

# PSUA forum disrupted

by Neal Watson

Two angry students carrying signs supporting the US invasion of Grenada disrupted a political science undergraduate association (PSUA) forum Friday.

PSUA President Oscar Ammar ordered the students out of the forum and later prevented them from demonstrating in the hallway outside the room.

The demonstrating students, Richard Zurba and Pete Quily, claimed that they were only making a political statement, and providing an alternative viewpoint.

Says Zurba, "we're just a bit upset that other political science students can't express their own opinions in the PSUA unless they agree with Oscar."

The students attempted to position themselves at the back of the room and display their signs which featured such captions as "Castro the resurrector."

Ammar immediately asked for the removal of the signs, saying the forum was the opportunity for one speaker to present his views and not the place for demonstrations. The signs, he said, were disrupting the forum and were an attempt to intimidate the PSUA.

When the "student protesters" remained outside the room, Ammar again asked them to clear the area. The students complained that they were "avoiding controversy" and were only making their statement. Ammar then told them to "get out, or I'll shove you out."

When asked under what authority he could order the students away, Ammar said that as president of the PSUA he was responsible for the proceedings and he felt the students were a disruptive influence. Ammar had earlier prevented a student from handing out literature for a Stalinist group.

The major issue of contention seems to be the protesting students allegation that the PSUA

is predominately left-wing. Consequently, the majority of the speakers the PSUA presents, the students contend reflect this left-wing bias.

All political science students are automatically members of the PSUA. The six members of the executive are elected annually by political science students. The selection of speakers is debated by and then voted on by the executive. All students or groups are provided the opportunity to suggest speakers.

Ammar later responded to the student's allegations by declaring that the PSUA would not be harassed or manipulated by any groups on campus. He said the criteria for the selection of speakers was how topical the subject was. If the PSUA was too left-wing for the students, Ammar suggested that the students vote them out next term.

Before he had succeeded in intimidating the novice protesters, Ammar had told them, "You're going about this the wrong way."

## Public deception

by Kent Cochrane

"The Green Giant has just descended on the green bean," said Vidya Thakur, spokesman for the Front for Caribbean Solidarity.

Thakur, a grad student, spoke at a forum in Tory 14-9 Friday afternoon on the subject of the recent U.S. invasion of the island of Grenada.

"The United States has only been looking for an excuse to topple the regime in Grenada," he said.

"The military coup on October 13 and the subsequent assassination of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop gave them that excuse."

American attempts to justify their actions are filled with misinformation, he said.

"Thakur continued, the new government on Grenada has assured the U.S. that Americans would be protected.

"And one wonders how long the U.S. has been concerned with safeguarding democratic institutions."

He cited U.S. policy towards Guatemala, Honduras, and Chile as evidence of the lack of American concern for democracy.

The invitation from several other Caribbean states for the U.S. to intervene in Grenada also provides no justification, he said.

"No country has the right to interfere in the internal affairs of another."

Thakur said there was general support in Grenada for the government of Maurice Bishop.

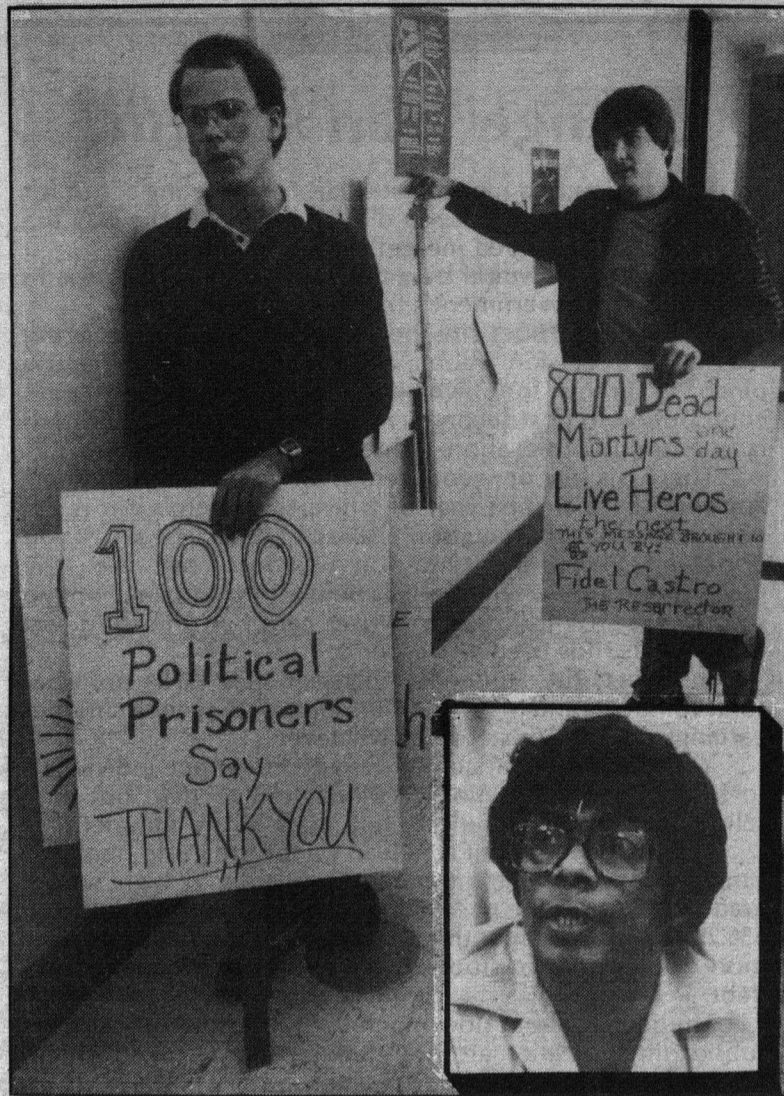
He added that there had been significant economic and social changes since 1979, when Bishop overthrew the previous government of Eric Gairy.

