

Gateway

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SENIOR EDITORS

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Graphics Editor: Craig McLaughlan
Footnotes Editor: Marg Reed

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CIRCULATION

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FOOTNOTES

Publicizes campus events or those of
interest to students, without charge.
Footnote forms available at the
Gateway office and should be sub-
mitted before 2 p.m. Mondays and
Wednesdays.

LETTERS

Submit all letters, typed and double-
spaced to the Editor, who reserves
the right to edit copy. Regular copy
deadlines apply.

Opinions expressed in the Gateway
are those of the writer, and are not
necessarily those of the Gateway.

GRAPHICS

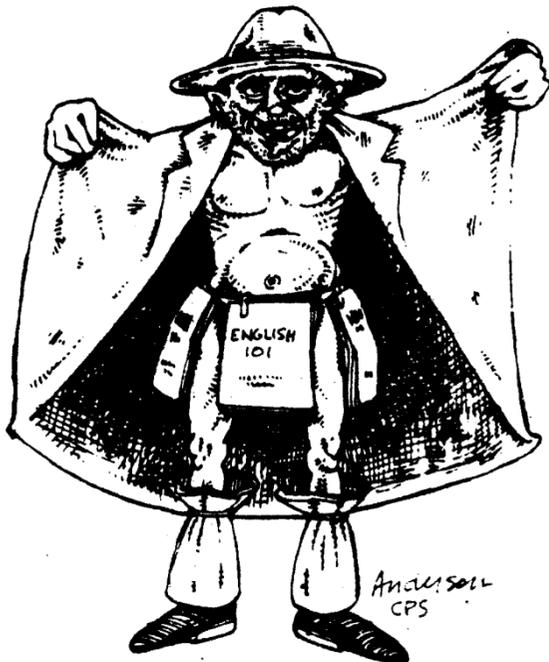
Submit all graphics, cartoons, and
illustrations to Graphics Editor by
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COPY DEADLINES

Monday noon for the Tuesday edi-
tion; Wednesday noon for the Thurs-
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TELEPHONES

Editor's office:
432-5178
All Departments:
432-5168
Media Productions:
432-3423



letters

Just friends

With reference to your
letter published in the *Gateway*
of Jan. 6, 1976, I would like to
make a few comments.

What makes you think that
it is "not a right of a citizen of a
foreign country to be educated
in Canada, any more than it is
his right to immigrate into
Canada?" Did you really stop to
think where your kind of
rationalization could lead to Mr.
Edmunds?

If we start eliminating
foreigners from Canada, I'm too
scared to say who might remain,
but them, that's only thinking in
accordance with you, and add-
ing fuel to the fire certainly
would not put it out. You are not
only asking for a different
Canada; you are indirectly ask-
ing for a different world! Isn't
that just a little too much?

Saying that "a right to an
education can only come from a
commitment to a society" sounds
reasonable enough, but how many
people (students, to be specific)
think in terms of being committed
to a society? No one plans his
life on that basis Mr. Edmunds.
If you think that you would like
to live in some other part of the
world after your education, I'm
sure you would not say: "Hey, I
can't because I'm committed to
my country." Since it's not an
obligation, then why make it
sound like one?

Your assumption that
foreign students "will never
contribute" to this country is
untrue. Most of them do to a
certain extent (carry out a
survey if you have the time to
spare), and others would if only
they were given a chance. Those
who are landed immigrants
certainly contribute to this
country, but those who are here
on student visas MUST return to
their home countries at the
completion of their studies.
That leaves them with no alter-
native, so why make an issue
where none exists?

To say that "the quality of
education at the U of C suffered
because of foreign students'
attendance", sounds like mid-
winter humour. I do not see how
this "quality of education" can
be affected by the mere
presence of foreign students.

Imparting knowledge certainly
does not deprive anyone of
anything. The lecturers would
cover the same materials
regardless if there were only
Canadian students or only
foreign students.

Overcrowding? I'm certain
that there is an adequate
number of people on every
university campus to make that
conclusion. No school-system
will accept more students than
it can possible accomodate.

Come on Mr. Edmunds,
save us the ordeal. It's not our
fault that we are less fortunate
than you are in getting a good
education in our home coun-
tries. Both you and I are only
trying to argue about things that
we simply cannot change at this
stage. Why don't we just give up
the wild gobbse chase and be
friends instead?

