

On a good day I'm voluptuous...

...otherwise I'm just plain fat.

Name withheld by request

The Gateway

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School of tomorrow?

Brave new U proposal

by Catherine Bainbridge
of Canadian University Press
MONTREAL (CUP) — Welcome to the university of the future.

At this private or semi-private institution, tuition fees will range from \$10,000 to \$15,000. 'A's will be rare, the sons and daughters of alumni will get special attention for entrance and undergraduate students will prepare for life with joint degrees in arts and science.

Harkening back to principles and practices of the good old university days before the 1960's, a think-tank of more than 20 McGill professors has developed numerous recommendations for the university's future.

The Future Options Group (FOG) of professors from different departments was formed to save the university before its present state of mediocrity sets in for good, according to professor Stores McCaul.

"The writing is on the wall. There is very little hope left that governments will adequately finance universities," said McCaul. "You can't run an excellent university when you are at the mercy of every government economy drive. We must acknowledge this as a fact of life and prepare for it."

McCaul said all the "great" universities in the world have their own sources of funding and McGill must do the same. The FOG report calls for gradual financial independence from the government, unless a radical change in education funding takes place.

"For example," the report reads, "the Faculty of Medicine might become private, charging full fees, and serve as the 'founding faculty' of an evolving private university if the experiment proved successful."

The report called for a minimum

100 per cent raise in tuition fees.

"We have a good conscience about raising fees," said McCaul. "Ninety-nine per cent of the faculty and staff here support it."

The report says if the Quebec government is unwilling to raise fees for political reasons, then it might conceivably allow universities to collect fees themselves.

"This is politically easier for the government because criticism will land on the universities' shoulders and not theirs," he said. "We are quite willing to bear the approbation from students and the public on this issue."

Giving preferential admission to children of alumni is another money-making scheme suggested in the report.

"It really comes down to dollars and cents," said McCaul. "Our research shows that particularly in the case of American universities, where this kind of preference is given, the universities develop a devoted band of alumni which is necessary for their financial support."

The report says education quality calls for downgrading of marks, tougher requirements for tenure, and more temporary lecturers to leave room for certain professors to spend more time as researchers.

"Over the last 15-20 years there has been grade inflation in some, but not all, departments. This represents a false democratization of the process of student evaluation," the report reads.

Marks have lost their meaning, said McCaul. "Compared to marks in the 50's, an A was a rarer thing. Now A's are very common and C's are all too rare."

The report also recommended that, for promotion to full professorship, superiority in research or scholarship be the requirement and

not the present criteria, which also includes teaching and community or administrative work.

The report discussed establishing a special class of professors whose only activity is research. The report said the advantages include attracting brilliant researchers who have no interest or talent in teaching. A compromise was suggested where certain professors would be given minimum teaching loads and temporary lecturers would pick up the slack.

Joint degrees in arts and science should be offered to the undergraduate student, the report recommended. "There will always be a tension between this and those who want," said McCaul. "But this can leave you blinkered for the rest of your life."

McCaul said the new trend among companies was to hire managers with a general arts education.

"After all the British believed that if you really knew your classical history and literature you were fit to go out and rule India," said McCaul.

McGill should also push for a higher profile nationally and internationally, the report says. Because of its unique status as an English university in a French province, the report suggests McGill should "simply proclaim ourselves Canada's national university, since it is unlikely any government will grant us that status."

McCaul stressed the report was intended to open discussion on the issues and no more. Although he said the discussion should take place in the whole university community, the report, completed last fall, was not distributed to student newspapers and Canadian University Press was hard-pressed to get a copy.



Copps: rat packer or leadership candidate?

Photo Bill Doskoch

Grits fine in Alta says Copps

by Suzanne Lundrigan

The Liberals have a future in Alberta, says M.P. Sheila Copps.

"We're in a rebuilding phase right now. The P.C.'s have been discarding and ignoring youth. Albertans are becoming cynical about the P.C.'s and they are now willing to listen to the Liberals."

In a speech tailored to the young audience of about 40 students, Copps was more than happy to point out P.C. flaws and foibles. "January unemployment figures set youth unemployment at 16 per cent. Wilson's budget makes no mention of this and to top it off, the P.C.'s have cut out the Youth Ministry's budget."

