

Be wiser than other men if you can...

# The Gateway

...but don't tell them so.

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## Tuition increase: only a rumour?



This student has less trouble swallowing a pie than most of us will have in stomaching the foreseen tuition fee increase. It may mean up to \$100 more each year.

by Kevin Gillese

Students at the University of Alberta may be faced with a tuition fee increase in the near future - an increase which may run as high as 25-35% above present tuition costs.

President of the University, Harry Gunning, has not been available for comment concerning the rumours that his administration will introduce a motion at the February meeting of the Board of Governors calling for just such a tuition fee increase.

Vice-President (Academic) M. Horowitz, however, stated that although no official decision concerning the matter had been reached as of this time, his

personal feeling was that "given that the maximum funding from the provincial government to the U of A will be only an 11% increase over last year's, and given that such an amount will be insufficient to meet the projected expenditures of the university next year, we must ask for an increase in tuition fees."

In the wake of the provincial government's 11% ceiling on grants to universities and colleges, rumours of possible fee increases at post-secondary institutions throughout the province have recently been circulated - the University of Lethbridge has already passed a formal motion calling for an unspecified increase in its students' tuition costs. These moves, both those proposed and those already initiated, were recently condemned by the Executive Committee of the Federation of Alberta Students (FAS).

FAS cited the provincial government's 11% grant ceiling as the main reason why institutions are now looking at increased tuition fees - that is, in order to make up for their loss of revenue.

FAS Executive member Terry Sharon, who is also vp services of the Students' Union, pointed to the warning which FAS issued following its founding conference last fall, which stated that if the 11% ceiling was implemented, tuition fees would be increased. He added that any tuition fee increase would add to the already large financial burden that students must face when attending any post-secondary institution in Alberta.

Concerning the immediate effect such an increase might have at the University of Alberta, Sharon said that he felt such a move might indicate a reversion to a "money" elite.

"Is accessibility to higher education going to be judged on merit," he said, "or instead on the ability to sustain a period of financial burden and/or debt?"

Vice-President Horowitz says he also shares the concern of students worried about limiting accessibility to university - "I don't want any student who wishes to attend this university to be financially incapable of doing so." - but he is also concerned with maintaining the academic standards, and particularly the already threatened student/staff ratio on this campus.

"We're actually faced with three decisions if we do make the decision to raise tuition fees. Those are to meet bare expenses and lose some staff, to meet all expenses and keep staff constant, or to add people to the staff."

Horowitz pointed out that although the university has been able to keep the staff numbers constant for the past three years, during 1973-74 nearly all the staff positions which were vacated due to retirements and resignations were left vacant. "As a result we're now where we were in 1971 in terms of staff numbers (1550) but in the meantime we've grown by 1750 students."

### Summer saviour returns

by John Kenney

The SU's housing registry, the impromptu answer to the housing crisis this past summer, has been resurrected for another season of operation.

"Hopefully, we'll get it going by February" said Terry Sharon, vp services. Originally it was scheduled to open January 1, but, says Sharon, "we've been having problems. First of all we couldn't find an office."

The housing registry will run on a part-time basis until there is more demand, in July perhaps. Until then the winter housing registry will consist of a minimal amount of advertising with the housing being listed bulletin board style rather than booklet form.

In the booklet all rents will be listed. If landlords refuse to mention the amount of rent, they will not be listed. Thus the booklet operates as "a sort of rent-review board, in a sense."

It is assumed that the person hired for part-time work with the registry will continue to become the Housing Registry director in the summer. Over the winter he could build up contacts and grow familiar with the operating procedure to be used in the summer housing registry.

The housing registry appears to be turning into a permanent feature of S.U. services. As Sharon comments, "As much as we hate to admit it, the housing problem will be with us because the provincial government refuses to act."

### Housing handlers hope for more

Are you looking to rent a tidy three bedroom bungalow in a quiet neighborhood for only 150 dollars per month? Chances are you won't find a bargain like this with the fledgling City of Edmonton Housing Registry, but it's a fair place to start.

Although there were 241 prospective tenants registered with the agency at last count compared to only 81 vacancies, 12 people have been placed so far since opening day three weeks ago and a steady growth is indicated.

Mr. Ken Harris, administrator of the registry says

that one of the main problems affecting tenant placement stems from the majority of clients asking for 2 and 3 bedroom accommodations. Most available housing is of the 1 and 2 bedroom variety, some with rents the average citizen is unwilling or unable to pay. Harris adds that of the real estate companies and apartments contacted by the registry, only 50% were enthusiastic and responsive. Of the remainder, many are skeptical, holding a wait-and-see attitude to first determine the credibility of the new registry. Others are up in arms, claiming

that the registry, entirely funded by city council, has no right to compete with the existing private rental agencies.

Given time to implement its long-term growth program, the registry hopes to overcome these and other problems in order to provide Edmontonians with what Harris calls a truly "personalized service." With financial assistance from city council, the registry plans to hire field workers to work directly with those groups and individuals experiencing special difficulties in their search for accommodation. Firms requiring rental information for personnel brought from outside the province and referrals from the Immigration Department as well as community organizations such as the Boyle Street Co-op and various senior citizen groups, are among those seen by Harris as benefitting from the improvement in public contact.

Anyone wishing to register with the housing registry, tenant or landlord, can do so simply by phoning 426-1732. The office is open from 9 am till 5 pm on weekdays with an electronic answering service in operation after hours. There is no registration fee.

would account for \$5000 of the total. The remainder would be split on records and operational expenditures.

Should the motion be passed the radio station is slated to go on closed circuit this term, cable by summer session, and by carrier current next fall. It will be structured similar to the

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### CKSR: Dead air to live campus issue

A move is afoot to revive the now defunct university radio station, CKSR. A motion will soon go before council to approve an operating budget of \$6000 for the station, which would put CKSR on the air within the semester.

At one time CKSR used to broadcast city-wide as part of the CKUA program but was later restricted to closed circuit airing. In February 1974 the station made an application for an FM license, which was refused by the Canadian Radio and Television Commission. Resultantly, much of the staff of close to thirty members quit, and in April 1974 CKSR was shelved due to cutbacks in student services. Since that time the issue has been largely ignored, while thousands of dollars worth of broadcasting equipment owned by the Students' Union has lain idle in the deserted CKSR studios.

The proposal coming from Gene Borys, vp finances, allows for two paid positions, those of general manager and either a technical person or a programmer, whose salaries

After completing one of the most successful semesters of production in years, The Gateway suddenly faced a potential catastrophe when virtually half of the editorial staff resigned, leaving behind a handful of shocked, but dedicated staffers.

Cam Cole, sports editor, resigned to enter the kingdom of the bourgeois press. His by-line can now be seen from time to time in the Edmonton Journal. Features editor Harald

Kuckertz resigned to devote more time to studies, as did news editor, Cathy Partridge. Our condolences to them all.

Greg Neiman, editor-in-chief, nearly "took the big step" and landed up in The Red Deer Advocate, but they didn't want him right away. Our condolences to The Advocate.

At any rate, plans are in effect to continue the increase in size, scope and coverage of The Gateway, despite the loss of

### NEW Gateway hire & higher

staff, which we hope to make up before the end of next week. Persons interested in applying for the positions of arts, sports, or features editor are requested to phone 432-5168 or drop in to the office room 282 SUB for details of job requirements, etc. All three positions pay \$200 per month.

Volunteers interested in writing or submitting articles to The Gateway are also asked to call us up. More than just editors are needed.