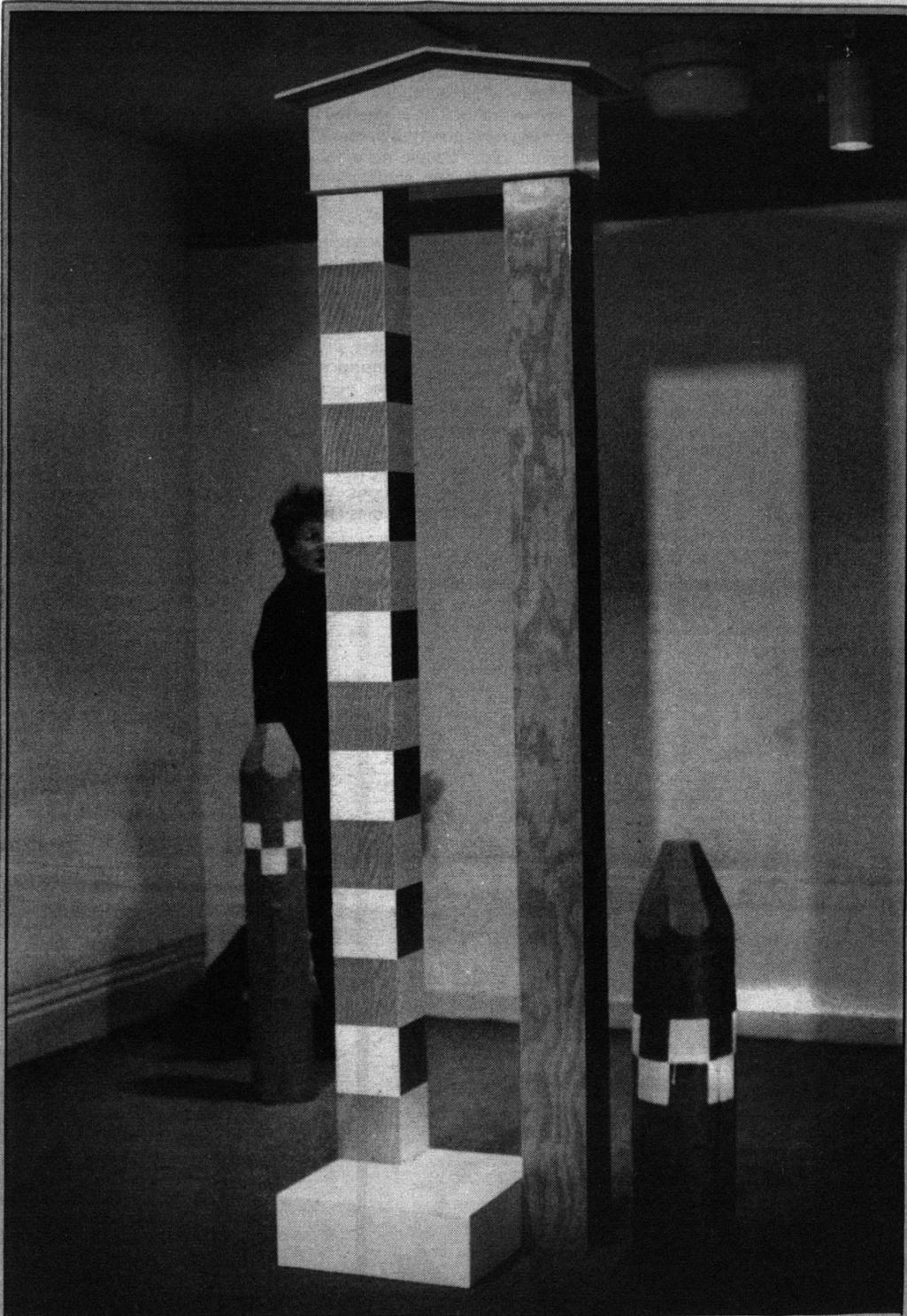


Acting is...

The Gateway

...living truthfully under
imaginary circumstances.
Stephen Black



Beyond the limits of space

A patron walks into Sentinel, a sculpture by Adrian Cooke. The piece is a part of Rituals and Systems, the current Ring House Gallery show that features seven artists and their space specific sculptures. For a closer look at the exhibit, turn to page 12.

Arts researchers rank low

No awards for U of A

by Ann Grever

The U of A was left out of the 4.5 million dollars awarded researchers by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC).

Out of 61 post-doctoral fellowship awards, only one was awarded to a scholar from Alberta, Stephan

at McMaster.

Out of 256 leave fellowship awards, only three were awarded to U of A scholars — Ronald Ayling (English Literature), John Orrell (Theatre), and Alastair Small (Archaeology).

Dr. McMillan, the Associate Dean of Arts, recognizes the U of A "has tended to fall down in relation

to other universities in ranking", but has still "maintained the percentage of SSHRC funds" at the post-doctoral level.

