



WORSHIP IS A PERSONAL THING. SOME PREFER THE TRADITIONAL CHURCH (LEFT) SOME PREFER THE NEWER WAYS (RIGHT).

—Hutchinson and Kozar photos

to respect the different faiths of my colleagues.”

Chaplains Barry Moore and Murdith McLean of the Anglican-United sector of U of A also had some provocative comments on the Christian students' involvement on campus.

“We try to get the student to think seriously of what a university is, or ought to be,” said Rev. Moore.

Rev. McLean said, “Some parents think the job of a chaplain is to protect students from atheism. Traditional churches may be suspicious of the university, but a Christian person finds himself in conflict—not with atheism, but with such things as bad curriculum, poor administration policy. He must get involved in such issues; his job is to show that the university is not a bad institution.

“Universities are reputed to be the place where kids lose their morals, but it doesn't have to be, or if it is, it's not necessarily bad.

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tered if he's thinking at all, and hopefully the university can be bettered through him,” said Moore.

“The institutional church is torn between operating as a harbour or haven from life and a renewal of the church role; between sheltering people from life and turning them on to it—between traditional heritage and being shaken up.”

Both approve strongly of the joint operation of the Anglican and United Parish.

“The university is not organized denominationally, so neither should we be,” said Rev. Moore.

Rev. McLean said, “Important issues are of common Christian concern.

“Our role is aptly described by social critic Paul Goodman, who said, ‘University Chaplains are centres for confusion to express itself,’” said Rev. Moore.

Another medium for religious expression at U of A is the department of religious studies.

Nursing this department through its nascency is professor Charles Davis, who hopes to expand it from its present two courses to five by next fall.

His main concern is to introduce into the curriculum a freshman course looking at religions as an academic subject. This would entail discussion of the subject matter according to the theories of various religions.

On the 300 level professor Davis hopes to include in the curriculum Religions of the East and The Concept of God. Third year courses will probably consist of The Myth and Truth Patterns of Comparative Religion.

Types of students who take courses in religious studies vary.

“Some of my students are from St. Stephen's, but the majority of them are from arts, science and education.”

He said he had not been on campus long enough to decide what the religious attitude of this particular campus was, but there is a fairly general attitude of questioning.

“I think religious questions are still important but I'm not sure religious answers are,” he said. “There are still those to whom religious theory is still quite unshakeable, and others who question interests profoundly, but answering is not acceptable.

“Most freshmen see religions as a matter of personal faith; few of them realize it is a course not concerned with fostering religious commitment. Religion should be studied in a detached, objective manner, appropriate to a university. It is envisaged as a course in a program, not just a group of people airing their religious differences.”

Introspection and consequent

change seems to be advocated in every religious organization, and the Roman Catholic sector of campus is no different.

“In religious values, most return to the ‘faith of their fathers’ after a glimpse into the abyss that would result from a complete value collapse.”—Dr. Hobart.

“Our campus liturgy is one that swings,” said Father Pendergast, one of the campus' seven Catholic chaplains and a professor of economics. “Worship here is different from that of a church, the kids put it together by themselves for themselves.”

Varsity Christian Fellowship member Sue Neill, grad studies,

sees VCF as a tool for presenting Christianity to non-Christian students; also secondarily as a place where Christians can relate to one another. The VCF member can attend dagwood supper, prayer breakfasts, riding camps, Banff International Christmas and numerous other functions.

VCF is also concerned with religious unity with numerous other denominational groups on campus, and will join with various of these groups in an attempt to have Billy Graham team member Leighton Ford speak on campus during his coming evangelical crusade.

What ever denomination he belongs to, the general feeling of the religiously-oriented student seems to be that the group with which he is affiliated serves as a tool for truth-searching, a sounding board for new ideals, a medium in which to juxtapose his intellectualism and his beliefs.



—Kwok and Segal photos

A COUPLE OF OUTSPOKEN THEOLOGIAN—CHARLES DAVIS (LEFT) AND DR. RICHARD RUBINSTEIN (RIGHT)