

Three issues raised by Kim McCalla in the letter concerning GSA and ID cards need clarification:

1. McCalla was exactly 50% correct in referring to "official brown SU University" ID cards. Those cards are neither official nor "University"-they are a Students' Union card only. Had those cards been issued by the university, GSA would never have presumed to print its own card. In fact, however, the cards are issued by SU, and are customarily put in registration packets by the university. The cards specify a fiscal relationship between graduate students and the Students' Union which the GSA council (not executive) voted unanimously to terminate, for reasons detailed below.

For that reason the GSA executive, asked by the Council to implement the fiscal separation, decided to provide a GSA ID card for graduate students who did not wish to join the Students' Union as a full \$23. member. Both the registrar and comptroller indicated GSA cards were acceptable for identification of student status, making them as "official" and "university" as the brown SU card.

Graduate Students were free in part 5 of registration to join the Students' Union (for \$23), to pay \$10, or to ask that action on this fee be reserved pending the Board of Governors' decision on the fee issue. The GSA ID had no implications on a graduate students' fee choice.

2. McCalla's complaint that an extensive explanation of the ID card was not offered to each graduate student has foundation, but he is inaccurate in ascribing heinous motives of dishonest trickery to the GSA executive. When the two information sheets on the fee issued were prepared (GSA Newsletter and registration hand out) the executive was not certain the cards would arrive by September 5th. Hence the cards were not mentioned in the handouts, and the pressure of seeing 2000 students during registration prevented a lengthy verbal explanation.

GSA representatives did explain that the card was intended as a replacement of the SU ID for graduate students. GSA executive may

ID clarified : GSA replies

well be guilty of inadequate timing and planning, but not chicanery and trickery.

However, McCalla and all graduate students have the liberty of judging the actions of the executive. All GSA meetings are open to participation by any member, and GSA executive, unlike its SU counterpart, indicated five months ago when elected that it would resign any time the Council voted non-confidence. If McCalla or others remain convinced of chicanery, by all means they should come to the next GSA meeting or ask their departmental representative to vote non-confidence.

3. I remain personally most concerned that the skill or lack of skill of GSA executive not confuse the dispute between GSA and SU. Graduate students are being forced to buy a building they neither own nor control, and to pay for services they can't control or influence.

Just how little control graduate students have over the Students' Union Building for their \$12,000 per year capital investment was revealed this spring. The Students' Union executive (not council) arbitrarily set terms of \$200 per month for two 8 by 10 foot offices previously given to GSA for a token \$1 annual fee. The fact that SU Executive later magnanimously quartered the rent to a rate competitive with the real building from which we are or can be summarily ejected, GSA will continue to fight to return the \$10 to graduate students unless and until the problems with SU are ironed out.

I close with two requests. First, I ask SU to seriously talk to graduate students about the problems between us. Let us bury the acrimony, resolve our grievances, and work together in the many areas where cooperation would benefit us. Second, I ask graduate students to separate the nature of the fee issue from your judgement of the competence of GSA executive. While our skill is open to question, I feel the gouging of graduate students by SU executive is not.

Peter C. Flynn
Secretary, Graduate
Students Association

grass vs growth

It has come to my attention that those little men who hide somewhere and organize our lives and environments are at it again. Their plan is to erect a Business Administration Bldg. on that little piece of green between Arts and HUB.

This I most strongly protest. There are so many giant, impersonal buildings all over campus with precious few open green areas. Yet these oases are vital to the physical and spiritual well being of students.

All those who will live in HUB, especially with children, will surely want to get out of their boxes now and then and walk and sit on the grass. And when the underground tunnels are in operation won't these grassy areas be an indispensable relief from the confined and restricted daily routine?

The thought of yet another building crammed in at this location is too oppressive and demoralizing to bear. Is this university going to be only a big complex of structure with cement walkways threaded between?

Are we students, for whom this whole thing supposedly exists, just an afterthought? Or will there be at least a little plot of grass here and there to refresh and gladden our hearts?

I am sure most students share my feelings. What quality of life left on this campus will be sacrificed to somebody's Master Plan unless we stop them. Will our students' union unite our wishes and focus the weight directly on top of the Master Plan? Will anybody? HELP!

Judy Hutchinson

hub

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the article that you had in your recent edition about HUB.

I would like to point out that I was misquoted in regard to one item and I would like to clarify it at this time. HUB was designed as a low-cost unit but the Student Union was unable to obtain a low interest loan and had to go to Central Mortgage and Housing Company and this building is being financed at the regular mortgage rates, which in turn is reflected in the rental rates for the students.

