

The Gateway Tuesday, January 13, 1987

... of who you are. Anonymous



The wake proceeds... is your education in that box?

in force for wake ledia representing the former state of by Randal Smathers and Roberta they want to discuss them in Tues-ACT workers are hopeful that the

Franchuk

Low student turnout transformed the ACT (Anti-Cutbacks Team) 'Education Wake" in SUB Theatre into a media fair. The wake started Monday about noon with a crosscampus march with a coffin and several banners being paraded from Fine Arts to SUB.

Three TV crews, plus a flock of photographers and reporters threatened to outnumber the student turnout of about 75-100, to the point where an ITV crew were interviewing a Gateway staffer.

David Tupper, wake moderator and ACT volunteer, said the response was "fairly good" considering that AC nas been campaign ing actively for only about a week. The reaction to similar campaigns often "starts slowly and then builds up," said Tupper. At the wake, SU Vice-President External Mike Hunter spoke of the need to get involved with the ACT campaign. He advocated writing to MLA's "to let them know how serious we are about our future, about our education. Because if we don't, we have given them a mandate to do what they want to with our education budget.' Hunter outlined the dangers of allowing the "potential of the U of A and Alberta as a province to be stripped away" to the point where students are being told by employers that an Alberta education is not good enough. "We want someone who is educated, not processed." Hunter emphasized that "If we act collectively, well thought out, well planned, and as a student council we come up with some alternative solutions, then we have a very real chance to make a difference."

day's meeting before presenting them to the media. He also stressed the need to get the public outside of the university population involved.

Hunter's speech was preceded by a mock funeral for Alberta Education, including an eulogy by ACT information coordinator Matt Hays. During the funeral, six banners education in the province were placed in a coffin. After Hunter's speech, the coffin was carried out by ACT pallbearers, led by a bagpiper.

The light tone of part of the wake and the relatively small turnout left some students in attendance with the impression that the ACT program may not be taken seriously.

resulting student attention and media coverage will increase awareness and involvement on campus.

ACT's next event is an education forum in Dinwoodie Lounge, Wednesday at 1 p.m. Dave Russell, provincial advanced education minister, will be attending.

photo Keith Zukiwski

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ices similar across country

books to students as opposed to

by Scott McKinnon

A new survey of textbook prices from universities across Canada has. been released.

simply the price of textbooks" then another route can be taken.

The report says, "since instructors determine textbook ments perhaps we could solicit information directly from them regarding variables which affect what students must pay for books". Some of the variables suggested are

The report says that this type of survey could be "easily incorpo-rated" by sending surveys to randomly-selected instructors.

texts.

Hunter told the Gateway that although Council has some concrete proposals to put forward,

The survey showed that prices of textbooks between bookstores are relatively equal across the country. But the report accompanying the survey cautions against the limited value of data resulting from low response rates which applies in many instances in this survey.

For example, in four cases textbook prices could only be quoted by the U of A bookstore.

The report further warns that many considerations should be taken into account when viewing the data:

(i) A book may be published by various publishers. Therefore, price differences may be a reflection of a book rather than a purchaser.

(ii) Textbook prices vary depending upon the date the books are ordered from the publisher.

(iii) Regional differences in cost may occur due to shipping costs of textbooks from the publisher.

(iv) The use of wholesalers vs. the use of publishers.

The report goes on to say that "the relative usefulness of comparing retail textbook prices between bookstores is severely limited."

The report suggests that "if (the) main concern is the cost of text-

(i) Choice of hard vs. soft covered books.

(ii) Canadian vs. imported books. (iii) the criteria for choosing one edition over another.

(iv) Instructor price awareness.

(v) Recommended vs. required

Registration computer courses loses some by the malfunction.

by John Watson

The University's registration computer was shut down last week when it was discovered the system had fouled some registrations.

Changes made to the system in October did not function properly and caused the computer to lose courses on up to four thousand student registrations for this year.

'That's the worst case scenario," said Brian Silzer, university registrar. Letters were mailed to all students who may have been affected

Craig Cooper, SUV.P. Academic, who is responsible for the survey said it is "what we expected. Textbook prices are about the same across the country.

The survey includes 18 bookstores, each of which were asked to quote their current retail prices of 24 randomly-selected textbooks from the U of A bookstore.

Out of a total of 504 prices, 175 were received. cont. on pg. 7

to check their registration over the

phone. If problems arise that can-

not be corrected through the tele-

phone system the registrar's office

The changes made in October

allowed one student to adversely

affect another record while making

changes to their own registrations.

week and everything is functioning

The problem was rectified last

will do what they can.

normally now.

fraud... pg. 10 No longer no. 1... These students are being directed

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