

The Gateway

member of the canadian university press

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STAFF THIS ISSUE—Something's wrong. The following loyal souls not only worked diligently but also were courteous and pleasant: Bob Jacobsen, Wayne Burns, Maureen Gunn, Elaine Verbicky, Bernie "the hermit" Goedhart, Terry Donnelly, the reel John Thompson, Janie Coull, Grant Sharp, Chris Ouelette, Wendy Grover, Chuck Lyall, Forrest Bard (the ever-present lover), Ken Hutchison (winner of the managing editor's special award for diligence), Frank Kozar, Dave Applewhaite, Georgia Komerlin, Canada's Unemployed, and yours truly, Harvey Thomgirt.

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1967

mcgill's role in ugeq

Last week's move by McGill University to leave the Canadian Union Generale des Etudiants du Quebec points out that at least some English-speaking students in Canada would like more political activism than is being engendered by CUS.

It shows that some students want to become involved in the political affairs of society through a national union rather than becoming involved in matters only of direct student concern.

While we do not approve of the move into the French-speaking UGEQ for this reason, we feel a statement by McGill council president Jim McCoubrey justifies this change of affiliation:

"We can do a lot within UGEQ to stress the rights of the English minority, and these rights must be respected by UGEQ."

UGEQ has been upset for some time over the lack of respect for the rights of the French-Canadian minority in Canada, yet it has been refusing to acknowledge these same rights for the English-Canadian minority in the province of Quebec.

If all McGill is able to do in UGEQ is to make the French-speaking students aware of this incongruity, encourage them to amend the situation and thereby end this repugnant struggle between the French and English in Canada, the move is worth it.

To this end, we wish McGill well.

realism

The university's president should be commended for his stand in the matter of an interdenominational university.

Dr. Walter H. Johns said he was relieved when the government announced that Edmonton's second university would not be interdenominational.

This campus has religious clubs and groups which cater to members of a wide variety of faiths.

But, as Dr. Johns pointed out, it

is probable that most people tend to ignore all the religious influences in an academic community.

The number of students who would want a religious university has not been questioned, but it is doubtful that many would prefer an interdenominational school.

Dr. Johns' view must not be termed an expression of atheism.

It is realism.

Religion has its place, but not at a public university.

an action deplored

The recent tubing of the freshman orientation seminar by dean's council is an action deplored.

The deans have decided the seminar is too much work for them to be bothered with (it involves about one night a week).

Their time would be taken up answering questions of prospective freshmen.

According to student co-ordinator Glenn Sinclair, many of the pilot group last summer felt the seminar prepared them for university and "helped them realize freshman introduction week is not university."

Two existing functions which supposedly orient freshmen and prospective freshmen, varsity guest weekend, and freshman introduction week, do not do this properly.

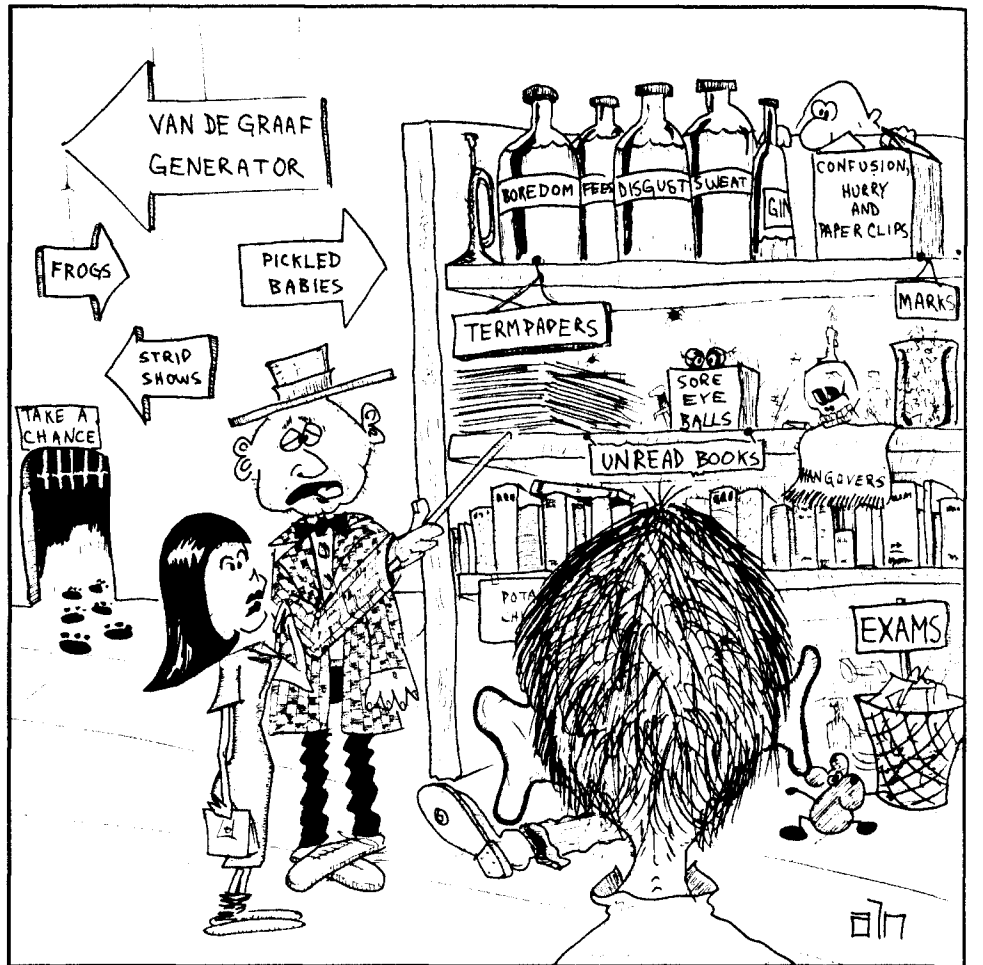
"VGW is a circus and FIW is a disorientation more than anything else," says Sinclair.

