

Guelph students vote to retain ties with CUS

Referendum 564-310 in favor of union

GUELPH, Ont. (CUP)—The Canadian Union of Students won its fifth referendum of the year last Wednesday.

University of Guelph students voted 564 to 310 in favor of the national union, along with the Ontario Union of Students which was tied with CUS on the same ballot. The returning officer declared 172 ballots spoiled.

'Fifth endorsement this year' says Armstrong

In Ottawa a week ago, CUS president Hugh Armstrong said the Guelph victory is the "fifth substantial endorsement for CUS policies this year."

Acadia University was their only loss.

He said opposition to CUS this year has been political, and the fact CUS has won five referendums indicates it has broad student support for policies that came out of the London congress last September.

"The anti-CUS forces were well organized and wealthy," he said, referring to a full-page ad which appeared in the campus paper, the Ontarion, prior to the campaign.

He said the reason behind the rash of referendums this year is that CUS policies are now much better known and because the union is now taking stands on issues.

"This brings out disagreement," Armstrong said, adding a referendum on campus is one way anti-CUS forces have of discrediting the policies and programs of the national student union.

He said such votes are not the best way to educate students to their needs, because they divert the energies of student government from on-campus programs.

Ontario art college students protest firing of instructors

TORONTO (CUP)—Students at the Ontario College of Art vowed Thursday (Feb. 22) to keep a sit-in from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. until two drawing and painting instructors are reinstated.

The instructors were fired Wednesday in the course of the college's two-week battle with the administration. OCA principal Sydney Watson claims one of the instructors called him a liar, and says the men were fired "for cause". Later he told student representatives the instructors were "poor employees".

Students gathered in the cafeteria Thursday to discuss the events of a stormy week. Charges and countercharges were flung between faculty, students and Watson over proposed changes in OCA courses, which Watson had attempted to keep secret.

Watson claims he ordered no one to keep the plans secret, but one of the dismissed instructors, Aba Bayefsky, says he has the signatures of four witnesses who heard Watson give the drawing and painting department head the order to keep proposed changes confidential.

John Bowman, a fourth year student, who led the fine arts students in protest earlier in the week against alleged administration "secret changes" in the curriculum was told by Watson he was either to confine his activities to student council or be expelled.

"I consider myself expelled as of now," he said.

"The principal offered me 30 pieces of silver—a diploma," he said. "But I don't want to graduate from a corrupt institution where the administration pays no attention to the members."



—Hutchinson photo

COUNCIL LAUGH-IN—Students' council moved into action Monday night before one of the largest crowds of the season in room 142 of SUB. The meeting was held outside the regular council chambers which would not hold the large number of students who came to hear the tuition fee protest organized.

Semester, trimester systems studied for possible future use at U of A

By ALEX INGRAM

Should U of A have a semester system?

This is the problem being considered by the Committee on Divided Year Systems. The committee, requested by the General Faculty Council, will investigate the possibility of a semester or trimester system at U of A, in preference to the present system.

Dr. R. G. Baldwin, Head of the English Dept., and proposed chairman of the committee, said the committee must first decide whether or not to give up the Canadian system of university education, a system unparalleled anywhere in the world, in favor of the semester system.

With the semester system, the present winter session would be divided into two sessions, and final exams would be held in December and April for all courses.

Dr. Baldwin said the system is possible at U of A because there are 100 high schools in Alberta on this system now. This meant that last Christmas 1,000 students were eligible to enter university. They could choose between entering the University of Lethbridge, or Simon Fraser (the only two universities in western Canada on the semester system) or waiting until next fall

before being admitted to another university.

Dr. Baldwin said if the semester system is accepted by the GFC the switch to the trimester system could follow easily. With this system the university year will run for 12 months, and be divided into three sessions, with final exams at the end of each session.

If the semester system is instituted, the only problem will be the advisability for a student to accelerate his university program.

"With the trimester system, a student could belt through to his degree a third faster than under the present system," said Dr. Baldwin.

Three years ago Dr. Baldwin chaired a similar committee, organized to investigate the pros and cons of the semester system. The committee did not decide for or against the proposed system. It reported to the GFC that U of A was not yet ready for the system, in its opinion.

From an economic point of view, Dr. Baldwin said it is difficult to decide whether the semester system, and in particular the trimester system, is financially possible. Ideally, with the trimester system, there should be more effective use of classroom space.

Many university buildings would not be vacant during the summer months as they are now. However, few students are willing to attend university all year round. And, unless there is almost a 100 per cent enrolment for the summer semester, financial difficulties will arise.

Dr. Baldwin said it was regrettable so few students are willing to attend university all year. He said they don't realize the sooner they get their degree, the sooner they

are in a higher income bracket. He suggested borrowing money and finishing university quickly rather than working for one semester in order to pay for the next two.

Dr. Baldwin believes the administration may be enthusiastic for the semester, or even the trimester system. If the committee suggests the semester system, and the GFC accepts it, it could be brought about in two years, and the trimester system would probably follow.

Council studies union residences

Students' council Monday night established a commission to investigate the possibility of students' union financed residences.

The commission, with an initial budget of \$200, will be primarily concerned with the style of residence students desire.

This will be established by a survey that would include all full-time members of the students' union.

The commission, chaired by students' union co-ordinator Glenn Sinclair, is to make its first submission to council by Christmas.

In other business the political science club was granted \$750 to pay the cost of Robert Scheer, vice-president of Ramparts, addressing the club. He will speak April 5.

Sinclair proposed the theatre lobby become a permanent Hyde Park where students could present their views. To facilitate this he suggested a handsome, portable podium be purchased for the area.



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Teachers who hold an Alberta teaching certificate or anticipate certification by September 1968 are being interviewed at the Student Placement Office, 4th floor, New Students' Union Building; phone 432-4191. These interviews will be held Tuesday afternoon and Friday mornings during March.