



This is the exam registry. As midterms approach, students eagerly line up to obtain copies of old exams. Some of them will get to wait for over half an hour.

Photo Bill Ingles

# Arts Association neglects finances

by Ken Lenz

Former Arts Students' Association (ASA) President Gunnar Blodgett may be facing serious criminal charges as a result of his cashing of an ASA cheque with a questionable co-signature.

The \$25 dollar cheque bore two signatures - Blodgett's, and ASA secretary Jaime Opazo's.

But Opazo denies ever signing the cheque, and his signature appears to have been forged.

Blodgett explains the events leading to the cashing of the cheque as follows. "I needed some money for the petty cash fund, found the signed cheque laying around the office, and so I filled it out and cashed it."

All ASA cheques require two signatures and it was a practice in the ASA for members to sign cheques much in advance, then giving them to other members to cash at their individual discretion.

Last Friday, the ASA voted 9-3 in favour of turning the cheque in question over to the proper authorities.

ASA service co-ordinator Sheila Brown feels the matter is quite simple, "Someone broke the law and the proper authorities should handle it."

Students' Council Arts representative Don Davies sees other motives for the move, saying, "They (the ASA executive) are trying to turn this into an issue at least partially to overshadow their neglect in the proper financial management of the ASA."

Recent investigation into the ASA's finances revealed mismanagement dating back to March - even before Blodgett became president.

The mismanagement began

with an ASA paid dinner for four - two former ASA executives and two other people, one of them Gunnar Blodgett.

Blodgett cashed an \$80 cheque, cosigned by ASA treasurer Allan Johnson (who never attended the dinner) to pay for the meal.

Someone who did attend the meal was former ASA president Mark Fletcher who claims the meal couldn't have cost anywhere near \$80.

Sheila Brown charges, "Initially Gunnar tried to tell us the meal did cost \$80."

Now Gunnar says, "I guess the meal did not cost \$80; the rest of the money must have got mixed up with my own cash."

He added, "I will pay the difference back."

This event was followed by the cashing of a series of cheques - intended to go into the petty cash fund - which can not be totally accounted for.

- In March, a \$50 cheque was cashed by Mark Fletcher and cosigned by Ninette Gironella (last year's Services Co-ordinator).

- In March, as well, another \$50 cheque was cashed by Blodgett, signed by Fletcher and Gironella (at this time Blodgett did not have signing authority).

- In August, a \$25 cheque was cashed by Blodgett - the cheque with Jaime Opazo's questioned signature.

- In September, a \$60 cheque was cashed by Blodgett with Sheila Brown as co-signor.

"Of the \$185 worth of cheques which were supposed to go into petty cash, only \$89.44 can be accounted for," according to SU

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# U of A deteriorating

by Ann Greever

The Anti-Cutbacks team organized a "cutbacks tour" last Thursday to publicize to local media the effects cutbacks have had on the quality of education at the University.

The tour, led by SU VP Academic Barb Donaldson, and SU VP Internal Peter Block, pointed out specific examples of the physical deterioration of the campus. The tour coincided with other cutbacks tours for the media across the country, for National Universities Week.

The first stop on the tour was Rutherford Study Hall. Although it is the "second most utilized" study space on campus, students have been kicked out to compensate for library orientation for which no other site is available. The next stop was the Old Arts Building to point out its need for renovation, especially in the basement, which "is reported to house various insects" such as silverfish and cockroaches.

The tour then stopped at the construction site of the new Business Building. This building, funded by the provincial government, reflects the government's preference for high profile projects. Although the space is badly

needed, the building will be 10 years out of date by the time it is completed. Barb Donaldson referred to this as the "neutron bomb effect ... to build visible buildings but kill the people inside."

After being shown the overcrowded Tory lecture theatres, the tour was taken to the Earth Sciences building. A study, by an architectural firm, funded by the U of A, outlines mechanical, electrical, and architectural flaws in the building which pose a "real and serious hazard to life safety" especially in case of fire.

