groups such as the Education Student's Society (ESS), Rehab Med. Undergrad Society (RMUS) or the Arts Student's Association (ASA). All have elected academic representatives, for either the entire faculty or for each year of the faculty. These people are responsible for relaying academic concerns within their faculty from the students to the staff. They are generally well aquainted with both the administrators and their regulations within the faculty, and meet on a regular basis within both their own association and with faculty members. Thus, these people can provide a ready access to information, problem solving and 'sounding boards' for many student concerns.

Where to get hold of one of these dynamic people? Good question, as unfortunately few people are knowledgeable about their own student representatives. If you don't actually know the person, try looking at the main notice board of your department or faculty. (If you don't know where that is, try nearby the main office or where the intramural notices are posted for your faculty). There should be a listing of either who these officials are, or where the next meeting is. If all else fails, ask in the main office.

So sorry...

Due to the great influx of letters to the Gateway we are unable to print all of them immediately. (Or perhaps even semi-promptly). We apologize for any inconvenience or ego damage this ongoing problem may cause.

Gateway staff meeting

all staff welcome Thursday at 4 pm Room 282 SUB



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Memory key in the making

Dear Sir/Madam:

As a student of U.B.C. (L.L.B. 1960) I became interested in any means of lightening my work load, and happened upon the study of mnemmonics.

This study concerns the science of memory.

It has occured to me that many students would benefit from

a book on the subject.

I would be grateful, therefore, if your readers would drop a line or a post card containing their favourite mnemmonic. By this I mean a "memory crutch" such as the one known to

all students of music, VIZ: F. A. C. E. being the key signatures of the

Students of geology will recognize the mnemmonic for the Moh's Scale of the hardness of minerals, VIZ: Toronto Girls Can Fight And Other Queer Things Can Do, which is a memory device to enable geologists to remember the relative hardness of minerals, which are as follows:

T alc G ypsum C alcite F eldspar

O rthocluse Q uartz T itanium C arborundum D iamond

If your readers would care to send me their favourite mnemmonic together with any knowledge of its author, I shall do my best to give credit where credit

Respectfully yours, W. Grant Hughes

Ste. 217 - 8055 Anderson Road Richmond, B.C. Canada V6Y 1S2

Middle east misconceptions

Oscar Ammar's article -"Arabism and Judaism" — which appeared in the Sept. 29, 1981 edition of the Gateway is nothing but a mixture of foolishness and rhetoric. Undoubtedly, intellectual honesty is not one of Mr.

Ammar's greatest assets.

Mr. Ammar entitles his letter "Arabism and Judaism." Unfortunately, neither myself nor any dictionary has any grasp of what the term, "Arabism" means. Perhaps, utilizing some form of misplaced poetic licence, Mr. Ammar wishes to compare his term to the term, "Judaism." However, if this be the case, then I am truly perplexed. How can one logically compare a meaningless term to one which is recognizably meaningful? The answer to the aforementioned I shall leave to Mr. Ammar.

arbitrariness. He arrogates to himself the power of defining Although Jews themselves have failed to arrive at a unified definition of what the term, "Jew"

philospher-king whom we have all been searching for, remarkably has found the answer. Truly, Mr. Ammar, you've missed your calling in life: the department of religious studies.

While not being in the same philosophical league as Mr. Ammar, I do know that Judaism and Zionism are intertwined. Jewish exiles for over 2000 years have prayed to their God to speedily return them to their homeland: the land of Zion.

Political Zionism has secure foundations in Jewish religious tradition. Its sole wish was to settle a persecuted people in its ancient homeland. The goals of political Zionism were predicated on strong humanitarian, religious and ethical grounds.

Mr. Ammar contends that Mr. Ammar further con- Israel is actively torturing Arab tinues along the road of verbal prisoners. However, with what evidence does he endeavor to buttress his argument? Mr. Amwhat the term, "Jew" refers to. mar employs as evidence a report commissioned by Amnesty International and the Syrian Arab Republic. It is common

means, Mr. Ammar, the knowledge that Syria is a close second to Iraq in its hatred for Israel and its unwillingness to enter into negotiations with that

It is also common knowledge that the Syrian government is one of the most obscurantist and repressive regimes in the world today. In light of the above, it seems obvious that any report issued, even partly by Syria, is hardly going to be creditable. Furthermore, the fact that Amnesty International would consort with such a regime certainly doesn't say much for an organization which predicates itself on so-called humanitarian

Unemployment in the territories, Mr. Ammar concludes, has disappeared. Without evidence, Mr. Ammar blubbers that Palestinians are in possession of the poorest jobs in the territories.

Spuriously, Ammar promulgates that the majority of West Bank resident have been "forced into slavery". I would propose that the only form of slavery found in the West Bank is a slavery of mind: an attitude set out by the P.L.O. whose avowed goal is the destruction of Israel and the murder of its Jewish

citizens. In ending, I wish to pronounce my sharpest criticism of Mr. Ammar's article. Mr. Ammar: How does a destructive article such as yours - an article inundated by emotion and bereft of logic - further the cause of peace in the Middle East?

It's tragic and distressing Mr. Ammar that silly double-talk such as yours is taken as Gospel by so many. Its my sincere wish that you, and others like youself, reevaluate their position before more blood flows over the bridge. Howard Cooper

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