

Whip cracked on union

by Nina Miller and Alison Thomson

Some faculty and department administrators are pressuring the university administration to crack down on alleged employee abuses of the collective agreement between the Non-Academic Staff Association (NASA) and the university, the *Gateway* has learned.

A draft memo to vice president finance and administration Lorne Leitch from Faculty of Science administrator Wes Randall "in company with department administrators," charges there is a "serious reduction of non-academic staff services due to a legalized availability of time-off across our departments."

"The memo reflects complete absence of knowledge of what's going on with labor relations in Alberta," said NASA executive secretary George Walker last week.

The memo complained of abuses of time-off entitlements and a "built-in bias" in grievance procedures favoring the employees "at the expense and to the detriment of department administrators."

Leitch disagrees. "In the

main we don't have as many people as other employers do who try and beat the system," he said.

Randall also suggests departments cannot afford time-and-a-half for overtime, let alone the double time employees now receive.

The known authors of the memo were Randall, D. Mackenzie of chemistry, D. Williams of physics, and P. Pearlstone of zoology.

A revised edition of the memo, which was "substantially the same" as the draft, according to Mackenzie, was sent to Leitch Wednesday.

"Unionization has been detrimental to employee relations," said Mackenzie. "We appreciated the union before when it wasn't strong."

"The agreement is overly generous," he added.

However, Leitch said he considers the agreement "fairly standard."

Williams said, "We have problems now which weren't there before. It (the agreement) limits the flexibility of both the

administration and the employee."

He said he was distressed by the leak of the memo, which he said "interrupted the dialogue" between the administrators and Leitch.

Leitch, however, said it was the first memorandum he had received raising these concerns.

Randall refused to comment on the memo.

The memo requests that Leitch take the concerns raised into consideration when negotiating the 1981-82 agreement, and suggests negotiators did not have the interests of the university at heart when negotiating the present agreement.

Leitch said the memo will result in a meeting between the director of Personnel and certain administrators.

"We don't ignore our administrative people when it comes to the bargaining table," said Leitch. "This memo raised certain aspects we should look at."

"If that kind of thing got translated into action, it could lead to a good deal of harassment of



NASA's George Walker

photo Bill Ingles

employees, and a breakdown in the relationship with the university," said Walker.

He referred to some aspects of the memo as "redneck." The attitude reflected in the memo goes a long way towards explaining the increasing militancy of the union members, he said.

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Science administrator Wes Randall

the Gateway

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Just because you're paratoid...

...doesn't mean you're not being followed

Nugget exits

by Keith Krause

The NAIT Students' Association (NAITSA) has reaffirmed its decision to withdraw from Canadian University Press (CUP).

The decision was made at a Publications Board meeting last week, after controversy over alleged censorship of the paper, *The Nugget*. Mail from CUP was being intercepted before reaching the editor and being returned unopened.

"We want to have a chance to organize things here independently first," said Linda Hause, NAIT Students' Association vp publications. "We evaluated the services CUP offers and we realize they have good services but we feel we can get those services elsewhere."

The relationship between CUP and NAITSA has been rocky for the past few years, with CUP members accusing *The Nugget* of publishing sexist material in violation of the CUP statement of principles.

Last year the Publication Board was tied in a vote to withdraw from CUP. The NAITSA executive then made an independent decision to withdraw.

But NAITSA missed the deadline to withdraw, so were still considered CUP members. NAITSA began intercepting CUP mail to prevent the paper from publishing it.

"I refused to let them use CUP copy because of the legal implications," said Hause.

Hause feared if the paper used CUP material it would be bound to pay its fees for the year.

The editor of *The Nugget* is not pleased with the decision. Her vote was the lone dissenting one on the nine member board.

"The association between the paper and the Students' Association has got to change, or you

won't have good people," said Janet Bougie. "They've got to recognize the paper as more than an information letter for NAIT students...they've got to see *The Nugget* as a newspaper."

Hause, however, does not see the CUP issue that way.

"I think in previous years we could have had more content and more NAIT students involved in the paper," she said.

Bougie doesn't think the problems will be solved so easily though.

"You've got a conflict of responsibility between NAITSA and *The Nugget*," she said.

Evelyn Wood denies charge

Evelyn Wood Reading Dynamics has reacted to criticisms levelled against the organization in a story printed in the *Gateway* last week.

"If we're such a rip-off, how come we've been in business for 30 years?" said Stephen Crumpton, Canadian Director of Instruction, on Thursday.

Evelyn Wood is not overpriced and does not make "highly exaggerated advertising claims," Crumpton said. The allegations were made by a professor at the University of Manitoba who claimed to be a former assistant teacher with the organization.

"We've taught numerous world leaders and people from hundreds of large corporations,"

said Crumpton. "If we were so bad, you would hear about it."

The price quoted in the article for the course, \$490, was also incorrect, according to Crumpton. The actual price is \$395, he said.

University courses are cheaper, he said, because they are subsidized.

"Our fees are in line with the costs of the education," he said. "We're like a private school."

"The university programs are fine, but it's completely different," Crumpton said. "Our methods are different...they're copyrighted and trademarked."

Evelyn Wood's "vertical visual" method does not teach students to read word by word and

line by line as do conventional techniques, he claimed.

Evelyn Wood offers other benefits, he said, including a guarantee that students will read three times faster after taking the course.

"We've had one person ask for a refund at the U of A in the last few years," said Crumpton. "We've also taught over a million people in total."

Crumpton also questioned the identity of the man who claimed to be a former Evelyn Wood instructor.

"We wouldn't hire anyone who could only read 800 words per minute. All Evelyn Wood teachers must take a very demanding training program," he said.

Exploding cigars anyone?

The Central Academic Building (CAB) had a bomb scare Thursday that brought out Campus Security, five City Police officers and the City Police Bomb Squad truck.

But the object of the attention was a carton of cigars.

A professor, who asked not to be identified, received a parcel in the mail Thursday afternoon.

"I wasn't expecting it," he said. "The return address was Montreal, but there was no name on it."

The professor called Campus Security. Two Security officers arrived soon afterward and cleared the area. City Police came about half an hour later.

Campus Security's Ralph Oliver Friday denied knowledge of the incident, saying he had received no report of it. However, after his memory was jarred, he remembered enough to state it was a false alarm.

"The bomb turned out to be cigars," he said.



City Police loiter as expert dismantles package of cigars

photo Bill Ingles