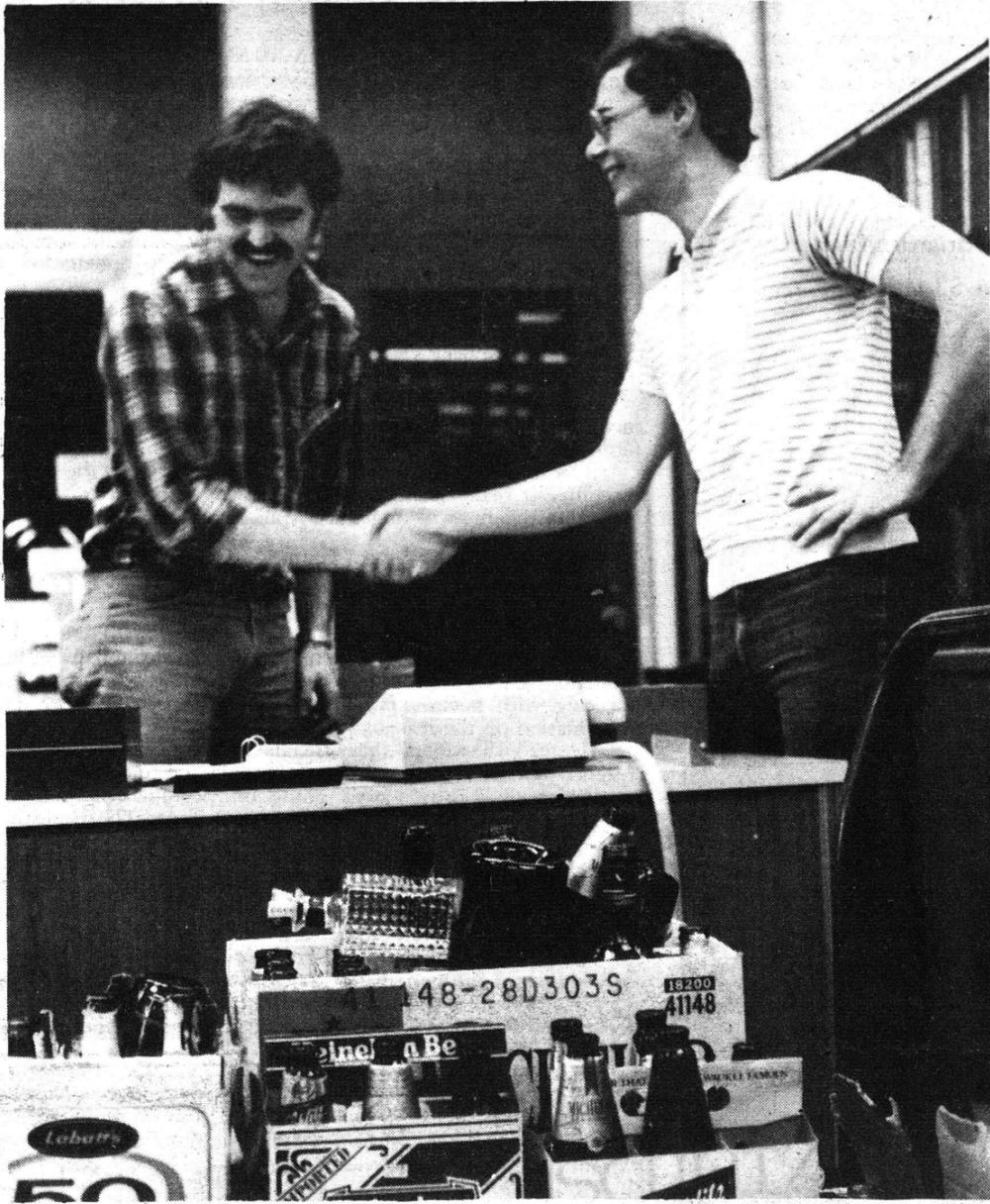


Growth...

the Gateway

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... is the ideology of a cancer cell



Students' Union vice president Jan Byer (left) looks thrilled by Gateway editor Keith Krause's donation to the SU bottle drive. Only 12 million bottles are needed to put the SU back on its financial feet.

Students to be hit in Calgary

CALGARY (CUP)— It appears certain that University of Calgary students will be facing another round of tuition fee increases.

At an informal dinner meeting earlier this week, executive members of the Students Union (SU) were informed by the university administration that students could expect another fee increase, to be formally announced later this winter.

According to SU president Theresa Goulet, the figures mentioned were in the range of 10-12 per cent.

"Dr. Wagner (the president of the university) said quite plainly, not in confidence, that we could expect 10-12 per cent increases," Goulet told the student newspaper, the *Gauntlet*.

Tuition fees are currently \$605 annually for full-time undergraduates, and \$756 annually for engineering students. A 12 per cent increase would raise these figures to \$678 and \$847 respectively.

Fees this year have already been raised 10 per cent from last year's level of \$550 for regular undergrads.

Speaking to the *Gauntlet*, Wagner denied using the 10-12 per cent figures, but admitted discussing the possibility of an increase with the SU executive.

