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photo Bob Austin

You're only fooled

The Gateway

once in a blue moon

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Foreign staff attack is "sign of nationalism"

by Greg Neiman

The recent controversy regarding the high percentage of foreign instructors at the U of A, by both the legislature and the press, is blowing the issue out of proportion said university president Dr. Harry Gunning in an interview Wednesday.

"I've lived in the States during the age of McCarthism," said Gunning, "and I think it's similar in that this wave of supernationalism is not so much a loving of Canada, but a hating of somebody else."

simply by graduating more Canadian Ph.D.'s."

The U of A advertises academic staff openings in Canadian periodicals first, thus giving Canadians first chance. "But in a department such as the sociology department, it simply was that many of the highly qualified people came from out of Canada, because it was a new and rapidly expanding field here," said Gunning.

"This sort of thing is the material the press likes to pick up on. I don't think we're really endangering ourselves."

He did concede that foreign instructors may be less apt to lend a Canadian perspective in their courses to students, but he added it's a problem that could be alleviated, given time.

It can't be stressed enough

by Ken Larson

Stress has been identified as being both necessary and desirable.

Panel members of a Students' Union forum held Wednesday said that universities are designed to place stress on the student, in order to promote greater productivity on their parts.

Dr. S. DeWall, dean of King's College, identified university structure as contributing to stress. Exams,

grading and deadlines were all seen as sources of stress. Instructors also contribute by not making their expectations and grading systems clear, he added.

According to DeWall, too much and too little stress means low productivity.

Dr. Ruth Groberman, acting Dean of Students, said that some groups on campus, such as single parents, foreign students, and first year students, are under greater

Federal funds under the gun(ning)

Before any changes in the Fiscal Arrangements Act are made, the Association of Universities and Colleges in Canada (AUCC) wants to have an input into their negotiation.

The act, which legislates the federal funding of 50% of the operating costs of post secondary education through the provincial governments, is due to expire next year, but the AUCC wants a two-year extension on that, to negotiate changes with the governments involved.

Last January, the AUCC met with Prime Minister Trudeau and the provincial premiers, to present a brief on its stand regarding the act, and on education funding principles.

"Consultations should begin immediately amongst the representatives of the universities, the provincial governments and the federal government with a view to establishing a national policy for universities consonant with the plans of the provincial and regional university systems," said the brief. "We are prepared

to initiate these consultations."

U of A president, Dr. Harry Gunning said in an interview Wednesday that the AUCC fears the governments may consider the issue "too political" to consult the institution.

The reasons for changing the act are political in nature to begin with, he said.

Under the present system, the institutions present budgets to the provincial government, which decides how much they are prepared to underwrite. Half of this figure is granted by the federal government.

"This system doesn't make the federal government's expenditure politically visible enough," said Dr. Gunning.

"People who don't know how the act works wouldn't know that the federal government pays for half the cost of post secondary education in Canada."

"They aren't making enough political mileage under the present system," he said.

The AUCC recommended in its January brief that the federal government and the provincial governments contribute to the institutions' budgets separately and simultaneously.

For instance, if the provincial government decides to underwrite less than what the institution asks for, the federal government could still at least provide half the original amount whether or not the other half is fully provided by the provincial government.

Dr. Gunning said the Prime Minister was "interested and willing to listen," but very non-committal" at the meeting, perhaps because of the political nature of the issue.

Other recommendations in the brief advocate the federal

government's funding of "potential centres and programs of excellence" within institutions. Research centres, which benefit Canada as a whole should be funded such that many institutions could make use of them, and could result in a greater sharing between the nation's universities.

Gunning said some provincial governments might not consider funding an expensive research project when other institutions from other provinces could participate in it. Thus the federal government should be more active in promoting such centres.

As well, the brief recommended that total costs of contract research taken on by universities, including all salaries, should be borne by the government requesting them.

Nail-Biters get clipped

DALLAS(ZNS-CUP) - A Dallas beauty salon warns that nail-biters may be literally chewing up their profits.

The Creative Airs Salon in Dallas reports that it pays anywhere from 25 cents to \$2 for each fingernail that is at least a third-of-an-inch long.

Salon owner Norm Heinz explains that the clipped nails are later resold for fingernail transplant operations where a set of 10 clipped nails goes for \$35.

Heinz estimates that some nervous people - without even knowing it - have chewed off thousands of dollars worth of nails.