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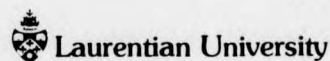
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"RIDE THE NEW WAVE"

INTER-CAMPUS PROGRAMS

KAMPUS KRONIKLES

By ZENA
McBRIDE

Ethics lesson a real horror story

by Mot Neerg
Misprint stiff

Recent efforts by UW to introduce ethics to the student's education have backfired. Students and faculty have become paralyzed by the possible implications of their work, according to an internal UW memorandum.

The first case of a student invoking ethics to avoid doing work occurred last term. S. Claus of 4A Systems Design refused to work on the development of a Personal Nuclear Device. He was fired by his employer, Lithon Systems. "I couldn't justify the work to myself," Claus said. He feared a personal nuclear device might somehow be abused by inconsiderate people.

Prof Warry Bills of Systems was furious. "Claus was one of our model students. He's lost all consideration for employers. One can't take this ethics thing too far—he was being paid after all."

Since Wisenbaum's Hagey lectures on "Computer Scientists and the Arms Race," the department of computer science has been facing an upheaval.

"Because they fear military application of their work, CS people have halted all research," lamented Dean (check spelling, insert later). Several professors have been seen vandalizing their terminals. One was caught trying to pull the massive plug for the mainframe, and now faces charges.

"We now have no use for the Institute for Computer Research building," the department wrote in a letter to UW president Dr. Art Slover. "We suggest you allow another faculty, to use it."

The administration was surprised by the letter and unable to say who would get the new building, which now faces a funding crisis. The US Department of Defense withdrew all its funding, stating however that "this is totally unrelated to current events in CS."

But UW president Slover vowed to finish the building, with his new fool-proof voluntary fee to replace the computer fee. He explained, "those who don't volunteer to pay the fee will be expelled." He also suggested renaming the building the Eaton Centre. Stores would be allowed to rent space. "It would be another innovative joint university-industry program for Waterloo to undertake—we could be a leader in the field."

The ethics rage has also effected Waterloo's famous biotechnology program, usually exempt from ethical considerations. Researchers are trying to determine why bacteria won't touch food services pizza. Furry Yoo-Moung of biotechnology said, "we're reconsidering many of our programs. It just never occurred to us before that technology could have negative effects."

"Is it right to teach food services to make something edible?" Yoo-Moung asked.

The faculty of environmental studies has expressed concern over the current ethics debate. "We're going to run out of problems to solve if people stop screwing up the world. How can other faculties think only of the common good? Haven't they heard of money?" Commented one ES prof, who couldn't remember his name.

Dr. Socrates, of Philosophy, concurred. "What are they trying to build? A world where everyone's happy? How are philosophers supposed to enjoy that?"

Not everyone agrees, however, that the campus has become too ethically oriented.

Engineering students protested last week in front of the Arts Lecture

Hall. They claimed that Arts students aren't developing any social concerns. "They read nasty books and plays—they even paint naked people!" cried the editor of the Iron Warrior to the gathered crowd . . .

Other universities across Canada were not surprised by developments at UW. A source at Queen's said, "Its no wonder—all those UW students ever do is attend events for cultural enrichment and discuss saving the world. They need to be more career oriented if they want to go anywhere."

Department head goes both ways

by Lance Bigelow
Misprint stiff

A consortium of fundamentalist university leaders, lead by radical Waterloo president Slug Blight, has petitioned the provincial government to turn the post-secondary education system over to the private sector.

"Government has no business interfering in the free enterprise system," said Blight, a little spittle gathering at the corners of his mouth. "We could do a much better job in the private sector, away from those bleeding hearts at Queen's Park. Just look what those wimps are charging for tuition—if I was in charge, tuition revenue would be greatly increased and we could reduce the tax burden carried by fine upstanding people like Conrad Black and Bill Davis," he said.

Under the plan outlined by Blight, universities would drop the "namby-pamby artsie-fartsie" courses from their schedules. Instead curriculum would focus on "marketable" skills such as nuclear physics and the military applications of computer-guided laser beams.

"What the hell good is philosophy. Right now the government wastes lots of money training students in such useless courses," said Blight, a little drool pooling in the knot of his Busty Bess necktie. "If we were in control, our universities would only teach things that could make us money and keep us safe from bleeding-heart, commie-heathens."

The government, however, has indicated it has no intention of going along with the consortium's proposals.

Greg Soreberries, minister of colleges, universities and other such places, said this week the plan is politically unsound and would have no realistic application in the today's vast and complicated post-education system.

"Besides," added Soreberries, "Blight is goofy and wears tacky ties."

Soreberries said his ministry, as always, has the utmost support of cabinet and leader David Pedestal.

"I am one hundred per cent confident the big cheese will back me up with the full support of cabinet," he said.

When contacted at a new gallery opening, Pedestal chastised Misprint for interrupting him at lunch.

"Now look what you've done, my sushi is getting warm. What was the question again? Soreberries? Who's Soreberries?"

Thom Brzzzzzzuwwwwtswu-sssswwbbski, vice-president for classroom related stuff, said his department is ready to follow whatever academic route the institution's board of governors chooses to follow.

"We're very flexible in this here department," he said. "Frankly, most people here can go either way," he boasted.

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