

# Deans slam frosh orientation

By ELAINE VERBICKY

Opposition from the deans' council has dimmed hopes for a planned freshman orientation seminar.

The students' union project proposed to bring 500 freshmen to campus for three days each during the summer to orient them to university before the registration rush.

One seminar of about fifty people would be held each week.

"Students' council is in favor; the students are in favor; student counselling is in favor. I don't know who is against it but the deans, and we need faculty participation," commented student co-ordinator and FOS director Glenn Sinclair.

President W. H. Johns, chairman of the dean's council, explained in a letter to Sinclair the deans did not feel FOS was worth the time and expense to be put into it. If the seminars were held, the deans or their representatives would be spending one night each week answering questions from the visiting freshmen.

The expense requested from the

administration by the FOS directors is \$4,000—approximately one-third of the total cost.

## FUND-RAISING

Sinclair mentioned attempts now underway to raise the necessary funds from other concerned parties. He is appealing the matter to the board of governors.

"If we stop FOS now, it will be a serious mistake," he said. "But the deans don't feel it is worth one night a week, I suppose."

Associate dean of arts, K. B. Newbound, commented, "This would be burdensome on those of the administration who stay around during the summer. It is difficult to organize your time for these meetings."

Dr. Newbound answered questions at the pilot project last summer. "The few people I conversed with seemed to be sure of where they were going. Their questions could have been settled at registration," he said. He added most of the freshmen were not more oriented to university because of FOS.

Many of the pilot group, the majority from rural areas, held a reunion recently to assess the results of FOS. "The group said FOS prepared them for university, and helped them realize freshman introduction is not university," reported Sinclair.

## STILL HOPING

Sinclair is still hoping eventually to bring the whole freshman class to FOS, putting them through intensive orientation to the campus set-up, mental environment and extra-curricular circuit of university. "It's being done in the U.S. now," he said.

Commenting on other orientation methods, he said career days do not contact everyone and do not give the real picture of university.

"Varsity guest weekend is a circus, and FIW is a disorientation more than anything else," he said.

The summer seminar would include everything from residence food to a mock registration and book-buying rush.

"We're going to find support for this thing," Sinclair concluded.

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Fourth campus secular

# Interdenominational university ruled out

## Boss fails to ward off sickness

By DON SELLAR  
Canadian University Press

Six months ago, the Canadian Union of Students embarked upon a new, activist course under the stewardship of 28-year-old John Douglas Ward.

Today, the good ship CUS flounders in heavy seas, her master in sick bay and her 150,000-man crew mostly in drydock.

Doug Ward has been sick for more than a month now, his face as pale as the Gatinneau Hills east of Ottawa. Occasional dizziness and a hacking cough are strange things to see in a man who six months ago walked to work regularly.

Thousands of miles of travel, piles of paperwork, 10-hour-long Company of Young Canadians board meetings, speechmaking on dozens of campuses, the strain of seven withdrawals from his organization, the frustration of communicating with 150,000 students and coaxing them to action—all have caught up with the CUS boss.

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Alberta's fourth university will be secular, but there is still a possibility of an inter-denominational university in the future, education minister Randolph MacKinnon said today.

Pressure of increasing student enrolment rules that planning for the new institution must start immediately, he said.

Consultation among interested denominations "point to a time involvement that would delay the possibility of necessary positive and immediate action," said Mr. MacKinnon.

Other reasons for the government decision against an inter-denominational university were the time involved in:

- the reaching of decisions individually and collectively;
- the raising or pledging of funds for some aspects of the total proposition;

- the passing of necessary legislation.

Plans for the new Edmonton area university will proceed under the ordinary provisions of the Universities Act.

A fourth university is necessary because of rapidly increasing student population in the northern two-thirds of the province and the prediction that U of A will have reached its enrolment target of 18,000 students within four or five years.

## Consultation necessary

"This will be true despite continued rapid expansion of facilities and enrolments in Calgary, the establishment of the University of Lethbridge, and some prospective increase in the enrolments at the junior colleges," Mr. MacKinnon said.

"Pressure is being felt in many directions but especially in the faculties of education, arts, and science," he added.

No final arrangements have been made concerning appointment of a board of governors and president, initial curriculum, location, or buildings for the new university.

"Extensive studies in consultation with university authorities here and elsewhere in Canada will be undertaken and pursued as quick-

ly as possible before any final arrangements are made," Mr. MacKinnon said.

## SPECULATION

Regarding speculation that the new university would be interdenominational Mr. MacKinnon said, "During the past year there has been considerable interest in the possibility of an institution . . . whose governing arrangements and program, while fully protecting the right of free scholarship, would also give some recognition to and place for an emphasis on Christian principles and religious studies."

"The government is very sympathetic to this proposal and believes that it would have the support of a very substantial majority of our citizenry."



—Neil Driscoll photo

**IN THE SHADE OF THE OLD DOOMED ELM TREE—** Caroline Johnson, pharm 3, poses prettily on top of the evil culverts that will soon bring death and destruction to the unfortunate tree in the background, and to its equally unfortunate comrades-in-arms (comrades-in-branches?). One can't help but pity the poor things, for they soon will have to walk that last mile to the gallows—and that's no mean feat for any tree.