

# U of A Student Services continue expanding

The Office of the Dean of Students compiled annual reports from its nine services. Many of the services have expanded and have undergone many changes although ODSS ran on a reduced budget. Here is a summary of the service reports.

## Student Advisor

300 Athabasca Hall, 432-4145  
The Student Advisor offers grievance/appeal advisory services, mature students service planning, and is the acting director of the Office of

## Student Affairs.

The student advisor reports a 16 per cent increase in the number of appeals and grievance situations dealt with. The advisor believes the increase in cases is due to "the keen competition amongst students for entrance into quota programs and graduate school."

The advisor sees the service continuing to expand and hopes to have better communication and co-ordination with similar SU services, particularly with the Student Ombudpersons Service and SORSE.

## Disabled Students Services

300 Athabasca Hall, 432-4145  
The number of disabled students at the U of A last year was 59, up from the previous year, which saw 50.

Special attention was focused on the volunteer program, recruiting 100 people to assist disabled students.

DSS reported that because of overcrowding, it was not easy to schedule classes together for "mobility-impaired" students. DSS has applied for \$7,800 for a STEP study of transportation options.

## International Students Advisor

300 Athabasca Hall, 432-4145  
The International Students Advisor reports that for the sixth consecutive year, there was a 10 per cent increase in the number of students on campus. The 1,655 international students accounted for 7.2 per cent of the student body, although there was an insignificant increase in the number of international graduate students.

The ISA handles financial and immigration inquiries. It also administers a \$50,000 International Student Bursary Fund and the Gold Key Emergency Loan Fund.

The ISA oversaw openings of the International Briefing Centre and the International Students Centre.

## Canadian University Service Overseas

239 Athabasca Hall, 432-3381  
CUSO offers U of A students and staff alternative employment opportunities and information on Third World Development issues.

CUSO placed 14 applicants, exceeding their target of 10. Most of the placements were in education. The others were in technology, agriculture and medicine.

CUSO also exceeded their fund-

raising target of \$5,000 by \$557.38.

## Student Awards Office

252 Athabasca Hall, 432-3221  
The Student Awards Office awards about \$7.5 million yearly. Emergency loans totalled \$87,662 in 241 loans to 142 different borrowers.

SAO does not have formal ties with the Alberta Student Finance Board, but maintains close ties. It also works as a referral agency.

Continued next week.

## Part-time concerns

by Suzette C. Chan

As the debate over whether full-time students should remain members of the Canadian Federation of Students continues, some part-time students at the U of A are looking at the possibility of joining a national federation of part-time students.

Jan Harding, a part-time student at the U of A, is the Alberta co-ordinator for the Canadian Organization of Part-time University Students (COPUS).

She says part-time students have special concerns. "Accessibility, time scheduling, library privileges, health care, parking, and daycare are the major problems," she says.

Another problem part-time students face is financial burden, since many part-time students are mature students who have children and have to re-finance to find enough

money to return to school.

"Only in the last two years have loans been available to part-time students," Harding says, "but you have to start paying them back within 30 days."

She believes COPUS can be an effective lobbying force.

She points out that COPUS has a mandate to lobby provincial and federal governments on issues such as the availability of part-time undergraduate courses, evening courses and financial aid.

An organizational meeting for COPUS will be held Nov. 5 at 5 pm in the Heritage Lounge, Athabasca Hall.

For more information on COPUS, contact Jan Harding at 998-7651 or through the Mature Undergraduate Students (MUGS) Club, Box 152 SUB, room W-30 SUB.

## More employment help

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yesterday the Secretary of State offers a program to help jobless students pay interest on student loans.

Under the Interest Relief program, the government pays the interest owed by unemployed students on their loans after the six-

month grace period is over.

Both full-time and part-time students may be eligible for interest relief, although conditions for part-time students are slightly different.

For more information on the Interest Relief Program, students may consult their banks or call a toll free Ottawa number, 1-800-567-9602.

## Yard Apes



by Hans Beckers

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