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B of G, GFC, etc.

by Ken Lenz

The University of Alberta is an institution and like all institutions has a bureaucracy complete with committees, sub-committees, and miles of red tape. All this tends to be monotonous, boring and confusing at best. At worst it is enough to drive frustrated students into a suicidal frenzy.

Anyway, this is an extremely condensed guide to the inner workings of an institution you will probably spend at least four years at, and it may be important, at least for your own peace of mind, to understand who is making the decisions about your future.

THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

This is the real decision making body at the University. The Board of Governors decides where to allocate the funds provided by the Provincial Government and fees paid by students. This entails decisions on tuition increases, building construction, hiring of academic staff, rents in student accommodation and so on.

There are 19 members on the Board of Governors: the University President, the Chancellor, the Chairman, eight members of the general upper-class public ap pointed by the Provincial Cabinet and one representative from the Senate, the Alumni Association and Academic Staff Association. The Students' Union President, an elected Undergraduate and member of the Graduate Students' Association represent student views on the Board.

GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL

Below the Board of Governors is the General Faculties Council, which makes decisions on primarilv academic matters.

There are 140 members on GFC including 50 student represent-atives, which incidentally haven't been filled in recent years because of an indifference demonstrated by students. We like to call it apathy.

The remaining positions on GFC are filled by the Administrationand the teaching staff.

The Senate

The Senate's role is almost purely advisory. It is intended as a link between an otherwise isolated University and the outside world. Dealing with issues like Native Studies Programs and the status of women. the Senate addresses some problems (however slowly and often ineffectively) which might otherwise by neglected. The membership in the Senate also reflects its purpose of keeping contact with those outside the 'ivory' tower. Of the Senate's 89 members, 62 come from the general public. Of the remaining 27 members there are two from the Board of Governors, eight from GFC, five student representatives, four Alumni members and eight members appointed by the Provincial Government.

extremely confusing set of committees, boards and policies, all of which are far too convoluted to even touch upon in this article.

Administered by five paid elected executive members and watched over by an often bewildered democratic Students' Council, the SU does its best to act in the interests of students and to further the bureaucracy, but not mecessarily in that order.

This years executive consists of: President Floyd Hodgins acts as a spokesperson, sits on GFC, the Senate and the Board of Governors and does his best to keep everyone smiling with his masterful use of diplomacy and rhetoric.

The VP External Paul Alpern works with the Provincial Government and other outside things. He campaigns for lower tuitions and higher grants as well as many other

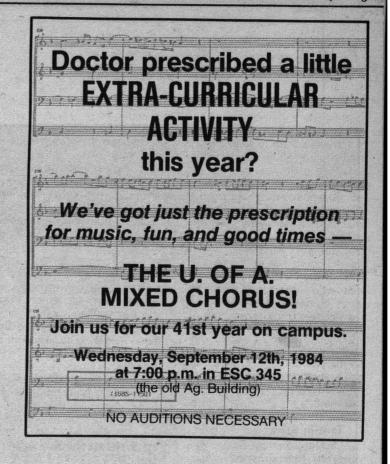
programs which might make you life at University a little easier.

The VP Finance Christine Eng, works closely with SU Business Manager Tom Wright trying to control the amount of money spent by the SU Eng's biggest job this year will be to try and control the SU's massive \$300,000 dollar debt.

The VP Academic Donna Kassian represents students on academic matters ranging from the lack of library study space, to proposals for tougher entrance requirements.

Finally, VP Internal Gord Stamp administers the smooth operations of the SU Building and SU services.

If you made it through this arti-cle, long dull and boring as it was, you will probably make it through University with relatively little trouble. To the remaining 99 per cent of you who really don't give a shit — I don't blame you.





The Students' Union

This is the organization looking out for our interests. The University of Alberta Students' Union is a five million dollar per year business employing some 70 people, from big shot lawyers to the waiters and waitresses in RATT and Dewey's. Besides the campus pubs, the SU maintains the Gateway, the campus radio station CJSR, the housing and exam registries, the SU record store and several other services.

And like the University, the SU has managed to build up an

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a durbuct resoluting all trace eligible under the Loi sur les loteres, les courses, les concours publicitoires et les apareils d amusements have been paid A compliant respecting the administration of this contest may be submitted to the Régie des lotteres et courses du Quebec ¹ A long distance call is a completed call outside the entrant's designated free calling area

Wednesday, September 5, 1984