

Lack of finances brings setbacks to university

"At the present time, the level of our (the university's) financial support gives little indication that we are considered important to the development of this province. We are suffering budget setbacks which if continued will result in our great scholars leaving us, and in a relentless decline in academic standards."

This grim forecast was made by Harry Gunning, president-elect of the University of Alberta, Monday.

"Our top ranking staff members are starting to look at the many other opportunities available to them at institutions which are supported at a more enlightened level," says Gunning.

"We must never lose sight of the fact that our life support system is controlled

by a society which can at will turn off our valves...these are the hard realities of the situation, and as academics we had better learn to cope," he adds.

Speaking at a Friends of the University banquet, Gunning continued; "I would like to be able to show the people of this province that they need us, that we can be of enormous assistance in providing an environment in which each Albertan can realize his full potential."

"We are a young society with few traditions, we are in need of a university at the forefront of knowledge," he says, implying that without the necessary financial aid, the university will not be able to fulfill its mandate.

Gunning wants the university to work more closely with the government in implementing programs

beneficiary to the people of the province, such as a "vast army of specialists" required to develop the oil sands, people who would be trained at this university.

Emphasizing the institutions' financial woes, Gunning said, "In some of our major faculties, resources are so limited that we are considering the elimination of entire departments. Our professional faculties are facing the situation where through the lack of financial support, the ability to retain a good staff and provide necessary support facilities has been so weakened that national accreditation is very much in doubt."

He added that government leaders do not realize the damage being done by "punitive restrictive financing" as regards the responsibilities of higher education.

Gunning sees the major difficulty as a lack of a relationship between government and university "based on mutual respect."

"We must never allow ourselves to be placed in adversary positions."

Advisory committee named

The provincial government has named members to four advisory committees on post secondary education.

Each body, composed of 14 members, will act as a liaison between the university and the government, with representatives of the community also sitting as members.

Al Scott of Edmonton was appointed chairman of the student affairs, with Ken Smith and Gary Everette and Marlyn Andrews also of Edmonton among the other members.

Bob Smilanich of St. Albert will head the committee on further education, while Joe Couture of Edmonton is chairman of the advisory committee on native education.

Chairman of the advisory committee on college affairs will be Jerome Robbins of Pincher Creek.

Members of the committees will meet with Jim Foster, minister of advanced education, on Monday to discuss committee procedures.

U of A engineers win award

Each year there is something called the Vincent Bendix Award. No, they do not send you free ignition parts. Yes, they award money - up to \$500 worth for a 'worthy' project. Ahem. "The criteria for winning will be imagination and the ability to strengthen the professional development of its members as well as the Branch", says an official statement. And, some electrical engineering students from the hallowed halls of U of A actually won.

They submitted a plan for a "Speech Frequency Analyzer"

with a proposed cost of \$460. Among the forty or so entries 8 projects, including U of A's won. Benevolent Bendix Corp. awarded \$350 to this University's entry.

The "Speech Frequency Analyzer" in effect takes a word that's been transmitted verbally and breaks it down for frequency components. It breaks it down over a period of a second where the word then appears on a TV screen as bands. In fact the 'Bendix project' (as it is colloquially termed) has a memory so that words can be

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Drs. ARMSTRONG, BISTRITZ, WALKER and MARSH

OPTOMETRISTS

SOUTHSIDE OFFICE
320 Pleasantview
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Polls for the SU referendum...

will be located in the following buildings and locations between 9 A.M. and 5 P.M. (unless stated otherwise) on Friday, April 5, 1974.

- CABBy Cameron
- SUB.....By Info Desk
- ToryMain Lobby
- Rutherford 2nd Level Mall
- Law By Lib.
- Education.....Main Floor, by elevators
- Lister.....By Cafeteria
- Eng. IIMain Lobby
- Clinical Sci (1-5) 2nd Floor, by elevators
- Med. Sci (9-1)2nd Floor, 112 St entrance
- College St. Jean

An advance poll *will be located in CAB by Cameron Library*

between 9 and 5 on Thursday, April 4, 1974

Full members of the Students' Union are eligible to vote only.