

# editorial

It's no secret that President Harry Gunning's successor will be selected, after a long search, on Friday. But the release of the new president's name—a significant campus event—is virtually veiled in secrecy.

No one knows when the announcement will be made, or in what fashion. We must wait for notification. By whom? In what order of importance?

In the interests of the campus community we suggest that the Board of Governor's Presidential Search Committee arrange a press conference *on campus* as soon as possible following their decision. We feel it is only fair that the members of the university community be told of the appointment first.

To reinforce the *community* of the university, the announcement should be made to all sectors of it. Non-academic staff, students, deans and other academic staff are all affected by the appointment, and their representatives deserve to be there to hear it. Certainly the gesture would be appreciated.

It would be especially if the announcement was made to campus media as a first priority. With advance notice the *Gateway*, *CJSR*, and *Folio* could prepare background material to be released on campus to coincide with the off campus announcement. This would allow the university press a chance to compete with the more immediate off-campus media.

Otherwise university people must rely on Edmonton's commercial press for notification of this particularly important campus news. Without specific promotion or planning this announcement might get lost among any number of news items that maybe available on a given day. Finally there should be special consideration for the colleagues and friends of the presidential candidates here at the U of A who are keenly interested in the outcome.

Set the priorities straight. Be sure that we in the university community are notified of the new president's selection sooner, rather than later. It's no secret. We want to know.

Loreen Lennon

## Cutback Hohol

When we marched on the Legislative Buildings last year, Bert Hohol and Peter Lougheed made it clear that they were going to do exactly as they pleased no matter what the demands of the public happened to be. To add insult to injury, the Ed. Psych. department has now hired Hohol as a lecturer. It is fitting, of course, that he has been hired by a department notorious for its inanities, but this in no way reduces the sense of outrage I feel at his presence here. Hiring Hohol has made a farce of university protests against cutbacks and raised and differential fees. I oppose this hiring in the strongest possible terms but the very fact of its occurrence makes it difficult to suppress the sense of apathy which exists everywhere at this university. Let me just point out, however, that not hiring Hohol would be one effective method of reducing unnecessary costs at the U of A.

John Sorenson  
Arts IV

# the Gateway

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Newsroom 432-5168  
Advertising 432-3423

SENIOR STAFF  
EDITOR—Loreen Lennon  
NEWS—Tom Barrett  
ASSOCIATE NEWS—Lucinda Chodan  
MANAGING—Kent Blinston  
ARTS—Gordon Turtle  
SPORTS—John Stewart  
PHOTO—Shirley Glew  
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The ubiquitous Alex Tindimubona, Alison Thomson, Julie Green, Margaret Donovan, Portia Priegert, Adam Singer still hasn't quit, Shaune Impey, Kent thinks he's not going to be in here, John Younie, but he is, Zan Korba, Jim Connell, Russ Sampson, Sylvia Betts, Milfred Campbell, Dave Samuel, Richard Desjardins, the Budukan, Sue Smith, Dana Roman, Veronica Uzielli, there's enough people here for 3.4 slates.  
Women's Meeting Friday 2:00 pm Gateway office. And don't forget the party.

## Parr responds to Kushner's response to Hume's response to Kushner's NUS report (and the beat goes on)

I'm concerned that the information presented in Stephen Kushner's letter last Friday (Jan. 19) is fraught with inaccuracies and misconceptions. I hope that I can clear up the most major ones in this letter.

The most important error that Mr. Kushner makes is stating that the National Union of Students assumes a rigid confrontationist approach to government, that NUS marches on cabinet ministers' offices. Not true! NUS has never called a march on any cabinet minister's office. The approach to government assumed by the National Union of Students is indeed flexible and has met with success already. Meetings with individual members of the cabinet, letters, telegrams from member campuses, and briefs to the cabinet and the opposition are all integral parts of the approach to government. If more pressure is necessary to influence positive changes, students rely on mounting public pressure. Highlighting the state of higher education, and the sensible use of the commercial media, in that case, are paramount.

That flexible approach has meant that students have been able through NUS to play a major role in the implementation of Young Canada Works in 1976, and later expanding the program from 2600 jobs to 33,000 jobs.

It has won students the right to appoint a representative to the National Youth Advisory Committee and to the newly formed Canadian Consumer Council.

It has also meant that NUS has been able to work with the opposition to kill a bill designed to increase the burden of debt carried by students dependent on student aid.

