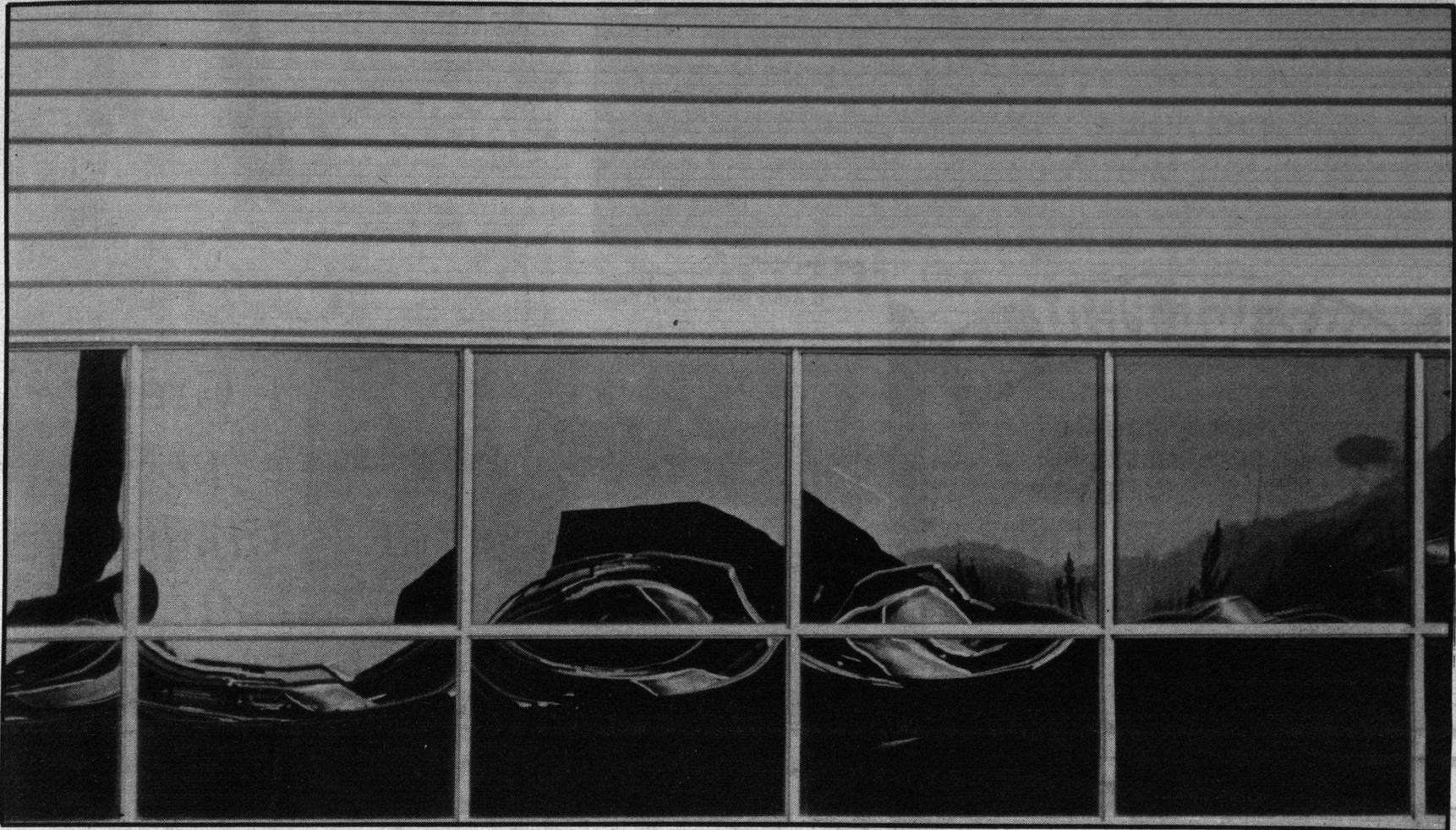


# gateway

Tuesday, September 27, 1983

When you have forgotten everything...

