

Literacy, quotas and smoking

by Randy Read

General Faculties Council (GFC) dealt with business Monday ranging from student literacy to smoking at meetings.

The GFC Ad Hoc Committee to Investigate Undergraduate Writing Skills recommended that certain standards of grammar and composition be taught in schools and be required of students. These recommendations were referred to the Faculty of Education for comment.

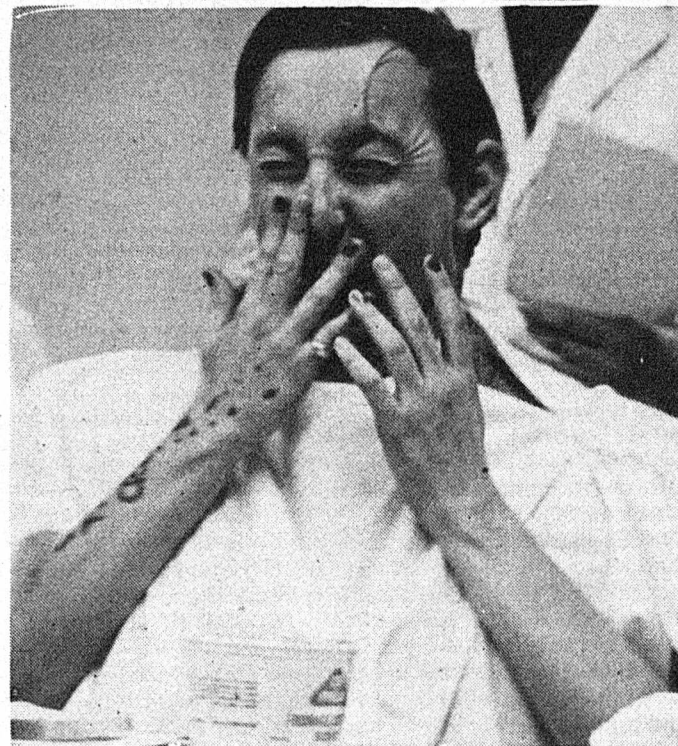
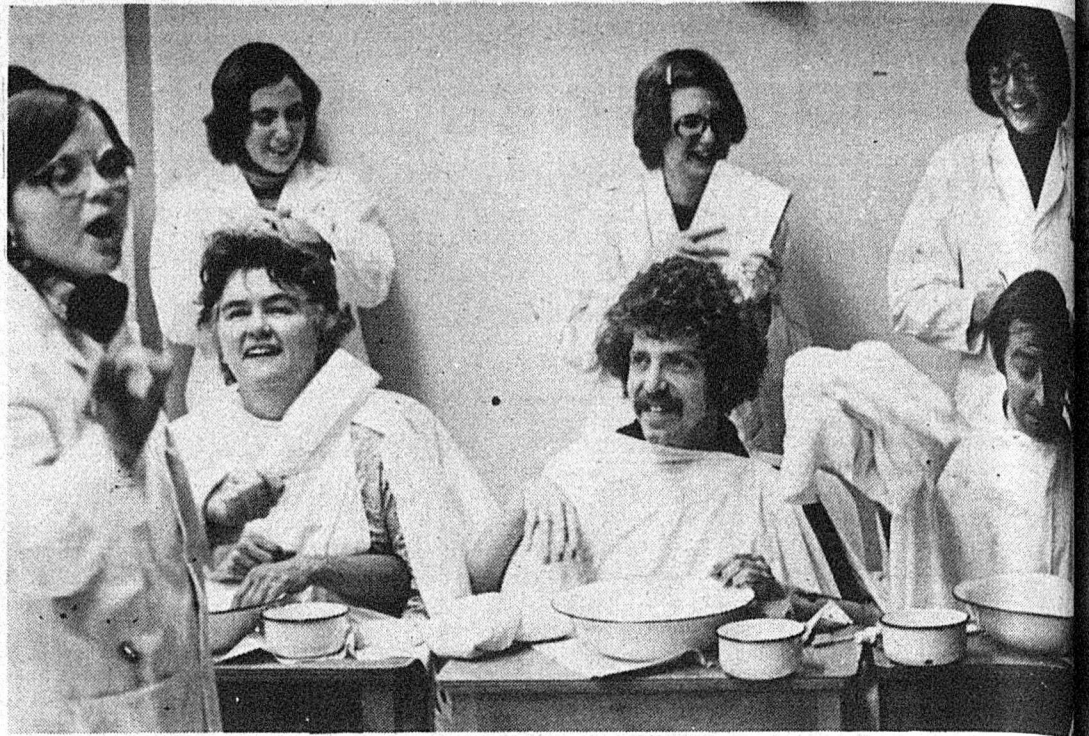
GFC agreed with the Writing Skills Committee's proposal to ask the Alberta School Trustees' Association to increase preparation and grading time for English teachers.