At a time when student-lecturer interaction is at a minimum, any effort to improve the situation on the part of the deans and the students' union will somewhat alleviate the problem.

The students are willing, why not the deans?

an apology

The editors of The Gateway apologize to Dr. K. N. Newbound, associate dean of science, for demoting him to associate dean of arts in the last edition of The Gateway. At last word, Dr. Newbound is still associate dean of science.



here's a display you don't see very often on fancy guest weekend . . .

ralph melnychuk chain letters-- u of a style

Head, Civil Engineering Dept.

Dear Sir:

One academic year ago I was enrolled in the first year engineering. Since I failed all my courses except English 250, I have the distinct impression I chose the wrong field. I have stayed out the required year, and would like to return to university, probably in arts. I saw nothing except chalk-filled blackboards and backs of heads during my short-lived university career, and thus have no idea about proper procedures. Could you please supply me with relevant information. Thank you.

Dear Mr. Student:

I was shocked to receive your letter. Since you cannot pass engineering, it is obvious higher education can offer you nothing of value. Your decision to enter the faculty of arts confirms my suspicions about your sanity.

I suggest you abandon all thoughts about university. Perhaps Student Counselling Services can tell you what mental hospital is best suited to treat your infirmity.

Student Counselling Director

Dear Sir:

With reference to your recent letter, I regret to inform you I am not available for psychiatric testing. I am working in Inuvik and can afford no transportation other than dog sled. Any other suggestions you may have would be greatly appreciated.

Dear Mr. Student:

I deeply regret my inability to help you unless you show more willingness to co-operate. Your tests from two years ago show you should be an engineer. These tests are usually accurate, so I can only assume the blame for your failure lies within yourself.

Although I would personally suggest you stay out of university until your interests stabilize, I am forwarding your file to the English dept. to completely eliminate any doubts you may have concerning my evaluation.

Head, Dept. of English

Dear Sir:

I am informed by Student Counselling Services that you now have my file. Will you accept me in your department? If so, kindly advise as to proper application procedures.

Dear Mr. Student:

I have sent your file to the registrar. He takes care of all admissions. I regret that I am unable to foresee the final result of your case. Confidentially, I consider all engineering graduates lost causes. What I think of engineering drop-outs is unspeakable.

Dear Mr. Student:

I have received your letter of last week. You realize, of course, that your past record leaves much to be desired, and on that alone we could justifiably reject your application. However, it pains me to decide an individual's fate on the basis of arbitrary procedures, so I have referred your case to the Dean of Arts. What's good enough for him is good enough for me.

Student Counselling Director

Dear Sir:

I am informed by the Dean of Arts that you again have my file. Please disregard, as I have been accepted into an honors English program at Oxford (you know, in England—across the Atlantic). Thank you for your concern.

Respectfully,
Joe Student