

Latins want schools

By Lloyd deVincenzi

Students in Latin American Universities would "react quite violently" to any suggestions of reducing the number of new university students, said Dr. Pablo Latapi, a Mexican educator.

Latapi was speaking on campus on October 9 on education in Latin America.

Soviet Human Rights?

Soviet violations of the 1975 Helsinki accords on human rights, and the plight of 400,000 Jews still denied the right to emigration will highlight a campus forum on "glasnost" to be presented by the Hillel Network, a campus Jewish association.

Natasha Beckman, herself only three months away from the Soviet Union, will be speaking in Room 270A SUB, on October 16th.

Also highlighted will be the plight of various prominent Soviets who wish to leave their nation.

"At the present rate of emigration, the average wait will be 70 years," said Terri Mann, one of the forum organizers.

Other topics to be discussed include changes to Soviet emigration policy which prevent the reunification of families, and the "patently absurd" use of secrecy to prevent the movement of Jews to Israel.

In response to a question regarding the high level of political activity in Latin American campuses, Latapi said this phenomenon had both negative and positive aspects. "There are negative aspects from an academic point of view... there are political interests which do not coincide with academic interests."

"On the other hand, movements in countries like Argentina have contributed to freedom of speech and institutional autonomy for the universities."

Also speaking at the forum were two of Latapi's compatriots — Carlos Munoz Izquierdo and Luis Narro.

Munoz, speaking on higher education, said one of the problems facing Latin American countries was "patterns of exclusion", in which campus populations are disproportionately drawn from the middle class, to the virtual exclusion of the lower classes. Another problem, said Munoz, was the high imported content of university curricula, which gives an ethno-

centric view of the world "which does not correspond to reality" in Latin America.

Narro, who also gave a brief presentation, stressed the importance of literacy and basic education. "I would say that they are the sine qua non for social and economic aspects of developments" he said.

Other topics discussed at the forum included the use of native languages in countries where Spanish language and culture are dominant, the role of women in education, and literacy campaigns which have been instituted in several Latin American countries.

Latapi was a recent recipient of the Inter-American Award for Education, given by the Organization of American States to the most outstanding educator in Latin America. Munoz is a professor at the Universidad Iberoamericana. Narro is Director of the Centre of Educational Studies at Mexico City.

All three are currently guests of the Department of Educational Foundations. The forum was sponsored by the Latin-American Canadian Student Association.

Broom closet profs

Halifax (CUP)—Professors work out of broom closets and at least two psychologists have turned down positions at Mount Saint Vincent University because of a shortage of space.

"(Last) January I was temporarily moved into the sinkroom of one of the psychology labs," said psychology professor Barbara Hodkin. "Fortunately I don't require much room but the space was so tight that my assistant and I couldn't sit down at the same time."

Hodkin said the lack of room is costing the university: two psychologists have refused offers of employment because adequate research facilities are unavailable. She said external funding will be harder to come by as a result.

"We are a good department. We aren't simply researchers, we are good teachers. Unfortunately, we are not attracting the colleagues we deserve," said Hodkin.

Hodkin was awarded a Natural Science-Engineering Research Council (NSERC) grant last year, but without lab space for five months.

"Space is scarce everywhere at the university—we have professors, working in converted broom closets," said Ann Eade, assistant to the director of University Services.

In August, university administrators moved two departments to an on-campus residence to relieve overcrowding. But tables and telephones have yet to be installed.

"What disturbs me is that I have a professor teaching a double overload and I can't even supply him with a proper desk or shelves so he can unpack his books," said Judy Scrimger, chair of the Public Relations Department.

The university is constructing a new office building which should be completed in two years

SOUTHERN COMFORT

UNIQUE... ANY WAY YOU SERVE IT.

OCT. 15, 16 & 17 8:00 p.m.



"LONG JOHN BALDRY"

IN A RARE ACOUSTIC APPEARANCE

WITH

**KATHI McDONALD
"PAPA" JOHN KING
BUTCH COULTER**



CLUB 67

**TICKETS AVAILABLE IN ADVANCE
\$5.00 THURSDAY
\$8.00 FRIDAY & SATURDAY**

**5359 CALGARY TR.
434-3431**