

Crowding problems

Huge, unbearable; choose any adjective you wish, but the number of people at this university has increased drastically.

I am not going to dwell on whose fault it is, I am going to point out what a problem this has become.

If anyone wants an example, they might try to walk through Chem West wing at a peak hour. You might as well be on a New York subway during rush hour.

I feel this has now become a real problem. Not only are students late for classes, but this crowding is a fire hazard. Next time you are standing in Chem West with hundreds of other people around you, just imagine what would happen if a fire broke out. A mass stampede is the image that comes to my mind.

We all have a serious problem on our hands. I hope our university heads realize this, so that action can be taken before we all learn a serious lesson.

Bruce Gardave



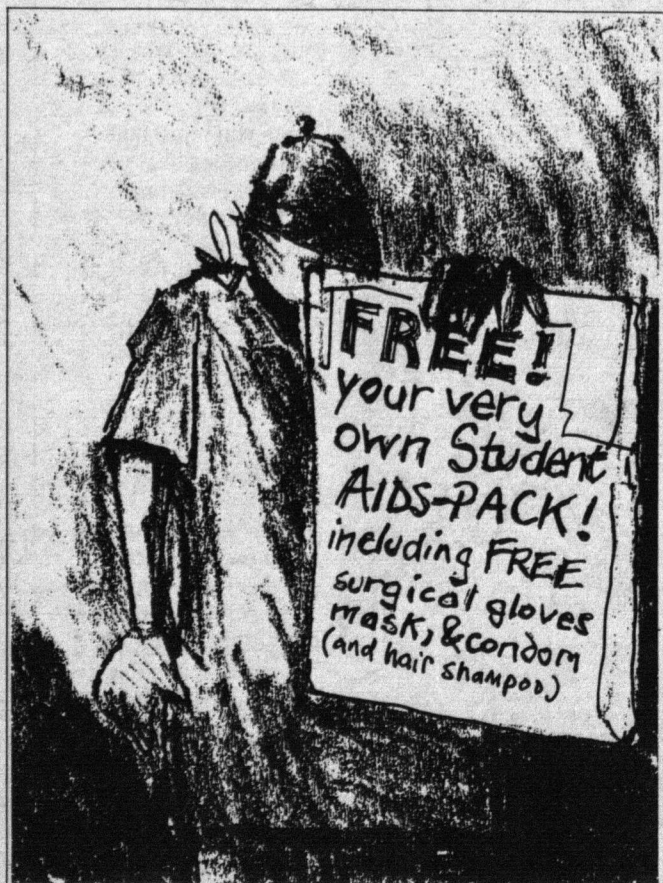
The Gateway



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Readers misled

The article on the AIDS pamphlet which appeared in the September 15th Gateway led readers to believe that there were problems securing funding for an information pamphlet on AIDS. There were never problems with funding. The Students' Union, Graduate Students' Association and Dean of Student Services have agreed to fund this project. The Council on Student Services approved the pamphlet on September 15, 1987. The pamphlet will be distributed across campus in about three weeks.

Mrs. E.A. Schoeck Solomon
 Director, University Secretariat

Hope misplaced

In response to your article entitled "Students hope University will help refugees", I wish to say that your hope has been profoundly misplaced. It is a grave error to assume that University students would like to have an added expense of 50 cents to their fees for the purpose of paying for "refugees" (and I do not use that term lightly) to continue their education at our expense.

Though you might argue the few cents each student would have to put out as "just a glass of milk", it is hardly worth the battle of discussion. Just take a look at the number of students that use Student Loans as a means of their funding for their own education. Surely you understand that it is the government who sponsors them, and to have Canadian students charged more for their fees for the purpose of giving it away, is to assume that the Finance Board is giving more funds than the students require for their academic year in University. Is it not so, then, that the Canada Student Loans department would be responsible for actually helping to fund these refugees in the Canadian Education System? I wonder how they would respond to such a statement?

