

There is no such thing as gravity...

The Gateway

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...the earth sucks.

Anonymous

Minister ticks off SU exec

by Greg Halinda

SU President Dave Oginski thinks the minister of advanced education is ripping off students with the new student loan remission rate scheme.

The minister, Dave Russell, is not ready to put the \$15 million saved through the new 40 percent remission rate back into the Students' Finance Board.

Oginski and SU VP External Michael Hunter told the press Monday morning that they want a commitment from Russell to use the savings to help students who needed it, and not as a budget reduction to SFB.

The SU presented their remission proposal to Russell last July. It called for a straight 40 percent remission rate. The first \$1000 of each year's loan would be the responsibility of the student, that is, exempt from remission.

The proposal included putting the money saved on these exemptions back into additional grants for students, and called for students to provide better documentation with their loan application.

This would save the SFB additional money by cutting down on fraudulent loan requests.

Dave Russell announced the revised remission program two weeks

ago. He will not put SFB savings back into grants. Michael Hunter is furious.

"What we have got so far is a straight ripoff," Hunter said at the press conference in SUB. "Why can't we put together a proposal without being taken to the cleaners?"

Oginski is worried that the money saved, estimated at \$12-15 million, will be lost if it's not given back to the students.

"The students in Alberta tried to work in good faith with the government. Then what happens? We're shot down," said Oginski. "I think the government should re-look at the proposal."

The two SU execs are worried that being reasonable will no longer work.

"Maybe we should march, maybe that's the only thing they'll understand," said Oginski.

In the meantime, Hunter will try to set up a committee with Russell that will "keep track of how much money is being saved, and identify groups that need the funds."

Such a committee would have members representing the colleges and universities of Alberta, as well as SFB and the provincial government.



Former provincial treasurer Lou Hyndman presented university president Myer Horowitz with a \$70,000 cheque last Friday to kick off the Lou Hyndman Edmonton Glenora Scholarship. Two new awards per year of \$4,000 each will be available to students in Law, History, Political Science, Education, Business, and Economics.

photo Greg Halinda

Deadline discourages native enrolment

OTTAWA (CUP) — Native students are frustrated by a decision of the federal Department of Indian and Northern Affairs which could discourage hundreds of native students from pursuing academic careers.

Ron Crowe of the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College (SIFC) Students' Association says an arbitrary deadline for application for proof of enrollment constitutes "a denial of treaty rights for Indian post-secondary education."

To be eligible for a network of Indian and Northern Affairs assistance, students were required to apply to the department by Nov. 1, 1986, but SIFC registration did not begin until Nov. 17.

Students had for years been asked to apply for assistance on time, Crowe advised students to drop out or risk incurring massive personal debts.

"They are not fully eligible for student loans, mostly because of what the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs can give them," Crowe explained.

Emphasizing a possible constitutional breach, the district chief consul Touchwood File Hill at Qu'Appelle is launching court action against the government on

behalf of 39 students caught in the red tape.

The Touchwood group will ask the government to change the deadline.

Crowe said the issue is especially contentious in Saskatchewan because it has the country's highest concentration of native students.

Council motion to go to DIE Board

by John Watson

Two conflicting policies regarding tuition fee increases are now on the books of the Students' Union.

Last week, Students' Council passed a motion that supported small tuition fee increases.

A policy that has been on the books since April of 1983 supports static tuition fees.

The policy reads "The Students' Union shall continue its policy of opposition to cutbacks in education and opposition to increases in tuition fees."

The Students' Union appeals board, DIE board, has been asked to declare the new policy 'null and void'.

Dave Oginski, SU president, was taken by surprise when asked about

He estimated the deadline affects 100 Saskatchewan natives directly, and hundreds outside the province who wish to attend SIFC.

Despite support from the University of Regina, its students' union, the Federation of Saskatchewan Native Indians and the Assembly of First Nations, the fed-

eral government has been mum.

"The Assembly of First Nations has been trying to contact Bill McKnight (the federal minister responsible for native affairs and a Saskatchewan MP)," said Canadian Federation of Students organizer Derron Hoover.

"There was a demonstration Jan.

7 at the regional office of Northern Affairs in Regina, but he's acting as if nothing's wrong," said Hoover.

Crowe said SIFC will stop appealing to the regional office.

"Dealing with the regional office is fruitless because it's a national problem," said Crowe.

the old policy. He was unwilling to make a comment before press time.

Michael Hunter, VP External, said the only difference was with respect to tuition fees.

"Half of this we agree with," Hunter said, "the only difference is the increase in tuition fees."

Both Hunter and ACT chairman Martin Levenson were surprised the other was not aware of the policy.

"I'm surprised some of the members of ACT didn't have this (policy) in their hot little hands at council," said Hunter.

Levenson said it was Oginski and Hunter as originators of the recent motion who should have been aware of the policy.

"It's typical of the somewhat shoddy background work done in

introducing a new policy," said Levenson, "I would hope before anybody goes into quote negotiations they had done better homework than that."

A DIE board decision can be expected in a few days.

According to Hunter, if DIE board rescinds the new policy, council will have to deal with the same subject again.

"It's repeating the process," he said.

Hospital chief to resign

by Cam McCulloch

Provincial government funding cutbacks continue to cause turmoil at the University of Alberta.

Last Friday, Donald Cramp resigned as president of the U of A Hospitals.

Edge King, Hospitals board chairman, suggested there may have been a personality conflict between Cramp and other board members.

However, earlier this month, Cramp had expressed shock that the new Walter C. MacKenzie Health Sciences Center at the U of A Hospital would be faced with budget cuts so soon after its opening.

The U of A Hospitals budget was cut from an expected \$200 million to about \$189 million.

The cutbacks at the Health Sc-

iences Center are expected to increase waiting times for procedures such as elective surgery.

Hospitals Minister Marv Moore was not available for comment.

Budget cutbacks have also forced the downtown Edmonton General Hospital to close two active-care patient wards as of April 1.

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