Gateway refuses to publish Gazette

Last night the Gateway staff refused to print material submitted by the Students' Union Executive under the Gazette by-law.

The Gazette by-law, passed by Students' Council last week, states that one-half page of each issue of the Gateway is to be devotedto Students' Council material written by a Communications Director who has yet to be appointed by Council.

The Gateway staff had formerly said that they would have no part in the production of this material because they could see no reason to do the

councillors' work for them by typesetting and laying out this material. It was further stated that if the Students' Council wants their stuff printed, they should come down and to the work themselves as any other member of the voluntary staff must do. The Gateway staff feels the open door democratic principle is a tradition Gateway adhers to.

Dave Biltek, Students' Union Academic Vice-President said that since the Students' Union is legally the publisher of the paper and that Council has been mandated by the students to oversee the Gateway, matters are

now being taken into Students' Council's hands to have issues printed that Students' Council feels have been neglected by the paper.

However, Bob Beal, editor of the Gateway, justifies his position and reflects the attitude of the Gateway staff in genral that the paper is completely democratic and voluntary and to function in this tradition, the staff must solely determine the content. "The Gateway cannot and will not allow other organizations to dictate its content."

Beal can see no real reason why the Students' Council can't pay the regular advertising rates. If this were the case, Students' Council material would be included in the 33 per cent advertising content of the paper and this would not interfere with or cut out volunteered copy.

Students' Union Treasurer, Frans Slatter, has argued that if Council were to pay regular ad rates, 15% of this would go to Percy Wickman, the Gateway advertsing manager.

Beal said that the paper is a sensitive organization and that anyone who walks through the door and is prepared to work is a Gateway staff member. As there have been no complaints before now but rather individual good suggestion, this Students' Council ultimatum is somewhat out of line. He feels to obey this regulation would be to the decided detriment of volunteer staff member's efforts. Even as a paid employee of the Students' Union, Beal has said that he will stand behind his staff in whatever decision they reach.

Gateway staff member Rick Grant says that in the fifty years of the paper's operation the editorial policy was determined solely by the volunteer staff. He feels that it has become an "unalterable right under the principle of freedom of the press and the fourth estate."

Don Ryane, another Gateway contributor says that "the super legalistic approach to this entire crisis will not not water because there is no way of enforcing the

council's law."People will simply refuse to work on the paper if they feel that their right are being encroached upon.

Dawn Kunesky agrees: "In a voluntary series of organizations the paper is making a stand on a principle hitherto unthreatened, without benefit of an ironclad law to back themselves up. The understanding of this principle will require flexibility on both sides rather than the armed camp techniques that seem to be evolving."

Commission may investigate Gateway

SASKATOON (CUP)- A meeting of representitives of university newpapers from across Western Canada has condemned the University of Alberta Students' Union for violation of journalistic freedom and has recommended the calling of a commission to investigate the situation.

A motion, passed at the western regional conference of Canadian University Press held here over the weekend, stated that unless the Students' Union withdraws its demand that it be given a half-page in each issue of the Gateway, within a week, that a national investigation commission be convened on the U of A campus.

The notion, presented by the university newspapers from the University of Saskatchewan, Regina Campus and the University of Calgary was passed

unanimously. The Gateway abstained from the vote.

The motion said that the attempt of the Students' Union to force the U of A paper to run a half page of council news in every issue limited the freedom of the press and violated the Canadian University Press Statement of Principles.

If the Students' Union does not rescind the policy of intervention this week, the commission would be convened to hear testimony from all sides in the dispute and make a decision on the propriety of the Unions' dealings with the Gateway.

Such a commission would be composed of one member of the National Office of CUP from Ottawa, one representative of the professional press and one staff member of a university newspaper in Western Canada.

GFC requires nominations for vacancies

A recent GFC meeting approved recommendations of the Nominating Committee that committee vacancies on GFC be publicized. The aim is to enable interested students and staff to suggest manes for consideration for election to the committees.

At present, there are 31 standing committees working with GFC. The duties of the commitee members include attending meetings, gathering information, expressing views of the b bodies they represent and making reports and recommendations to FGC. There is now one unspecified vacancy on the Radio and TV Commitee and an undecided number of vacancies on the Advisory Ad Hoc Commitee. Six vacancies exist on the Housing and Food Commitee, four for undergrads and two for grads; one undergrad vacancy on the Campus Development Commitee (PUB in SUB?); one undergrad vacancy on the Commitee to Investigate Teaching; on e grad vacancy on the Calendars Commitee and one grad vacancy on the Library Commitee.

So all you "keeners" who want a say in policy making, now is the time to get involved. You can suggest your own name or the name of someone who you think will do a good job. Suggestions are only treated as such and will have to be reviewed by the Nominating Commitee. Submitting a name does not place the person under obligation as his consent will be required before any decision is made.

Those interested may contact Miss Pat Howlett, 432-4965, Room 200, University Hall.



OCTOBERFEST IS COMING OCTOBER 19

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