

## AIDS "overplayed" at Regina?

**SASKATOON (CUP)** — AIDS is an over-played issue, says the student council at the University of Saskatchewan, so they haven't included it on the agenda of their sexual issues week.

The week's activities will include discussions and presentations on issues such as pornography, subliminal education, marital and sexual therapy, and abortion, but nothing on AIDS-related issues.

When the campus gay and lesbian association approached the student union entertainment director and told her they might bring in a speaker for an AIDS forum, Debra Pinkerton told them the council wouldn't be sponsoring any AIDS discussions.

"Pinkerton told us that it was decided that AIDS would not be featured this year. Apparently they feel it is an unimportant and insignificant topic for sexual issues week. They also said that the budget had already been used up anyway," said Shawn Mooney, president of Gays and Lesbians at University of Saskatchewan (GLUS).

The public has been flooded with enough information about AIDS, said Pinkerton, adding "we decided that AIDS issues were covered well enough last year."

If GLUS wants to bring in a speaker on AIDS, they are free to. They will have to pay for it, for we have spent all our budget, and it will be totally separate from the USSU's sponsored sexual issues week," said Pinkerton.

Many students say the omission is a serious oversight on the council's part.

"Statistics say an estimated 50,000 Canadians carry the HIV virus. I would see that as a major issue," said fourth year student Darryl Heck.

"I feel that most students have been inundated with information on birth control, porn and abortion, what too many people are still ignorant about is AIDS and it is the most important sexual issue today," said Grace, another U of S student.

"It is not a gay disease, it never has been, and there is a lot of unnecessary fear and prejudice out

there about it," she said.

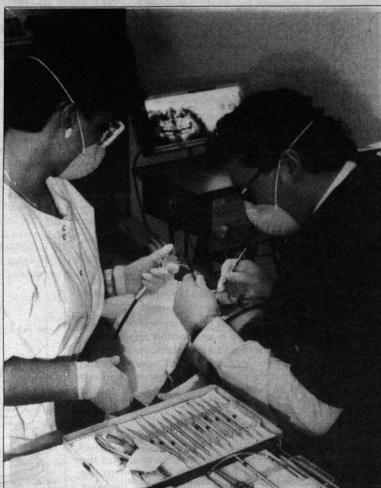
"Because there is no medical cure for AIDS, the only way to control the disease is through prevention, which means we need a hell of a lot more education and information," said student James Nahachewsky.

AIDS educators agree that there can never be too much public education on the syndrome.

"While it appears that the public has a great deal of information about AIDS, AIDS Saskatoon is continually receiving calls from people who are misinformed on the issue," said AIDS Saskatoon president Roger Carriere.

"There are constantly new developments in the field of AIDS research and every year more information is becoming available."

AIDS Saskatoon is mandated to provide the public with information on AIDS and its prevention. We would be more than happy to send a speaker to sexual issues week at no cost. That is what we are here for," said Carriere.



Getting people to write for *The Gateway* is as easy as pulling teeth. Please put us out our pain. Rm. 282 SUB

## Male Students face harassment

**CHARLOTTETOWN (CUP)** — Eighty-five per cent of male University of Prince Edward Island students polled recently say they've been sexually harassed.

That compares to 89 per cent of the women surveyed who say they've experienced some form of sexual harassment at the university.

Two UPEI psychologists are digging through the mountains of data compiled after a 36-question survey was sent to 95 per cent — or 210 — of the university's student population. The questionnaire, mailed out in the winter of 1986, was patterned after a similar study at the University of Rhode Island.

"Parts of it were quite surprising," said Dr. Beth Percival. "Especially the very high reporting by men. A lot of (surveys) look only at the women students. That's the prototypic case people think about, the female student and the male professor."

Results indicated that the majority of students did not consider sexually explicit language or jokes in class to be sexual harassment.

But they identified professors putting down men, women and lesbians and gay men, as harassment. Almost 78 per cent of women and just over 71 per cent of men had encountered such classroom situations, along with sexual jokes, obscene language, suggestive comments or slides or films with sexual connotations.

Despite the high statistics, UPEI has no formal sexual harassment policy.

Sexual harassment in the university community is commonly defined as unwanted sexual attention accompanied by a threat of reprisal or a promise of reward or behaviour which creates a negative psychological and emotional environment for work or study. Harassing behaviour can be verbal (sex-

ual jokes and innuendo) or physical (from sexual touching to intercourse).

Percival said professors were not always the culprits — other students are just as guilty.

About three quarters of both men and women suffered some form of harassment from their peers. Just over 65 per cent of female students had been subjected to sexual looks, or teasing, compared to approximately 60 per cent of the men.

Percival said there were very few incidents of extreme sexual harassment, pointing instead to high

instances of "milder problems". Meanwhile, one of Percival's colleagues questions the value of the survey.

"We may ask whether this survey may also be regarded as a social-scientific form of voyeurism which, in the long run, may turn out to be an even more psychologically invasive form of harassment than its social counterpart," said psychology professor Mujeeb Rahman.

Rahman said it was too easy for respondents to confuse "ogling... a universally favourite campus 'pastime among both sexes' with sexual harassment.

### CORRECTION

The article "Arts CRO in Conflict" [March 24th, 1988 requires two clarifications.

- Andrew Robertson was not the sole individual responsible for the petition requesting the removal of Arts CRO Martin Levenson. Many others were involved.
- Robertson did not wish to imply

that Levenson was personally in conflict. Robertson discribes Levenson as "an honourable man" and his concern was to prevent possible future abuses by a CRO linked too closely to individual candidates.

The Gateway was unable to contact Robertson and regrets any inconvenience the article may have caused.

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