

the Gateway

EDITORIAL

After the slander

It will distress some people that last week's firing of Students' Union general manager George Ivanisko is expected not to have a major effect on the every day operation of the Students' Union.

For some, this fact would vindicate the former general manager who in their view spent four months trying to turn around the indebted Students' Union organization. His efforts, it follows, were thwarted by an old boy network of SU area managers in concert with the student executive, all conspiring against Ivanisko's shake-up for fear of being exposed as incompetent and corrupt.

No doubt there is some truth in all of this, just as there is no doubt some truth in the indictment of Ivanisko that he was sometimes insubordinate, that he tried to move too fast, that he politicked over the heads and behind the backs of the executive, and that he showed surprisingly little by way of personal skills — a reflection of which was his inability to work with other area managers and employees.

Everyone seems to accept that Ivanisko was not the right man for the job. But still, I cannot understand (and cannot repeat for fear of legal consequence) the foul aspersions heaped on the former business manager by members of the executive and management. It has been vilification of a high order, and even allowing for Ivanisko's apparent failures, this widespread damnation of a man barely four months at work suggests some measure of inflexibility and fault on both sides.

An unkind question comes to mind: if Ivanisko was so bad, why did it take the student executive even four months to fire him? Yet, the executive says it would have preferred to keep Ivanisko on for at least two more weeks, enabling them to find a more convenient time for his dismissal. They were 'inconvenienced' therefore by Ivanisko's insisting that he be allowed to air his complaints about the executive and management at Council last Tuesday night. This, it seems, was the final act of treachery: Ivanisko was fired the day before that meeting, specifically to prevent him bringing forward his motion for discussion.

Council was persuaded, after five hours' debate, to accept the executive dismissal. Tonight, however, new questions should be raised about a perceived conspiracy. Is there no substance to the four recommendations Ivanisko included in a four page document to Council (reported in today's paper), or his allegations of perceived betrayal by the executive and management? We need no longer ask these same questions of Ivanisko because he has been dealt away with. Now we must deal with the executive and management itself, all of whom in this have posed themselves as the persecuted.

A not-so-subtle admission of guilt is the recommendation from the executive at tonight's Council meeting that a management consulting firm be hired to study the entire Students' Union organization and search for a new general manager.

The executive should hope such a study fairly specifically confirms their view — broadly speaking that the student executive and not top management, should run the whole Students' Union. Were a consultant even appear to agree with the recommendations Ivanisko has given Council already, it will help to confirm the view (however wrong, or right) that the ousted general manager was the victim of a well-orchestrated witch-hunt.

Peter Michalyszyn

Tax tricks

A gem from the letters section of *Mother Jones* magazine: Dear Mother,

Your article on "progressive" taxman Rep. Byron Dorgan ("Meet the Progressive Taxman," *MJ*, Nov. 81) perpetuates a common fallacy: that it is progressive to make big corporations pay substantial income taxes. In fact, knowledgeable progressives advocate the abolition of all taxes on corporations.

Why? Because corporations are never the real payers of those taxes anyway. A tax paid by a corporation is simply passed along to the consumer, so that it becomes nothing more than a sales tax.

If income taxes on corporations were abolished, the prices of the goods and services provided by the corporations would fall. The revenues could be made up through the (progressive) individual income tax, and the mob of lawyers and accountants now employed by corporations to find tricks and loopholes could be given useful and productive work.

Richard Sharvy
Coral Gables, Florida



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

...more Engineering Week

Forty-five support the event

Dear Editor,

There is an elegant mathematical proof that one is identically equal to two. It is reasonably simple - you just base your entire argument on a few subtle falsehoods. It is an amusing bit of intellectual fluff rather like the letter you printed from a "women's centre member."

We cannot argue with her "illogic" but those of you who are not involved may be interested in hearing from those of us who are.

We are accepted members of the engineering faculty and our respective clubs are not divided along male-female lines. The only time we have to band together as "women" rather than people is when we are labelled together as "women engineers" by feminists claiming to speak on our behalf.

We participate equally in Engineering Week. We take part in boat racing and toboggan racing; we work on ice statues, posters and props; act in skits; and when we are not participating we cheer on those who are.

We enjoy the kickline's choreography, music and costumes (which incidentally are much what one wears to a jazz or gymnastics class) which make up part of the overall performance that each club puts on. These performances include a band and a number of promoters dressed up according to the club's theme. We intend to enjoy these aspects of Engineering Week for many years to come.

Obviously we are not limited by sexual stereotyping - we are in engineering! We don't want to be called feminists, but we suppose we are. We believe we are individuals who possess confidence in our own decisions, and we do demand respect from the few men who have not yet conceded it, and from the few

narrow-minded women who refuse to acknowledge any opinions but their own.

Laurie Pan
Mech. Eng II
Candace Boruk
Eng. I
Marjo Prokki
Elec Eng. IV
and 42 others.

Profs support students

Dear Mr. Michalyszyn;

We understand that women students in the Faculty of Engineering have been singled out for special criticism by outside groups over the participation of these students in Engineering Week.

It should be pointed out that all students who participate in Engineering Week do so of their own volition, and that a number of

engineering students choose not to participate. The choice is theirs!

The criticism primarily directed at women students contradicts the spirit of equality we seek. For this reason, we support our women students in their efforts to be treated equitably on this matter.

C.R. James
Professor and Chairman
J.J. George
Assistant to the Chairman

Course change needed

The stereotype of the unattractive, sexually frustrated feminist, used by you as part of an attempt to refute Ms. Bizon's arguments, has long been discredited and cast aside. For God's sake, get with it!

I (and, I'm sure, many others) grow weary of the attempts of those, such as yourself, Bob Driver and Gordon Stamp, to discuss a social issue of which you appear to

lack even a rudimentary understanding.

Is it necessary to introduce a required engineering course in contemporary (and specifically, women's) issues before the pages of the *Gateway* can be graced with a reasonably educated and stimulating discussion of the Engineering Week controversy?

L. Shalom
Rehab Med III

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Staff this issue: The heroic Gateway staffers battled fierce winds and bone chilling temperatures to contribute this week. Peter West, Ben Yee and Richard Watts all had cars that wouldn't start. Geoffrey Jackson froze stiff outside of Tory. Brent Jang and Dale Mcneely were found stiff in a ditch, huddled together for warmth. Paul Vonite was chinooked out of his mind. John Roggeveen attempted to combat the North Wind with philosophical discussion (to no avail). Bill Inglee went snow blind and drove to Anchorage. Jordan Peterson stayed at home, where the heat's on.