

ing need today for leadership—by many different people, in many different places, in many different ways. There will be no single answer; there will be no single source of leadership lightning.

As far as business is concerned, the most obvious hurdle is governmental involvement in what used to be private business. The result has been the

have the final say, but we should not hesitate to add our voices to the debate. We should all speak to have maximum impact.

To manage successfully in such a pressure-cooker, we'll need all of the tools of leadership available. Leadership must begin at home—not in someone else's backyard.

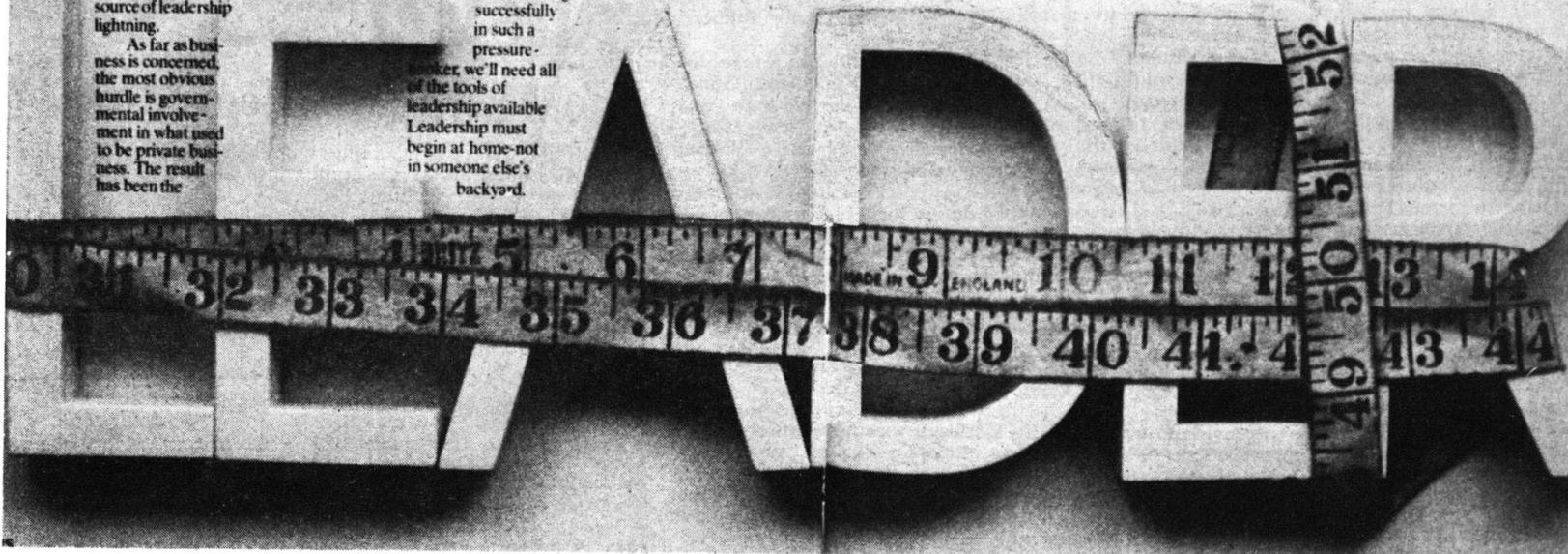


Photo Kathy Kebarle Roy Giguere

We're looking for one for to be next year's Students' Union president. Bob Kirk and Phil Soper think they're up to it; we're hoping one of them measures up.

Maturity...

# the Gateway

THURSDAY JANUARY 29, 1981

...is knowing when to act irresponsibly.

## Finance Task Force reports

TORONTO (CUP) The report on which provincial governments are expected to base changes to student aid programs was released here January 27.

The report of the federal-provincial task force on student assistance found existing programs "reasonable" and said aid is effectively channeled to needy students.

The task force, established by the Council of Ministers of Education, has been reviewing student assistance programs in each province except Quebec (which administers its own student assistance program), since February.

Three hundred submissions were received, including briefs from the National Union of Students and the Federation of Alberta Students.

The 208-page document recommends that:

- The present arbitrary ceilings be dropped in favor of limits and allowances which would determine financial need by taking inflation, regional, and institutional differences into account.
- More information about aid programs be provided to secondary schools and primary schools and to lower socioeconomic families.

- Aid programs be extended to part-time students in financial need.
- There be a special procedure for students who are having difficulty repaying their student loans.
- Students who decide to study in other provinces or abroad not be denied the opportunity because of lack of money.
- The present approach to determining whether a student is self-supporting be changed to prevent problems for students whose parents refuse to make the necessary contribution.
- The present range of aid programs be diversified by providing on-campus part-time

work for financially needy students.

But the report did not meet an enthusiastic response from student groups in Alberta.

"They've only put forward several options; they haven't really made any recommendations," says Anne McGrath, Federation of Alberta Students fieldworker.

"I'm disappointed that there aren't more substantial changes in here," says Nolan Astley, SU president.