The university cannot afford to fund renovation out of its operational budget, while the government has chosen to fund more visible projects such as the Business building.

The final two stops of the tour were the Chemistry building and Computer faculties, which due to overcrowding, provide less lab time, less lab materials and less terminal time which seriously inhibit the quality of education for these students.

After the tour, a students forum was held in SUB. The forum was not well attended. Speakers included Professor Herron, Barb Donaldson, Peter Block, and

Graham Doudell, chair of the C.F.S.

Dick Johnson, the Minister of Advanced Education, was also invited to attend and present the government's viewpoint but did not show up. All speakers expressed concern about the declining level of education at this university and across the country.

# AUPE's economy

by Simon Blake

"This country has problems today because the wealthy are not being taxed, working people are," said Winston Gereluk, education officer of the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees at a U of A NDP Club meeting Wednesday.

Gereluk explained labour's view of the way things are going in the economy.

"Government statistics that tell us that 12% of the workforce is unemployed tell us nothing about why those people are unemployed," Gereluk added. "The economy must grow 5% per year to keep ahead of the recession. Lack of growth is usually pinned on labour. The government says if people worked harder the GNP might improve. The government tells us that we are being totally irresponsible when we ask for a raise."

Said Gereluk, "Labour tries to analyze the problem. People call us 'reds' and 'pinkos', etc. for doing so, but I am perfectly happy to be called such things."

"Canada is in the horrible position of having most of its industry owned by non-Canadians. Therefore, most profits made in Canada go out of the country," added Gereluk. "Government has run up a huge deficit. Much of Canada's capital goes into paying off debts. Therefore Canada has to sell off more and more of its assets," said Gereluk. "There is an enormous degree of corporate concentration in Canada. when there is a downturn in the economy the corporations have the economic power to engage in monopoly response. They cut back production, and cut back employment, rather than reducing prices to increase sales. The corporations

use recession to consolidate, merge and increase technology," Gereluk maintained.

"Canada's economy depends more than ever on export of raw materials, and that is where labour is used the least."

"The government refuses to take a leadership role; they just advocate more of the same. The government is spending maximum amounts of money in areas where it is not going to create jobs," added Gereluk.

"Because of the government deficit and the shape of the economy," Gereluk charged, "a guy such as Brian Mulroney can come along and appear a 'shining knight on a white horse.' Mulroney suggests curing the economy by giving it a huge dose of what got us into trouble in the first place. Brian Mulroney is a menace to this country."

Gereluk spoke about how the economy had degraded the university.

"People need more education so that they won't listen to a Brian Mulroney or a Peter Lougheed. (Gereluk blamed Alberta's economic woes on gross economic mismanagement by the Alberta government. "You have to organize people into community groups, special service groups, unions, and political parties. Above all it is time for deliberate government intervention in the economy," Gereluk maintained.

"The government should invest in the type of industry that would diversify the economy. With Alberta's capital it could be a high-tech haven. The government must control the economy, rather than letting the banks and foreign corporations do it," concluded Gereluk.

# Frum the right

**Montreal (CUP)** - A right-wing newspaper dedicated to defending 'McGill's ancient traditions' has appeared at McGill University to counter the McGill Daily's "self-indulgent politics."

Linda Frum, a third year arts student (and daughter of broadcaster Barbara Frum), produced and distributed 6,500 copies of the McGill University Magazine in September.

The cover of the first issue shows a reproduction of the McGill Daily's Feb. 14 special lesbian and gay issues, with the words "What are you going to do about it?" printed over.

Frum said the newspaper was funded by "private donors" though the support of the Bank of Montreal is acknowledged in the paper.

The Bank of Montreal can not buy advertising space in the McGill Daily and many other student newspapers, because of the newspapers' policy of boycotting ads from banks that loan to the racist regime in South Africa.

Asked if she knew why other student papers boycott the Bank of Montreal, Frum said "I don't know and I don't care."

Bank officials would not say how much money they provided for the publication.

