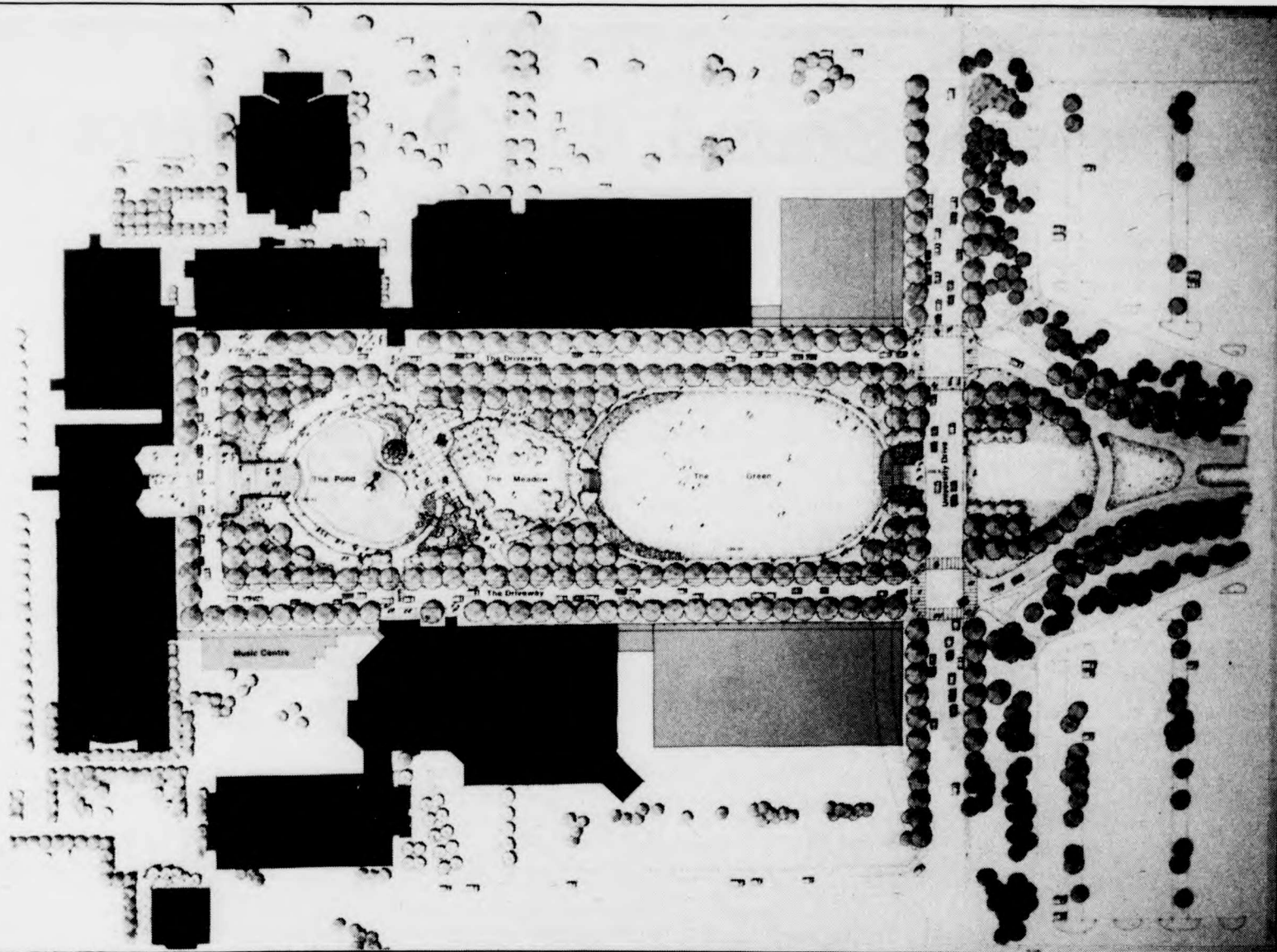


## The University Common:

a major central open space of "green," which is being created at the centre of the academic core of the campus. It will extend from the St. Lawrence mound at the east, to the future New Academic Building and Entry Pavilion at the west. The Common is intended to provide opportunities for formal uses as well as for informal leisure activities.



Patricia Hutahajan

## VR-ES: new equipment and 'more efficient'

by Susan Vanstone

Major changes are being made to the Voice-Response Enrolment System (VR-ES) in preparation for the fall/winter 1990-91 session.