Thakur refused to comment on the military coup that ousted Bishop.

"The new government was not able to give any indication of its policies because the Americans invaded so soon after the coup."

When asked about the Cubans on Grenada, Thakur said that they were workers, not soldiers.

He also said that the various Caribbean nations have become very polarized over this issue, and he foresees the breakup of the Caribbean Common Market as a result.



Protesting a forum on a sunny day.

photo Angela Wheelock

## South African blacks repressed

by Chris Pentelchuk

Representatives of the African National Congress (ANC) and South West African People's Organization (SWAPO) spoke at U of A Wednesday night as part of their Canada-wide tour.

Father Micheal Lapsely and Susan Nghidinwa discussed the injustices of apartheid in South Africa.

The white minority, constituting 13 per cent of the population assumes all the country's political power, while the remaining black majority (83 per cent) has no political or economic power.

Susan Nghidinwa, a Namibian citizen and school teacher was exiled to Zambia. She is an active member of the central committee of SWAPO and is also the

SWAPO's women's council Representative in Zambia.

She outlined the active role women play in Zambia heading education projects, providing clothing for children and aiding in food production.

Father Lapsely, born in England, worked in South Africa until he was exiled after the Soweto massacre.

As a member of the ANC, he continues to fight against the apartheid regime. Lapsely stated that the ANC is fighting for "the life of the people and against the death of Apartheid." According to Lapsely, apartheid exists at three levels in South Africa:

- Micro or petty apartheid. This includes benches with signs designating white or black only.

- Meso or residential apartheid divides suburbs according to race. Whites live in the city while other races live towards the country.

- Macro level which includes land division. This is the most unjust level with 13 per cent of the population controlling 87 per cent of the land.

Lapsely urged the individual to take a stand against apartheid. He stressed the importance of boycotting trade between Canada and South Africa and encouraged contribution of funds and materials to the ANC and SWAPO. Most importantly, Lapsely emphasized the importance of self-education regarding the conditions of apartheid.

## Legislature confused again

by Mark Roppel

A statement made by Labour Minister Les Young in the Legislature last Tuesday has added to the confusion surrounding proposed renovations to the Earth Sciences Building.

Young said, "a few minor changes, such as increasing the fire rating of certain partitions from 40 minutes to one hour would offer accomodation as safe as if not safer than many buildings in the province."

"I disagree with him," said SU VP External Andrew Watts, "they need a lot more than a few minor changes."

"It is a reasonably safe building and certainly poses no potential or immediate harm to the occupants," said Mr. Young.

This statement apparently contradicts Advanced Education Minister Dick Johnston who said the day before that the government was in fact "aware of the imminent danger in that building."

Johnston said the government was considering renovations or even the "option of a new building."

The future of the Earth Sciences Building has been in question since a study by an

architectural firm revealed that the building was unsafe (Gateway, October 18).

The extensive renovations necessary to bring the building up to Alberta Building Code Standards could cost as much as 17 million dollars.

"We are not sure what they're going to give us," said VP Facilities

and Services Ron Phillips.

Phillips met with government officials yesterday, but he says "we're working on a budget... I don't think we will know anything until April."

In the meantime, the university will continue to use the building and the facilities within.

## CJSR slowly going FM

by Lois C. Dayes

If the elusive transmitter is delivered "soon" (before the third week of November), CJSR will be on the FM band by January 1st, says station director Colin Keylor.

The transmitter tower is up and the antennae was attached on Friday. As far as the transmitter is concerned, Keylor says he expects it "any day" from California.

FM radio CJSR will be heard on 88.5 on your radio dial.

When asked about competing with the major FM stations in the city, Keylor said university radio "doesn't compete." And it doesn't try to.

Campus radio has neither the money nor the resources to com-

pete with commercial radio. As well as the "promise of performance" given to the CRTC for the licence requires a strict programming policy.

CJSR must offer a variety of programming that wouldn't sell on mainstream radio.

The history of university's radio transition from playing to the campus audience to reaching a mass audience is a successful one, says Keylor.

Ryerson Polytechnique, UBC and Carleton are examples of campus radio stations that have prospered on the FM band.

The prospects for success on the FM airwaves seem good for CJSR. Now, if only that transmitter would arrive.

