

backs, tuition, and government.

plaining why it's so high and on how it can be kept in line.

Again I'm back to the relationship between the fee and the grant component.

I think it's very naive of people to feel we could increase the fee endlessly and that that would result in greater overall revenues. Governments are very aware of what the universities raise in fees. If we go overboard in increasing the fee component, I'm convinced governments will then cut grants. I don't think it's productive.

"The cynics out there may very well conclude that we programmed the whole thing to strengthen our position."

ENROLLMENT VS QUALITY OF EDUCATION

I think it's absolutely essential that the state make it possible for every individual who is interested and qualified to complete at least a first degree.

It bothers me that the U of A must make decisions which clearly seem to be in conflict with this principle.

What we are trying to emphasize is that no institution, including the U of A, can be expected to satisfy all peoples' expectations.

We've got to look at the present. We concluded that we could not continue to grow — that quality was affected. We didn't have the resources to accommodate the students with us, let alone further increases. We decided it was necessary to make a change in September



University of Alberta President Myer Horowitz

1988 (to raise the entrance requirements to 70%).

The irony is that if we'd done this a year earlier, if we had implemented the decision this fall, the effect of the proposals would not be as we've outlined — hitting a plateau of enrollment and then eventually dropping — the effect would have been an increase of not 1170 fulltime students but only 400.

The cynics out there may very well conclude that we programmed the whole thing to strengthen our position — to say it really is urgent. I

wish it were true. If it was, we would have programmed it differently.

The brutal truth is that it just happened. But because it has just happened, the community of post secondary education just has to recognize that something has got to change.

So how do I come to terms with the dilemma? By making a commitment that in addition to our proposals (to reduce U of A size) I must also invest a lot of time and energy into arguing on a system level, to saying it isn't sufficient for

the U of A alone to make its decision — which I am convinced is the decision we must make in the name of quality. If the decision stops at the U of A, it means hundreds of people who should benefit from a University education in the future won't be able to. That is intolerable.

It's unfair, there have been times in the past when the U of A has been scolded and reminded that it is not the only post secondary institution in the province. We acknowledge that. We can't solve the problem on our own. The institutions can't solve the problems by themselves. Grant MacEwan doesn't have the resources to look after 700-800 students who can't come here. Government is going to have to face the problem, and decide.

ON SOLVING THE CURRENT PROBLEMS

I think they [Government] should solve the problem by giving the existing institutions the necessary resources. If they are not prepared to do that, at least do the honest thing and admit that their position with respect to accessibil-

ity has changed. That's a government decision. It's unfair to expect the institutions to shoulder the burden without the necessary support.

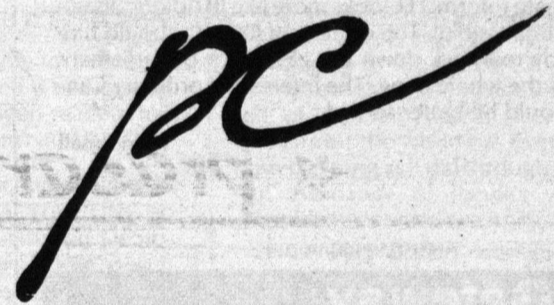
The institutions should turn this around. We should say, "of course

"We can't manage — therefore if you're not willing to spell it out, we will."

we're prepared to accommodate all the interested and qualified people — but we need the resources to do that. If you don't give us the necessary resources, we're just not going to accept that the state, through its government, continues to put priority on accessibility and the institutions somehow have to manage. We can't manage — therefore if you're not prepared to spell it out, we will."

This is tantamount to the government saying it no longer upholds the principle that all people who are interested and qualified should be able to benefit from a University education.

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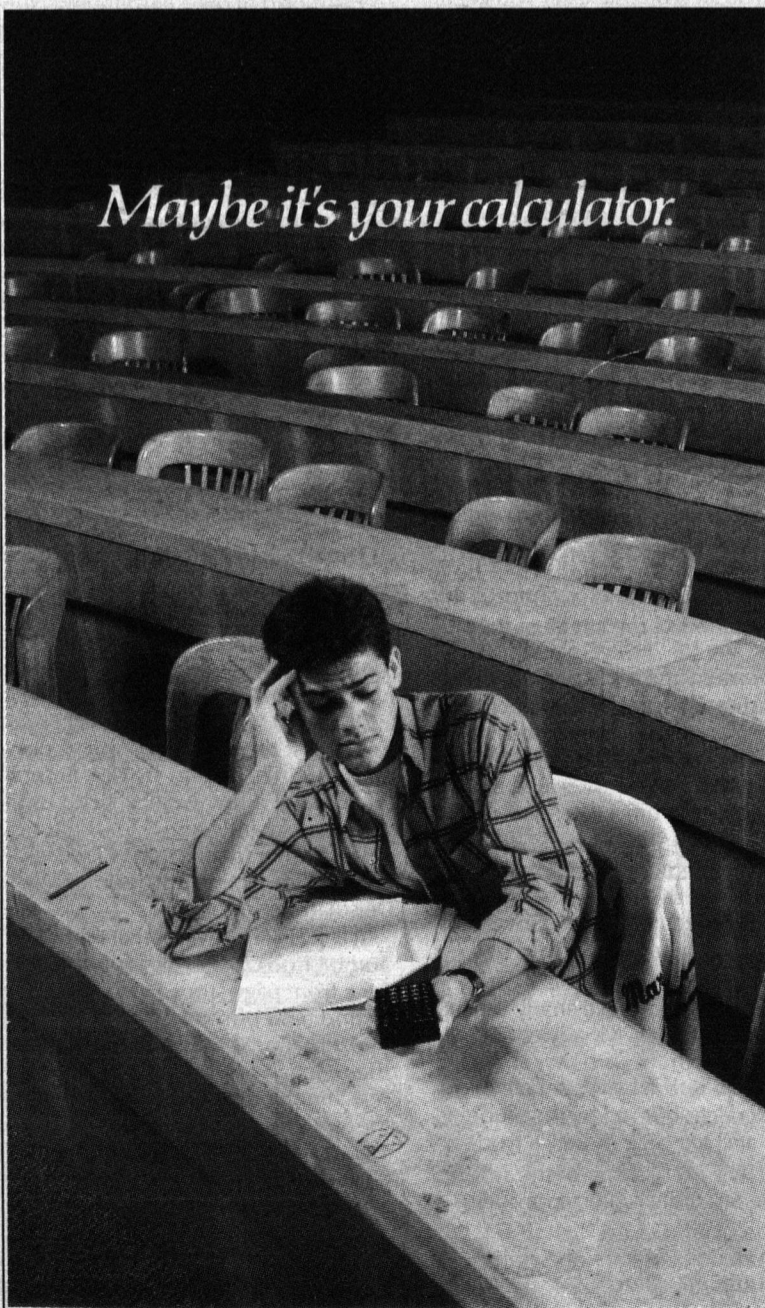
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