

National Universities Week show-and-tell

TORONTO (CUP)—Question: What do 1,300 students at a lecture, lab equipment from 1908 and long lines at library photocopyers have in common?

Answer: They're all symptoms of government underfunding of universities.

That was the message delivered to politicians, reporters and students during a "cutbacks tour" of the University of Toronto last week.

The tour, organized by a campus coalition against underfunding, was held in response to

National Universities Week activities. While administrators across Canada were proudly telling the public of contributions their institutions make to society, other groups were showing a different view.

The U of T coalition took about 30 people—including Ontario Liberal and New Democratic parties' education critics—to the university Convocation Hall where 1,300 first year students listened to a single professor with a microphone.

Later, the contingent visited a

mechanical engineering facility which contains demonstration equipment dating from 1908, a library with so few books to lend, students must wait in long lines to photocopy the necessary pages and a program for disadvantaged students including many single mothers, that may be cut if underfunding continues.

At a news conference after the tour, politicians and students reiterated their demand that provincial and federal governments provide more money for post-

secondary education.

Liberal critic Sean Conway (Renfrew North) called on the Ontario government to initiate a major debate on education in the province. He said the Conservative administration at Queen's Park should redirect money from other areas to pay for the maintenance of the post-secondary system.

The Ontario government spent \$650 million to buy the Suncor oil company and spends millions annually on advertising campaigns, but Conway said some of this money could have been redirected to education.

"I would suggest that young people on unemployment insurance would rather be in school," Conway told reporters. He also accused the government of adopting an "elitist attitude" to university accessibility.

NDP education critic Richard Allen (Hamilton West) said the government spends \$1,500 less per student each year than the

other nine provinces.

He said bringing Ontario Universities back to nation-wide standards would require \$37 million for new facilities, Allen said.

And MP Dan Heap (NDP—Spadina) said the federal government should not have cut \$1.3 billion in transfer payments to the provinces.

"Ottawa should put money back into education instead of draining it off into short-term job creation projects," Heap said.

Cathy Laurier, president of U of T's graduate student union, spoke on behalf of the organizing coalition, which also included the University of Toronto Staff Association and the Canadian Union of Public Employees local 1230.

With no long term policy on post secondary education, colleges and universities face uncertain futures Laurier said. "The minister of colleges and universities fiddles while our universities burn."

Disarmament Week in Halifax

by Julie Rosenberg

Many Nova Scotians are expected to attend a Halifax march and rally for Peace on Oct. 22, kicking off United Nations Disarmament Week.

The march and rally are being organized by the Coalition Against Nuclear War, an umbrella organization of about 40 Nova Scotian groups opposing nuclear arms.

The Halifax event will be one of many on that day throughout Canada and the World. Oct. 22 has been set by the U.N. as the International Day of Protest for disarmament and peace. Many peace activists in the Coalition see the march and rally as a way to bring the Canadian peace movement into sharper focus.

Groups as diverse as Project Ploughshares, Voice of Women, Veterans for Multilateral Disarmament, The Sisters of Charity and Physicians for Social Responsibility will take part in the coming rally.

"The peace movement has the support of the churches, academics, doctors and even people in the military," says Voice of Women spokesperson Muriel Duckworth. "It's a very diverse group of all ages, occupations and social positions."

"Peace-ing the Future Together" is the theme of this year's Disarmament Week (Oct. 22-31) in Nova Scotia.

"With all the despair in the world over the major escalation of the arms race, we felt Disarmament Week should express feelings of hope," said Ken Persau, co-ordinator of the Coalition Against Nuclear War. "We want to demonstrate we are capable of piecing together a future of justice, fellowship and understanding," he said.

Persau and Duckworth are approaching Disarmament Week with confidence and expect more than 3,000 to attend the Oct. 22 march and rally.

Activities on Saturday begin at 11 am with a "peace-fare" at Olympic Gardens where displays and information tables will be set up to emphasize the work each group is doing towards nuclear disarmament and peace.

Dalhousie faculty, staff and



students are expected to meet in front of the Student Union Building at 11:30 am on Oct. 22. From there, marchers will proceed to the main rally en masse, said John Figg, Dal Disarmament Society President.

Marchers will assemble at the Halifax Commons at 12:30 and walk through the city centre,

returning for a rally with speeches and music until 2:30. A Peace concert at Olympic Gardens is scheduled afterward.

