

Calgary Council tuition proposal raises ire of international students

CALGARY (CUP) - A recommendation to the University of Calgary's Student's Legislative Council to increase tuition fees for foreign students has met with heavy criticism from International students on this campus.

The proposal, spearheaded by Academic Commission member Paul Wolf and his brother Student Union President Dave Wolf, called for an increase of \$2300 in tuition fees for international students.

The revenue expected to be gained would be channelled into a scholarship fund for university-qualified international students who would not otherwise have the means to finance their own education,

said Paul Wolf.

Brother Dave said "very few, if any, international students of modest means are attending the University of Calgary. The cost of transportation, tuition, and living must certainly be prohibitive to all but the well-heeled."

Vice-President of the International Students Association, Din Ladak, feels that the brothers are "assuming too much" about the economic status of foreign students.

"We barely can afford to pay tuition and rents," he said.

According to Benita Catherasoo, past president of the ISA, "some students arrive barely able to pay their plane fare. If they live in a society with

an extended family system, the admission fee is paid by a relative."

"According to the Wolf brothers, groups that would be exempt from the increases would be landed immigrants (who are potential Canadians), students here on scholarships and possibly poor foreign students. A means test would be administered to determine the latter. According to the student newspaper, "to raise tuition fees for international students makes a mockery of the whole system."

It argued that setting up a scholarship fund for third world students is not a bad idea, but to count on the money coming from other international students is rather ill-conceived.

"Any student who could afford the \$9200 for the U of C's prestigious degree might find him/herself tempted by some bargain-rate degree. The funds for scholarships would soon dry up and the U of C would find itself depopulated of international students."

At an impromptu meeting with international students president Wolf changed his stand in mid-stride. He said his personal contact with international students was limited and that he could be wrong about their financial status.

Wolf said the main reason for the proposal was to help underprivileged international students through the scholarship fund and thereby increase foreign student registrations.

Crowd reaction at the meeting indicated the opposite effect would occur in significant numbers.



Oksana Popvych, a prisoner in the Soviet Union is physically disabled and currently serving eight years of hard labor for distributing "unofficial literature."

Amnesty International

In the fourteen years since its foundation, Amnesty International has been active in combating violations of human rights wherever they occur in the world. Torture, capital punishment, poor prison conditions, unjust laws and political show trials, have all come under its scrutiny and attracted its condemnation.

One of the problems with which Amnesty International as an organization has tried to deal is long term imprisonment. Many of the more than 3,600 prisoners under adoption or investigation by the organization are men and women who have spent many years in detention for their political or religious beliefs. These individuals - the truly "forgotten prisoners" - are the kind of people about whom the groups founders were most concerned.

For Prisoner of Conscience Week, October 12-19, Amnesty International has selected 12 cases to illustrate the impact of long-term incarceration on the lives of ordinary people.

The cases selected cover countries as geographically and ideologically diverse as Turkey and Taiwan, Cuba and Singapore, Rhodesia and the Soviet Union. There is, however, a parallelism about the fate which has overtaken the 12 prisoners listed.

In Spain, a young man is serving a 16 year sentence for illicit association and illegal propaganda in connection with the Communist Party of Spain; in Cuba, a priest awaits the end of his 15 year prison sentence for hiding and assisting a "traitor to the people."

In Taiwan, a writer finds himself imprisoned for 10 years after a trial in secret by military tribunal; in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, a former cabinet minister is given similar sentence under retroactive legislation.

In Indonesia, Singapore and Rhodesia, prisoners are held for years without any hope of being brought to trial under emergency legislation and special laws permitting virtual indefinite detention.

In the Soviet Union, a 47 year old woman faces 8 years' imprisonment in a corrective labour camp to be followed by 5

years of internal exile for alleged "anti-Soviet agitation and propanganda"; In Tunisia, a young leftwinger finds that the conditional amnesty under which he was released in 1970 has been revoked, and he must return to prison to serve out a 16 year sentence for his political activities.

Amnesty International has two groups in Edmonton headed by Dr. L.R. Gue, a professor at the U of A. Their work, consisting to a great extent of writing letters on behalf of assigned prisoners, works in conjunction with other member groups in over 60 other countries.

Last year Amnesty took up approximately 3,000 cases throughout the world, and about 1400 were released.

SAN FRANCISCO (ZNS-CUP) - An anonymous group of "yippies" in the Midwest say they will publish the latest book written by Abbie Hoffman, founder of the Youth International Party.

The book, entitled *Book-of-the-Month-Club-Selection*, has been rejected by every major publisher in the United States. A spokesperson for Stonhill publication, says "Our attorneys have more worries about lawsuits arising from publishing *Book-of-the-Month-Club-Selection*, than from the publication of the *C.I.A. Diary*."

The main reason most publishers have shied away from Abbie's book is fear of Ma Bell and her attorneys. It seems that the book contains more than 50 pages of ways to make free phone calls using foreign coins, phony credit card numbers, and home-made electronic equipment. The book even contains plans for a home-made device that reportedly makes pay phones empty all their change into the coin return slot. The device costs only 50 cents to build.

The yippie publishers claim that they are not worried about the phone company, but they have not been able to find anyone to print the book.

To add to their troubles, author Abbie Hoffman took one of the book's chapters with him when he went underground two years ago following a bust for cocaine.

The yippies have publicly appealed to Abbie to send them Chapter 14 of his new book.

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