

CROSS CANADA

Charity begins at Carleton

OTTAWA (CUP)- Carleton University's administration and major unions are working together to fight the university deficit, but not without some fighting amongst themselves.

Representatives from the faculty and support staff unions said they were "upset" and "angry" about the contents of a "Renewal Fund Newsletter," sent to staff without union approval.

The administration newsletter stated "(a)ll Carleton employees are being asked to voluntarily give back half of the salary increase they are receiving this year in the form of a charitable donation" and makes reference to the necessity of "100 percent participation" in the campaign.

"Many people interpreted it as negative and as coercion and were concerned about the links the newsletter made between the campaign and job security," said Michelle Sutherland, president of the support staff union.

Most of the money is being donated by payroll deductions over the year. The university's current debt of \$1.8 million could rise by \$2 million this year because the provincial government only increased grants to universities by one percent.

Bonnie Schmidt, a member of the support staff union, said no one in her office panicked when they were asked for money.

"Most people looked at the letter with the attitude that if the government doesn't get it someone else will, so it may as well go to the university where it will benefit us somewhere down the line," she said.

Feds cut Native credits

REGINA (CUP)- Ninety-six status Indian students will be able to continue their post-secondary education this year, thanks to a \$1.1 million commitment from the Manitoba government.

The provincial government announced last month it will continue to fund the Aboriginal Access programs at universities and colleges in Manitoba. Until last spring, the program was funded jointly by the federal and provincial governments.

Aboriginal Access supports 16 different programs for aboriginal Manitobans in study areas such as pre-medical, education, social work and civil technology.

The federal government pulled its funding for the program in March. It continues to fund aboriginal students in Manitoba, but through native band councils, not with the provincial government.

Rosemary Vodrey, Manitoba's education minister, said in a press release that she intends to pursue the reinstatement of funding for the program by the federal government.

"We are committed to ensuring that the federal government lives up to its financial obligations and resolve this issue in a fair and equitable manner."

Women warned to avoid frats

MONTREAL (CUP)- While fraternities gear up to recruit new members, campus groups are warning women to stay away from frat house parties.

"Women are getting assaulted at frat parties," said Natalie Seltzer, a member of the Women's Defense Committee at Concordia University in Montreal.

Two cases of alleged rape at McGill frats have gone to trial in the last four years. In 1988, an alleged gang rape at Zeta Psi fraternity resulted in the acquittal of two fraternity members and one Concordia University student.

The woman later sued the three, and the case was settled out of court. The frat eventually had to sell their house, but have since bought another.

In 1990, another case of alleged rape occurred, this time at the Phi Delta Theta fraternity. A woman charged frat member Patrick Booth with raping her while she was drunk and throwing up in the bathroom. He was acquitted on the grounds that she had consented despite her protests.

Bruce Harling, the president of Zeta Psi last year, said that frat parties at McGill are no more dangerous for women than for men.

"People get drunk at parties and do dangerous things. But none of this (negative) behaviour is premeditated," he said.

Harling said he didn't see women coerced into sex at his fraternity. Another frat member said that women are responsible for their actions.

"You are responsible for your own actions if you drink too much," said Jason Merrick of Tau Kappa Epsilon at Concordia University. "No means no and the guy has to use discretion but the girls shouldn't get so drunk. Drinking does funny things to people."

Frat parties continue to have "women drink for free" or "two for one ladies nights," which encourages women to be out of control, and more vulnerable," Seltzer said. She suggests that to be safe women should not go to frat parties at all.

news

Big cheques for big wigs

by Gazette Staff

Once again, the federal government is making it harder for students to go to university. The 3% tax on student loans, which was to be removed last year, has been reinstated. Last February the Federal Government announced that the 3% tax was being eliminated, but apparently that was only a recommendation and not official policy. The Secretary of

They say the tax was designed to "encourage responsible borrowing". Studies conducted by the student loan administrators reveal that the majority of defaulters are in fact legitimate: the borrower, unable to find a job, is simply unable to make the payments. It still isn't clear how charging students a tax on their loan is going to reduce the number of defaults.

