

WCPSCC supports specialized courses

A co-operative effort among the four western provinces has led to the establishment of specialized courses for senior graduate students.

The Western Canada Post Secondary Coordinating Committee (WCPSCC) consisting of the provincial ministers responsible for post secondary education in Manitoba,

Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia has agreed to support innovative specialized courses for senior graduate students relating to mosquitoes, the handicapped and nuclear science.

Acting on a recommendation from the Committee of Western Canadian Graduate Deans, WCPSCC has agreed to finance three advanced level specialized graduate courses in the western region on an experimental basis.

In this way it is expected more innovative and efficient use can be made of specialized facilities and staff in the

research areas of western universities.

The first course "Mosquitoes: Their Biology, Control and Sensory Organ Morphology" will be held at the U of A February 25 to 28.

"It is hoped that this experiment in co-operative regional advanced graduate education will be just the first of a continuing series which will guarantee optimal shared use of specialized research resources in western Canadian universities," said Dr. J.K. McGregor, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, at the U of A.

GISH, from page 1

should be rich in forerunners but not one multi-cellular fossil, has been found," stated Gish.

He then continued to show how the reptiles could not have evolved from a fish as there was no fossil record of a creature which showed development of the fin bones into leg bones or showed a development of more rugged pelvic bone. There was, however, a similarity in the skull pattern of the reptile and fish.

Another problem was that no transition form had been found in which the reptile changed to a flying creature, the archaeopteryx, which possessed feathers and claws. Gish stated that today there are birds such as the ostrich which has a claw similar to the early forms of birds so there was a basic bird which changed a bit over time.

The next problem was man. According to evolution, man evolved from the forms Australopithecus onward to Homo Erectus to Homo Sapien Sapien according to the fossils which had been found. But again there is a gap from the form which stands somewhere between ape and man. With the latest find by Dr. Richard Leakey, Gish says, it is 3 million years old, and the oldest man found. However this man seems to be quite close to modern man in that he has no brow ridges as well as other similarities found in none of the men after him except modern man.

Creationism or evolution we got here somehow but exactly how no one knows but the speculation will go on.

WINDSOR U. from page 1

past. Leddy also predicted staff cuts as a means of reducing expenses.

Student president Doyle said that staff cuts were a matter of considerable importance to students and decrease in staff or facilities, he said, would ultimately affect the quality of the students' education as well as harm their chances for future jobs.

Deputy Education Minister Parr re-iterated the government position that "the increase of 14 per cent for most institutions" is sufficient to maintain educational quality if the universities "will tighten their belts a bit."

Parr did not elaborate on the methodology used to arrive at the 14 per cent increase estimate, but divergent figures being cited by universities and by the province have become a regular feature of the current debate.

The province, to sustain its argument that the increase is sufficient, always cites the 14 per cent "over-all" increase in speeches and press releases.

The universities, however, buttress their contention that the increase is insufficient by using a 7.4 per cent figure, which is the increase in enrollment for next year in the calculation.

But no matter which figures are used, it is apparent that little progress is being made in the current polite exchanges between the province and the universities of Ontario. The former says everything is just fine; and the latter says it isn't.

Some observers suggest that the government will not soften its stand on funding until the issues are placed before the public, not just the province's university communities.

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