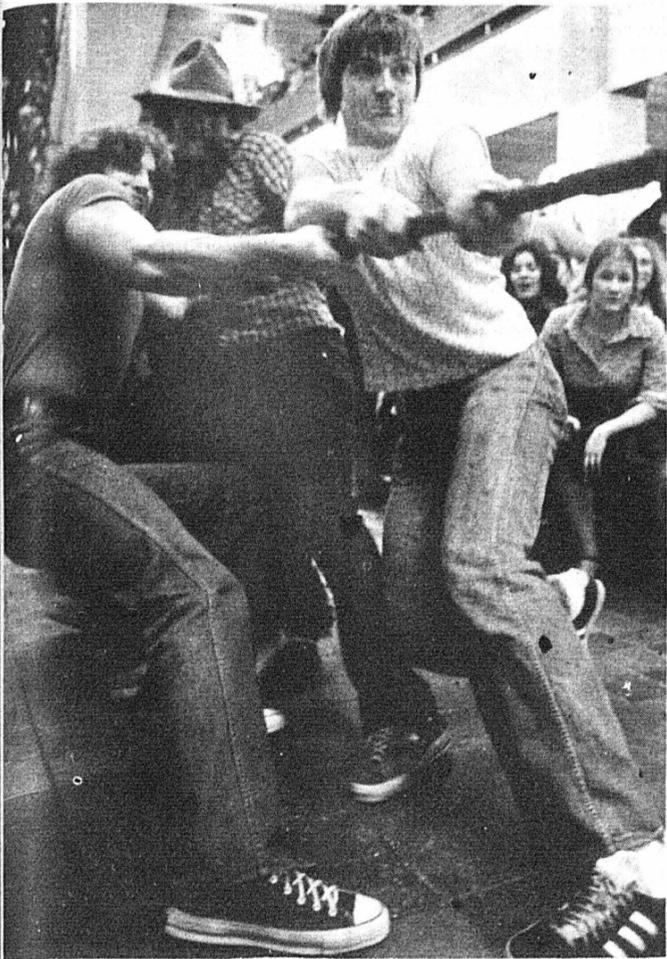


'Inferiority complex' would be a fine thing

The Gateway

if the right ones had it.

VOL. LXVI, NO. 47. THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA, EDMONTON, CANADA. THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1976. SIXTEEN PAGES.



Grunt! Strain! Puff! This sure is harder than stacking bales ever was! If you think this aggie is blue in the face now, just wait till you see him in his glory at at Bar None "dance" Saturday night.

Photo Greg Neiman.

Lister Hall may get...

Hit with increase

by Kevin Gillese

A recommendation to raise rents in the Lister Hall Complex was passed yesterday by the Housing and Food Services Committee of General Faculties Council (GFC).

The recommendation asks that rents be raised 15% to \$175.81 per month from the \$152.38 per month paid by residents this year. The total increase would total \$188 per year for residents.

The news was received by *The Gateway* after the committee meeting as chairman of the committee and University vp (finance and administration) Lorne Leitch, said he felt the presence of *The Gateway* would be "inappropriate" at the meeting.

In later comments, he said he knew the matters to be discussed were to do with rental increases and it was "unwise to allow media access to recommendations made by a committee until the Board of Governor's brought the discussion up and made a policy decision."

Nonetheless, vocal student protest from Gene Borys, SU vp (finance and administration)

and outgoing Lister Hall Coordinator Ian Robinson, have brought discussions of the increase into the public eye.

"I think the university administration is taking a naive approach to the entire affair," said Borys in a *Gateway* interview. "They act like ostriches putting their heads in the sand. This year they are nearly 300 occupants short in the Lister Hall Complex; last year they were 250 short. Occupancy has been declining over the years, yet they say they'll up the rates 15% - a full 5% over the rental guidelines handed down by the provincial government - and will still fill it next year. Are they kidding?"

Leitch said the committee reached their decision because they had to fulfill the B of G mandate calling for break-even budgeting in university housing and food service operations.

"Also," said Leitch, "the committee felt that with improved services, the residents would accept increased rents. We have known for some time that the services offered to the Lister Hall people were not the best - so we've decided to do something about them."

"We are prepared to improve the meal plan - adding eggs at breakfast, adding a fresh salad at lunch, offering once a month full brunch on Saturdays, and so on. We will refurbish the Complex during the summer months. As well, we have the students' agreement to tighten upon their own regulations concerning noise levels and so forth. We know that our price - with the increase - will not be out of line with other university residences. As long as our services are comparable, I think we can fill it."

