

Grads against differential fees

by Neal Watson

In a paper presented to the University Affairs Advisory Committee on Monday, the Graduate Student's Association (GSA) urged the removal of differential fees for foreign students attending the University of Alberta.

The University Affairs Advisory Committee is one of six committees that advises Advanced Education Minister Dick Johnston on current education concerns.

In their paper, the GSA said differential fees are "discriminatory and unwarranted" and expressed doubts about the economic justification of such a policy.

Currently, there are 2452 full-time grad students at the U of A. Approximately 25 per cent of those enrolled in graduate work are foreign students.

Foreign students in graduate studies now pay a 50 per cent differential on tuition fees.

According to the report, "the presence of foreign students on campus serves to broaden the backgrounds of those Canadian students fortunate enough to work with them."

A continuation of existing policies which discourage the enrollment of foreign students "will be detrimental to the overall quality and variety of education at the University of Alberta."

GSA President Richard Jehn says "the number of foreign

students would decrease as a result of increasing differential fees."

In Britain and Ontario, where differential fees for graduate students were first introduced, the number of applications from foreign students has declined sharply.

As well as advocating the elimination of differential fees, the GSA called for the establishment of scholarships to aid foreign students.

A scholarship bank would aid students from third world countries in particular in an effort to attract more students from that part of the world.

GSA President Richard Jehn says the idea would "create a more equitable representation from third world countries."

Only ten per cent of foreign students in Canada come from the poorest countries - those with a per capita GNP of \$500 per annum, or less.

Foreign students in graduate studies encounter severe economic pressures when attending the University - pressures intensified by differential fees.

Many graduate students survive on incomes below the poverty line - working as teaching or research assistants. And in the current climate of cutbacks, summer research jobs are scarce.

For many foreign students, the cost of air fares makes a return

home during the summer months impractical.

The GSA report details the confusion facing the foreign student when dealing with contradictory bureaucracies in Canada - the federal government and the Un-

iversity Administration.

The non-Canadian student must contend with the federal department of Manpower and Immigration's restrictions on visas and employment authorizations as well as the University's recruit-

ment policies which encourage students to study in Edmonton.

Recruiting policies, he charges, "fail to fully acquaint the prospective student with the financial realities" of attending the University.

Student Vacancies on GFC Committees

The following Committees will have vacancies for members whose terms of office will commence on April 1, 1984 and be completed on March 31st, 1985.

GFC Executive Committee	Undergrad	Graduate
(Must be a member of GFC)	2	1
Academic Appeals Committee	2	1 Regular 1 Alternate
Academic Development Committee	2	
Admissions & Transfer Committee	1	
Note: one student must be a transferee from a college in Alberta.	3	
Computing Committee	2	1
Conference Funds Committee	1	1
Facilities Development Committee	1	
Library Committee	2	1
Committee on Native Studies	2	2
Planning and Priorities Committee	1	
Improvement of Teaching & Learning Committee	3	1
Undergraduate Scholarship Committee	1	
Undergraduate Teaching Awards Committee	2	
University Professors Selection Committee	1	1
Writing Competence Committee	2	1
University Disciplinary Panels & Appeal Panels	Ten Students	

All graduate students and undergraduate students of the University are eligible for election to the above committees, and membership is not restricted to members of GFC, except for membership to the GFC Executive Committee. Members are eligible for re-election to serve a subsequent term of office if they expect to be registering at the University the following year.

The Nominating Committee will be pleased to hear from students who have suggestions for nominations or who would be interested in serving on any of the above committees themselves. Further details may be obtained from Mrs. P. Plaskitt, Secretary to the Nominating Committee at 2-5 University Hall (4715) or from the Vice-President (Academic) Students' Union.

Election coming up

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The election is next Friday and the polls are open from 9:00 to 6:00 PM but it could be a full week after the election before the results are known.

Under the new election rules passed by Student Council last Tuesday, campaigners can ask Glenn Byer for a ruling on whether or not some aspect of an opponent's campaign is illegal. Byer then has one day to rule, the complainant then has two days to appeal Byer's ruling to the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement (DIE) Board.

DIE Board can take a further

two days to rule.

Only after all the appeals have been settled can Byer break the seals on the ballot boxes and begin counting. He has two days to finish counting.

So if Byer were asked to make a ruling Friday, did so Saturday, the complainant went to DIE Board Monday, DIE Board announced its decision Wednesday and Byer took his time counting the votes, it would be Friday, February 17 before the election results were announced.

"Anything could happen," says Byer.

Canada and the future

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will hopefully be among the participants in the discussion, though he has not yet confirmed this.

The *Effects of Technological Change on Man and Society* will be the subject of session four.

The first session in the category of Bigotry and Discrimination in Canada which is entitled *Unity in Diversity: Cliche or Truism?* will be held on Wednesday, February 22.

Issues such as bigotry, discrimination and the notion of unity in diversity will be discussed.

Author of the Penner Report on Aboriginal Rights, MP Keith Penner, will be one of the participants in the sixth session, *Self Government for Aboriginal People: Political Rights Unfulfilled?*

The many questions surrounding the issue of native self government will be discussed including whether there can be sovereign self-government without jeopardizing the traditional Canadian liberal democracy.

The seventh session, entitled

What is Life? What is Death? will provide a general introduction into the topic of death and dying, with emphasis on the needs and experiences of both the dying and those who are left to mourn. Also to be discussed is how death is treated by other societies in comparison to our own, and how western attitudes towards death have changed over the years.

Session eight will be an artistic performance entitled *Death: A Celebration*. The program includes a song by baritone singer Professor Harold Weins of the Department of Music, a poetry recital by Professor William Meilen of the Department of Drama, and a dance by Orchesis Creative Dance Group.

The ninth and final session will attempt to deal with the topic *Why do children have to Die?* The speakers will discuss the ethics of decisions which have to be made when a child is dying.

For more information on the conference contact the Office of Community Relations 423 Athabasca Hall, telephone 432-2325.

CABARETS

Tickets are available from the SUB Box Office (2nd Floor SUB) and various club members.
NOTE: These events are open only to U of A students, staff, and guests.

DINWOODIE
2nd Floor SUB
Proof of age required.

Friday
February 3

U of A Rowing Club presents

20 feet

Saturday
February 4

U of A Fencing & Women's Squash Clubs present

NEOAA

PLUS 54 • 40 from Vancouver

NOTICE: Corrected Dates

We apologize for any inconvenience caused by the incorrect ad in Jan. 26/84 issue.

Newswriters Meeting.

Today at 3:30 in SUB 282