

Universities act

The University of Alberta is producing its own version of the new universities act, which will provide the legislative framework for post secondary education in the province.

A committee, established by the board of governors last spring, has been engaged in the massive task of deciding what the Act should contain.

The government has stated it would have the new Act ready in 18 months.

Composed of board, academic and non-academic staff members and students, the 10-member body should have a rough draft of the Act completed within two weeks.

That draft will likely go to the board and to the institute of law reform and research for discussion.

A final draft will be handed to the government sometime next fall.

Participation by post secondary institutions in the writing of such an Act is important, said Max Wyman, outgoing university president.

Wyman said there are dangers in having the government draw up the Act without input from the universities.

"There may be some misunderstanding...the Act may be unclear," he said.

"What the universities worry about is that government will take too much power."

In an interview with Gateway, Wyman said he believes the university and government are after the same goals in post secondary education, but they have different ideas about procedure.

Other universities are moving in the same direction as the U of A and have set up their own review bodies.

The university of Calgary, for example, has established a senate committee, which has conducted informal discussions with the board committee.

At a general faculties council meeting in January, Wyman said he would prefer having the universities band together and form a committee to make recommendations on the new Act.

While he said he hasn't given the matter too much thought, one area he would like to see changed is the powers granted to GFC.

For the resources available, he feels the council has too many responsibilities, some of which should be turned over to the board of governors.

Frustration has seemed to mark the relationship between the university and the government, which is often referred to as "that place on the other side of the river" by academics.

Dismayed by the sudden growth of the department, academics have been critical of what they consider a lack of consultation and a patriarchal attitude on the part of the government.

Wyman has been vocal about government intrusions into the running of universities. But as president he hasn't experienced the communication problems other academics have.

"I can talk to the minister (of advanced education) anytime I want, but I think that's not enough," declared Wyman.

Problems arise when a group of individuals like the board of governors of GFC try to communicate with the department. Most communication is through written correspondence, which often is intermittent.

"We've had a fair amount of consultation as far as meetings go," Wyman added.

Wyman hands over the reigns of the university to Harry Gunning dean of chemistry, in July, 1974.

By the time the new Universities Act is drafted, Wyman will probably be returning from a year's sabbatical leave. During his leave he plans to research and write two mathematics books.

He'll return to the University of Alberta in September 1975 to teach mathematics.

GFC

ELECTION

RESULTS!

A dismal turnout of 123 for last Friday's GFC Arts byelection saw Kimball Cariou defeat Kevan Warner by a vote count of 77 to 46.

Donald Bell was earlier awarded an Arts seat by acclamation for filing his nomination by the first deadline.



Fees

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The advantage of the new system is its flexibility since a student can concentrate his courses in one term.

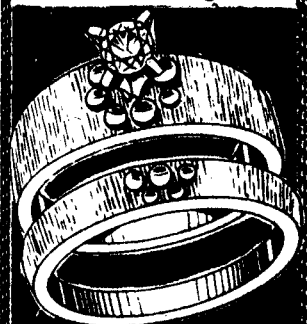
Thus, if a student takes all six half courses in one term fees would be \$200; taking five in the first term and one in the second would cost \$267.50; and four in the first term and two in the second \$335.

Alex Cairns, registrar, said the adjustment might encourage an influx of part-time students, "although that wasn't our purpose."

"We felt that we had to remedy what we considered an inequitable situation," he said.

There are about 3,800 part-time and 18,400 full-time students attending university.

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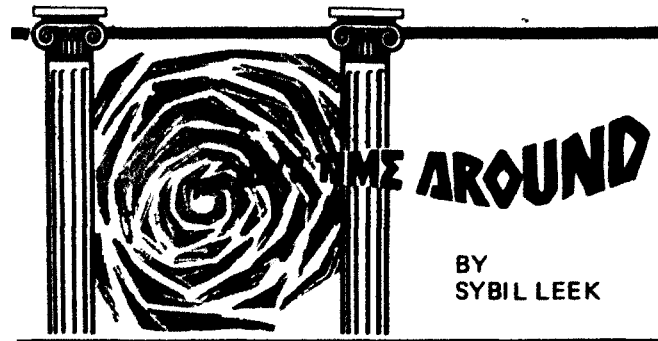
FORUM

Friday, January 18, 12 noon SUB Theatre

PEMBINA

and Other Historical Campus Buildings"

with speakers
Isabel Munroe - Dean of Women
Dr. Walter Neal - V.P. (Planning & Development)
John Schlosser - Chairman, B. of G. Building Committee
Linda Spencer - President, Pembina Hall
George Mantor - President, Students' Union



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