The government's failure to keep its promise is not going unnoticed by

fair chance to pay for their education."

Lynn Isemer, Chair of SUNS, says that the tax is even worse because it's targeting people who already struggle to pay for their education. "The students who can least afford to go to university are being taxed for going into debt".

The latest campaign being launched by CFS and SUNS is to protest the tax by presenting oversized cheques to banks with the slo-

DON'T TAX MY LOAN!	
Name _____	No: _____
Address _____	_____ 19 _____
Phone Number _____	
Pay to _____	
The Order of _____	\$ _____
	_____ /100 dollars
Banking Institution _____	
Address _____	
MEMO: <u>Student Loan Tax</u>	
ACCOUNT NUMBER: _____	

The Students Union of Nova Scotia — Students working for Change

State's Office is now requiring banks to collect the tax when they give out the loans to students.

This means that Nova Scotia students who receive the full loan amount of \$3600 have to pay back \$100.80 before they can receive their loan. When students asked why they were being taxed on money they don't even have, government officials who were in favour of the tax responded that its purpose was to reduce the number of loan defaults.

The Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), and the Students' Union of Nova Scotia (SUNS), will actively lobby against the tax until it is no longer collected.

According to Kelly Lamrock, Chair of CFS, "91% of students do not default on their loan; it's about time the government started concentrating on the 9% of students who can't afford to pay it back ... perhaps a more flexible loan repayment scheme would give students a

gan "Don't Tax My Loan" printed on them. These cheques are legal tender, and through processing them banks and the government will receive a symbol of students' frustration with the governments' broken promises.

The "Don't Tax My Loan" cheques are available at either the SUNS office, on the 3rd floor of the S.U.B., or by contacting the V.P. External of the Dal Student Union, Candida Rifkind, at 494-1106.

Chancellor offends graduates

by Dana MacKenzie

A number of graduands were upset with comments made at the 1992 Convocation proceedings of Wednesday, May 20, and Friday, May 22. Criticism has been levelled particularly at Dalhousie's Chancellor, Dr. Rueben Cohen, for his remarks to several graduands as they received their degrees. In an attempt to personalize the ceremony Cohen offended several graduands and their guests with comments that were deemed sexist, homophobic, and out of context in an academic ceremony.

Offended by the Chancellor's behaviour, the DSU Council passed motion on June 17, 1992 that articulates both the nature of the criticism and the DSU's position. The motion passed unanimously by Council, states that comments made by the Chancellor were of an "...inappropriately personal, gender-related, and sexual orientation nature..." and that his remarks constitute sexual harassment and an "...abuse of the power of the Chancellor's office." The motion points out several aspects of the

Chancellor's behaviour as particularly demeaning and offensive: the oldest graduand is alleged to have had her "reproductive abilities" pointed out to the audience, and several comments were reported to have referred to graduating women as physically appealing "girls". The Chancellor was further criticized for his failure to recognize the academic

"inappropriately personal, and gender-related"

achievements of women, and his comments validated only heterosexual relationships.

As a result of the motion, the DSU Executive held a series of meetings with the President's office during the summer. Asking that positive action be taken against sexual harassment, the Executive sought a written explanation and apology from the Chancellor. They were told by

the president that Cohen's behaviour had actually improved from former years and that the Chancellor's term was about to end soon. The meeting ended, however, with a promise from Dr. Clark to ask the Chancellor for a letter. The requested letter was received from Cohen and presented to Council at a summer meeting. Council member, Sandra MacDonald reports however, that several members of the Council felt the content and tone of the letter did not constitute an apology. MacDonald also expressed concern over the fact that Cohen's appearance at Dalhousie's Fall Convocation has not been cancelled.

The DSU Council and Executive are still concerned with the matter. In a motion passed on Sunday, September 13, the Council decided to provide interviews on the issue to both the Gazette and CKDU FM. The Council also resolved to hold an open meeting to discuss the DSU's role in the Convocation and the prevention of more "publicly exclusionary" Convocation exercises. The date and location of the meeting has yet to be announced.