

# NUS is losing support

The National Union of Students has lost support among colleges and universities after its performance at a recent university administrator's conference, U of A student leaders say.

According to George Mantor, SU president, several non-member universities were disappointed with the NUS apparent concern with principles rather than results at the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) annual conference in Ottawa, Oct. 29 to Nov. 1.

"A lot of people wanted to get things done but they (NUS) wanted to talk about principles," said Gary Croxton, executive vice-president, who accompanied Mantor and academic vice-president Pat Delancy to the conference.

At one point the NUS, represented by Bob Buckingham, tried to boycott the election of a student to the executive committee of the AUCC.

"They felt they didn't have enough information about the AUCC nor enough time to meet students to put forth a nomination," said Mantor.

Mantor noticed delegates were given information packets about the function of the AUCC before the conference began. And besides, he added, if the NUS wanted more information, it should have asked for it.

The AUCC, group of university administrators, meets

once a year to discuss trends in post secondary education. According to Mantor, it is only an advisory body and has no power to order universities to do anything.

As such, Mantor felt that the conference was the wrong place to discuss principles when students face one common problem: the financing of their education.

Disparities in student loans among the provinces, should be the major concern of the NUS, observes Mantor.

Out of the AUCC student caucus, came a promise from the Undersecretary of State to set up a meeting between the federal and provincial governments to examine student finance.

In addition, it was decided that it would be the theme of next year's AUCC conference in Halifax.

Once one of its major supporters, Mantor has become disenchanted with the hard-line approach taken by the NUS.

"I'm afraid the people who are speaking for the NUS are not achieving the goals the NUS was originally concerned with," he said.

Mantor said to represent the views of Canadian students, the NUS must understand both the student and government's side of any argument.

"You can say politicians are wrong but they are running the ship and they will throw you over to see whether you can sink

or swim," he said. "And all the talking you do with a mouthful of water is no good," he added.

"If there are groups already established you have to be in contact with them in a reasonable way," he said. "It works, especially when dealing with non-students."

"The problem is the person who represents the NUS in Ottawa must be mature enough. As soon as you walk out of a meeting, you lose support. If you make demands, you will alienate people."

"You can't get government to agree with everything you want, but you can get them to negotiate and understand."

Acknowledging that his remarks might affect results of the upcoming students' union referendum Nov. 23 on joining the union NUS, Mantor believes that he can do more for students outside of the NUS.

"I find it difficult to support the NUS. The philosophy behind the new organization and the idea of lobbying the federal government are good," he said.

"But if the NUS is going to boycott Chile, grapes, they are not going to be able to deal with student problems. There's not enough money or time."

A majority vote is required for the U of A's entry into the NUS. It would cost each student about 30 cents to join NUS next year.

# U of A Senate meets in Red Deer

The University of Alberta senate, the body that provides a link between the public and the university, will hold its November meeting in Red Deer.

At that meeting, the senate will choose a new chancellor to replace Louis Desrochers, whose term expires June 30.

The senate has met away from the U of A campus only once before, in Camrose last February.

The move is a result of a Senate decision to take some of its meetings out into the community to make it easier for persons or groups to express opinions on the university.

Leading university officers will discuss matters of interest in post secondary education at a public forum Thursday, Nov. 22, at 8 p.m. at the Capri Motor Hotel.

Among those taking part in the forum will be Louis Desrochers, chancellor of the university and chairman of the Senate; Dr. Max Wyman, university president; Dr. E.J. Chambers, dean of business administration and commerce; June Sheppard, Edmonton Journal columnist and Senate member and Fil Fraser, broadcaster and Senate member.

Friday, Nov. 23, the fall meeting of the Senate will be held at Red Deer College at 10 a.m. Included in the agenda will be election of a new Chancellor and reports from Senate task forces and committees.

At 2 p.m. the Senate will hear submissions on transferability of students and student credits from Red Deer College; and submissions dealing with post-secondary education from members of the public.

# New use for paper shredders

(EARTH NEWS) - Researchers at the Natick Laboratories near Boston have come up with a way to use one form of pollution to clean up another--and the system incidentally involves a new use for government paper-shredders.

The researchers say that they've discovered that shredded waste paper--ground up very fine--acts as an excellent material for absorbing oil from oil spills. In fact, they say, it's even better than straw, which is what's presently used. The shredded paper is simply thrown over the oil spill and then skimmed off. The oil absorbed by the paper can even be squeezed out and used.

In fact, the researchers say that the shredded paper can also be re-used a second time. And the second time it's used, it's even more effective than the first time.

*Environmental Action*

magazine says that tests on the shredded paper show that one pound of finely ground paper will absorb as much as four gallons of oil. At that rate, a ton of the paper could soak up around 8,000 gallons of oil.

# Dirty pictures to be judged

The Save Tomorrow Oppose Pollution Fourth Annual Dirty Pictures Contest will be judged on Nov. 15, at 1:30 p.m. in the Edmonton Centennial Library.

So far there have been more than 150 black and white and colour photos entered in the contest, which ended on Oct. 31.

Entries have been received from Peace River, Fox Creek, McGrath, Nampa, Henderson Lake and other centres in the Province as well as from Calgary, Edmonton and Lethbridge. Pollution drawings entered by school children will also be judged in a separate category.

Judges will be: Elle DeJongh, National & Provincial Parks Association; Una McLean Evans, alderman; Con Boland, photographer, R.W. Curell, zone manager Canada Safeway Limited; Phil Dowling, member of the Environment Conservation Authority; Dudley B. Menzies, deputy mayor; Paul Morck, Alberta Fish & Game Association; Joe McKenzie, Alberta Tuberculosis & Respiratory Diseases Association, and Dennis Wighton, S.T.O.P.'s Representative on the department of the environment public advisory committee.

Prize money of \$100 donated by Canada Safeway Limited, Eaton's and Simpsons-Sears will be awarded.

# Foster asks for nominations

Advanced Education Minister Jim Foster is asking for nominations to six advisory committees on post secondary education.

They are: College Affairs, Education of Native People, Further Education, Student Affairs, Vocational and Technical Education, and University Affairs.

The majority of each 15-member committee will be selected from the public at large. Student and faculty members will also be selected as well as those from special interest groups.

None of the members will be employees of the department of advanced education.

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