It is my impression that your motive for this entire plan of aid to these most unfortunate students is for the sole reason of keeping up with the other educational institutions in the country. I strongly disagree with this kind of motivation! It then would appear that we would help for our own personal gain. That is to say that we want to be included with all the other institutions who felt the same way about offering their services. Personally, I don't value being included with other institutions under these circumstances.

Have you really considered the total effects of what it is you are asking, or has it simply been a response to a need with an "ought to help" attitude? This kind of "bleeding heart" mentality, based on a premise that suggests if we

do not provide help for these students it results in the imposed condemnation of no longer being considered a "good" Canadian citizen. Remember, these people are refugees. They don't even belong here according to law. It is time that we use this tool called the mind, so that we will be able to discriminate between that which is right and that which is wrong.

In closing, the motivation and the method in which you intend to provide help for these people in need should be tossed out! Determine to go back to the old drawing board. It is also my personal policy that when I address a problem, I like to make an anticipated or suggested alternative to the problem. In saying that, I'll say this: What is so bad about having these refugees go back to where they came from, gain assistance from their own governing bodies, and return when the necessary requirements are fulfilled? Really, patience is just as good of a practice as having the hope that one day, we as humans will be able to see the larger scope of all things.

Bonny Dearing

Miffed at SU fees

I am addressing this letter to any students who, like myself, are upset about being charged for membership in the Students' Union. I personally do not see the need for one.

I have enrolled in University to further my education and obtain training to qualify for a career in my chosen field. I paid tuition fees, athletic and health care fees, and I paid for textbooks and supplies required for my courses. On top of these expenses, I was told that I must pay Students' Union dues, whether I used their services or not.

Excuse me, I must have been mistaken. I thought I was living in a democratic country. Whatever happened to freedom of choice? Should an organization have the right to charge people for services not rendered?

I am not saying that the Students' Union doesn't perform some functions for some students, but why should every student have to finance them? A perfect example is the student newspaper, *The Gateway*. Have you ever noticed the number of these left in the stands, or littering the floors throughout campus? Can you imagine what it costs to print these each year? A solution would be to charge readers a certain price per copy, rather than have the whole student body pay for all that wasted newsprint through their Students' Union dues.

But I am sure that the Executive members of the Students' Union have only our best interests in mind as they

handle our money. Of course, it probably looks impressive on a personal resume to have served in an executive function while at University; particularly if applying for a government position. One bureaucracy can't be very much different from another.

Leslie Hicks

Soviet article errs

I must protest the feature article *Peace; A true Soviet plot?* which ran in last Thursday's *Gateway*. Was this article written in a vacuum? There is little or no recognition of the facts of the current world situation, but what can one expect when the only source quoted is fresh back from an "all expenses paid" trip to the Soviet Union.

This article clearly represents yet another part of the cloud of disinformation currently so popular with both the world super powers. It could have easily been written as a *Tass* press release.

We are told that "the delegates were impressed by the sinerity (sic) and openness of the Soviet officials as they tried to answer the delegates' questions on defense spending and arms production." I submit there could have been a great deal less sincerity and openness had the questions to do with topics the Soviets are not currently propagandizing, such as Afghanistan or weapons sales to client states such as Syria.

Why is the *Gateway* publishing this drivel? Has the house organ of the SU become a branch office of the house organ of the Central Committee? Is there no better way to inform the students of this campus than to supply them with blatant propaganda?

If this article represents an attempt at informing the student body, may I suggest that you try entertaining them instead. As a parody of journalism, there was some comic relief, but if you try, I think you can do better than this.

John Staples

Letters to the Editor are encouraged and always welcome.

If you have a comment which would be of interest to the students of the University, please do not hesitate to send it in. All we require is your name, address, and phone number, and student ID if you are a student. We will not print letters missing any of these.

Letters should be no longer than three hundred words.

Mail or deliver your letters to room 282 SUB, or drop them at any SU information booth.