It was decided that faculties

can now set attendance requirements for granting audit privileges. Previously, there were no attendance requirements for either auditors or regular students. Only auditors are affected by this ruling.

GFC gave retroactive approval to a Faculty of Medicine request that the admission requirement for medicine be raised from a grade point average (GPA) of 6.0 to a more realistic 6.5. Last year, no one was admitted to medicine with a GPA under 7.5.

It was decided that separate areas for smokers and non-smokers will be set up in GFC council chambers. A suggestion that there be a separate area for those susceptible to perfume was given only minor consideration.



You think you have trouble getting together in the morning?

Pictured above are the members of the winning skit from Rehab. Med. Christmas party last Friday. Members concealed behind each seated person are two people co-ordinating one arm each to perform various daily functions. The skit was put on by the 3rd year physiotherapists.

Left: Barney Pickles, chairman of Physiotherapy.

Profs aid plagiarism

TORONTO(CUP) - Ever wonder where those essay-writing services, which sell papers to students at \$20 to \$100 a shot get their material?

A University of Toronto student has accused professors of partly aiding the dealers by leaving marked essays and term papers in the halls outside their offices.

Irene Wintersinger, president of the undergraduate full-time adult students' association says the practice encourages plagiarism because it enables

students and term paper dealers to pick out the best papers.

She has had complaints about stolen essays and says it hurts students because they aren't able to read professors' remarks.

However academic affairs chair Bill Dunphy said many departments have rules that prohibit leaving essays in halls. An economics professor commented that plagiarism is ultimately the students' problem and depends on what they want to get out of university education.

Feeding at the trough

NEW YORK (LNS-CUP) - Nutrition and food science professors at prominent universities are "feeding at the company trough" says the Center for Science in the Public Interest in a recent report.

Professors at Harvard, the Universities of Wisconsin, Iowa and Massachusetts, and many other schools, work closely and often secretly with food and chemical companies. They sit on the boards of directors, act as consultants, testify on behalf of industry at Congressional hearings and receive industry research grants says the report.

Professors with corporate links also serve as "university

representatives on Federal advisory committees. "Eminent nutritionists have traded their independence for the food industry's favors," charged congressional representative Benjamin Rosenthal, co-sponsor of the report.

"The heightened consumer awareness in recent years has led press and public alike to rely on the academic community for objective analyses of controversial consumer problems. Unfortunately many professors have developed extensive ties with the same industries of which they are asked to be objective analysts."

One look at Harvard's Department of Nutrition supports

Rosenthal's charge. The chairman, Dr. Frederick Stare, on the board of directors of Continental Can Co., a major packaging firm, and he testified in recent years at Congressional and Federal Food and Drug Administration hearings on behalf of Kellogg, Nabisco, National Milk, and Cereal Institute (sugar) corporation, Beecham and the Sugar Association, and Pharmaceutical Association.

The Harvard department received funds from Amstar (sugar) corporation, Borden Foods, Coca-Cola, Kellogg, Oscar Meyer and many other companies. Industry donations totalled about \$2 million from 1971 to 1974.

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