

Scholarship program for volunteers

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gives as examples those people who donate their time to help at the hospital or with organizations such as SORSE.

"The focus is involvement and contribution to campus life, as well as athletics," said SU president Paul LaGrange.

According to LaGrange, the

SU was able to set aside \$25,000 last fall to start the fund. They are now seeking to double that amount through corporate donations and other SU fundraising. In addition, the SU hopes to receive a further matching grant from the provincial government.

The next throne speech is

expected to announce a new program, similar to the recently ended Advanced Education Endowment and Incentive Fund, under which the SU fund would be eligible for a grant. Altogether, over \$100,000 will be put in place with the interest being distributed annually. The amount currently being considered is \$400

for each award.

"As university costs rise, the SU wants to help out," said LaGrange.

While the interest from the actual fund would not be available until the spring of 1990, the SU

has applied for a special allocation so that the scholarship program could begin this year.

The endowment fund, which is as yet unnamed, will be formally launched at a kick-off reception in February.

All time high for enrolment record

by Jud Clendenan

LONDON, Ont. (ISIS) — A record number of students are attending Canadian universities full-time this year, according to Statistics Canada.

Data from the fall of 1988 shows enrolment has risen by three percent over last year to reach a total of 500,000 students. This year's increase marks the tenth consecutive year for which increases have been noted in university enrolment.

Statistics Canada says the increase runs contrary to expecta-

tions that a marked decrease in the population of 18-24 year-olds in the '80s would result in a corresponding decrease in university enrolment. In addition, a significant number of older students are returning to university.

However, part-time students have not kept pace with full-time enrolment. The data show only a 1.7 percent increase in this group bringing the total number to 301,000 for the country. Statistics Canada says growth in part-time enrolment has been limited after years of significant increases in the mid '70s.

Date rape defined

by Judi Rever

LONDON, Ont. (ISIS) — A woman has been raped if she has sex with her boyfriend because he threatens to end the relationship, according to a new Western University campaign against date rape.

That description may be surprising to some, but date rape — sexual assault against a woman by someone she knows — has physical and psychological dimensions to its attack. That's the message the Ontario Federation of Students wants to get across.

The OFS is "absolutely right" to use that definition of date rape in its poster campaign, said Gail Hutchinson, director of Western's Counselling and Career Development. She said women are socialized to feel they must maintain relationships. When a woman is pressured to have sex if her boyfriend threatens to leave her, her freedom of choice is threatened and therefore she has sex against her will, said Hutchinson.

"The effects are the same" as if she were physically forced, she said, and "the threat is real."

OFS posters include other definitions of date rape, such as "sexual assault against a woman that is committed by someone the victim knows," and "having intercourse because you are threatened."

She said this campaign with all of its definitions will make people think more about mental coercion.

Ardath Hill, the nurse educator

at Student Health Services, said "students are expressing confusion about exactly what date rape means" and as a result, "we are conscious about wording."

That wording is still the center of much debate.

"I have a hard time putting (a woman having sex to save a relationship) into the context of rape," Hill said.

Hill doesn't deny that a woman will feel pressure and a violation of trust if she engages in sex because her boyfriend threatens to end the relationship, but "I would like to think women would be given more credit. There are certain things we do have control over... being very clear about who we are and what we want." Nevertheless, she said the campaign is a good one because the subject is "timely and must be addressed."

There are indeed men who are concerned about the issue of date rape and "we can't alienate them" she said. Hill added there must be a dialogue between the sexes because often women put the same pressures on men to perform sexually.

Western, as a member of the OFS, has decided to endorse the campaign. Martha Turner, Western's women's issues commissioner, said WIC's main priority is to promote an awareness of date rape. However, she also disagrees with date rape being defined as a woman being pressured into having sex to keep a relationship.

"It displays women as feeble-minded... you've got to give people more credit."

What the OFS is stating in its campaign is that sexual coercion is rape.

"We have received no negative response to the campaign so far," said Georgia Guy, OFS' communications director. However, Guy was unclear on the details of the campaign.

In the past five years, reported cases of sexual assault have increased by 87 percent.



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