

# the gateway

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## council seats for GSA

At Monday's meeting of students' council two questions which the Board of Governors had delegated to the students' council were passed back to the B of G.

The first of these items related to the current hassle between the GSA and SU over financial agreements. When the matter was placed before the Board, it recommended that the groups concerned try to resolve their differences in negotiation.

This has been attempted but no significant changes in attitude have taken place. For this reason students' council decided that the matter be returned to the B of G for their deliberations.

Students' council therefore passed a motion which maintains the present (albeit disputed) financial arrangements, but would allow the seating of two reps from the faculty of grad studies on students' council.

### Poundmaker

The other item which was referred from the B of G was the question of whether The Poundmaker should be allowed to call itself a student organization.

At the meeting of Nov. 16th, council passed a motion which gave official recognition to The Poundmaker. Pat Delaney (VP Academic) subsequently asked the Students' Union solicitor for his informed opinion as to exactly what this recognition meant.

Councillors were told on Monday that the solicitor thought that this recognition should be rescinded. The reason given for this opinion was that should Poundmaker incur any libel suits, then in giving recognition, Students' Union could also be held liable for damages.

With this information at hand, students' council rescinded the original motion and will recommend to the B of G that The Poundmaker's request be denied. It is possible that the B of G will not act on that advice and grant the use of the University's name to The Poundmaker. This however seems unlikely in that Gerry Riskin (SU President) is a member of the B of G and can offer the reasons why students' council refused to give recognition to The Poundmaker.

### Second Look

In the debate on the Second Look Project, Norm Conrad (law rep) referred to the "constipation of council". This phrase seems to sum up the current position very well.

At the meeting of Nov. 16th, council asked Saffron Shandro (commerce rep) to prepare a detailed list of all committed and projected advertisers and sponsors for the project.

On Monday night Shandro informed council that to present such a document would entail listing every company contained in each Alberta telephone directory. He added that he was not prepared to do so.

When questioned as to the amount of committed revenue, Shandro admitted there was none. He explained that although three weeks have been spent in trying to generate revenue, the institutions which have been approached thus far (provincial, federal governments and the U of A) are not in a position to commit moneys on the spot, in fact such commitments have to grind through the wheels of bureaucracy which takes time.

However, Shandro is convinced that revenue will have been committed by the time the next meeting is called, at which time he will inform council on the progress of the project.

Council was also concerned with other aspects of the project, namely the accrued liability. Steve Snyder (speaker) with the permission of council gave a list of money spent to date and accrued liabilities. Snyder said that whereas only

\$750 has been spent to date, the commission has accrued further debts of approximately \$1100, the majority of which are for consulting fees.

Council therefore passed a motion that no further money be spent, or debts incurred, until Shandro returns to council with a list of committed advertising revenue.

Shandro was concerned that this motion may not allow for the printing of the sales brochure for which he indicated that a sponsor is imminent. He was told that the motion would not allow for the

printing costs to be borne by Students' Union.

The issue was left in a somewhat clouded state when it was suggested that should a sponsor provide the funds for the printing of the brochure, and should the project not reach fruition, the money would have to be repaid by SU.

### Priegert

Thus, with the major items on the agenda being put into a state of limbo,

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## staff voice guaranteed

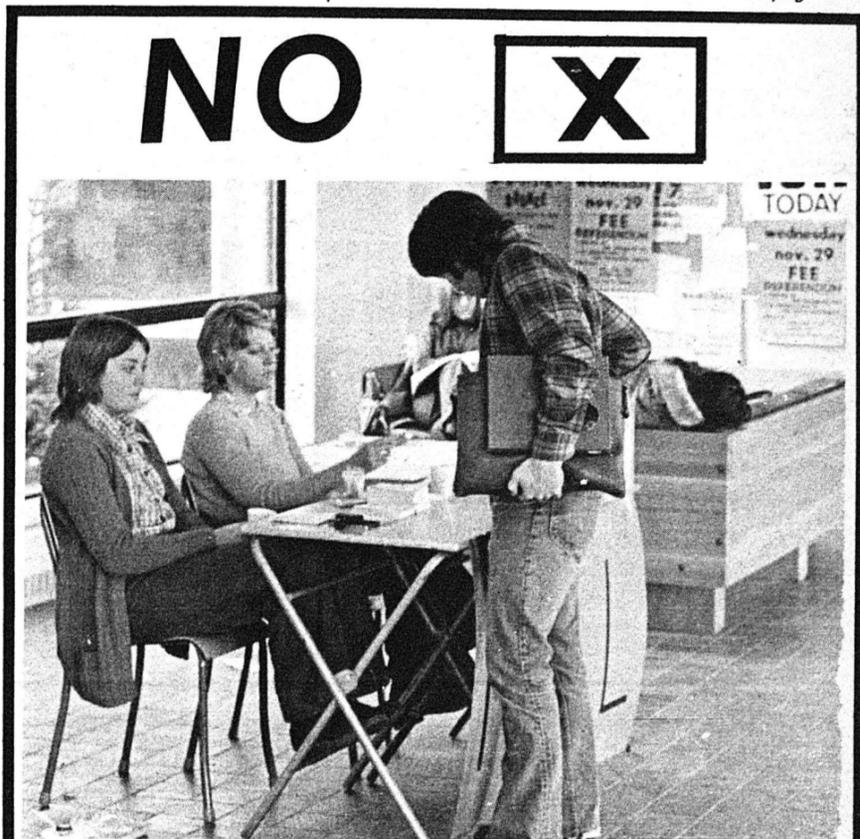
Council gave first reading to a by-law which guarantees that Gateway staff members will have a strong voice in the choice of the paper's editor.