Dolly C. Jagdeo
Sc. 1

Eating your words

I am writing to request that
you print a full retraction for the
totally unjustified headline in
your editorial column dated
December 4, 1975.

The proposal that was
drawn up by my brother and I,
regarding an increased level of
fees for international students
on student visas, made no
reference to the racial
background of any group of
students. The proposal, if im-
plemented, would affect all
international students equally
whether they be white, black,
brown, or yellow, regardless of
their background.

Please feel free to contact
me at 284-6551 during office
hours if you have any questions.
I would appreciate it if you
would forward me a copy of
your December 4th issue and
any other relevant material.
Thank you.

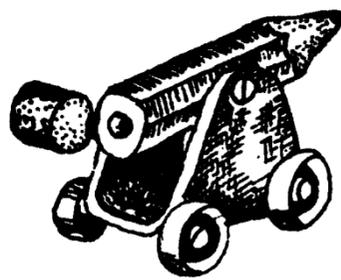
David L. Wolf
President
Students' Legislative Council
University of Calgary

Dear Mr. Wolf:

I regret the wording of the
editorial headline in question,
and do retract it insofar as it may
be libellous.

However, I reaffirm that
once a society or a university
accepts someone from another
society all should be treated the
same. There should be no dis-
crimination between students,
financially or otherwise.

Ed.



editorial

The new paranoia

Remember the good old days when just about
everything that was going wrong with society or the
national budget was cited as a communist plot?

Increasing crime, student riots, the new morality,
all seemed tailor-made to break down the fabric of
western life. All the moral and psychological changes
which were seen as sicknesses totalled up, in the eyes
of many, as a plot - a clever, obscenely thorough
communist plot.

I wonder if the present tide of government policy
can also be labelled a plot? A capitalist plot. A plot
aimed at keeping the poor out of university, and the
rich in an even more exclusive elite than at present.

Evidence: the government puts a ceiling on
education funding, hailing themselves as protectors of
society against inflation, at a time when anyone who
knows would tell you that such a ceiling has no effect
on the inflationary spiral.

And the university administration seems to be in
on the plot as well, by suggesting increased tuition
fees, and even raising the rents in Michener Park, in
blatant contradiction of federal and provincial
guidelines.

For someone who is naturally skeptical of the
actions of the governing boards it seems like a means
to ensure that society's underprivileged are not to gain
from society's benefits.

The percentage of students from upper and middle
income groups here is well into the majority. There is
no real cross section of society in our university - the
number of native students at the U of A, for example, is
less than ten.

Yet both the provincial government and the
university seek to increase the inequities that forbid the
lower classes of society from entering university. Does
anyone consider these things when they ratify these
unfair tuition and housing increases? There is precious
little evidence to prove it.

Arguing that our society has means to help poor
people through university is not quite to the point.
Sure student loans are available. My point is that when
the university increases the inequities they actually
prevent poorer people from considering university.
The debt that one foresees is just too great to embark
upon.

This is the unfortunate circumstance one faces
when institutions don't consider the rights of anyone
but the rich, or at least don't appear to.

...and Council leads behind

On the same issue, Council doesn't seem willing to
show any leadership at all. If last night's display is any
indication of Council's awareness or initiative, we
might as well forget about our student reps. At any rate,
they seem of have forgotten about us.

When discussing the tuition increase issue
councillors sat and chewed some irrelevant bone on
what the university should do with its investments.
Should they invest in preferred stock, sell their IT & T
shares, develop their land holdings through real estate
investors, or pump it back into the university?

Nobody seemed to care about whether or not there
was any justice in keeping university education for the
elite, they wanted to speculate on whether the
university could make more money from students than
they could from the stock market.

Nobody seemed willing to consider the under-
privileged, or any of the facts before them. Talk about
who gets to university, and why, fell on deaf ears.

Not that deaf ears would be out of place in Council
Chambers in the first place. Brian Mason, unfortunat-
ly inarticulate, had the honor of being the only one
present with any facts.

It was lucky that only eighteen councillors
managed to make an appearance. Otherwise they'd
still be in there, probably investing money in the
Alberta Energy Company.

Greg Neiman