

gateway

Tuesday, January 24, 1984

In case of nuclear war...

...eat the women and children first

Commission predicts tough times ahead

by Ken Lenz

"Unless specific steps are taken" with regards to the training and deployment of qualified professors, Canadian universities will have to look outside the country by the mid 1990's.

This was the main conclusion of the third and final report of the Commission on Canadian Studies, released last week by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

"Today's University faculty are, for the most part, in their forties and fifties," says the report. "Overall enrollment increases are

modest, the financial picture is bleak. Mobility of faculty is low, career advancement opportunities are few."

These facts have serious implications, according to the report.

"As the middle age group moves in steps up the academic ladder, the costs per university teacher will become steadily higher." This will mean a reallocation of funds towards academic salaries and away from items such

as library resources and physical plant.

"Perhaps more serious because less readily perceived is the danger of intellectual stagnation caused by the absence of new blood and a lack of mobility," says the report.

The commission suggests several remedies for the potential "PhD dilemma." Interuniversity exchanges in Canada with other countries of faculty and administrators, voluntary early retirement, mid career options, reduced appointments, and the spreading of the hiring of faculty over several years, were some of the suggestions.

The number of foreign faculty members at Canadian Universities, currently 27.6 per cent is also directly affecting the potential for employment of Canadian PhD's. "Even in the area of social sciences, where there presently is a glut of qualified professors, "some 25 per cent of new appointments are citizens of other countries."

The commission also warns against the present trends towards cutting back the enrolment in the Humanities, social sciences, or general science. It suggests setting up joint programs with schools of

business, private sector research programs, and a national research pool.

The authors also say "the weak state of research and development and the shortage of highly trained researchers are intimately related to the short term and long term imbalances in the supply and demand for university teachers."

The status of women at Canadian Universities was also discussed at length. "Women continue to be underrepresented in senior teaching posts, administrative posts, and as students in a number of professional faculties."

As well, a somewhat obscure "national strategy for higher education" was suggested in the report. The three principal objectives were:

1. "To foster a better and more widespread understanding of the value of higher education."

2. "To seek a fuller participation in post-secondary education by Canadians, in particular by those age groups and segments of society that have been unrepresented in the past."

3. "To develop a nation wide support system for postgraduate education that will meet the future requirements of an increasingly complex society."

Editors fly to Toronto

Ottawa (CUP) - The federal government is flying more than 30 student newspaper editors to Toronto January 26 and is footing their hotel bill, but has no news to tell them.

The day long "information session" is being organized by the Ministry of Employment and Immigration. It is not a press conference, but an attempt to publicize the government's established programs for dealing with youth unemployment. The session will include a meeting with Employment and Immigration Minister John Roberts and possibly the new Minister of Youth Celine Hervieux-Payette.

According to Roberts' assistant Terry Flint, the session will include "detailed briefings" and "actual on-site visits to Canada Employment Centres."

"It's an informational way of allowing the department to get out to young people," he said. "In turn, reporters can report to young people on what (employment centres) have to offer," he said.

The last time the government flew in student editors was in the early 70's for a major announcement on a summer job creation program.



The Council of India Societies of Edmonton invited the performer pictured above to their India Day. The woman, a member of the Taiwan University Alumni Association, was in a segment of the India Day program called "Glimpses on Chinese Culture". Mayor Laurence Decore and U of A President Myer Horowitz attended the event, which mostly featured artists from the Edmonton East Indian Community and a couple guest performers like the one above. India Day was held on Sunday at the Jubilee Auditorium.

Campus Tories start rival U of T paper

Toronto (CUP) - A right-wing paper with connections to the Campus Conservatives and a similar publication at McGill University is being started at the University of Toronto.

The U.T. Magazine was conceived at a meeting of members of the campus political right, including David Frum, son of broadcaster Barbara Frum. Frum's sister Linda started the controversial McGill University Magazine last term and reportedly advised the creators of the U.T. Magazine.

Editor Nigel Wright, a student councillor, will say little about the

paper, except that he wants it to be a "bit of a surprise."

Another contributor, Chair of the student council board Tony Clements is active in the Campus Conservative club. Clements was involved in the anti-CFS campaign at U of T last year, claiming the student organization was "loud, boorish, and radical."

No one involved would comment on where the funding for the paper would come from. The McGill University magazine was funded in part by the bank of Montreal and "private donors."

The first issue is expected in February.

Board gives okay to controversial Med Show

by Gilbert Bouchard

Despite charges of sexism levied at the Engineer's Skit Night last week, the equally controversial Med Show will go ahead February 1 to 3 in SUB Theatre.

Building Services Board (BSB) decided Saturday afternoon that it is too late to cancel the Med Show's contract this year. The Board will study whether future Med Shows should be held in SUB.

The Med Show has already signed a contract to hold the 1985 Med show in SUB Theatre.

The problems lie in enforcing the SU Building Code. The code supposedly prevents the SUB from being used as a forum for racist, sexist, or objectionable material.

SU VP Internal Chair Peter Block opened the meeting mentioning that problems in enforcing the code arise with the renters

themselves: "Real problems come when you rent out the theatre, since SUB has no real control over renters. The only way out of this is to put stipulations on sexist and racist material in the theatre contract."

Block added, "pretty much everything the Med Show will do will violated the Building Code."

BSB Board Member Rainer Huevi countered that "the SU Building is paid for by the students and they should use it."

Med Show Director Ward Flemons says "when we signed our contract with SUB Theatre for this year's Med Show the SU Building Code was not in effect."

According to Gord Stamp, an observer at the meeting, "these shows have been going on for years and will probably go on after we're all dead."

But the meeting's main focus was on the SU Building code itself, whether or not the code could be enforced, and whether the code itself is an act of censorship worse than the materials it seeks to eliminate.

Caroline Devin, SU Clubs Commissioner, reminded the BSB of the SU's duties: "You have to have some sort of guidelines, the SU has responsibilities for what goes on in this building."

Flemons, on the other hand, thought the code was unenforceable "unless you pass a decree banning all future Med Shows and all future Skit Nights the code can't be enforced."

Flemons predicts that the code could very well drive the Med Show out of SUB or force the Med Show into lengthy appeals year after year.

Photo: Bill Ingles