

The Gateway

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editorial

We were all there and we all heard Dr. Hohol say it. Now that he denies it and says he's been misquoted (implying the media reps who recorded his statements are either liars and/or too stupid to listen and copy properly), he's gone too far. Such shoddy behavior from an elected official - in one of the most important portfolios in the provincial cabinet - is absolutely unacceptable.

On Nov. 9, Dr. Hohol told a National Student Day audience that "I have gone on record that I wouldn't approve fees without differentials built in." But now he says that he said "only that I would not approve any student fee increase unless it included increases for foreign students and Canadian students." Which means that supposedly, using the statement he claims to have made originally, he could accept a university budget that did not include differential fees as long as it did not include fee increases. But he *did* make that first statement and the effect of it is that Hohol will not accept any budget that does not include differentials. But he says no, that's not true, I never said such a thing and that there will not be any conflict with the U of A now that the Board of Governors has rejected differential fees.

It may seem inconsequential to some - perhaps after all the budget haranguing and so on, it will not make much difference (especially if, as rumoured, Hohol reduces the grant to the U of A and forces the B of G to increase tuition fees next year - thereby necessitating (according to Hohol) a differential tuition system).

But it does make a difference that a Cabinet minister has worked himself into a corner and won't admit he's made a mistake. To make matters worse, he's now accusing the media (including three Gateway editors (story in Nov. 11 edition)), one Journal reporter (story in Nov. 10 paper) and the rest of the media reps who reported Hohol's statement) of being liars.

It's not true. We all heard the minister and we reported what we heard. If the minister is not "human" enough to admit to a mistake - and if he is not open enough to tell the public about policy that should not be confidential in the first place - then he should be removed from Cabinet.

Students' Union special events director Doug Elves has resigned and it's prompted some response (see letters, pages 5 and 11). The important thing to note from the resignation is it represents the frustration many people working within the Students' Union currently feel. Many students who work on a volunteer or semi-volunteer basis within the corporation known as the SU have become discouraged by the enormous number of "business-like" jobs they are required to do, without receiving any of the recompense they would receive from doing the same jobs for another corporation. Students complain about paying \$34 in SU fees - yet those fees support a conglomerate that runs 16 different retail operations, offers 12 services free to the students (including a daily-broadcast radio station and a twice-weekly newspaper), and still attempts to discuss political issues and represent the students' political interests to the university, the provincial government and the community. The point is - for \$34, that's not a bad deal. But for the students working within that system, it's *not* a very good deal. Because most of those students don't want to be working for a "big business" - if they did, they'd work for a business outside and earn some money while they did it. Most of the students are doing it for experience and/or political involvement and the sooner we move the Students' Union back to a political organization and away from a business organization, the better. With the sale of HUB in summer, students began a movement back to the old aims of a students' union. Let's hope we can continue it in the future and get to a point where students can again become involved in a political organization and not merely a business one.

In any case, with respect to Doug - one of the hardest working individuals within the SU - we thank him for the time and effort he's given the students and, despite regretting his resignation, we can understand his frustration.

by Kevin Gillese

CABbagetown logic

Efficiency abounds! CAB is open on weekends, Cameron library is open on weekends. The passageway between CAB and Cameron library is locked on

weekends. Why? Custodial staff use a pass key so that they won't be inconvenienced.

Werner Nissen
 Commerce 1

BUB SLUG by Delaney & Rasmussen



All Rhodes lead to South Africa

The blood in Soweto is not yet dry; the graves of all those killed are not yet dug; and still there are those who have not been accounted for. Yet the man whose actions led to the oppression that ended in the blood of Soweto is still memorialized in our province.

The recent announcement by the Rhodes Scholarship Foundation of next year's "Rhodes scholars" should not go without comment.

Cecil Rhodes was one of the conquerors of the peoples of Azania (South Africa) and Zimbabwe (called "Rhodesia" by the colonialists to commemorate Rhodes) and a man whose aims live on in the exploitative policies of the present regimes of these countries. The mineral riches of Africa convinced Rhodes and other British capitalists that this area should be conquered and its people subjugated.

Rhodes' philosophy, in his own words, of the proper relationship between the colonialists and the founding peoples of the countries they had ravaged, was:

I will lay down my own policy on this native question. Either you have to receive them on an equal footing as citizens or to call them a subject race. I have made up my mind that there must be class legislation, that there must be laws passed. These are my politics on native affairs, and these are the politics of South Africa. If I cannot keep my position as an Englishman on the European vote, I wish to be cleared out, for I am not going to the native vote for support... We must adopt a system of despotism, such as works well in India, in our relation with the barbarians of South Africa.

Debeers, created by Rhodes, lives on today to exploit not only the mineral wealth of southern

Africa but also, in conjunction with other South African companies (particularly Anglo-American of the Oppenheimer empire), Canadian mines in the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting group.

This company, in South Africa, lives off the fruits of the fascist policies enunciated above by Rhodes. These policies also govern the philosophy of the Rhodes scholarships, scholarships made possible through the super-exploitation by Rhodes of the native workers of South Africa and "Rhodesia."

Not surprisingly the distribution of these scholarships is heavily weighted towards predominantly white countries: 65 of 72 go to the following: United States (32); Canada (11); South Africa (9); Australia (6); West Germany (2); New Zealand

(2); Rhodesia (3).

A paltry seven scholarships are divided among the non-white nations of the old British Empire: India, with a population greater than that of all the previous countries enumerated, receives two scholarships. Pakistan receives only one and countries such as Sri Lanka, Nigeria and Ghana receive one every three years.

One hopes that this information might put in perspective the game of which the grantors and recipients of the "scholarships" are part: that doing the public relations imperialism, in which the respectability of "scholarships" grants for "educational" purposes play an important role.

Rishee Thakur
 Alvin Finn

Unintelligible intelligentsia

Sometimes I wonder if the literacy question is being debated properly. Everyone is so concerned with students that they fail to examine the more "educated" among us.

It was great honour that I read the open letter to Peter Lougheed in the last issue of *The Gateway*. Written by twelve members of our university's illustrious Political Science department, it was incomprehensible. I was halfway through the letter by the time I realized that I did not understand it. I was appalled. Even Peter Lougheed could write better and he is not an educator. Good God, even a freshman could do better, or at the very worst, just as poorly!!

When someone is incapable of adequate sentence organization and syntax, he cannot express himself clearly. If these gentlemen want to tell the

Premier of Alberta what they think, they had best learn how to write correctly. No one reading the letter would want to waste time trying to unravel the endless sentences.

If the letter is an example of the writing calibre of U of A professors and PhD candidates, I am afraid that we are in serious trouble. With such individuals in teaching positions, no student writing can improve. A bad example does nothing for already bad writing. It only maintains a status quo or, what is worse, aggravates the situation!

Are these people unable to write a coherent letter? The fact that they are not frightens me.

Gentlemen - I hope the Premier is able to understand your message. Its intricacies escape me.

Eva B. Ross
 Arts