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The Gateway

IT'S...

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One small step towards an SU scholarship

by King Lo
transcribed from Focal Point: U of A, FM88

Students' Union has taken the first few steps towards creating an endowment fund to be used for scholarships based on non-academic achievements.

"There are a lot of awards on campus for people with high averages," said SU president Paul LaGrange, "but there's not a lot of awards for people who contribute to university life."

SU allocated \$25,000 last September towards a \$100,000 fund and the next step is to raise an additional \$25,000 from private sponsorship which is presently underway.

The final step is to have the provincial government match the funds SU raises dollar-for-dollar.

Although the SU has not obtained formal approval from the government for the matching grant, SU president Paul LaGrange says the government has assured the university that a matching grant program will be announced in the next few weeks.

The endowment fund will be used to grant scholarships to students in three different categories and to award a professor who has displayed outstanding teaching.

BURSARY p 2



Steadiness counts

Mixing chemicals for lab students beats mixing metaphors. Mr. Fitzgerald of the chemistry department gets things ready for the bunsen burner crowd.

Clive Oshry

Committee confusion; SU ethics up in air

by Dawn Lerohl

What is an ethics committee and why do we need one? No one seems able to answer these questions.

It was a year ago this month that our current SU president, Paul LaGrange, promised to initiate an ethics committee. Today, no one seems sure what an ethics committee should do.

During his campaign last year, LaGrange presented the idea of an ethics committee and promised to be the motivating force behind its development if he was elected.

LaGrange did form an ethics committee (composed of representatives from various faculties) soon after he became president. However, the group never managed to hold even one meeting.

Although meetings were arranged, they were consistently cancelled by LaGrange. "One meeting was cancelled because Paul (LaGrange) had to get his hair cut," said arts representative Roger Carl, one of the members of the since disbanded ethics committee.

Eventually, LaGrange decided that an ethics committee was not necessary and instead he would take suggestions on ethical policies from anyone interested.

The only recommendation made was from Arts Representative Wade Diesman who submitted a written draft of suggestions, yet received no reply. When questioned, LaGrange said he had been expecting a second draft

from Diesman which he never received.

Although LaGrange still has no plans to reinstate the ethics committee, he does have new ideas for ethics policies. He feels that strict guidelines must be set for the nominating committee which appoints directors for student services. As well, the committee makes recommendations for the four commissioner positions.

LaGrange also feels SU executives should not be allowed to take any paid positions which are appointed for six months after their elected term. He feels this would allow people without a lot of influence in SU politics to have a chance at these jobs.

LaGrange also said the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) should adopt a more neutral position. CRO Mike Hunter agrees there should be more consistency in the rulings and feels that "possibly these changes could have been initiated by an ethics committee." Instead, the Bylaws and Constitution Board will be responsible for putting them into effect.

Although these suggestions are viewed as favorable, there is some feeling they should have been put into effect earlier, according to Carl and Diesman. Carl feels an organized ethics committee established early in the school year could have clarified issues such as LaGrange's endorsement of free trade in Scott Thorkelson's campaign literature.

Meal card money matters mended?

by Kevin Law

Hungry Lister Hall students who have to buy their food with meal cards are going to get a financial break next year.

Ongoing negotiations between the Lister Hall Food and Maintenance committee and Housing and Food Service (HFS) has resulted in a new agreement regarding meal cards and food prices.

According to Bill Ross of the Food and Maintenance committee, the two sides have agreed on a number of proposals. Beginning

next year, there will be a zero percent increase in food prices across campus for all HFS operations, a ten per cent rollback in food prices in Lister Hall itself, and a refund on unused portions of all meal cards at the end of the school year.

Ross said the Food and Maintenance committee did not want to release any specific numbers yet because the two sides were still in final negotiations.

While not yet finalized, David Bruch, director of HFS, confirmed

the improvements to the board program.

"The ten per cent rollback is a strong possibility," Bruch said. "There will be a meal card refund but how much is to be determined. We will be increasing the current (meal card) commitment level probably up to \$1,800."

Lister residents are currently committed to paying \$1,700 for a meal card. Bruch also acknowledged there will be no administration fee involved in meal card refunds.

Other proposals to be initiated include keeping the Lister Hall "mini mart" open 24 hours, and the continuation of the hot breakfast service.

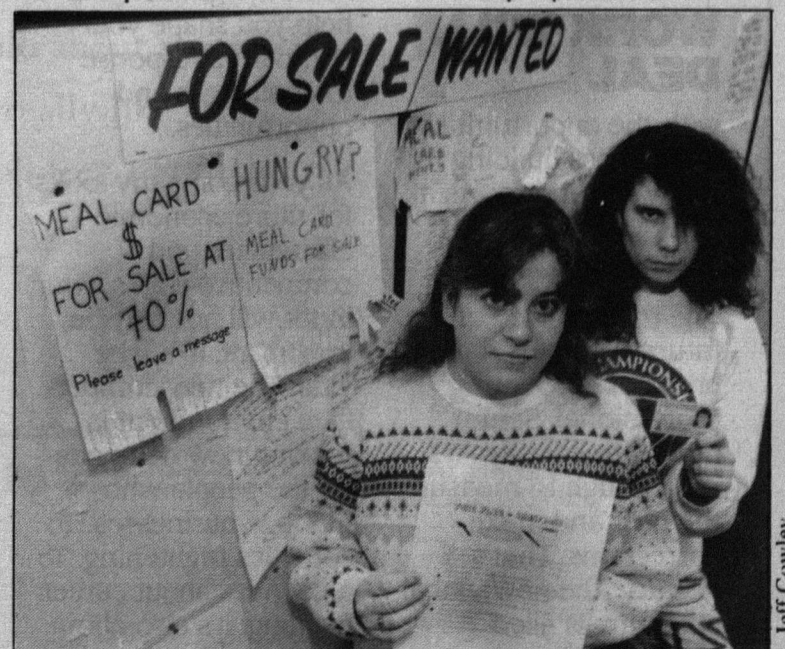
Ross noted meal cards have been a big problem for students in the past. Students prepay a fixed commitment for a card, but some students eat more than their allotment while other students eat less. There is a program in place

for students to exchange allotments, but Ross sees it as a problem with the system.

There is usually a mad rush at the end of the year to sell at a reduced percentage — the current rate is 65 per cent — and it is "an

economic pain for students who have to use it and lose money," said Ross.

Bruch feels the forthcoming changes "are not from an administration perspective but from a student perspective."



Meal card expenditures have been an ongoing problem for Lister residents. Cindy Grout (L) had to sell \$100 from her card, while Rachel Abbey (R) lost over \$500 selling part of her allotment.

Jeff Cowley

INSIDE

News

It's Chop Sue. Women beat up men. p 3

Sports

Face-Off '89: The Sequel. p 7

Letters

Does God exist? Does anyone care anymore? p 4

Entertainment

New York Yankee fan to play with Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. p 7