'Knowledge for its own sake goal of future university' claims Boothroyd

The university of the future will be a free university in which the student seeks knowledge for its own sake rather than a degree or a good job said graduate student and sociology lecturer Peter Booth-

In the immediate future the university will develop into a height-ened form of the multiversity but in time to come a choice between complete oblivion and the free university will have to be made.

Boothroyd was addressing about 120 people Thursday evening at a joint meeting of the U of A philosophical society and the Humani-ties Association of Canada in the Tory bldg.

The university was originally conceived as a place for the pre-servation and transmission of knowledge, he said. Later it became an institution for the increase of learning and now it provides knowledge as an economic service to the community.

GRADUATES DEMANDED

Industry demands the graduates turned out by the university, said

This year there are more than

to children in the University Hos-

"Some of them are out-of-town students," says Mrs. E. Sigsworth,

recreations co-ordinator for the hospital. "They don't have the money to go home every weekend, and they like to keep busy. So they volunteer to work with the children."

One of the main problems in treating children is keeping them

happy while they are in the hospital. Nurses, chiefly concerned with the physical welfare of their

patients, seldom have the time to

accomplish this; this is where the

Volunteers read stories to the

volunteer becomes invaluable.

students devoting their time

Boothroyd, and won't allow en-rolment quotas. "The public won't allow cut-backs because they want their sons and daughters to get a good job.

A university president that says enrolment will be cut is politicking; he probably wants more money from the government or industry so he can provide the services the society demands from the institution, he said.

DEATH KNELL

Over one hundred students

volunteer to help children

In the field of research it is a case of supply and demand. Physicists usually have no difficulty in getting grants and scholarships to carry out research because they are sought after while classics departments are often undernourish-

Support from the outside of the institution gives a large amount of autonomy to some groups.

A large amount of administrative energy is necessary to keep the institution together, he said.

This won't sound the death knell of the multiversity, he said, it is the educational and training as-

children and organize games and

crafts for them. Some are responsible for taking them to the vari-

ous diagnosis and treatment rooms in the hospital, such as electro-

On weekends a volunteer may take children to church or do their

Outings to the Alberta Game

Farm or the children's zoo are often planned; on Hallowe'en this year several of the youngsters who

were well enough were taken trick-or-treating around the hos-pital by the volunteers. "For the very young children who do not yet talk, it is impor-tant to have someone to take the

tant to have someone to take the

place of the family, and who is not

so frightening and impersonal as a nurse," said Mrs. Sigsworth.

cardiograph and x-ray.

The technical knowledge of society has destroyed man's religi-ous explanation of things, he said, and has produced no institution to

"Students want to talk about this but the multiverity doesn't."

"The multiversity doesn't want to do this. It is more interested in training and technical skills." It allows creativity within limits but not free development of the in-

The multiversity is "fundamentally an unviable social organization, he said. The only viable form is the free university.

said but they all either boil down to complete oblivion or to a state

OTHER ALTERNATIVES

If the university were to remove the degree it would lose the aspect of being a training school and move towards the free uni-

This could be started, he suggested, if one of the five courses a student takes each year was non-

student thinking about the institution and society.

The student's questioning of values would make him think more and eventually the students demand more courses in which they thought and studied what they wished rather than being subjected to "training", he

"Students should have full de-mocratic rights to slowly change the university into a free univer-

pects of the academic community that will lead to its eventual

They want to discuss things of interest to themselves and they often "question the fundamental basis upon which society is built," said Boothroyd.

dividual.

There are other alternatives he similar to that of Nineteen Eighty-Four or The Brave New World.

The continued stresses in the multiversity will eventually lead to more mental disorders among students he said. Last year there were more than 6,300 student interviews with student counselling, said Boothroyd.

credit on a pass or fail basis.

This, he said, would start the

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