Vice-president (institutional affairs) Sheldon Levy submitted recommendations to the vice-presidents and President Harry Arthurs which received approval in December.

A \$60,000 IBM Voice-Response unit will be purchased to supplement the existing VR-ES equipment. Manager of student records Susan Salusbury and VR-ES coordinator Gene Denzel said the new equipment will make the system 15 to 30 per cent more efficient, and will increase the number of access lines from 31 to a potential 44, but to at least 32. Both said the old equipment is being upgraded with increased

memory and will be more efficient.

The new hardware will reduce busy signals by adding 16 queuing lines, but Denzel said the wait could be as long as 10 minutes. As well, the queuing network will allow messages notifying students in case of a system or power failure.

In early April, all students using VR-ES will be assigned a non-transferable enrolment "window" — a three-hour opportunity during the initial enrolment period from mid-June to early August. Salusbury said the relatively low number of students per window — approximately 400 — will allow them access during the three hours. Students with the most credits as of the winter term will be given the earliest windows. Windows will then be allocated on a descending order basis, so that students with the least number of

credits will be last to enrol. If the amount of students with the same number of credits is too large for a window, the system will randomize the allocation.

Students will have three occasions to call VR-ES during the initial enrolment period. On weekdays, the morning window will run from 8 to 11 a.m., followed by a two-hour period for only those with the morning window to access the system. The afternoon window will run from 1 to 4 p.m., followed by two hours for afternoon callers to reach VR-ES. From 6 to 10 p.m., students assigned either window that day can call. On Saturday, all students with windows during the week can access the system.

In case of a system disruption such as a power failure, the queuing lines will have recorded messages informing students of an

alternate enrolment period, which would most likely be the two hours following the window or from 6 to 10 p.m. on the same day.

Once the initial enrolment period ends near the beginning of August, students may access VR-ES at any time during hours of operation.

When students first access VR-ES, they must key in their student number, birth date and create a personal identification number (PIN), which they must confirm by keying in again. When they call back, only the student number and PIN are needed. Denzel said the PIN should eliminate false drop transactions like those which occurred this fall.

Out-of-town students calling from Canada will be accommodated by an 800 phone number, which will eliminate their long-distance charges. Salusbury said

the cost to the university for this number will be approximately \$800 a month, and once the fall/winter session begins in September, the toll-free line would likely be eliminated.

Salusbury added that students calling from outside Canada may want to apply to use the alternate system, which will be similar to last year's mail enrolment. If students are unable to use the 800 number, Salusbury said they should keep phone bills and could be reimbursed by the university.

A 20-telephone bank will be established in Rideau Road Classroom Building, on Rideau Road between the physical plant and the Kinsmen buildings. As well, eight telephones on the third floor of the Ross Building will be available for students with an advising/enrolment appointment with the Advising Centre.

FALL/WINTER SESSION 1989/90

KEEP IN MIND  
THE LAST DAY TO PAY ACADEMIC FEES, INCLUDING  
SECOND INSTALMENT OF ACADEMIC FEES, WITH  
LATE SERVICE CHARGES, IS:

**FRIDAY  
JANUARY 19  
1990**

Students who have not yet paid their academic fees and the applicable late service charges to complete the registration process by this date will be de-enrolled and their Winter Term courses will be cancelled.

Anyone wishing to register after this date must submit a written petition to the Registration Office no later than Friday, February 9, 1990. The appropriate form is available from the Registration Office, Suite C130 West Office Building, telephone 736-5155.

Petitions which demonstrate administrative default on the part of a University office or cover compassionate reasons are considered. The Registrar's decision is final.

**Office of the Registrar  
January 8, 1990**

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**"THE JOB MARKET:  
WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT"**

PANELISTS

JOHN MYLES, Professor of Sociology, Carleton Univ.  
PAT ARMSTRONG, Chair, Department of Sociology, York Univ.

Tuesday, January 23, 1990

12:00 Noon

Junior Common Rm. (014) McLaughlin College

Co-sponsors: Sociology Undergraduate Student Association  
and Department of Sociology

**ALL WELCOME**

**"WHO SHALL BE A  
REFUGEE IN CANADA?"**

SPEAKER

ROBERT SHROPSHIRE, Toronto Refugee Affairs Council

Thursday, January 25, 1990

12:00 Noon

Junior Common Rm. (014) McLaughlin College

Co-sponsored with Public Policy and Administration  
Students Association

**ALL WELCOME**