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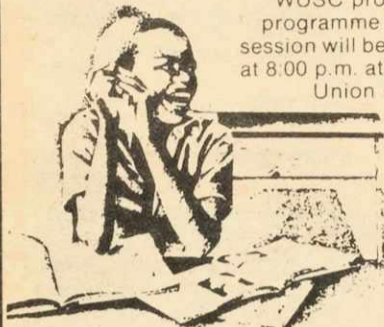
THE CHALLENGE OF AFRICA

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WUSC provides benefits which vary from programme to programme. An information session will be held on Tuesday, February 9th, at 8:00 p.m. at the Council Chamber, Student Union Building, Dalhousie University.



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International students escape quota

OTTAWA (CUP) -- An "emergency" quota that would cut in half the enrollment of international students in the University of Ottawa engineering department has been vetoed by the faculty dean five days after it was imposed.

Nicolaos Georganas, chairperson of the U of O electrical engineering department, told first-year students January 21 that only sixteen international students would be able to enter their second year. Sixty-four visa students are currently enrolled in the first year class.

"We were shocked," said one student. "The chairman walked into our class and said that due to an error in the enrollment, 155 first year students were admitted. Now only 65 students would be admitted into second year. A quota would be put on foreigners."

Georganas told the first year class about the plan six days after the deadline for course changes

at the university. He gave them five days to switch programs if they wished.

"It was the department's decision," said Science and Engineering Dean Alec Baer, "and I couldn't live with it." Baer overruled the quota, which had been set by the engineering department council.

"We had an emergency meeting, so no students were invited," said Georganas. He said the council feared the school would lose professional accreditation if it did not limit enrollment. Over the past ten years, engineering enrollment has increased but the school has not hired additional staff.

Georganas blamed U of O's admissions department for the added first year enrollment. "We had agreed to 25 per cent visa students in the first year. Don't tell us we're to blame, we did not bring them here. It is the admissions office which should get the flack. The university has goofed,

and the university should have to pay."

But Registrar Raymond Labelle said no quota for international students had been agreed on between the admissions office and electrical engineering department. He said Admissions was told the school would accept any international student with an average of 80 per cent.

The vetoed quota would have sliced visa student enrollment in the second year class down from 46 per cent to the department's 25 per cent objective.

The department knew about the surplus of students in September, said Georganas. Before acting, they waited for a provincial government decision on international student enrollment, expected in December, but now not likely to be made until mid-February.

In a letter to the U of O English students' newspaper, The Fulcrum, an international student attacked the sudden notice that Georganas would have imposed. "The administrative personnel should have limited enrollment in the first place instead of telling the students after half a year of hard work that they will have to compete for the limited vacancies in the second year."

Andre Broussard, a U of O international student advisor, said, "Students didn't object to the quota as such but they were upset at its timing. It was announced abruptly when it was already past the January 15 deadline for course changes."

"It was a kick in the ass at the last minute."

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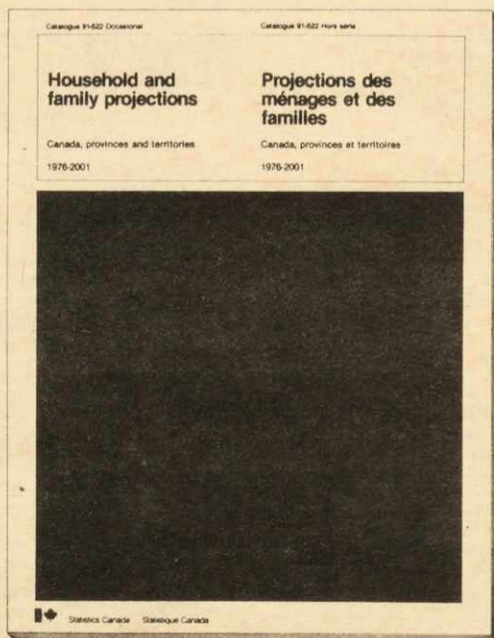
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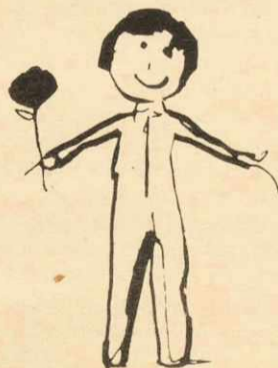
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