Mr. Kushner suggests that there is a need for a provincial balancing mechanism within the NUS constitution. He recommends the establishment of a body made up of a represen-

tative from each province which would be chosen from the executive of NUS. Well, that body does exist. As a matter of fact, there isn't any reason to elect the executive from that body; it is the executive. The executive of NUS also includes 3 members elected at large.

Member campuses of NUS have recognized the need to retain control over the major decision making structure. They have repeatedly expressed dissatisfaction with setting up a national decision making executive over which they exercise limited control. The structure they chose to deal with that is decision making conferences with one vote per school.

That structure also allows the member campuses to express their opposition to a provincial decision at the national conference.

It's interesting to note that U of A rather than being overwhelmed by the "big boys" in NUS as Kushner claims would be one of the "big boys" in NUS.

Mr. Kushner's reference to the large delegation from Ontario at the last conference is not a general feature of NUS conferences. National Union of Students' conferences rotate between provinces. The last 4 conferences have been held at Charlottetown, Calgary, St. Johns and London. The next conference will be held in Vancouver. By no means do the schools from Ontario have better access to the conferences of the National Union of Students than do schools from other provinces.

Mr. Kushner's remarks that there was a perceived lack of concern with the issue of student housing. Housing workshops have traditionally been an important part of the NUS conference structure. So much so, that they are scheduled for the major conferences of NUS in the spring. The conference that he attended did discuss student housing to some length, especial-

ly Ottawa's \$85 million cut student and non profit housing. That discussion happened in a workshop about federal financing of education.

NUS has a good record dealing with student housing. In 1975 while NUS was successfully lobbying for federal funds for campus housing NUS staff were assisting local campuses set up campus housing registries. Mr. Kushner refers also to discussions of some delegates at the conference, about supporting teaching staff strikes as an indication of a lack of representation of students real concerns by NUS.

The National Union of Students is a students' organization. It cannot press local student representatives to take action contrary to the wishes of students on their campus.

It would seem though that Kushner is reading too much into the statements he heard from delegates. Discussions support staff strikes were in the context of the effects of underfunding of education. Delegates looked at the effects not only on students but also upon academic and non academic staff.

The statements of individual delegates, though, do not mean indicative of the membership of NUS. Surely Mr. Kushner isn't suggesting that NUS structure be so repressed that delegates be prevented from discussing topics not formally included on the conference agenda.

If Mr. Kushner would care to debate his claims, I'm sure it would be of benefit to the students at the U of A and I would be happy to oblige him.

Jeff Parr  
National Union of Students

## Gymnasts exposed

It was with amusement that the women gymnasts of the engineer's spoof on "blatant sexism" of the gymnastics photo in the *Gateway*. The thought of handstand being erotic is quite a surprise to us. The gym team is sorry that we offended members of the mechanical engineering club. But we would make one point perfectly clear. The women gymnasts have not been overexposed relative to press coverage of the men's sports. We have been trying years to get *exposure* in the press and we can't get the coverage we deserve. One picture in the *Gateway* once in a while can be called overexposure. We would suggest that photo of women's sports do much to correct the usual pro-male sports coverage that appears in *Journal*. Hurray for Jim Connell and liberated *Gateway* journalism.

The Pandas Gym Team

## Immigration abuse

I would like to comment on FAS' move to set up a committee to protect international students, and on their recommendations contained in a letter to the federal Minister of Employment and Immigration as reported in *Gateway*, Jan 19/79.

When a foreign student is allowed to immigrate to Canada on a visa, he is informed of the rules and regulations that govern his stay here. He knows that if he does not follow those laws, he may be subject to legal action. How FAS can legitimately cry 'injustice to foreign students' when they violate these laws is beyond me.

Immigration to Canada is a privilege, not a right. It is the responsibility of the foreign student to see that his visa is current and to find out the re-application process. One phone call to the local federal office can accomplish this.

I believe that Canada's immigration policy has been abused by immigrants for long enough. If we are going to live with funding cutbacks, restricted programs and admission quotas, then restricted foreign student immigration is the consistent and proper action to take.

Mike Dowling  
Commerce IV

## Letters

Letters to the editor should be addressed to the Gateway, Room 282 SUB, Edmonton, or dropped off at our office. Please include your name, student I.D. number (if applicable) and phone number. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. If you wish to write a longer piece, come to see us. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for libel.