The leave fellowships are a "non-issue" because they will no longer be offered after this 1986-87 tenure.

McMillan believes that U of A researchers have a greater incentive to apply to internal programs like the Central Research Fund, the endowment fund for the future, or the McCalla professorship. "Many universities don't have (these funds)... they are a relatively low cost, effective means to allow (researchers) resources."

"The requirements like time

input and lead time is considerably less than awards from SSHRC," said McMillan. "Certainly there is the incentive to go to internal funds that have a higher probability of success and that require less effort."

The U of A is also disadvantaged by the trend in other universities for negotiated grants. "Researchers at the U of A tend towards individual-type projects."

Also, McMillan believes there is little "correlation between the amount of external funding and the amount of research" across the Arts faculty. For example, research done on a contract basis is "not fully recognized" by SSHRC.

No insurance horror story here

U of A escapes "crunch"

by Suzette C. Chan and CUP News Services

The University of Alberta has escaped the insurance crunch that has some cash-strapped Canadian universities paying up to 500 per cent more to buy liability insurance because of increased litigation.

Many of the affected universities are also finding that their coverage of accidents on campus is drastically reduced under new policies offered by the country's insurance companies.

The University of Saskatchewan, which renewed its insurance in November, saw its premium go from \$26,000 to \$140,000 in one year. At the same time, its coverage decreased from \$20 million to only \$5 million.

Liability premiums at the University of Western Ontario doubled, from \$36,000 to \$78,000.

An insurance manager at the University of Toronto is hoping that institution will get away with a 20 to 25 per cent hike. "If we get whacked with a 30 to 40 per cent increase, I don't know where we're going to get the money," he said.

But none of the fanaticism at those universities has hit the University of Alberta.

U of A Administrative Accounting Treasurer Dennis Fitzgerald says that he's happy with the way negotiations for the insurance package, which starts in May, have been going.

"We will maintain a full range of liability insurance and we will get a satisfactory level of coverage," he said. "We don't expect it will be a horror story like the Canadian ski team."

Fitzgerald said that the university was covered for \$46 million at a cost of "under \$100,000." While he did not give the percentage he thought the cost would increase, he said he is "confident it will still be under \$100,000."

Some universities — Saskatchewan, St. Mary's and St. Francis Xavier among them — have been

unable to get any protection against claims made for campus sports injuries.

"That's a standard exclusion," Fitzgerald commented. "We're protected in situations of litigation, not for accidents."

The students' union at the U of A has its own insurance policy and it anticipates a 10 per cent increase in the cost of liability insurance — their policies add up to just over \$1 million in coverage — but have no plans to give students coverage as part of their SU benefits.

In the age of four per cent inflation, the radical increases are being caused by a number of changes in the insurance market.

Industry analysts say premiums for liability insurance have been at bargain basement levels for years because of intense competition between insurance companies.

But recently, reinsurers (who insure the insurance companies) have been rocked by the increase in large settlements awarded by the courts, especially in the U.S. They are now passing those costs along to the insurance companies.

Companies are also raising rates because more people are suing for damages, partly due to new pieces of legislation protecting the rights of citizens.

Insurance companies are also finding themselves making payments in 1986 dollars on policies that were paid in the 1950s, because of long-term injuries like asbestosis.

In the case of the University of Saskatchewan, the huge premium increase may be due to the possibility of malpractice suits in the university's medical, dental and veterinary clinics.

"They (insurers) are just scared of it, that's all," said U of S assistant controller Bob Morrow, adding that he feels the price hikes are somewhat unjustified.

"I think the insurance companies are going to make a lot of money off this and they'll be pretty embarrassed," he said.

Photo: Bruce Cardine

USS nabs Dean

by Wayne Hoyle

The Dean of Science was kidnapped yesterday from the General Faculties Council meeting. This was done with little or no bloodshed by the Undergraduate Science Society to open the third Annual Science Week.

Science Week has been moved this year from September to February following Reading Week. It is hoped this move will allow more Science students to participate in both the social and political aspects of the week.

Four person teams from all faculties are invited to participate in both boat races and a scavenger hunt.

The boat races are a cheap source calcium as the liquid being chugged is milk. The races are being held in the basement of CAB at noon on Thursday with prizes provided by the Milk Producers Board. Teams can register at the races or at the

USS office in BSM 142.

The scavenger hunt starts Thursday morning with lists being handed out at the USS office. Scavenger items will be brought in Friday evening to be followed by the awards party.

"Plants Take Off Their Clothes Before Sex" is the title of a talk by Dr. Cass, Professor of Botany, at Wednesday noon in V102. This is part of the continuing science series, Universe and Man.

Science elections were to be held this week but a lack of nominations have forced a postponement. 47 positions on various bodies, including Students Council and the GFC, remain to be filled. Only three positions have been filled, all by acclamation.

The General Science Meeting is Thursday at 5:15 across from BSM 142. This is a good opportunity to find out what positions are open and to get involved.