

Cross Canada Campus

SFU students sell out to cops

BURNABY

Wheeling and dealing between the lawyers for the 114 people arrested Nov. 23 at Simon Fraser University and British Columbia officials including attorney-general Les Peterson has brought results — the charges have been lowered.

When more than half of those arrested appeared in court Feb. 6 to face charges of 'obstructing private property by taking part in a three day occupation of the SFU administration building, they learned the attorney-general's department had agreed to reduce the charges to "creating a disturbance". There was one condition — those charged had to agree to plead guilty.

The original charge, an indictable offence with a criminal record, carried a maximum penalty of five years in jail or a \$10,000 fine. The new charge carries a maximum penalty of six months in jail or a \$500 fine. People charged with an indictable offence cannot run for public office, become lawyers or be bonded.

The remaining batch of people were processed through the courts on Friday.

Of the 114 charged, all but six pleaded guilty. The six intend to plead not guilty to avoid setting a precedent for future confrontation with administrators on Canadian campuses. They have been remanded without plea to early Feb. 21 for trial.

UNB bungling causes censure proposal

OTTAWA

The executive of the Canadian Association of University Teachers has proposed that the organization censure the University of New Brunswick because of its mishandling of the Strax affair.

In a press release issued Monday, the CAUT executive said it will convene a full council meeting of CAUT on March 15 to discuss the censure.

The statement says CAUT has "repeatedly protested against the action of the University President (or UNB) and Board in suspending Professor (Norman) Strax without any charges or any provision for an adjudicative hearing". CAUT has asked the UNB board of governors for an adjudicative hearing and the board has not complied.

The censure, should it be imposed, will be the second such action taken in the 19-year-old history of the teachers' association. The first was imposed on Simon Fraser University last Spring for administrative interference in academic affairs. That censure was lifted this fall.

Censure by CAUT means that all members of the association are advised not to accept teaching job appointments at the school and that anyone applying for a job at the school will be advised of the reason for censure.

CUS: you win some and lose some

OTTAWA

The Canadian Union of Students came out on the losing end of a slate of three referendums Feb. 6 — it lost two and won one.

Queen's University voted to withdraw, The University of Saskatchewan at Saskatoon decided to stay out and Glendon College opted to stay in the national union.

The Thursday results drop the union's membership to 22 schools. Since the first of the year, one school (Mount St. Vincent) has joined, two (King's College and Glendon) voted to stay in, four (St. Mary's Winnipeg, Waterloo, Queen's) have pulled out and four (Southern Alberta Institute of Technology, Victoria, Alberta, Saskatchewan) stayed out.

No end in sight for Regina crisis

REGINA

The fee collection crisis that has been tying up students here for over a month has rapidly developed into a massive educational campaign to teach students and the general community about the nature of the university and its relation to society.

Though negotiations are no further ahead than they were a week ago well over 2,000 students (of 4,000) are actively involved in the issue.

A teach-in began last Monday to discuss the crisis has developed into an ongoing debate not only over the fee issue, but also over the development of policies and strategies which students and their union can use to inform the people of Saskatchewan on the question of university financing and academic policy-making.

On Tuesday of last week, while the deputy premier, D.G. Stuary delivered Ross Thatcher's blathering attack on "activists, anarchists and hippies", students at Regina held a three hour meeting to discuss negotiations, the teach-in and a program for public education.

For the remainder of the week, students were involved in daily, well-attended meetings which met to draw up pamphlets and other literature to be distributed throughout the week in downtown stores suburban shopping centres, and local high schools.

The campus now has a two-page daily newspaper called "The Union" which is distributed on campus and in the city.

200 level polisci courses

Decisions delayed over course changes

The recently restructured Poli-Sci Departmental Committee, in its first meeting since the faculty approved student representation, has delayed any final decisions concerning the restructuring and content of 200 level courses for next year for a month.

Student Union representatives argued that any decisions taken on course restructuring would be meaningless under the new system, unless student opinion was presented and considered by the various committees concerned. Faculty agreed with this line of argument.

Student Union chairman, Paul Harris said: "Although faculty had been ready to proceed with the matter at the monthly departmental meeting, the question was referred to the Undergraduate Studies sub-committee. This was done in order that student opinion be brought to bear on the final decision." The Undergraduate Studies committee met the next day, hearing presentations from the faculty. Eight faculty and three graduate students turned out to air their views. The Student Union was represented by Graham White and Dave Allison.

White said: "The final forms of 201 and other 200 level courses, will depend to a great extent on the students themselves." It's been suggested to the committee that 202 in its present form be moved up to 302, with tutorials as an optional feature. A new 202 concentrating more on contemporary thought would be introduced with more flair and "razzle dazzle".

Poli-Sci Student Reps Meet

There will be a meeting at 4:30 today (Thursday) in Founders Social and Debates. Class reps will discuss all relevant problems and ideas regarding poli-sci at York. Committee reports will be presented.

The faculty proposed that the present 201 course be made into a general introduction to political science.

Allison said that no final decisions, concerning recommendations were made at the meeting but "decisions concerning the nature and content of the 200 level courses will have to be made within three weeks."

Students should make their views known to student Union reps in their individual classes, said White and these reps will then present their class views to the sub-committee.

"If there are individual students who would like to be heard, then advise their class reps who will know when the next meeting will be held."

Both White and Allison stressed "that it cannot be emphasized too strongly how much depends on feedback from the students. The sub-committee has indicated that it is anxious to get student opinion and will exert every effort to incorporate student ideas into its recommendations." "We both hope that students will give this matter serious consideration. It may not be a very exciting topic, but the future of the Student Union really depends on student response to this issue" said White.

If response is weak, stated Allison, any future stands that the Union may take will be greatly undermined.

"If however response is strong, the Union will be in a strong position to insist that its demands be met. This is really the acid test."

If the Student Union is to democratize the decisional process within the department, student support for their reps will have to be strong. Issues can only be created if the students articulate their ideas and create demands that can be introduced into the system. The big question stated White, on the minds of both the faculty and the department is whether the students will respond to the need for their ideas and advice.

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE UNIVERSITY

Students in the Faculty of Arts and Science who intend to withdraw from an extra course or from the University should note the following regulation of the Council of the Faculty:

STUDENTS WHO, UNLESS SPECIALLY PERMITTED OR REQUIRED, WITHDRAW FROM A COURSE AFTER FEBRUARY 15, WILL BE GIVEN AN F GRADE IN THAT COURSE. UP TO THAT DATE, THEY MAY, ON FORMAL WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE OFFICE OF STUDENT PROGRAMMES, WITHDRAW FROM THE UNIVERSITY OR FROM A COURSE IN EXCESS OF THE NORMAL PRESCRIPTION WITHOUT HAVING A GRADE ENTERED INTO THEIR RECORD.

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