

Two-tier shows net loss

The enclosed letter on foreign students fee hike issue was sent to the *Journal* for publication into 'Letters' column, on Feb. 23, 1977. Perhaps the *Journal* found it too factual to publish. Also, they never cared to return the original copy, as requested in my covering letter. One sided coverage and blind support for the issue by the *Journal* is once again vindicated. I am sure, of course, that the *Gateway* will gladly communicate these facts to the public, by publishing it in letter columns.

Ramesh K. Gupta
Grad Studies

The differential fee plan, as announced by Dr. Bert Hohol, calls for a 300 dollar tuition fee

hike for foreign students attending universities in Alberta. The increase will be applicable to incoming foreign students only, registering next fall. It will take a few years before the consequences of the plan, if implemented, will be fully realized. But, some immediate and long term financial consequences can be easily foreseen and deserve rational evaluation before a final decision is made.

About 200 new foreign students are expected to join the University of Alberta next fall, thus creating an additional fee revenue of approximately 60,000 dollars next year. But according to Dr. Gunning, the university President (Board of Governors meeting, Nov. 30, 1976), the

administration cost of the differential fees, to the university is expected to be approximately 85,000 dollars per year. Thus during the first year of implementation, the university may undergo a net loss of approximately 25,000 dollars.

Looking at the long term prospectives, when all of the foreign student population at the university will be paying the additional hike, the contributions to the university budget due to differential fee will be so small, that the whole debate over the issue seems to be an economic mockery. With the assumption that the foreign student population will not decrease due to this additional cost of education, the percentage increase in fee

revenue of the University will be 2.13% and percentage increase in total operating budget of the university will be 0.217%. These figures are obtained assuming that the differential fee administration costs will be nil. (Actually, the costs are expected to be 34% of the additional revenue). In terms of tax 'dollars', each Albertan will be saving about one cent per month, because of decrease in cost of subsidization of education for foreign students at the University of Alberta.

There are some other important factors too, that should be included in the debate.

More than 30% of the foreign students at the university are graduate students, and most of

them are working as teaching-assistants. They are, in fact, a significant part of the research and teaching structure of the University. Apart from paying all local and federal taxes, they also make contributions to the Unemployment Insurance scheme and Canada pension plan, the benefits of which they know, in no circumstances they will be able to derive. These contributions amount to 150-200 dollars over the year. Asking them to pay additional fee, because of being foreigners, seems to be a bit too much. Rest of the foreign students are supported from their home countries and they bring in a maximum of 3000 dollars annually, which becomes part of the Canadian economy.

The moral argument over the question is rejected by those who support the issue, by stating that most of the US universities also have a differential fee. But they never go further to say, that each foreign student in United States is allowed to work for a period of 18 months after graduation. This is done to help him in making up for his educational spendings. Also fee waivers, bursaries and scholarships are available to deserving foreign students. In other words, comparison to US universities, is not applicable in case of Alberta universities.

The Senate and the board of Governors, the foreign student office, the Students' Union and the *Gateway* at the University of Alberta, and various other on-campus and off-campus groups well understand this two way flow of money and information. They also understand that it is a mutual exchange where, in the long run, both sides benefit. They do realize that the foreign student fee hike is a negative step towards, indeed a threat to 'universal' concept of knowledge and hence the 'university.'

There are others, however, who never tried to, or were never given an opportunity to know the facts. For them, I hope, this letter will provide something to ponder about and only then react.

A Foreign Student
University of Alberta

Romantics knock Hohol's fees

Re: differential fees structure for foreign students.

The Department of Romance Languages adopted the following motion at its assembly of March 14, 1977, and directed that be forwarded to the Board of Governors of the University, as an expression of support for their position; to Mr. Hohol; to the *Gateway*; and as an open letter, to the *Edmonton Journal*.

"We deplore the stand taken by the government of the Province of Alberta on the implementing of a differential between the university fees paid by Canadian students and foreign students. Not only do we differ with this move in principle, but we find that the minister for advanced education has failed to provide any reasonable argument to justify his proposal.

Repercussions from this proposal will be detrimental to education in general by promoting the possibility of academic inbreeding. Also, a dangerous precedent is being set by Mr. Hohol in ignoring the explicit wishes of this university on this affair. We find Mr. Hohol's proposal to be politically motivated with little thought being given to the welfare of advanced education in this province.