"The P.C.'s have problems from their leader on down. Mulroney has no agenda. His agenda was focussed solely on obtaining power. Now that he has the power, he's scrambling. That's why he's running around from left, right to center."

When questioned about the problems the Liberals are currently facing, particularly the Chretien resignation, Copps replied, "Jean was mourning his loss of the leadership. Even after a lot of time had lapsed, he had not completely recovered from that loss. His heart just was no longer in what he was doing. In the long run, this resigna-

tion will bring the Liberal party closer together."

The Liberals are not without their woes. "We have only 39 members. There is a real risk that we could be eliminated as a party of central force. Our job is to re-establish ourselves as that party."

Though the Liberals are in opposition, it is not their job to bring the Conservatives down, she said. "Opposition parties don't bring the governments down; governments bring governments down."

In response to a question about the problems the Liberals have representing the West given their Quebec support base, Copps said, "The Conservatives are working with a Quebec/West alliance and the West still gets ignored."

Addressing the women's issue, Copps reported "that the Liberal caucus is 50 per cent women and that the Liberals are enjoying the highest proportion of women participation ever on the government level."

Copps has been touted as a possible candidate for the leadership of the Liberal party. When asked about this, she responded, "Being leader would mean possibly becoming prime minister. The closer I get to the seat of power, the less I want it. And if I was drafted by party insiders, I would plead the fifth."

SUB target of peace week invasion

This week, the Students' Union Building is the Peace Place.

To mark Peace Week (Mar. 11 to 14), U of A students and peace groups are participating in a week of films, workshops, seminars and lectures dealing with all aspects of the peace movement.

Rosalind Van Vliet, one of the principal organizers of the Peace Place, said she got the idea from the peace tent which was set up at last year's Nairobi Women's conference.

At one of the seminars she attended during the six-week conference, women were asked if the world would be different if women were in positions of political power.

"Time and time again, the answer

was no if they kept the beliefs of the men now in power, but yes if they bring with them their traditional traits of caring and nurturing," she said.

"We can no longer depend on aggressiveness and terrorism," Van Vliet said.

The Peace Place features displays, music, and forums from today until Friday, culminating with a candlelight vigil.

PEACE PLACE EVENTS:
(SUB basement)

TUESDAY, MAR. 11

12:00 - "Create a Peace Bird" (Oragami), Suli Williams
2:00 - Peace Films

4:00 - "Peace in Native Spirituality", Loro Carmen

5:30 - "Peace Education" (film and slides), Educators for Peace

7:00 - "Peace and Equality", John Chan, Canadian Hunger Foundation

8:00 - "Universal Dances of Peace" (Sufi Dancing)

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 12

12:00 - "For Life: Christian Peacemaking for the Nuclear Age" (film), Project Ploughshares, Bruce Miller, Joyce Sorochan

1:00 - Singers, Films
2:00 - "Despair and Empowerment" workshop, Psychologists for Peace, Dr. Rick Griffin

5:00 - Quaker pacifism, Susan Carnahan

6:00 - A Peace Play, Just Us Theatre Group

6:30 - Peace Coffee House, Sue McGowan, Tammy Cooper, Lynn Weed

THURSDAY, MAR. 13

12:00 - "Development and Peace", Dr. Tim Hartnagel

1:00 - Peace Play, Just Us Theatre Group

2:00 - Peace Films

3:30 - "Global Militarism - Problems and Solutions", Panel Discussion, Club I.D.C. (Issues in Developing Countries)

5:30 - Peace Meditation, Dr. Lau
6:30 - "Create a Peace Symbol"

(Bread Sculpting), student Christian Movement (taking place in the Meditation Room upstairs)

7:00 - Beyond War Presentation, Video

FRIDAY, MAR. 14

12:00 - "Nuclear Disarmament", UNDO Panel Discussion, Dr. Heppler

2:00 - Songs of Peace, Tammy Cooper

3:00 - Films of Peace

5:00 - Personal Peace Witness International, El Salvadore, South Africa, Chile, Viet Nam, Uganda

6:30 - Peace Play - Just Us Theatre Group
7:30 - Candlelight Vigil, Amnesty International