Fulton X. Fredrickson
HUB Manager

lesbians

Many women who are in a close relationship with another woman do not identify themselves as lesbians. If we read the contemptuous literature written about lesbians, we are forced to either call ourselves sick perverts, or not identify ourselves as lesbians because of the terrible connotations of the word. It has been men who have defined lesbianism exclusively in terms of sexual activity, but it is women who are defining lesbianism in a more encompassing way--women making their primary commitment to each other. It is lesbians who are working to break down our imposed shame fear, and isolation.

The Lesbian Feminists

in Edmonton are giving a course, in the form of a discussion group, for Free University North. The course is called 'Women Loving Women', and in the group we will discuss the bullshit psychology written about us building role-free relationships and we will be reading the literature written by lesbians. The Lesbian Feminists will also do 'Women Loving Women' as one of the study groups to be held each Tuesday evenings after each programme of the campus women's course.

Most of us are working for the new Women's Centre in Edmonton because we see lesbianism as an important and necessary part of the women's movement. We will be using the Centre for drop-ins on Friday nights at which time women can get together to talk, to dance and to have a good time with other women.

We see it as an alternative for lesbians to the mixed gay bar/club scene as well as a chance to have fun together.

There will also be a lesbian at the Women's Program Centre at regular hours who is willing to talk with any woman who wants to talk about Lesbianism. Since the centre hasn't got a phone yet any women who want to talk can call Maureen or Jeanne at 424-6525. Also, any women who want to work on or contribute to a Canadian Women's newspaper can call the above number. The paper is 'The Other Woman' and it needs articles, stories, poems, pictures, graphics about women, by and for women.

Edmonton Lesbian
Feminists

counter point

staff comment

university dinosaur

In the upcoming GFC meeting, a proposal will be considered that would establish graduate and undergraduate programs in environmental studies and would make it compulsory for every student to take some course in "environmental studies".

And so at last, with all the expeditiousness of an ailing dinosaur, the university is responding to a popular movement and getting onto an already sagging bandwagon. The government appoints a new minister, Shell Canada appoints a public relations man to deal with environmental problems and the university creates some more courses. Each reacts in its own bureaucratic fashion.

But Bill Yurko, Minister for the Environment, is only picking up pop bottles, Shell Canada pollutes not only the environment but the mass media as well with its propoganda, and the university continues to pour mercury wastes down the drains of the chemistry buildings.

The proposal to create courses in environmental studies is not, by any means what I object to, but the proposal to make environmental studies compulsory is ludicrous and only serves to reveal the impotence of the university to deal with a problem of social importance. Surely there are more imaginative and effective solutions besides a mere display of the power that the university administration holds over students.

Arthur Savage

bury wespound

Dear Berry:

The only thing in your column worthy of the energy it takes to move ones eyeballs across and down the page is your opening word. Right you are to apologize but for a good deal more than your cute-sy little pseudonym.

You are probably correct in assuming that a lot of us "folks" will be upset. I for one puked. The garbage and fecal evacuation appearing below your name should certainly be more than enough to turn the stomach of even the most stalwart of med-students. To be sickened by the sight of your inane drivel is only a demonstration that one is an empathetic human being.

Who cares about poor little Berry's trials and tribulations during registration. We all went through it.

And speaking of sex no one was until you brought it up. So what about your discreet little poll. Did you take it. Are the results the product of your personal observation? I don't recall receiving any questionnaire nor was I interviewed. I doubt seriously that you would have enough Machismo to recognize the naked lady in the notorious Tijauna donkey show.

And what are you advocating when you say us boys should use our hands? If we're sure she is one of the three percent, rape her quick before someone else does? Perhaps you are implying that we should grab, grope, and feel everyone who crosses our path in order to determine their sex? Surprise Berry, most of us already know the difference.

Maybe you're in favor of us taking matters into our own hands? Obviously Westpound is pounding more than just his typewriter.

Don't go away Berry because in a little poll of my own I have discovered that no one cares about your ex-friend or even Jason whose problem is very similar to your own. He's very confused about sex. He has a thing for his daughter and you have a thing for your hands.

As for your closing remark, cute, very, very cute, you garbage mouth.

I am putting aside my desire to remain neutral in any controversy between the gateway and the poundmaker because there is an ire burning within me that can only be extinguished by making a point of obvious validity. The gateway has been expelled from the Canadian University Press and Youthstream Network, resulting in a loss of roughly \$10,000 worth of advertising which went to the poundmaker in order to support such things as Berry Wespoundmaker and beer to anyone who wanders in off the street.

The gateways expulsion and loss of revenue came at the request of last years gateway staff, many of whom make up the staff of the poundmaker. This occured as a result of a disagreement with the student council over the appointment of a new gateway editor. Terri Jackson is now editor of the gateway and doing a wonderful job with the funds she has available. Although much maligned she is a very nice person who is extremley dedicated to what she is doing. She is simply caught in the middle of an argument that has now become moot. Further discussion and implication is like flogging a dead horse. You can do it forever and nothing ever happens. May it rest in Peace.

George W. Mantor