The task force proposed five alternatives to the aid programs for consideration by ministers and concerned groups.

One alternative is continuation of most existing federal and provincial programs, but with revised and standardized eligibility and need criteria.

The second plan is a loan-first scheme. Aid would be given first as a loan to a specified level, then as a grant, and finally as half loan and half grant.

A third alternative would see the level of aid related to the year of study. In the early years, more aid money would be devoted to grants and as the student neared graduation this percentage would

be reduced. An income contingent repayment plan was also suggested. This would see the student's income after graduation used as the basis for repayment of the loan.

Finally, an all-grant proposal was put forward. This plan would make aid non-repayable and parental contributions unnecessary. It would also be the most costly plan.

The last two options, however, are reported not to be under serious consideration, because of the high costs.

FAS also objected to the federal orientation of the report.

"I don't see all that much attention being paid to provincial plans," says McGrath. "The task force has been used to stall off student concerns."

Astley also echoed her sentiments, saying that "those type of recommendations are very easy to accept and not to do anything about."

The report recommends the National Union of Students Proposal that the extra cost of an all grant program be offset by dropping existing income tax deductions related to post-secondary educations.

### Action please, Sirs Students bear brunt

by Peter Michalshyn

The U of A Students' Union is upset that inadequate government funding could force the Board of Governors (B of G) to raise tuition fees next year.

"It is not the fault of students that cutbacks occurred and students should not be forced to pay for the shortfalls in government funding," says Kris Farkas, SU v.p. external.

"In short we feel that the Government of Alberta must recognize its responsibility to the institutions and students of this province by not increasing fees but increasing government funding," she says.

The SU executive was caught by surprise late last week when university president Myer Horowitz announced that unless the government granted the U of A a "sufficient amount" he would

recommend a fee increase. Horowitz wouldn't say what amount "sufficient" was, but the administration has asked for a 15 percent increase.

At last Monday's General Faculties Council meeting, Astley told Horowitz he expected the administration to do everything in its power to get that "sufficient amount," before taking it out of students' pockets to make up the difference.

Horowitz, however, simply stuck to his previous statements.

"If my worst fears become reality we will recommend a fee increase," he said.

Astley said later that he saw "room for improvement," in how the university administration lobbied for the annual operating grant.

"The university's got a very good case for better funding. They've got to come out and say

that publicly," Astley said.

On the other hand, Astley said former U of A president Harry Gunning's decision to march on the legislature with 5000 students in 1978 probably hurt the university in the long run.

"Some people would say it was a very naive thing to do," Astley said, although he said it probably raised student awareness of the issues of cutbacks and quality of education. There was also no tuition fee increase that year.

Of Myer Horowitz, Astley says "he's doing the best job he can do."

All that is left is Advanced Education and Manpower minister Jim Horsman's reaction to the just-released federal-provincial Task Force on Student Finance.

Horsman has said repeatedly that he's waiting to read the report before formulating a long-term tuition fee policy. The Task Force has also been Horsman's caveat when saying there will be no tuition increases next year.

Horowitz said at the Senate last Friday that Horsman never told him there would be no tuition fee increase next year.

SU president Astley says he is still awaiting a reply to a letter he sent to Horsman, asking for a confirmation that there will be no fee increase.

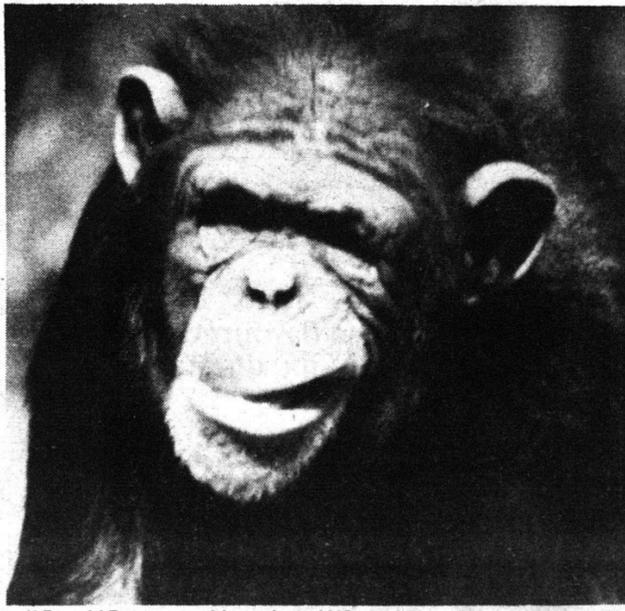


Photo Kathy Kebarle

...If Ronald Reagan could get elected US president... SU election February 6. Vote.

**Inside Gateway**

It's been some time but we've finally found room for a feature or two...or three. Check out Anorexia on page 9; or if you'd rather be in Hong Kong, find page 13; for a rare photo spread, see page 15. Oops, almost forgot Jim McElgunn's dissection of the recent ECA report on hazardous wastes, page 7.