The implementation of differential fees will adversely affect this university and this department specifically on a number of counts:

1) The Department of Romance Languages thrives on an exchange of cultural experiences and the potential of such an exchange being curtailed is implicit in Mr. Hohol's proposal.

2) We are aware of the financial control that the government has over the university, but do not wish this control to extend either to academic matters or to the accessibility of this university to others, be they students or faculty. This proposal is the

beginning of such control.

3) The differential fess will have the effect of creating racial tensions, whether or not the minister wishes to recognize this, because the students being adversely affected will mostly be the ones coming from countries other than the North American continent.

4) There exists the danger that foreign universities which have heretofore accepted students from this university without reservation, will assume a less than sympathetic attitude towards a university operating on a differential fees system and resort to similar discriminatory practices.

In order to minimize the recurrence of dictates such as differential fees by the government, this university should resolve to open up new channels of communication with the community of which it is part and to prevent any lack of understanding between the university community and the community at large and thus prevent politicians from using the evident lack of communication for their own political ends." Jo Ann Creore
Chairman

Crap slaps CKSR

The Crap management and staff wish to disclaim any knowledge of or responsibility for Gordon Turtle's "felatious, scandal-mongering, cheap, bitching, jealous, ridiculously immature," (not to mention bellous) letter that was published in the March 10 edition of the *Gateway* re: Peter R. Lockhart.

In fact the person "Gordon Turtle" has been recently reappointed to his director-sinking-ship at CKSR. Evidently he wishes to remain in the good graces of the divine and upcoming Sparks Slate (S.S.) who come to power April 1. Otherwise Gordon Turtle would have validated his "sources" in order to realize what is truth and what is "felatious, scandal-mongering ..." (Need I say more) the fact of using his position as CKSR director in a futile attempt

to lend credibility to his letter is funny.

Rene LeLarke
Peter R. Lockhart

P.S. CKSR is a parasite eating away our Students' Union fees. CKSR has no commercial or service value except as a party room to the CKSR management and staff. Unless CKSR expands their audience potential so that more students can hear them instead of seeing them in newspaper media print, CKSR radio should be shut down and the allocated budget funneled to more useful services.

Turtle slaps back

After reading the above letter from Manfred Lukat (alias Rene LeLarke and Peter R. Lockhart) I am concerned about his knowledge of what constitutes libel in journalism. **Nothing** in my letter of last week is libelous.

If Mr. Lukat wishes to challenge my reasons for retaining my position at CKSR, or indeed, desires to challenge the ability of CKSR itself, my office hours are posted inside the station door.

This petty squabble has gone on long enough on the pages of the *Gateway*. It's time for Manfred Lukat, or whatever he is calling himself this week, to do something constructive about the CKSR problem, if he feels there is one.

Gord Turtle
CKSR

CHARLES LUNCH



The new unemployment figures released by the government on Monday have certainly got Ottawa in an uproar. Joe Clark, who collected over \$30,000 in U.I.C. benefits while looking for work as a party leader, called the new totals "ridiculous, outrageous, and everything Dief says, too." Ed Broadbent, who some say has never worked a day in his life, was even more shocked and threatened to cancel his subscription to *The Canadian Liberal* until someone pointed out that he was leader of the NDP.

Canadians need not feel the government is ignoring the unemployment problem however. Trudeau has already announced a new program that would put all unemployed back to work, simply by giving everybody a completely useless civil service position.

The new program, called SWINE (So What If Nobody Eats?), will also pay Newfoundland fishermen enormous sums for not growing wheat; subsidize the construction of fish processing plants in Grenfell, Saskatchewan; and pump large sums of money into a scheme that will see every Parti

Quebecois member deported to Uganda.

Teenage unemployment, one of the biggest social problems in the country, has been solved by forcing every pimply little kid across the country to move to the Yukon, where thousands of acres of street corners have been laid out complete with fake 7-11 stores. Public Works will sandblast the territory every year to remove the graffiti.

Women will play a large role in the success of the operation, since Trudeau insists that they are preventing thousands of able-bodied men from gaining employment. He wants every woman with a useful, interesting and high-paying career to give it up and seek work in a demeaning job.

The idea has already caught on in Ottawa. Joe Clark's wife Maureen McTeer will begin her new job at Izzie's StripCity just as soon as she finds her tassles, and Margaret Trudeau will soon be slinging beer at the Hoot n' Poot Tavern in Hull.

The Liberals may be counting on the cooperation of all Canadians, but if they think I'm gonna give up this cushy job to become a carnation salesman in a bar