

and eight members from the general public are appointed by the Provincial Cabinet. The Chancellor (Peter Savaryn) and president (Myer Horowitz) of the university also sit on the Board of Governors. In addition to these heavy-weights the Alumni Association, the Senate, the Graduate Students' Association, the Academic Staff Association and the Students' Union all have one representative.

It is the Board of Governors which decides whether to authorize new construction on campus, extend quotas to faculties, or raise tuition (which they did last year). That about takes care of the real policy makers at the U of A. To look at the Students' Union it becomes necessary to take a kind of sideways step out of the hierarchy.

The Students' Union is represented at all levels of the U of A government although without any real power. The administration is not represented in our student government because it's our ball and what we say goes.

THE STUDENTS' UNION

This is our organization. This is the one that looks out for our interests above all.

For those of us who are new this year the Students' Union is not some rinky-dink high school operation organizing sock-hops. It is a five million dollar business with committees, sub-committees, and sub-sub-committees all of its own. The Students' Union employs secretaries, lawyers, business men and hangs out in the big black Students' Union Building.

In dealings with the Provincial Government and the university administration, it is the Students' Union which goes up to bat for our side. Its object as outlined in the Students' Union Constitution is to administer student affairs, develop and manage student institutions and promote our general interests.

("You, General Interest have just been promoted to Brigadier General Interest.")

The Students' Union is governed by an executive committee and a Students' Council. What happens is the executive in its day to day administering of the Students' Union comes to a minor crisis which requires a decision.

"Holy shit," they say. "This is big, really big, and requires more input and greater debate than this small executive body can provide."

The pros, cons and the executive's recommendations on the situation are then taken to the Students' Council in the form of a motion. The Students' Council then either accepts or rejects the motion. Out of this process a decision is reached and the crisis is resolved.

The Students' Union executive consists of five members: a President and four Vice-Presidents in charge of Internal Affairs, Academic Affairs, Finance and External Affairs.

The President, this year Robert Greenhill, is responsible for overseeing the Executive, keeping everyone happy and furthering his own political career.

The Vice-President External, Theresa Gonzales, acts as a liaison between the Students' Union and outside groups, in particular, the Provincial Government.

The Vice-President Academic, Mark Hove, is in charge of preparing academic policy recommendations for consideration by the appropriate authority.

The Vice-President Finance, Roger Mercosky, supervises all Students' Union funds and accounts.

Lastly, the Vice-President Internal, Raymond Conway, manages the Students' Union building and services.

Council members are elected from their faculties, the number of delegates depending on the size of the faculty.

The most visible aspect of the Students' Union is in the services it offers and maintains for students. These include the radio station CJSR, the Gateway, the exam registry, Student Handbook, Freshman orientation, the pubs RATT and Dewey's, the SU record store besides more than I can bother listing.

That about wraps up this article on the U of A administration. The whole thing is important because these bodies make decisions which influence four years of your life (hopefully four years anyway). If you still don't care look at it this way; in any institution there are angles to be played and the best way to find those angles is to know how the institution operates. If you still don't care you probably haven't finished this article, you probably don't even read and I don't give a damn about you.

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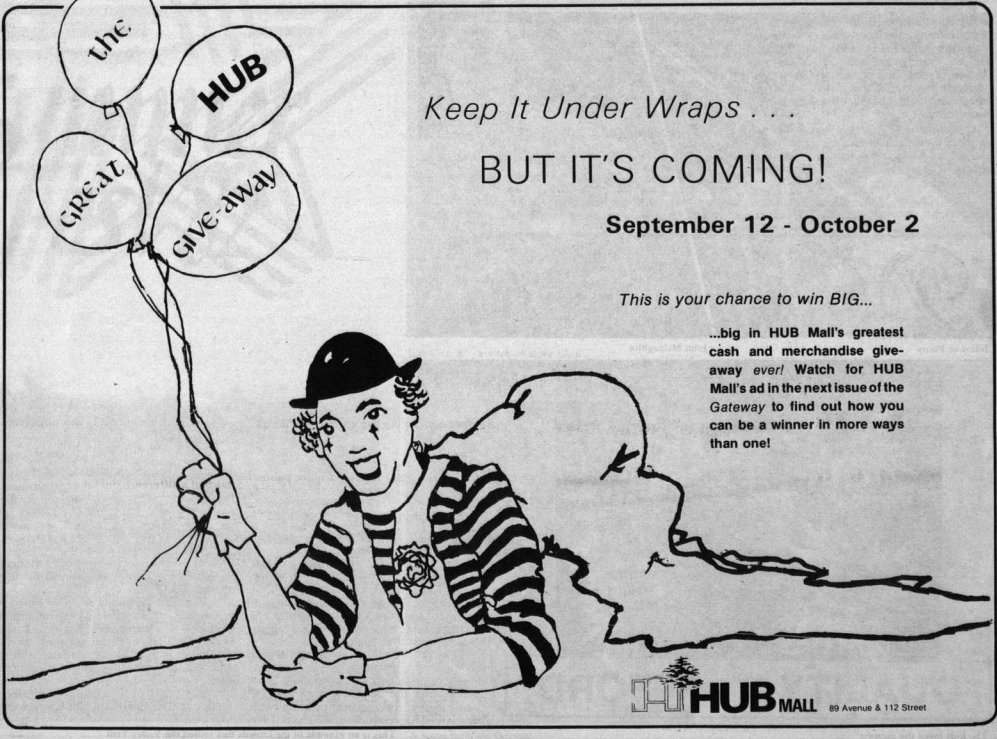
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