### The Students' Union presents its...

# \$2.6 million final budget

The Students' Union 1976-1977 final budget of \$2.6 million, approved Nov. 29 by Students' Council, is a "conservative budget" according to SU vp finance and administration Eileen Gillese.

"Our budget has potential revenues conservatively stated," said Gillese in an interview, "but that's traditional for SU budgets."

The only major change to the budget since it was approved in preliminary form last April is the allocation of 190,000 to SU reserve funds.

The \$90,000 has gone into capital reserves, fixed asset reserves, and building reserves.

"There were no reserves set up in the preliminary budget," said Gillese, "and we thought it was imperative we had some kind of monetary 'cushion', so we've put money away.

"This is not a paper transaction, as some people have argued," Gillese said. "These figures represent actual cash which is being taken from our revenues and put into long-term investments.

Capital reserves function as operating reserves to cover expenses if revenues have not become available, Gillese explained. Fixed asset reserves cover upkeep on any SU-owned materials, i.e. fixed assets.

And the building reserves are being started again, said Gillese, to ensure that the SU can expand its operations in SUB at some future time.

"Two years ago, the building reserve fund was completely drained because of expenses incurred through SU operation of HUB," said Gillese. "We're starting them again so that if we want to expand SUB either internally or externally, we can."

Gillese noted that only two-thirds of SUB is currently being used by the Students' Union and

said she believed the SU would buy that space - "internal expansion" - before beginning an external expansion.

The final budget notes that \$83,000 was spent on capital expenditures. Gillese explained this included \$12,000 in material for SUB Theatre, \$28,000 in typesetting equipment for *Gateway* operations, \$7,000 into SUB's Gallery/Music Listening Area, and \$20,000 into SUB.

The largest single item in the budget is staff

costs, nearly \$1 million.

Gillese noted that as people read the final budget they should not be confused by a difference in set-up between the final budget and last year's preliminary budget.

"We broke down area budgets this year, so that on an individual basis they're not comparable to those in April's preliminary budget.

"But in summary form they are."

For instance, in the preliminary budget there is a listing for "Theatre, Cinema and Concerts" and in the final budgets there are separate listings for each of these areas - "Theatre," "Cinema," and "Concerts." Singly these may appear not to match entries in the preliminary budget but in the summary provided in this year's final budget, they will, explained Gillese.

Another difference in the way the SU budget is compiled is in estimation of administration costs, said Gillese. Salaries of the administrative staff of the SU - General manager, finance manager, accounting clerks - are put into a separate category and are not included in assessment of operation within the SU.

"A normal business might take 50 per cent of the general manager's salary and assess it to SUB operations, if SUB took 50 per cent of his in said Gillese, "but we don't do that and so might confuse some people."

Salaried administrative staff within the make up \$135,000 in expenses in the SU but total budget for the SU general office is \$1800

Students Council is budgeted for \$44,50 expenses - including travel, communical supples, and salaries to the five-person Executive and the Students' Council Speaks

Gillese drew attention to the fact that a costs of administration within the SU \$237,000 but caretaking costs alone tota \$230,000.

"People say they get nothing for their SU fees," said Gillese. "Yet there are a lot of the listed under the budget services summa which they get free and they perhaps don't it."

Services provided by the SU inc Freshman Orientation Seminars, a course gu special events, cabarets, a housing regis faculty association grants, student media-CK Gateway, the blotter, media productions, he book and directory - and a grant fund ministered by the Students' Council.

The net subsidy to these SU service \$163,000 out of a total budget of about \$400

Students' Union retail operations, which operated like business even if they don't characteristic students' market prices, said Gillese, includes operations, the three SU business on the H mall, and any concerts sponsored by the SU

SU retail operations contribute nearly \$1000 in revenues to the SU final budget this

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Budget # Preliminary Actual Final Account Name Budget 31/3/76 Budget (11000) 6045) 9000) R8 Commissions (11000) (6045) ( 3000: 14200 14200 E2 Staff Costs 3 Maintenance E4 Supplies 65 E5 Office Expense 800 400 E6 Printing & Advert 200 117 300 E7 Services 100 E10 Travel 450 600 369 Ell Communications 400 586 700 El5 Rentals El6 Miscellancous

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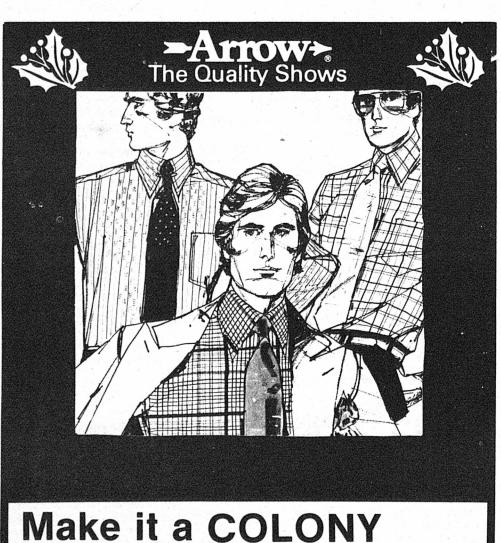
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