Lister Complex Coordinator Ian Robinson doesn't think so. "I've got a feeling," he told *Gateway*. "They're not going to get very many students over there when they ask for that sort of rent. I agree with Gene Borys - maybe the building can't break even and maybe the university is going to have to live with that. They'll have to accept it for a while, in any case, or else they'll just keep on increasing the deficit." Robinson said he was happy to see the improvements in food services and to the buildings of the Lister Complex. "It's about time. They're much needed and it's strange that they coincide with a rental increase."

Gene Borys said he felt one of the budget areas in which the university was being unfair to residence students was in depreciation costs. "The university includes \$27,000 for depreciation budgeting on equipment in the Lister Complex but never includes depreciation budgeting on equipment used in the academic environment such as laboratory gear and so on. Their argument - that monies provided for academic

more LISTER HALL, see page 2

Foreign enrolment cut back

HAMILTON (CUP) - Foreign student enrolment at McMaster University will be limited for the 1976-77 academic year, according to a recent senate decision here.

Foreign student enrolment will be limited to 5 percent of the total first year program enrolment. A faculty, however, may accept 10 percent if its maximum enrolment figures are not reached.

A.L. Darling, McMaster registrar, chooses to call the maximum numbers "targets" rather than limits or ceilings. While he says that the restrictions will only be placed on first year courses, Darling feels that they will "essentially control numbers from that point on."

It is expected that the limitations will have the greatest effects on the Faculty of Engineering, where twenty percent of the students are classed as foreign students.

Surplus predicted

A preliminary budget expected to go before the Board of Governors in April projects a \$1.5 million operating surplus for this academic year though university vp (finance and administration) Lorne Leitch doesn't link it to the tuition fee increase issue.

"You're anticipating a bit," he told *The Gateway* in an interview Monday.

He said the university generally plans its operation to break even at budget time, "though we almost never overspend." Therefore, in the areas the university can control itself budget-wise, a small surplus will accrue.

Regarding tuition increases when the university accrues a surplus, Leitch says that increasing tuitions will still only keep things at par for next year.

Workload problems for academic staff is still expected

to remain the way it is.

Part of a surplus is contained in a special grant the province gave the university in October. As the result of lobbying by all the universities, the U of A's share came to \$1.5 million.

Leitch said the Board probably intends to keep the surplus intact, although he did suggest some of it could be used to help solve the workload problem.

"Personally I think the \$1.5 million surplus is too low," said Leitch, "it's less than 2% of the budget, and we should have a greater cushion than that."

Could the university use this "cushion" to continue operating without needing tuition increases?

Leitch says it couldn't. To do that, the university would have to pare back budgets that are already stretched thin.



This sad scene is twice as sad as you may realize. As of March 22, Cliff's Towing is increasing its campus tow rates from \$7.50 to \$13.00 (plus a \$2.00 storage charge "for each day or part thereof").

Inefficient money management in the SU

by Greg Neiman

A much needed new accounting system is on the way for the Students' Union.

Haskins and Sells, an accounting consulting firm, has been hired to evaluate the SU's accounting system, at a cost of \$5,500.

At the advice of vp (finance and administration) Gene Borys and general manager Harry Goldberg, council approved the expenditure at its Monday meeting. The move is aimed at reducing inefficiencies in the present fiscal system that were seen as costing the SU money.

Between twelve and thirteen thousand dollars was ac-

crued to the Students' Union in interest income this year, but Borys said that an efficient system would bring that figure as high as \$30 thousand next year.

In an interview, he said the system had not been revamped where necessary as the SU grew. "The system is the same as it was six years ago, and all that was done when they added HUB, and the record store, and the box office, etc., was that they just kept adding to it."

Goldberg outlined the aims of the study to Council as being:

- to define the information required for efficient control of the union's finances;

- to evaluate the reporting and utilizing system required to provide the desired information;

- to investigate the viability of utilizing some form of mechanical accounting and evaluate alternative methods;

- to evaluate the staffing requirements and organization of the administrative office in the light of any proposed system developments.

At present, updating of individual budgets is only done three times a year, thus it is difficult to appraise the development of individual budgets, said Borys.

"You can't see right away if

a category in any certain budget is being overspent, for example," he said.

"In an organisation that has grown to a total cash flow of \$4 million, we need a new system geared for our environment."

"Right now we're in a slow period in our accounting, and we're in a position where we can look at a change," he said.

Suggestions to change the system began as much as two years ago, but with changes in staff, the union decided to wait until new administrative staff could become more familiar with the union's finances.

The study is expected to be completed in 2 - 4 weeks.