

More micros

by Greg Halinda

Students will have greater access this year to those neat little Macintosh computers in CAB.

Some of the Mac labs in CAB will be open as late as 11 p.m. Monday - Friday. Saturday the labs operate 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., and Sunday from noon - 6 p.m. The increased service means the CAB labs will be available about 45 hours per week.

Last year the Macintosh labs in CAB were open about 24 hours per week. "Some students were wondering why the micro labs closed so early," said Jim Shinkaruk, undergraduate student representative on the Board of Governors.

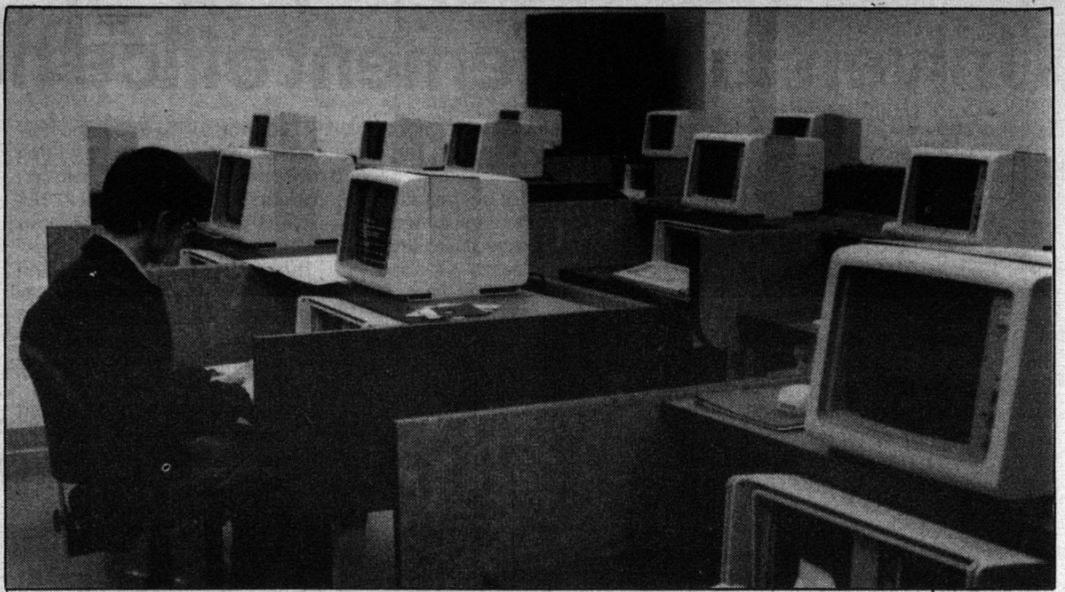
Ray Howells, lab coordinator for Computing Services, says that funding for lab supervisors (proctors)

and software was lacking. Thus the previously shorter hours.

Shinkaruk appealed the Department of Computer Science for increased hours in the micro labs. "Administration saw fit to allocate about \$12 thousand to have the CAB facilities open longer. This is quite the victory," he said.

In addition, a new IBM PC lab has opened this year. The PCs occupy GSB 221, which was formerly a PLATO-only lab. Users will be able to access MTS and PLATO with the PCs, in addition to using them as stand-alone microcomputers.

Howells says more evening and weekend PC hours may be made available for the lab in the Chemical/Mineral Engineering building.



New PC facility in GSB 221

photo Rob Schmidt

Fewer foreign students enroll

High fees scare away international students

OTTAWA (CUP) — For Sulley Gariba, the last five years have been unexpectedly difficult ones. Gariba, who arrived from Ghana in 1981, came to Canada with many of the expectations shared with other international students.

"Because of Canada's colonial heritage, a tolerance for other cultures, internal divisions of its own, international students choose to

come here rather than go to the United States or another traditional Western country," Gariba says.

But in 1982, dramatic increases in differential fees were slapped on international students in Canada. The surcharges and new fees, Gariba said, quickly destroyed some of the impressions international students had of this country.

"It was a surprise — a shock — to

find that Canada would charge such high differential fees," said Gariba, now completing a doctorate at Carleton University, and serving as co-ordinator of the university's International Students Centre.

According to Gariba, international students already have enough difficulty trying to adapt to Canadian life.

"The most profound emotional problem is one of loneliness," Gariba said, adding life in a new culture, a heavy workload and few friends can compound the problem of high fees.

"I see all of these problems as connected," said Gariba. "Many

students can adjust to the fact that they are lonely, but the high fees and other money problems can make everything very stressful."

Rising differential fees are acting as a block to students considering education in Canada, says Jim Fox of the Canadian Bureau for International Education. A new CBIE report shows foreign enrollment in the country's post-secondary schools has fallen dramatically in the last four years.

"In 1982, there were 37,000 international students studying in Canada," said Fox, who expects that number to sink to 27,000 this year.

"There is something in Canada that is deterring students from

coming here. We think differential fees are a key reason," Fox said.

The CBIE reports that while foreign enrollment has dropped significantly, proportional increases have been found in other countries such as Great Britain and France.

"Students were hit very hard by differential fees, and now they tend to choose other countries," said Gariba. "I'm sure many students have made plans to study elsewhere."

Fox said provincial governments introduced stiff charges for international students because "there is a suspicion that they are being subsidized for their education here. There is also a strong orientation that they can afford to pay more."

Ontario and Quebec, which attract the greatest numbers of international students, also charge the highest differential fees. In 1982, Ontario increased these fees by 125 per cent.

Manitoba and Newfoundland are the only provinces that don't charge international students extra fees.

Differential fees at the University of Toronto are among the steepest in the country. An international student in a full-time arts and science program pays about \$5,000 per year, while a Canadian would be charged \$1,450. In engineering, the charges are \$8,073 and \$1,677, respectively.

Elizabeth Paterson, director of the International Students Centre at U of T, said other costs are contributing to the drop in international enrollment.

"I think it's costs overall. I am certainly noticing that the cost of tuition is an important factor, but other costs, such as housing and the cost of living, are also high," she said.

"And we must also remember that economic problems at home contribute to these problems," she said.

Fox said the severe drop in international students has caused many schools to reconsider their policies. "Many universities are realizing that international students can be a hitch," he said. "And not just for money. They contribute about \$100 million to the Canadian economy, but they contribute a lot more as well."

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