

Council suspends Hal Eppel for missing three meetings

Inability to explain poor attendance results in commerce rep's suspension

Students' council Monday suspended commerce rep Hal Eppel for missing three consecutive council meetings.

After arriving an hour and a half late for Monday's meeting, he was unable to explain to council's satisfaction his slovenly attendance record.

He admitted two of his absences were for skiing trips, and before the other he "looked at the agenda and it didn't seem too promising so I didn't bother."

He agreed that, of the meetings he had attended, he had only stayed for about an hour each time because he also had fraternity meetings on Mondays.

NO PROGRESS

Eppel had been the head of a council committee to investigate housing in Garneau but because of a "conflict of interest" he had made no progress with the committee. His achievements on his appointed position to the parking committee were no more impressive as he had missed one of the two meetings held this year.

Eppel said he would not resign if he were given the opportunity because "I don't feel I have done anything wrong."

This is the first time a councillor has been suspended.

Council increased the deficit for Varsity Guest Weekend by \$444 on the recommendation of the finance board.

The increase includes:

- deletion of revenue and expenses for the Queen Ball held during VGW last year, but to be held later this year

- increased expenditure for the VGW Committee's newspaper from \$400 to \$588

- expenses for a coffee house

- a \$228 expenditure for the rental of ETS buses to tour the campus Feb. 17

MONEY, MONEY, MONEY

Council voted unanimously to give the Planning Commission \$22,000 for additions to SUB. The money is to come from the donated reserve and the building reserve which have been set up with the profits from the old SUB.

Chairman of the students' union Planning Commission Ed Monsma told council "clearly the meditation room is not working as planned.

"We also have to lower the temperature in the curling area of SUB or face a reduction in services provided by the area.

"Improvements in the meditation room will include additional carpets at \$2,000, painting of the ceiling at \$150 and a stained glass window at \$6,000, for a total of \$8,150. But \$4,000 of this has been budgeted previously."

To cool the curling area a second compressor and other essential components at a cost of \$18,000, will be restored, where they had originally been omitted as a cost-cutting measure.

Students' union president Al Anderson said "if the proper conditions are not restored we would lose a great amount of revenue through loss of curling leagues."

MORE, MONEY

Council gave the Bridge Club \$300 to cover train fare and expenses to send four members of the club to Eugene, Ore., for an international bridge tournament sponsored by the Association of College Unions.

Last week council rejected the proposal. But this week after a presentation in which more facts were explained by club president Rich Hewko council gave approval almost unanimously.

Students' council passed by a vote of 15 in favor, one abstain; none opposed for a new fee schedule.

All full-time undergraduate students will pay \$27.50. Students in Medicine, Dentistry, Law and Diploma or B.Ed. after a previous degree will pay \$20. Full-time graduate students will pay \$15, as will U of A Hospital nurses. All part-time students will pay \$5.

This is the first reading of the motion; it will require two more.

An amendment to delete the clause about graduate students was defeated.

A referendum was held in December for a similar proposal which proved unfeasible for technical reasons. The referendum passed easily.



—Frank Kozar photo

GROWING GREENHOUSE GRASS—Two employees at the agriculture department look after some of their exotic plants with loving care. Apparently some of the flora are vicious and must be handled with gloves. No cases of rabies stemming from mad flowerbites have been reported this year.

UBC clamps down on frats

VANCOUVER (CUP)—The University of British Columbia students' union has shut down a fraternity run Mardi Gras program.

Students' union president Shaun Sullivan urged all students to boycott the program, whose theme is Dixieland, because it exhibits "racial prejudices."

Slavery and racial violence had been emphasized in the promotion of the program, an annual charity ball.

Last week, skits featured fraternity members dressed in the white robes and hoods of the Ku Klux Klan lynching a face-blackened student. Other skits showed negroes being beaten by Ku Klux Klan members and whites being beaten by negroes.

Protests had been received from the student non-violent co-ordinating committee, the British Columbia Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the students' council and several negro students.

Students' council agrees to GSA's request for a degree of autonomy

Students' council Monday passed a motion to support the idea of some degree of autonomy for the Graduate Students Association should they wish to join the students' union.

The motion precedes a referendum being held by the GSA to determine whether or not they wish to join the students' union.

GSA president Peter Boothroyd said "It's a common law on this campus that GSA is equal to the students' union.

"Anything you are represented on we are also, and if we aren't, we can get representation."

The administration wants to keep this equality.

Boothroyd asked council "for a guarantee that if they join, anytime a question of

representation came up in the future, council would insist that the grad students have separate representation.

Students' union president Al Anderson said, "The motion, through its various clauses, guarantees the GSA their status quo, but it would be ultra vires for council to try to guarantee GSA representation in the future."

Co-ordinator Glenn Sinclair proposed an amendment to the motion to use the word "insists" instead of "support" in hopes of greater appeal to GSA.

Council defeated the motion with a vote from the chair.

Boothroyd felt the motion with the word "insist" would have probably been more acceptable to the GSA and ensured a more favorable vote in the referendum.

Operating costs go up \$100; tuition fees may follow suit

Tuition fees may still be raised next year.

U of A is waiting for the provincial government to announce the operating costs grant to the university. It is still possible the grant will be at least \$1.7 million less than the estimated needs of the university for next year.

Brian McDonald, assistant to the president and seconded to the Universities Commission, said, Sunday, the operating costs per student this year is \$2,700. Next year this cost is estimated at \$2,800 to \$2,900 per student. This increase is owing to new salary schedules for faculty and maintenance staff.

Mr. MacDonald said operating costs at U of A are \$100 higher than at the U of C and \$1,100 higher than at U of S. This, he said, is owing to several factors:

- a higher percentage of graduate students
- more professors per student than at U of S and UBC
- higher staff salaries (professors get \$500 travel grants)
- the affluence of the province. Ontario universities have about the same operating costs.
- more square feet of buildings per student than at U of S

Mr. McDonald said the Universities Commission would not be surprised if the Board of Governors recommended a raise in tuition fees.

"It would have to be recommended for approval to the Com-

mission," he said, "but I think the Commission would go along with any reasonable change."

He said he hoped the university would not cut enrolment in an effort to cut services.

"I don't see how they can get more this way. The grant is a per capita amount. Right now we are thinking of between \$2,400 and \$2,450 per student. I am convinced the university can offer the same services to a greater number of students."

Students' union president Al Anderson said if the tuition fees are raised the students' union will present a brief to the provincial government.

"The students' union," said Anderson, "takes the attitude the university budget is quite legitimate. To operate a university of high quality the Board of Governors must have a given amount of money, even if this amount proves to be higher than that of universities in surrounding provinces."

"A cut in the budget," he said, "would impair the quality of education offered at U of A."

**Open heart surgery
C-4 and C-5**