... what's left is culture.



Reflections on an ambivalent car park

photo Martin Beales

## Gunnar shot down: new president needed

by Mark Roppel

The President of the Arts Students Association was forced to resign last Thursday.

"The ASA executive asked for my resignation and I gave it," said Gunnar Blodgett.

The immediate reason for Blodgett's resignation is cost overruns on some posters that were printed for Arts and Sciences Week. But this was merely the latest in a series of events. "We've been financially mismanaged all summer," said ASA Secretary John Collinge.

Originally, 200 posters were to be printed for \$160. Somehow, the ASA ended up with 500 posters, at a cost of \$550. Add to this a \$40 honorarium for the designer and \$60 for materials, and the posters actually cost \$650.

The rest of the Executive was not pleased. "I don't think any association has ever spent that much money on posters," said Collinge.

More importantly, Barb Donaldson, chair of the Academic Affairs Board was not pleased. The Board must approve grants to be given to associations. Without its grant, the ASA would face financial dissolution.

"The Sciences student Association wanted \$500 for posters and I laughed at them," said Donaldson, "it's ridiculous, I just get livid when I think about it."

"We were stuck with the posters," said Collinge. "The Academic Affairs Board will not deal with him (Blodgett)."

Donaldson denies that personality was involved. "Whether or not they (The ASA) have Gunnar will not affect the grant. We will judge them on the basis of their work."

Posters were not the only problem with Blodgett's proposed 1983-84 budget. There were a lot of unnecessary capital expenses, says Donaldson, "like a futon and a refrigerator for the office, and a \$700 honorarium for the editor of a newsletter... it was quite a spectacle, this budget."

The budget was withdrawn, and the other members of the ASA Executive are preparing a new one. "We've totally revamped the budget," said Interim President Alan Johnston. "The new budget does not resemble the old budget at all."

The Arts Students Association

has over 5000 members. Whether they know it or not, all students in the Faculty of Arts are members. Last March Blodgett was appointed president by acclamation. He had a free hand in running the organization over the summer and this may have been part of the problems says Blodgett.

"They (the Executive) felt that I was still running the ASA as if

only one member of the executive was present... after my painstaking individual labour over the summer, I could not fully integrate into the team situation of the full exec... I didn't force the exec to take over their areas of the budget, and I didn't pull them out of their classes to OK the posters as a group. I kept asking for submissions for the budget, but..."

"All the threads go back to Gunnar," said John Collinge. "We can't even find things in the office. He (Blodgett) has put himself in this corner."

Tim Jellard, another member of the ASA Executive, is less harsh. "I believe Gunnar acted with integrity even though he did fuck up. Most of us want to see this thing die as soon as possible."

## Mugabe visits hog-town

Toronto (CUP) - Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe was in search of peace and Canadian aid at the University of Toronto September 20.

Pointing to disparities between industrial and developing societies, Mugabe warned a full house that without a change in world economic order, in areas of trade technology, transfers, financial relations and aid, the world will slip steadily towards conflagration.

"The so-called North cannot and should not expect to remain insulated while the so-called South continues to languish in misery," he said. Mugabe became Prime Minister of an independent Zimbabwe, formerly Rhodesia, in 1980.

"We strongly believe there is

a connection on the one hand and deprivation on the other... what brings was while prosperity brings peace," he said.

He said armament funds should be channelled into Third World development, and stressed the importance of aid to Zimbabwe's health care, educational and industrial development. Mugabe also described the forces that still threaten his country.

Apartheid South Africa

"evinces a keen interest to destabilize our system economically and militarily."

The much publicized internal tribal conflicts are near an end, he said. The armed forces of Zimbabwe have almost completely eradicated the rebel military threat led by political opponent Joshua Nkomo. However, he said "until we have cleaned the area and got rid of every dissident we will not rest."

Important Gateway staff meeting on Thursday September 29, 1983 at 4:00 PM in Room 282 SUB. All returning writers and interested students are welcome. Field trip to follow.

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