

# Students' Union to 'drastically' reduce CJSR funding

by Bill Doskoch

Students' Union funding of CJSR will be kept to a maximum of \$30,000 next year — down from this year's anticipated subsidy of \$55,000 — and will end CJSR's five year trend of exceeding their budget projections.

This ceiling, proposed by VP Finance Rob Splane, has station manager Don Buchanan crying 'unfair'.

"I don't think it's justified," he said. "I can see why they are concerned, but we've made enough concessions in terms of the 1986-87 budget."

The concessions referred to by

Buchanan include a reduced SU contribution request of \$44,000, plus they will be going to the Board of Governors as FACRA (First Alberta Campus Radio Association) for a grant instead of receiving part of the Board's global grant to the SU.

"That's important because the Board's grant isn't guaranteed," he said. "For council to cut us back to \$30,000 is fairly drastic and was done without a lot of consultation with CJSR staff."

However, Splane was not sympathetic to Buchanan's complaints.

"My feeling from councillors and students was \$44,000 was too high, so \$30,000 was a compromise," he

said. "It also underlines that we're not funding their deficit, we're merely giving them a grant and a hefty one at that."

"They're independent. We're just cutting the umbilical cord and it's time for them to grow up," he said.

FACRA is the legal entity which controls CJSR's broadcast license. It has seven people on its board of directors, of which two are student councillors. A motion before council, also proposed by Splane, would have one of those two be the VP Finance.

There are ten paid staff positions currently being filled by eight peo-

ple. The total monthly salary bill is \$4,900 with an average of 1,240 hours per month worked by the paid staff for an average hourly wage of approximately \$4.11, according to figures supplied by Buchanan.

In addition, there are approximately 150 volunteers working at the station, with 55 per cent of those being students, an additional 20 per cent from the university community (ie. staff, graduate students, alumni) and the remaining 25 per cent from the community at large.

When the station received its license from the Canadian Radio and Television Commission (CRTC), it had to file a promise of performance which included a certain amount of coverage of campus, news, sports, and features plus other community programming.

The format also allows for a great deal of eclectic programming which is at the whim of the Deejay.

Splane feels this is part of the problem. "The CRTC doesn't limit their programming as much as they

limit themselves. Too much of it is their own personal biases. This affects the amounts and kinds of advertising they can get."

"There also seems to be a widespread belief that spending more is growth," he continued. "Something they've neglected is if you don't have a high listenership, you can't sell ads and if you can't sell ads, you can't run a radio station."

The problem was revenue short-fall and not over-expenditure, said Buchanan, and stressed the fact that their programming was intended to be "off the wall."

He said increasing wattage would help increase their listening audience (which averages around 20,000 listeners per week, according to recent Bureau of Broadcast Measurement surveys about fourth worst in the city) and improve their ad revenues.

Buchanan said councillors haven't grasped the idea and added "it would help if they (student council) would recognize that we are a service and we could be used much more."

## Docs greedy, says missionary

by Tim Khin

Doctors today are "overpaid and not sufficiently dedicated to serving others," said former United Church moderator Dr. Robert McClure.

McClure also acted as a missionary and doctor in pre-Maoist China.

McClure was invited by the Medical Students and Medical Alumni Associations of the U of A to speak to about 350 medical students and professors in Bernard Snell Hall Thursday on the temptations that may await those who make more money than they know what to do with.

"Booze and drugs come stealthily for the wealthy," warned McClure.

He said that medical doctors "have never allowed the almighty dollar to dictate our conduct" but conceded that affluence may bring special hazards to the medical profession.

"There's a lot more to medicine than the money," said McClure. "Doctors today must be willing to accept great social responsibility in their communities."

He suggested that a doctor's

duties include offering one's "skills, finances" as well as volunteering time to social organizations.

Now 80 years old, McClure has literally served the world during his 65-year medical career. Besides China, he has practiced in India and in Gaza. During the war he served as field director of the International Red Cross and commanding officer of the Friends Ambulance Unit on the Burma road.

McClure spoke about his return to China in the 1980s after a 37-year absence. He noted with dismay that the warlord period of China's history [1925-1949] is not included in educational curricula.

"College graduates don't know a single thing about the Japanese war. They are discouraged from prying into it."

McClure also spoke about Dr. Norman Bethune, whom he met in China in 1938. McClure said that Bethune was "anti-Canadian, paranoid about his thoracic [heart and lung] work, too militantly communist and bitter." McClure said Bethune was stone drunk when they met.



Photo: Marc Tremblay

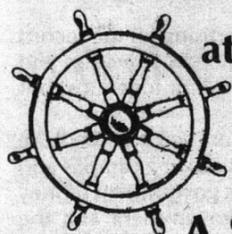
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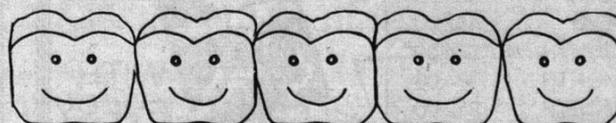
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