

The Gateway



Warning: the proposed Bill C-54 would make this picture illegal.

COMMENTARY p.5

HUB garbage woes

By Brent Fennell

"It stinks" seems to be a popular appraisal of the new central garbage disposal system in HUB.

For the last two and a half months all of the HUB's tenants, merchants, and construction crews have been required to dispose of their garbage in the new central offloading annex. The single trash compactor serves HUB's entire two block area and is emptied only once a week.

Tenants at the far ends of HUB feel garbage facilities are limited in accessibility and that garbage is not being disposed of frequently enough. Housing and Food Services maintains that the problems, if they existed, have been solved.

David Bruch of Housing and Food Services explained, "the change in refuse disposal was because of renovations at HUB."

"Some students and HUB community tenants, merchants and construction workers are not walking their garbage," he noted, adding that there were "a few concerns recently but not much of a problem." According to Bruch, "The staff and others say the problem is solved."

Steps taken to control the problem included communicating to the tenants that Food and Housing was aware of the problem, asking for tenants' help, monitoring the problem and introducing a small fine.

Kabir Khan, the acting president of the HUB Community Association, disagrees with Bruch's assessment. Khan said that the new facility "stinks, is too far to walk," and that it is embarrassing for many of the people, especially those from different cultures, to be seen carrying their garbage down the mall.

Khan feels that the congestion and distance of the mall combined with the odor and condition of the garbage room itself discourages many tenants from using the new garbage facility. The result, he says, has been the build up of smelly garbage in the mall's stairwells.

Khan and the Community Association have suggested the placement of oversized bins at the north and south ends of the mall and

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The plot thickens in the HUB international garbage problem, as do the piles of trash.

Photo: Dragos Ruiu

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SU claims withdrawal win

by Roberta Franchuk

Students next year will still have until after midterm week to withdraw from classes.

A motion before the General Faculties Council (GFC) to move the withdrawal deadline for 1988-89 was defeated at a meeting on Monday.

The defeated proposal would have changed the withdrawal date to twenty-five working days from

the start of the classes in each term. Students presently have 47 days to withdraw from first term courses, 56 to withdraw from second term courses, and 68 to withdraw from full session courses.

The motion had been introduced by the Registrar's Advisory Committee (RAC) "in response to students who abuse the privileges of the withdrawal deadlines as they are," said Registrar Brian Silzer.

Dr. D. Beatty, Associate Dean of Science, noted that the proposal would have large effects in the Faculties of Arts and Science because of their high rate of withdrawals. "Eleven per cent of our grades overall are W's... that's a very high attrition rate."

Beatty also condemned the problem of "grade shopping," when students withdraw from a course and re-register in one where they

feel they will get a better grade.

"I object to the number of students who use withdrawal to escape academic reality...where was the commitment originally?"

Beatty added, "it's a relatively small number of students but I think it should be stopped."

Opposition to the motion was led by student members of GFC. Tim Boston, Students' Council President, noted that the proposal "would give students no opportunity to get any feedback as far as marks were concerned, as midterm week would be a week after (the proposed withdrawal deadline)".

"Some people were saying that when they were in university, all they needed was about four or five weeks (to decide to withdraw)", said Boston. "But when they were in university, class size was maybe

WITHDRAWAL p.2

Booze busters week

by Laura-Marie

October 5, 6 and 7 will be Alcohol Awareness Week at the U of A. The event is sponsored by the Responsible Alcohol Use on Campus (RAUC) committee, which plans to promote the responsible use of alcohol through displays in Quad, information booths, a low alcohol beer gardens, and a bar night on campus.

Displays will be set up in Quad for the three days, where students can enter a draw for an Apple IIC computer.

For students who have any questions concerning breathalyzer tests, there will be booths set up from 11:00 to 1:00 on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in CAB and HUB. Representatives from the Edmonton City Police will be there to provide information and administer tests. (Sorry-no free booze here—they'll be using mouthwash).

On Wednesday, a beer gardens featuring light beer will be held in Quad. It will begin at 2:00 with a competition to determine which faculty makes the best non-alcoholic punch. At 3:00, the draw for the Apple IIC computer will be made in the gardens.

For those students who miss events held during the day, Tuesday evening is Bar Night on campus. To promote the responsible use of alcohol, the Power Plant will be making "Mocktails" (i.e. virgin Ceasars) for free on Tuesday evening, and will be having specials on light beer. The Power Plant will also be offering free soft drinks for the three days. Dewey's and RATT will be promoting their designated driver program on Tuesday evening, and may also be featuring specials on low-alcohol beverages.

RAUC is a committee that was formed under the Dean of Students last year. Half of the committee members are students, the other half are staff. The committee would like to see Alcohol Awareness Week become a successful yearly event promoting the responsible use of alcohol at the U of A.

Student ombudservice

By Brad Johnson

The Student Ombudsman Service (SOS) is one of the Students' Union agencies designed to help students on campus.

Its purpose is to inform students of University policy, to act as a mediator between students and administration, and to recommend changes in policy when necessary. They also give out Writing Competency Test (WCT) samples to students.

There are two ombudsmen working for SOS in Room 278 SUB. Since May 1st, when Shannon Wilson and Dale Jacobs assumed their positions, about 100 students have used the ombudsman service.

While some students come in with genuine complaints, "a lot of

people just phone in and have a question," said Jacobs.

A vast majority of students leave satisfied, said Wilson, adding that many of the students "just want someone to talk to" about their problems with administration.

So far SOS has only had to make one recommendation for a change in policy. That happened when a student could not get into Rehabilitation Medicine because of an ambiguity in the admission policy. As a result of the SOS recommendation, Rehabilitation Medicine updated its admission requirements.

"We help the students and faculty see both sides of an argument," said Jacobs.

Higher standards

by Roberta Franchuk

In response to the increasing size of the University, the U of A General Faculties Council voted Monday to raise entrance requirements for high school students

The minimum standard will be raised from 65 per cent to 70 per

approved by the Board of Governors in November.

University Vice-President Academic, Peter Meekison, said the enrolment increase is expected to reduce the number of students enrolled from this year's record 30,000 to around 25,000 in ten years.

"We simply do not have the capacity to deal with ever-increasing numbers of students," he said.

Registrar Brian Silzer said, "It's very difficult to do anything to make us less accessible...we've always prided ourselves on being accessible to all students. However, we have a responsibility to the people who are here already."

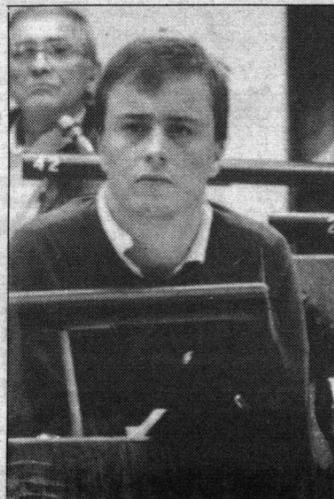
Tim Boston, Students' Union President, agreed.

"The fact is that right now (the University) can't accommodate 30,000 students on this campus. It's impossible. And because of that, the quality of education might suffer this year.

STANDARDS p.2

"To hell with the rules Don"

-Paul Alpern SU House Speaker
to Councillor Don Davies.



Students' Union President Tim Boston