He said that he had no idea of the amount of such an increase, since fees are set by the university's Board of Governors in January or February, but said that an increase in that range is "probably inevitable".

Wagner even suggested that tuition fees should perhaps be set at roughly 10 per cent of the total cost of a student's education, which he said is currently \$8,000 annually. A tuition increase to this \$800 mark would mean a 32 per cent jump over current levels.

Goulet said that it was unusual for tuition increases to be announced this way. Usually, she said, they are quite unexpected, the administration not giving so much advance notice.

This being the case, Goulet suggested that it was "quite possible" that the move was designed to test student reaction.

She thought that vocal student opposition to the increase might have little effect on this jump in fees, but may prevent similar moves in future years.

"I suspect that we might be getting a tuition fee increase this year, because when the fee increase was announced last year, students didn't really protest", Goulet continued.

"So we do have to do something, or every year it will be the same thing over and over."

Student leaders have opposed similar tuition increases in the past because they are not tied to corresponding improvements in the ability of students to pay higher fees, such as increased student wages or an expanded student finance program.

Goulet felt that another increase in tuition fees, on top of higher housing, food, and textbook costs will make it harder for many students to afford a university education.

Only the rich can pay fees

by Nina Miller

The poor are inadequately represented in our universities because they can't afford the expense.

Although this may seem obvious, the SU has come up with evidence to support it.

An SU brief to Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower Jim Horsman on tuition fee indexing includes statistics showing that students from wealthier backgrounds are much less likely to require student loans.

This is because poorer families are less likely to subsidize their child's education.

About 37 per cent of students from higher income brackets received over 30 per cent of their funds from their parents last year, while only 15 per cent of the poorest group received that much.

Women students are also disadvantaged, says the brief. Women students have a lower earning capacity but have a higher tendency to work part-time during the year to compensate for inadequate summer earnings.

SU president Nolan Astley said Monday this data is indicative of two things, "that tuition fees do have an effect on whether one can attend university, and that the loan program isn't offering what it should."

While Astley said the lack of students at university from poor backgrounds is caused by more than tuition and student aid, the report confirms that these are a large part of it.

"The importance of these figures is that they may point to a need for change to the current

student aid system in Alberta," states the brief. "Specifically, student loans are currently available to men and women on exactly the same terms (similar savings requirements and so on). We believe that it may be time for the Students' Finance Board to reassess this situation," stated the brief.

The brief was prepared in response to Horsman's request for input concerning his proposal for long term planning of tuition fee increases. He has said he is considering indexing fees,

perhaps to the Consumer Price Index or the university operating grants.

The report prepared shows that in fact tuition has been rising at a rate constant to the CPI and operating grants.

However, Astley said fees rise on an informal basis, according to the circumstances each year. Indexing would not give the university the flexibility to adjust fees, reducing the autonomy of the Board of Governors.

"I felt it necessary to put in a strong objection to indexing of tuition fees," said Astley. "We can't let Horsman index tuition fees to the CPI or university operating grants or any other percentage he pulls out of the air," he said.

The report says that indexing tuition fees to university operating grants is unfair because much of these costs cover expenditures unrelated to students.

Astley said the brief will be presented to Horsman in a meeting, preferably before Christmas.

He said he does not know how Horsman will react to the statistics, as he has previously expressed a dislike for sociological studies.

Earlier this year, Horsman referred to university access studies as "airy fairy, mushy ..."

Neighbours unite against U

by Mike Walker

Members of the four communities surrounding the university are up in arms about the proposed site for the university's 1983 World Student Games fieldhouse.

Two weeks ago university president Myer Horowitz announced the administration would recommend the 10,000 seat fieldhouse be built south of Corbett Hall on University Avenue.

But now residents of McKernan, which lies directly across University Avenue from the proposed site, as well as those of Garneau, Belgravia and Windsor

Park, are upset at the prospect of the fieldhouse going up on that site.

"We just couldn't believe it," said Liz Kuiken, chairman of McKernan Community League's planning committee, Monday. "We simply don't want the damned thing near us."

However, university officials insist that someone will be unhappy with any of the available site.

"The only site that makes complete sense to us is the Jubilee Auditorium (parking lot) site," Horowitz said Monday. The provincial government, owner of the lot, refused this fall to have the fieldhouse built there.

Horowitz said the administration's Corbett Hall proposal is now being examined by various committees. "I'm not going to try to shape the decision of those committees," he said.

Concerned community groups can make presentations to those committees, he said.

Most of the residential areas around the university are laid out in a grid rather than crescents and dead ends. Shortcutting drivers are already a safety problem without the extra load of the fieldhouse, Kuiken said.

The fieldhouse's size is a point of major contention.

"It (the proposed fieldhouse

design) is four times the size of the existing Kinsmen Fieldhouse," Kuiken claimed.

Ron Phillips, U of A vice-president of planning, disagreed.

"It's about one and a half times bigger than Kinsmen. It's about 400 by 480 feet," he said. About half of the green area south of the hall will remain after construction of the fieldhouse and the accompanying parkade.

"The university and the city have decided to sponsor the Games, and one of the things they need is a fieldhouse," he said. "It's seen in the plan for 12 years. This just seems like an opportune time to get outside funding."

photo Bill Ingles