

The Gateway

The University of Alberta Students' Newspaper Since 1910

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Dragos Ruitu

Sweep!

Freshman quarterback Robbie Taylor pitches out to scatback Kris Thorsteinson during the Bears-Bisons game Sunday. The Bears went on to shellac the Bisons 38-0 in front of a crowd of 1781.

Students' Union fights Board's "illegal" fees

by John Watson

Attacking the University's Library and Computing fee from a new angle, the Students' Union is organizing a petition to be served to Premier Don Getty and Advanced Education Minister John Gogo in September.

"The provincial government, in allowing these extra fees to continue to be assessed, are abdicating their responsibility to the University and to the larger Albertan community," said Wade Deisman, S.U. V.P. external.

According to the University's Act the provincial government has the right to determine tuition fees and fee increases. And the Students' Union wants the government to consider the Library and Computing fee to be equivalent to a tuition fee.

"These fees are in fact fees for instruction and therefore they are illegal," said Deisman.

So far though the S.U. has not had much support for their view. The first round of a court fight over the fees went against the S.U.'s position and they are currently in appeal court.

Jane Simmons, a spokesperson for the Department of Advanced Education, says the University has the right to determine extra fees. The University's Act put the gov-

ernment in charge of determining the level of tuition fees, but "the Board of Governors can determine other fees they deem necessary," says Simmons.

Higher fees make a university education less accessible says Deisman and that is why students should be concerned about these fees. "Band-aid solutions like extra fees are going to be proliferating in a lot of universities and colleges with the consequence that there are deleterious effects" for students and for the province.

The Council of Alberta University Students discussed implementing a full province-wide post-card campaign, but no other university in Alberta has implemented extra fees so they decided to wait and see.

Deisman hopes to have about 10,000 post-cards to present to the government by the end of September. About 15,000 post-cards were distributed in the student handbook during registration and more will be available at the Students' Union information booths in HUB, SUB and CAB.

The S.U. executive will be speaking in classes in the next few weeks to gain support for the campaign.

Faculties forced to cut enrolment

by Lisa Hall

Both the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science have decided to adopt quotas into their programs. A lack of funding to support the increasing demand of students who want to enter the faculties is responsible for the enrolment cuts.

Both faculties are only in the initial planning stages of developing the quotas, but Dr. Dave Beatty, associate dean of science, estimated the quotas would be in effect for the 1991-92 year for his faculty.

"The proposal being drafted now would affect first year students to fourth year students," said Beatty, adding that there would be less first year students admitted than have been admitted over the last five years. "We will still have the 70% minimum admission requirement, but the cut-off would be well above that," he said.

A similar system would be used to determine which students would be allowed to continue after their first year—students would be ranked according to GPA, with the top students allowed to go on to the next year.

Beatty said that the quotas would aim to keep enrolment close to what is stated in *The Next Decade and Beyond*, the University's plan-

ning document for the future. This would keep enrolment for Science, as well as Arts, to around 4,000 students or 19% of the university's population.

The Dean of Arts, Dr. Patricia Clements, did not want to give details about the proposal for Arts quotas because the faculty is only in preliminary stages. But she did say the cuts in enrolment were because of a lack of resources.

"We've had an accumulated increase of students since 1982 and our resources have been consistently cut in the last several years," said Clements.

Funding cuts have resulted in growing class sizes in all departments, because the faculty has not had the resources to add on more class sections. The only way to reduce class size is to limit enrolment.

Clements said part of the problem was that students from other faculties also take options and required courses from the Faculty of Arts.

"There is a huge demand for English and second language courses," said Clements, "but we can't just teach English and French. We're responsible for intellectual growth in all our departments."

Students confused by quotas

by Dawn Lerohl

Ignorance prevails among education students with regards to the new education quotas established this summer.

"I don't understand these quotas," said Andy Lummis, second year education student.

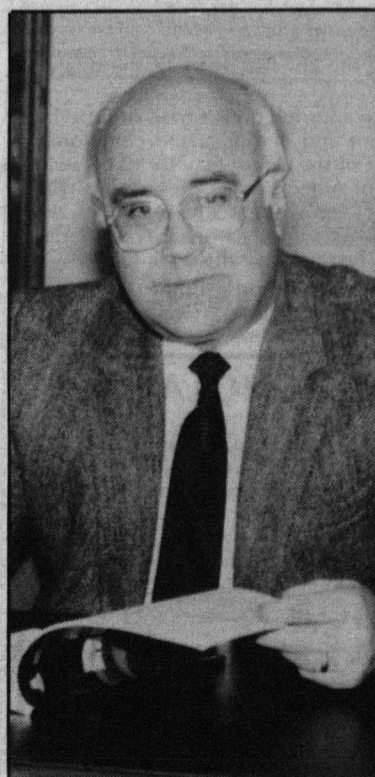
There is "a lot of lack of knowledge out there," said Bob Morter, president of Education Students' Association. "It is mentioned in the calendar but few read it thoroughly."

However, Morter said the reaction to quotas seems to be positive when students understand them. "It will do a lot to raise standards and make class sizes more reasonable."

"It's a good method of keeping enrolment down," said Ken Stanski, a second year education student, who transferred to the university from Concordia College last year to avoid being affected by the quota.

"The faculty of education and the registrar are discussing procedures to adequately inform students," said Dr. Dave Sande, associate dean of the education faculty. These steps will include informing high school students as well as first year education students.

The newly approved quotas will affect the present first year edu-



Sean Costall

Dean of Education Patterson—establishing a balance.

cation students. "Anyone with less than 60 credits by September of 1991 in elementary or secondary route programs will be impacted," said Sande.

A quota for 1990 has also been established for the Industrial Arts and Vocational Education components of the education faculty.

Education quotas have been implemented in order "to establish a balance between available teaching personnel and the number of students," said Dr. Robert R. Patterson, dean of education. "We don't want to see the quality of graduates sacrificed due to increasing demand."

Patterson said the education faculty works with the school system for more selective placement which is not possible with huge numbers of students. In order to pass on theories, smaller classes are preferable, he said.

When the third year quotas are implemented in 1991 it is expected that 200 to 300 students who qualify will not be accepted, said Patterson. He said it's probable that one third of these students will choose to take another year of university and apply again, while another third will change faculties, and the final third will drop out entirely.

There are "only 3 or 4 education faculties in Canada without a quota," said Patterson. He said the ones without a quota are at the mercy of pressure from those faculties with a quota.