The purpose of the march and peace-fare is to open people's eyes to the fact that we are no longer a peace-keeping nation.

"Although the Cruise missile to be tested in Canada will be unarmed, the symbolic value of the testing is enormous," said Duckworth.

Late 1982 Gallup polls show most Canadians believe the likelihood of nuclear war is increasing, but coalition members such as Duckworth fear the majority don't realize the extent to which Canada is involved.

"By helping stop the development of the cruise missile, Canadians have a unique opportunity to contribute to international disarmament," she said.

"It would also show that Canadians don't want the government to play politics with the human race."

U de M executive impeached

MONCTON (CUP)—Students at Université de Moncton impeached two of four executive members of their students' federation during an emotion-packed meeting Oct. 3.

President Pierre Landry and finance commissioner Peter Young found themselves without jobs after a five hour special assembly involving more than 250 students.

Aubrey Cormier, editor of the student newspaper *Le Front*, says they signed the deal without consulting anyone.

"They gave up rights to the bar to the administration without going to a general assembly—the shareholders of the pub," Cormier said.

Landry and Young signed a deal with the university administration over the summer to share the administration of the student pub, Le Kacho.

The deal signed over the summer gives the university administration six of 15 seats on

the pub's board of directors. The university also agreed to \$140,000 in renovations to the club.

A majority of students present at the meeting voted Landry and Young out of office and called on the students' federation to renegotiate the deal with the university.

Cormier said the two had given the administration seats on the board to secure the club's liquor license which was under review over alleged violations of the New Brunswick liquor control act.

In 1980 the license of Le Kacho was suspended for six months by the liquor commission over similar violations.

Cormier said students were capable of dealing with the liquor commission in the past, and could do it again without involving the administration.

Elections for a new president and finance commissioner will take place in early November.

More reactions

by David Olie

"One day an American administration will feel safe in forcing concessions from Israel...Without our support I feel Israel may be entering a new and difficult era," said Erol Araf, invited to speak at Shaar Shalom Synagogue on Oxford Street by the Atlantic Jewish Council. Araf is National Public Affairs Director for State of Israel Bonds. The meeting, held last Thursday, October 6, was attended by about 30 people.

Araf posited the existence of what he called the "international consensus on the Middle East." This consensus of world opinion is shifting towards ideas that he feels are contrary to Israel's interests, such as the need for a Palestinian homeland, and the undesirability of Israeli settlements on the occupied West Bank. These constitute major shifts of opinion among North Americans and some Europeans, despite the fact that the United Nations have been calling for such moves for many years, said

Araf.

Araf blamed the shifts on two factors: increasing influence by the Arab states in world affairs, and a growing anti-Israeli bias on the part of the world media.

In support of his contention of pro-Arab media coverage, Mr. Araf presented a film called "NBC in Lebanon - A Study of Media Misrepresentation." This one-hour, independently produced TV documentary illustrated, through use of selected footage and general statistics, how news and commentary about the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon was slanted in favor of the PLO. The film spoke out against what it called "advocacy journalism" and implied a general conspiracy of misinformation against Israel, at times saying NBC had lied to its viewers.

The film did not deal with events in Lebanon after August, 1982, specifically the massacres at the Sabra and Shatila Palestinian refugee camps. The presentation was well received by most of the audience.

Right wing paper at McGill

MONTREAL (CUP)—A right-wing newspaper dedicated to defending "McGill's ancient traditions" has appeared at McGill University to counter the McGill Daily's "self-indulgent politics."

Linda Frum, a third year arts student (and daughter of broadcaster Barbara Frum), produced and distributed 6,500 copies of the McGill University Magazine in September.

The cover of the first issue shows a reproduction of the McGill Daily's Feb. 14 special lesbian and gay issue, with the words, "What are you going to do about it?" printed over.

Frum said the newspaper was

funded by "private donors" though the support of the Bank of Montreal is acknowledged in the paper.

The Bank of Montreal cannot buy advertising space in the McGill Daily and many other student newspapers, because of the newspapers' policy of boycotting ads from banks that loan to the racist regime in South Africa.

Asked if she knew why other student papers boycott the Bank of Montreal, Frum said, "I don't know and I don't care."

Bank officials would not say how much money they provided for the publication.