

Center cop-out for council

by Alison Thomson

Students' council elected to remain neutral on the issue of the convention center at a special meeting Tuesday night.

A motion by Arts proxy Bill Tatarchuk at last week's council meeting to publicly oppose the convention center was referred to the External Affairs Board for recommendations.

The board however, returned with a motion of their own, rather than a recommendation on the original motion.

Their motion also required the Students' Union to hold a forum on the issue, and to encourage students to vote in the November 28 plebiscite.

Vp external Tema Frank said there was some doubt as to whether the convention center issue affects students. She also

said the information is not so clear cut that the board felt it could take a position on one side or another.

"This is not an issue of leadership versus non-leadership," she said. "It affects students very, very indirectly as citizens of Edmonton, not as students."

Science councillor Steve Cumming said council always hears these arguments that it is none of their concern and that it doesn't directly affect students.

"This is not correct," he said. "We are a sizeable unit of this city. It is not clear to me what the benefit is to the average citizen who will be required to pay, albeit indirectly."

Arts proxy Tatarchuk said it is the responsibility of council

to make such issues known on behalf of students.

Arts councillor Kate Orrell added council does have a leadership role. "We've got to stop accepting cozy let's not take any position External Affairs Board motions," she said.

Vp academic Chanchal Bhattacharya said every time council gives money to groups which concern themselves with outside issues, it implicitly takes a position.

"We should take a stand on things which affect students as individuals," he said. "We're ignoring our responsibilities as a union of students."

Brian Mason added, "Surely the fact that some students don't oppose cutbacks doesn't mean we shouldn't oppose them."

Cumming objected that a motion which had been made earlier (the Tatarchuk motion to oppose the center) had disappeared. He moved an amendment which would have recreated the original motion; however, the chair's ruling that it was in order was overturned.

Speaker Michael Amerongen said in defense of his ruling, "that motion died in the bureaucracy."

Frank summed up the EAB position. She said the fact that other groups have taken positions on the convention center doesn't necessarily make it right for students.

She responded to a criticism that becoming involved in hockey teams is outside involvement by saying, "The purpose behind our sponsorship of the

hockey team was mainly image improvement. This (taking a position) wouldn't help our image in any way, shape, or form."

"Students can express their opinion by voting in the referendum," she concluded.

The motion to remain neutral on the convention center carried thirteen in favor, six against. All members of the executive except Bhattacharya supported the motion.

Speaker Amerongen objected to proceedings at the end of the meeting. "What happened tonight should not have happened," he said. "It is unacceptable that councillors be prevented from having their motions discussed. In future, referred motions will come back in their original form."

Contract violates student rights

by Portia Priegert

There are problems with the Lister Residence Contract drawn up this summer, according to Student Legal Services chairman Dave Mercer.

An evaluation of the contract made by SLS member Irvin Adler for the Gateway points out that students in Lister Hall live under a license rather than a tenant relationship.

This means that students are not protected by the Landlord and Tenant Act which provides that a landlord give a tenant three-months eviction notice and that interest be paid on the damage deposit, among other things.

As well, the licensee licensor relationship means the university can ask the resident to vacate the premises even if he was not in violation of the contract, says the evaluation.

Though the student can later sue for breach of contract, Mercer says students have the immediate problem of finding somewhere to stay. Such actions have varying degrees of success, he says.

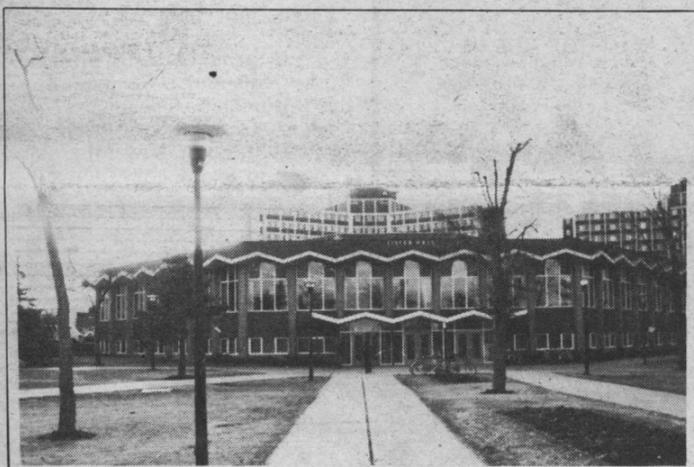
The SLS evaluation also points out other problems with the Lister Hall contract:

- The contract incorporates other documents, including the University Housing

Regulations, residence community standards and the Residence Handbook. These documents are not supplied with the contract, so a student is bound by regulations he may not have seen and which may be changed without his knowledge.

