

# Ailing Economy Doubles Loan Applications

by Richard Watts

The ailing economy saw the number of unemployed students and applications for student loans double this summer in Alberta.

In a province sheltered for so long by a boom economy and an economically sound provincial government this summer came as a shock to many students. For the first time there were few jobs to be found and the jobs that were available offered too few hours and too little pay.

The Federation of Alberta Students (FAS) reports that in May the number of Alberta's unemployed young people had

doubled since the same time last year.

In addition to this, by July it appeared that students were turning to the government in higher numbers than ever for financial assistance.

Says FAS president Don Millar, "Very few students were able to get well-paid jobs this summer and looking at higher tuition payments it is understandable that the number of loan applications doubled."

Unfortunately students found themselves in a peculiar situation this summer. In order to qualify for a student loan a student

must meet certain guidelines set by the Student Finance Board.

These guidelines include a stipulation that a student must save a certain amount of money to finance the cost of his/her own education (at least \$285/month).

"But if you couldn't find a job this summer or got stuck in a lousy paying one what are you going to do?" asks Millar.

At the urgings of FAS, Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower Jim Horsman did instruct that the guidelines be waived where applicable.

In response, the government increased funding to the Student

Temporary Employment Program (STEP).

However, being low paid and only temporary any participating students would still find it difficult

after graduation a student, qualified to have portions of that loan and the interest on that loan waived.

People at FAS have become



to meet the minimum savings requirement in order to qualify for a student loan.

"Apparently they have waived those guidelines but we at FAS are now becoming concerned that those people may be punished later on through remission," says Millar.

When student loans are due

concerned that those who received a loan this year because of waived guidelines may be punished later on through the remission policy.

Says Millar, "We did contact the Ministry and Student Aid people and they did assure us that they would not penalize anyone through the remission program."

## Proposals Passed By GFC

by Allison Annesley

Following is a list of the most pertinent proposals passed in the executive GFC meeting last Friday. Some important changes made over the summer are also included.

The academic schedule for '83/'84 has been modified in order that engineers will be allowed the two days required to write their consolidated exams without infringing on Christmas vacation.

It was decided that engineering students would write their exams on the week beginning Thursday, December 15 and ending Wednesday the 21st, with Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th free for study. The study break before exams will begin on Saturday the 10th.

Changes in the Faculty of Science were brought up that had been approved in June. Regarding honors programs, students will be required to take a full load of five courses each year for four years, to ensure they have no advantage over general BSc students maintaining a high grade point average.

Students who don't meet program standards for continuation will now be required to withdraw by the department. The program previously stated that students may be withdrawn.

Specialty students in science will also need a 5.5 minimum grade point average in their last 15 full course equivalents before graduation. Different

departments may require higher minimums in specific courses.

Honors science students will be required to attain a 6.5 grade point average the year before entering the program. Marks before that year will not be averaged to be used against them.

Also in the faculty of Science, students who transfer into another faculty will no longer be credited towards a BSc degree for courses taken after the transfer. Students transferring into science may be credited for courses taken in their former faculty but may not use science faculty credits toward their former faculty's degree.

In the Faculty of Medicine, a proposal to add part-time clinical staff was referred back to the faculty.

## Involvement Opportunities



Standing Committees of The President and Vice-Presidents of the University of Alberta



### ARCHIVES AND DOCUMENTS COMMITTEE

- Requires one undergraduate representative
- Purpose:
  - To recommend policy to establish an archives procedure within the University
  - To recommend retention, disposal and preservation of University documents and historical manuscripts
  - Establish and maintain liaison between the University and other bodies concerned with the preservation of archives and documents
- Meets: At call of the Chair
- Term: To April, 1983

### OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH, SAFETY, FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEASURES COMMITTEE

- Requires one undergraduate representative
- Purpose:
  - To advise the President through the Vice-President (Facilities and Services) on policy with respect to emergency measures, fire, safety, radioactive materials, bio-safety, disposal of hazardous materials; and be available to receive and review policy and administrative recommendations on the above matters
- Meets: At call of the Chair, but no less than 4 per year
- Term: Up to 3 years

### RECREATIONAL USE OF "PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND RECREATION CENTRE" COMMITTEE

- Requires three undergraduate representatives
- Purpose:
  - To review the recreational needs of the students and staff as they affect the scheduling of free time in the Physical Education and Recreation Centre,
  - To establish policy as to the Centre's use during the periods not scheduled for regular classes
- Meets: At call of the Chair
- Term: To 30 April 1983

### COMMITTEE ON THE PURCHASE AND PLACEMENT OF WORKS OF ART

- Requires one undergraduate representative
- Purpose:
  - To purchase or commission works of art for installation in new or renovated buildings
- Meets: At call of the Chair
- Term: To April, 1983

### STUDENT EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE

- Requires one undergraduate representative
- Purpose:
  - To act as a liaison between the University and the Canada Employment Centre on campus for the placement of students in employment
- Meets: At call of the Chair
- Term: To April, 1983

Deadline for All Applications: Wednesday, 29 September 1982

For information and/or Applications, please contact the Students' Union Executive Offices, 259 Students' Union Building, 432-4236.



"I have clinched and closed with the naked North, I have learned to defy and defend; Shoulder to shoulder we have fought it out - yet the wild must win in the end."  
-Robert Service

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