

Tuition lobby on track now

As you pointed out last week, we've had COTIAC, several cutbacks committees, and now another committee "doing it all for you." However, it isn't the label we place on such a group that matters so much as the purpose of those concerned enough to get involved.

At a recent Tuition-Funding Workshop held in Calgary, student representatives from both FAS member and non-member campuses, ranging from University of Lethbridge to Keyano College in Fort McMurray, decided to organize a lobby of our MLAs on March 26-27 with the hope of influencing government policy in the upcoming provincial budget. Last week an open meeting was held to plan for the U of A's participation. The Steering Committee elected at that meeting has defined two major focal points for our brief to the MLAs.

First is the inadequate Student Loan Program. Unofficially, the only major change proposed in the new budget is to raise the loan ceiling, which will only force those who need assistance most further into debt. We are asking for:

1. special subsidies for rural students living away from home.
2. a change from the remission system to a grant program.
3. special consideration for single parent students and those unable to find adequate summer employment.
4. change in age of independence criteria.

Secondly, by documenting the severe effects that underfunding has had on university teaching and research, we hope to convince MLAs to pressure the cabinet to grant the funds necessary to operate a world class university.

No doubt the cynics who have "seen it all before" will debunk our efforts as time wasted. However, policy set by the Inner Cabinet can be influenced by party backbenchers, and the Minister, Jim Horsman, has actually recommended that we apply pressure by lobbying the MLAs. In fact, question period on the second day of our lobby will focus on problems with post-secondary funding.

We are also in conjunction with the Students' Union, preparing an educational pamphlet designed to inform students and garner support for

this effort on campus.

Finally, Lobby Workshops are scheduled for next Sunday, 1:00-3:00 p.m. in SUB 140, and Monday, 3:00-5:00 p.m. in SUB 142. If you want to help out, phone Tema Frank in the Executive Offices (432-4236) — no previous experience is necessary. Bob Kirk for the Provincial Lobby Steering Committee

Classified not in good taste

I would like to draw your attention to an entry in the classifieds of the *Gateway* on March 18, 1980. I quote: "Med student requires pregnant woman to perform abortion on. Professional methods (supply own coathanger)." Does *The Gateway* staff find this amusing? An advertisement such as this is extremely repulsive. Not only is it a defamation of the ethics of medical students but it also suggests that there is something humorous about this form of "backstreet butchery" — a practice which is dangerous, brutal and illegal. A situation such as performing an abortion with a coathanger is not humorous and an attempt at humour is not in good taste.

Are the classifieds in *The Gateway* not edited before going to press? This advertisement was 14 words long, which, at 15¢ per word, brought \$2.10 to *The Gateway* coffers. Is *The Gateway* in such dire financial straits that it cannot afford to turn away this much advertising? Again it seems *The Gateway* has stopped to yet another degradation.

B.E. Rogers
Science II

Arts reps run

We are five Arts students running as a slate for the positions of Arts representatives on Student Council. We are well-qualified, energetic and concerned students. We are willing to devote our time and effort to representing Arts students responsibly and effectively on Student Council.

Our specific interests are to help students fight for better loan plans, to make Student Council more aware of external issues and the problems of student housing.

Our slate consists of:

David Barrow:
3rd year Economics
member of Administrative Board
member of External Affairs Board
member of FOS Policy Board
Chairman of Bylaws Reform Committee

Randy Dawson:
2nd year Political Science

Amanda Le Rougetel:
2nd year French
Undergraduate representative on Equal Opportunity Committee
involved with feminist movement in Edmonton

Kate Orrell:
3rd year English/French Honours
Arts representative on Student Council 1979/80
GFC Arts representative 1979/80
member of External Affairs Board
member of Presidents Committee on Study Space
member of Romance Languages Department Assembly
Honours committee

member of Debating Society, winner of Huggill Cup for 3 years; represented U of A at National Tournament in 1978

Lisa Walter:
2nd year Political Science Honours
President of Lister Hall Students Association
Kelsey Hall President
Chairperson, Residence Committee
member of Council on Student Services
Student Union Councillor
Chairperson, Kelsey Hall Committee
Chairperson, Food Services Policy Committee
member of Residence Advisory Council
Advisor, Housing and Food Services Subcommittee of GFC

Vote on Friday for the ARTS PARTICIPATION SLATE for Responsible Action for Arts students!

Parking pain in pocket

Information has been received that in the near future the cost assessed against the owner/operator of an illegally parked vehicle that is towed from this campus will be greatly increased. The charge will be a flat \$20.00 for a tow job plus \$2.00/day at Cliff's Towing Company lot.

All operators of vehicles parked on this campus are urged to comply with the Parking regulations and thus avoid this expense.

W.F.G. Perry
Director
Campus Security & Traffic

Charity fund biased

I am writing with regard to the referendum to be held this Friday in an attempt to establish a semi-autonomous body to control the disbursement of funds to "charitable organizations." This body would have approximately \$9,000 at its disposal each year — not a negligible fund.

What is the rationale for creating this body? We are told that it is to take the politics out of the granting of funds to various organizations. This can not be so. Whenever funds are granted, there is at least a tacit support for the objectives of the recipient and thus if the recipient has political aspirations, a political decision will have to be made. All the creation of this body can do is push this decision-making function further from the student populous with the result that the students will have less control and likely less knowledge of the disbursements. At a time when the Students' Union is ostensibly striving to encourage increased student participation,

this removal or lessening of control by the imposition of one more level of bureaucracy is regressive.

Could the rationale possibly be that the Executive of this past term has found it difficult to make "charitable donations" to the groups they wanted? I recall some controversy regarding the granting of funds to a community hockey team and the accusations regarding ulterior motives for this grant.

There remains the important question of whether the SU has a legitimate function in coordinating the collection and disbursement of charitable donations. There are currently many organizations which already perform this function, whether one wishes to contribute to overseas relief or help right here in Edmonton. Also, should charitable donations be compulsory as in this proposal, or should they be left to the individual to make his or her own choices?

Roy Baxter Smith
Law III

SU EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES



INFORMATION SERVICES CO-ORDINATOR

15 July - 15 September 1980
\$825 per month

Duties:

- To conduct a survey of the number and content of information requests at the SUB Information Desk
- To solicit information for the use at the Information Desk
- To upgrade files and the information retrieval system
- To establish a staff briefing program
- To recommend changes to the current operations of the SUB Information Desk (as they relate to information services)

FOR MORE DETAILS:

Contact Sharon Bell
c/o Room 259 SUB, or call 432-4236

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 21 March, 1980

The Gateway presents ... KAMPUCHEA BENEFIT A benefit concert for the people of Kampuchea (Cambodia)

Additional sponsorship provided by the U of A Chaplains, Hunger Project, 630 CHED, BASS Ticket System, Keenkraft Music, the Students' Union.

Featuring rock and roll with
SHIFTER

and some folk music with

**COMELY COG
LLOYD LITKE**

April 12

SUB Theatre

8:00 p.m.

Tickets - \$5.00

Tickets available at HUB Box Office,
Keenkraft Music, and the Gateway Office.