In the past, the final say has rested with the students' council although tradition has demanded that the staff's choice be ratified. If the new regulations pass successfully through two more readings, the final decision will be made by a Publications Board consisting of three members of students' council, a representative of the Journal and one "student at large" to be chosen by the University Ombudsman. The Board's decision can be reversed only by a majority vote of council at three consecutive meetings held not less than one week apart.

Councillors objected to the inclusion of the student at large and the Journal representative, both additions made to the original Gateway proposal by the Administration Board, and to the difficulty of challenging the Publication Board's decision.

The need for formal recognition of the staff's part in the decision became evident last year when students' council appointed Terri Jackson, instead of Ron Yakimchuk, now the editor of the Poundmaker, who had been elected by the staff.

cs



Voters overwhelmingly rejected the Students' Council proposal to free SUB expansion funds in yesterday's fee referendum.

Sixty-seven percent voted "no" on each of the two questions on the referendum ballot. The proposal would have diverted fees presently collected for SUB expansion to the general operating budget, and made funds already collected in the SUB expansion reserve available for use in replacing SUB capital equipment.

Campus Young Socialists, led by Chris Bearchell, council arts rep, and recently unseated arts rep Mark Priegert, launched an intensive campaign to defeat the

proposal.

Terminating the referendum a vote of "non-confidence" in this year's SU executive and their spending priorities, the YS also spoke in classrooms urging students to vote no.

Anti-referendum opinions were also aired in several early morning newscasts on CHED. Newscaster Brian O'Ferrall, a third year law student, reported a "rip-off" referendum requesting a \$5 or \$6 fee increase. SU vice-president finance Garry West, said yesterday that he will request official CRTC transcripts of the broadcast since the station would not tell him exactly what had been broadcast.

A total of 3237 students voted.

# EXEC LASHES RISKIN

The results of today's (Wednesday's) Fee Referendum are a sad reflection on Riskin's year as President of the Students' Union. The results are not, however, altogether surprising.

Why should students be expected to vote to strengthen Students' Union funds when the President exhibits such immaturity as Riskin has? Why should students show any confidence in our organization when the president of that organization considers the following his priorities?

1. personalized stationery
2. conference phone
3. expensive trips to eastern Canada
4. theatre boycotts
5. high school presidents' conferences
6. parking places for law students
7. "Get to Know your Students' Council" posters
8. business cards.

While perusing these "priorities" and writing letters to all and sundry on his

personalized stationery, Riskin has attended one out of a possible seven General Faculties Council meetings, has attended a dismal number of Board of Governors meetings, one of the meetings of the Board of Governors executive committee, which he was eligible to attend.

In addition to not attending meetings of the bodies on which an effective student voice is important, Riskin has designated his position on the Council of Student Affairs to the Executive vice president, his seat on the GFC Student Health Committee to the Vice-president academic, and has ignored meetings of the University Athletic Board.

At a recent Council meeting, Riskin attempted to delegate his GFC seat to the Executive vice-president, claiming that his priority was the Board of Governors. His attempts to get out of GFC were defeated when it was pointed out to him that the Students' Union Bylaws require that the

SU president represent the students on GFC.

In Students' Union executive meetings, he has indicated that he will not interrupt his academic studies to attend meetings. Those students who attended the election rally last February may remember that Riskin stated that he would take only one course if elected. As it is, he is now taking a full course load in third year law.

In the past months of this Students' Council administration, we have grown increasingly frustrated and disillusioned with the direction in which the council has been led. Riskin has persistently attempted to set the priorities of council, notwithstanding council's refusal to follow his lead.

We are sure that we can be faulted for our part in this misguided leadership, and perhaps a portion of such criticism is deserved. However, until now we have concealed our dissatisfaction from the public; we have attempted to correct

internally the problems that have occurred in the Students' Union.

The priorities as enunciated by Riskin do not have our support. His vacillation on issues affecting students can no longer be tolerated. His flagrant disregard for the responsibilities of his office and his screwed up priorities have damaged the reputation of the students on this campus. The credibility established with the University administration by past Students' Union presidents has been negated. His non-attendance at meetings of the governing bodies of the University, his personalized stationery, and conference phones, have impressed no one but Riskin.

Our demand of Riskin is to resign, take his self-centered priorities and his infatuation with power, and get out!

Rob Spragins  
Pat Delaney  
Garry West  
beth kuhne