



Photo Ray Giguere

Docile university students line up for second term book sales in Students' Union Building. How many of those texts are they actually going to read?

"Life is like a sewer..."

the Gateway

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...what you get out of it depends on what you put into it."

Tom Lehrer

SU debt lies with next year's exec

by Allison Annesley
Students' Union President Phil Soper predicts a modest contribution profit in early 1982. "In the upcoming February Students' Union election, the single most important issue will be the financial situation. It is by no means a solved situation," Soper warns.

General Manager George Ivanisko explains, "As it stands now, we're entering the three most crucial months (of the fiscal year). There is both high expenditure and high revenue during this period. We are hoping at this point to meet our goal of \$100,000 profit. The process is difficult though because it is dependent upon so many variables. The state of the economy has certainly not helped either, but we're optimistic."

Some of the cost cutting measures already in effect are:

- A secretarial pool utilizing people from all over the Students' Union for its administration (staff position saved)

- The change in food services management from one general supervisor to three working managers for Cafe L'Express, RATT, and Deweys (staff reduction - one)

- Promotion of Maggie Ip to working manager of games area rather than replacing a previous inactive manager (staff reduction - one)

"All these little things are definitely helping to point the budget in the right direction," says Soper, adding that "Deweys is doing extremely well although RATT is unhappily doing poorly."

Vice President of Finance, Elise Gaudet is hopeful about the budget.

"The Students' Union profits for the end of this year should reach between \$50-100,000. I'm hoping that we will be able to make somewhere in the neighborhood of \$100,000 in order to convince bankers that we are making an honest effort to

reduce our debt. There will, however, be some minor capital renovations made. The future university student should not suffer as a result of the financial problems of previous Students' Unions" she said.

Two other cost cutting considerations are:

- Moving the HUB Yarn store from HUB Mall to the Students'

Union Building. (Saving \$10,000 rental per year)

- Rental of curling rink space to retail businesses (no estimate yet on additional revenue)

Last fall the executive also considered changes in caretaking administration. The proposal has been shelved because of contractual complications.

Council not feeling friendly

by Peter Michalyszyn

Friends of Medicare found itself without support at Students' Council Tuesday night as a bid for a Students' Union Friends of Medicare (FOM) coalition to fight extra-billing and other health care woes fell flat.

Council voted 15 - 12 against endorsing four demands of FOM including:

- * stopping all extra billing, as well as repealing Bill 94 which legalizes extra billing;

- * eliminating all premiums and user fees for health care;

- * giving physicians "adequate compensation" for their services;

- * moving toward a "comprehensive health care system" including greater emphasis on preventative care, more efficient use of personnel and expanded dental and drug services.

Councillors objected at various levels to the four FOM demands; some argued that FOM had no right to tell the medical profession how to run a health care profession; others said they supported a free enterprise system of health care and would not support eliminating premiums — they argued that some form of direct contribution to health care would remind users how costly medical services were.

Perhaps the greatest objection to supporting FOM was

Council's hesitance to criticize extra-billing.

"If I'm against the present system I should be nailing the government, but nailing the doctors isn't going to achieve anything. We're cutting the doctors' throats here," said Paul Fitzgerald of Faculte St. Jean.

Some councillors agreed they couldn't outlaw extra-billing because it avoided the real difficulty: government underfunding.

One said, "We're agreeing with the government in the sense that they're (doctors) are making enough money and that they're not going to get their 33 per cent increase."

However, Nancy Kotani of Friends of Medicare said FOM supported doctors' claims. She said if it took a 33 per cent fee schedule to provide universal health care, then that was fine.

But she also said the doctors had entered a collective agreement and any difficulties stemming from that were doctor's problems.

"If they're going to enter into a collective bargaining arrangement then they're going to have to abide by that," Kotani said.

Kotani said FOM's mandate was to provide universally accessible health care, and that extra billing was the main barrier to that.

She cited the Hall Commission report that recommended last year to outlaw extra billing, as well as Medicare premiums; premiums are paid now only in B.C., Alberta, and Ontario, she said.

SU v.p. External Lisa Walter told Council that Dr. Bruce Cookson, Director of Student Health Services, had rejected extra billing for his unit's services.

She was not to have the day, however. Council voted 15 - 12 against Friends of Medicare and its four points. Walter said she was amazed at the lack of compassion on Council, and speculated on pre-Students' Union electioneering by some representatives.

Mysterious missing telephone found

by Andrew Watts

Students at the University do not have the use of a free phone in the Students' Union building.

A phone was a free service available to students in the pay phone area next to the Art Gallery. However approximately six weeks ago, in late November, two repairmen from Alberta Government Telephones (AGT) came and removed the phone.

According to v.p. Internal Brian Bechtel, the removal of the phone was a mistake.

"We were getting billed for two phone numbers we had no records for," says Bechtel.

"When we phoned these numbers there was no answer, so we phoned AGT (Alberta Government Telephones) and asked them to come and remove the phones," he explains.

One of the phones was located in room 270A SUB and should not have been billed to the SU so the removal was justified.

"But we didn't realize that the other was the free phone, we wouldn't have authorized the removal if we had," Bechtel said.

The removal of the telephone is a normal service provided by AGT.

This removal of the free service, says Bechtel, is not an attempt to cut service, and the phone has been re-ordered.

"The phone should be returned sometime this month, all we can do is wait," he assures.

Until the phone is returned the students will have to keep using the pay phones.

There's still time

Monday noon is the deadline for the Engineering Week Forum. Write a letter tell us what you think of the Engineers' annual extravaganza.