

# SORSE help rookie students

by Neal Watson

Student Orientation Services (SORSE) is dedicated to reducing the "fear of the unknown" that many students feel when coming to the U of A for the first time.

SORSE has begun their volunteer recruitment drive for the orientation period that runs from now until the start of the fall 1985 term.

SORSE Director Ken MacDonald says his group needs volunteers, or SORSE "leaders," to commit time to help new students learn the ropes at the U of A. Volunteers are required to fill out application forms and then are trained at SORSE seminars.

"We are starting our marketing for volunteers," said MacDonald. "This is our main push."

SORSE also has an associate director position and an assistant director position.

MacDonald said his organization will be maintaining an information booth in CAB and has begun to get information to students in area high schools.

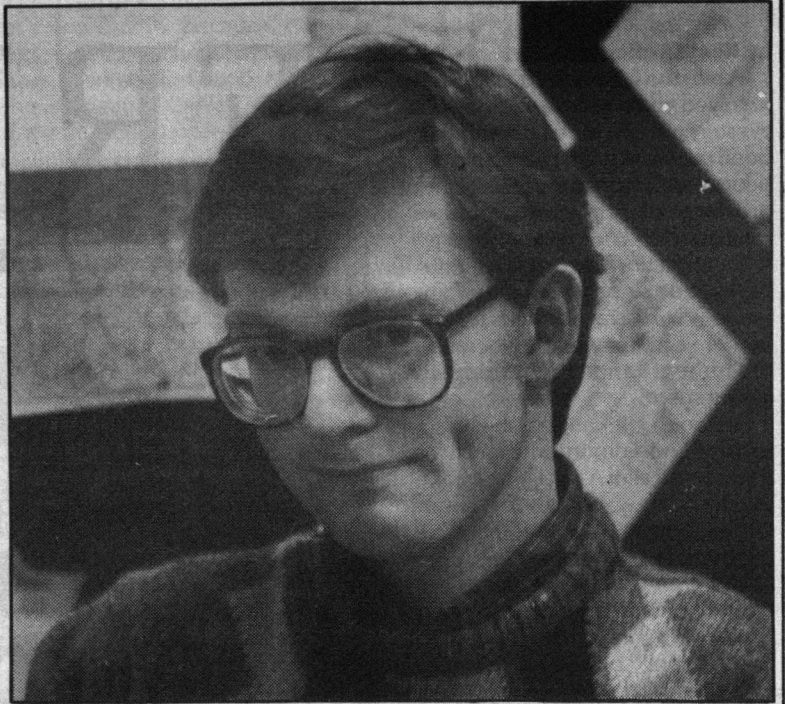
"We prepare new students for what they face at university in terms of courses and facilities," said MacDonald. "And how to survive in-person registration."

"University can be pretty intimidating and a difficult adjustment period for some. The initial impression can be overwhelming."

MacDonald said the selection of courses and the route to take for prospective careers were two of the problems most encountered by new students.

In some respects, high school counselling is inadequate preparation for students.

Although SORSE deals with as many as 800 students during the orientation period, MacDonald still feels the profile of his agency is too



SORSE director Ken MacDonald

low. He wants new students to know they have a support group on campus.

And MacDonald also said despite internal problems over allegations of SORSE's mis-management over the last few years, he feels the Students' Union is happy with SORSE's performance.

"We try to keep in touch with the other SU service areas."

The internal "audit," MacDonald said was done to ensure that SORSE was managed in the best possible way.

Orientation sessions for prospective SORSE leaders will be held tonight in SUB 034 at 4:30 p.m. and again at seven p.m. for anyone interested. The sessions run about a half-hour.

Photo: Neal Watson

## Grads dine, dance

by Susan Sutton

This year heralds the first ever Graduation Banquet and Dance for the University of Alberta's Science Undergraduate Society.

Dr. MacDonald, the Dean of Science, will be addressing the graduates, as well as special guest speakers.

The banquet will be held on

March 23 at 6:00 p.m. at the Convention Inn South. Tickets are available now at the USS office (M-142 Biological Sciences). Tickets can also be purchased this week in CAB.

The function is open to all science students graduating this year and their guests.

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Interviews held week of March 11.

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