- There is an "incredible amount" of discretion left to the Director of Housing and Food Services. The contract says a student can be evicted when "in the opinion of the Director" a student constitutes a real or apprehended danger to the physical safety of other residents, or "for any reason

Continued on page two



The Lister Hall Residence complex

Students meet minister Tuition going up

The long-awaited meeting between students and the provincial government has confirmed that tuition fee increases are imminent, says the Federation of Alberta Students (FAS) executive officer.

Lake Sagaris says "the provincial government is very, very adamant that tuition fee increases are in the works."

FAS presented a brief on student concerns about tuition increases and student aid to the Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower Jim Horsman and members of the governments caucus committee on education at a meeting Monday evening.

The government and FAS agreed on some aspects of student aid issues, including the need for revisions to the Alberta student loan program.

"The minister agreed student aid is inadequate," says Sagaris.

The minister also said he supported student input into the national task force on student aid currently being planned, says Sagaris. "He said he supported sufficient funding . . . so the task force can come to campuses and talk to students," she says.

Although FAS and Horsman did not agree on that the National Union of Students represented students, the minister said "chances are pretty good" that voting student representatives will be included on the task force.

Horsman also agreed that an age-of-independence clause should be included in student loan revisions, says Sagaris.

However, Horsman said federal contributions would have

to increase before the provincial government would commit itself to the clause.

Horsman promised a government response to the Grantham Report before the university's budget is announced this spring. The report on student contributions to post-secondary education announced its findings in January.

"The meeting was very interesting...the minister made it

Continued on page two

Iranian students have visas checked

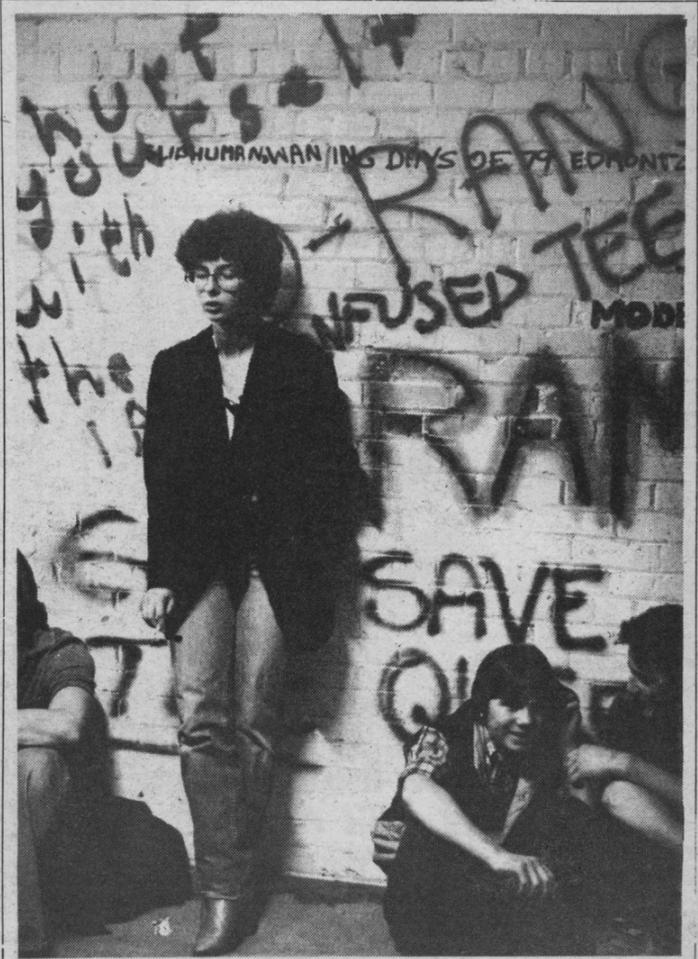
OTTAWA (CUP) - Immigration minister Ron Atkey said he ordered a check into the legal status of Iranians attending Canadian universities shortly after militant Iranian students occupied the American embassy in Tehran in early November.

Atkey said most Iranian students in Canada have legal visas.

In the U.S., president Jimmy Carter has already ordered the deportation of all Iranians who are in the country without

legal authorization.

When the deposed Shah of Iran first entered a New York hospital, Iranian students in both countries held protests. Since the hostage incident the only protests have been by outraged U.S. citizens. American students at several institutions have burned the Ayatollah Khomeini in effigy and Iranian students still in the U.S. have been attacked by angry people.



They only come out at night, and in the morning, they pick up their briefcases and head to class. Punks profiled on pages 8 and 9.

photo Russ Sampson