

WARNING

To Prospective Graduate Students

If you are thinking of applying to
Simon Fraser University to do graduate studies ...
Better think again!

- The current working and learning conditions at SFU are rapidly deteriorating
- Class sizes are spiralling out of control
- After ten months of trying to negotiate a new contract, the Teaching Support Staff Union, which bargains on behalf of teaching assistants, tutor-markers, language instructors and sessional instructors, has been unable to reach a final agreement with the university administration
- As a result, there is no guarantee of adequate salaries or financial support for graduate students at **Simon Fraser University**

If you want decent working conditions and salaries
while you do graduate studies,
Simon Fraser is NOT the place to be.



T.S.S.U.

TEACHING SUPPORT STAFF UNION

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LETTERS

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libraries at 9 p.m. on Friday and Sunday nights, although tuition actually *increased*. Frost and Scott libraries had always been open until midnight every day except Saturday.

A 1,200-signature petition demanding that the former hours be reinstated was presented to Director of Libraries Ellen Hoffmann in October.

Hoffmann ignored the petition.

It is amazing that Hoffmann seeks donations from the parents of the very students she has disregarded —

students who have collectively paid \$2 million tuition.

Don't let your parents be caught off guard when the library phones. Tell your family members not to donate books or money until the previous library hours are reinstated. If your parents have already pledged money, urge them to reconsider.

Hoffmann won't listen to students, but she may listen to their parents.

Larry Ealer

Rent increases

cont'd from p. 1

per cent and about 4.5 per cent for all other units.

White said he would have recommended that the University not make a profit from housing, but he knew such a proposal has been rejected by Farr in the past.

"We thought that [the \$76,000 profit cut] was an appropriate compromise," he said.

White also expressed some general concerns about the RBC. He said students should have been involved in "ongoing consultation and examination" of budgets being formulated in the housing department to save time involved in merely understanding the budget.

He said this will happen in the future.

White also said the RBC is "an unsatisfactory mechanism because it can only approve or disapprove of budget figures." He said that although the RBC can examine figures, it cannot judge accurately whether they are sound without being involved in the budgetary process from the inside.

"Unless the RBC has some kind of participatory role in the decision-making process, the RBC process is merely a formality," he said.

White also called for a task force to be struck to examine the role of housing in the York community, as has been done with other aspects of the University, like security. He also called on the University to be more sensitive to the low incomes of students when making decisions affecting their rents.

Under Becker's plan, rents will

increase to cover increased mortgage costs stemming from the two new residences being built on campus — one graduate and one undergraduate. Becker estimated in January that rents could increase above the inflation rates and still not exceed market rates in 10 years.

The plan calls for the housing department to start operating with a deficit in the second year of the plan, the first time the department has been allowed to incur a deficit. The department could also incur a debt as high as \$5-6 million over the 10-year period, according to Becker.

A constant annual mortgage payment coupled with increasing revenue from rents will allow the department to start making a profit again around the year 2000 and erase its accumulated debt by about 2002-03, said Farr.

Farr said the RBC's proposal to pay off Atkinson College's second mortgage with reserve funds from the new residences was one that he termed "very likely feasible."

That plan would save the University approximately \$100,000 in interest charges.

"I think that one is very much worth pursuing," he said, adding that an emergency reserve fund would have to be found for the money that would be taken from the reserve funds allocated to the new residences in order to cover incidental construction costs.

Farr said he pursued the rents first because they "were critical to the size of the [housing] budget" which the Board will consider on Monday.

Action on other RBC proposals may come later.

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