

dynamics of Students' Union politics

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rtant issue I l is student ents union. I s supposedly s on campus, rces are the ght now the e most of the

human resources that they have available. I think that there are a lot of things that if the Students' Union and student groups cooperated on together, both sides would benefit, and I think we've got to look at that very closely. I think it can cut costs on our part, and give a lot of students the experience they need in several areas.

With respect to Cabarets and the Dinwoodie policy, I think that this year has worked fairly well. The concerns that I have about it are the concerns that have been brought up, not here, but at the students' council meetings - concerns about quality and consistency. I think that there are certain problems, not major problems but just imperfections in the system, and I think they can be corrected if we worked it right.

And finally, I think another major issue is that student services, particularly the exam registry - granted it is providing a service and certainly provision of the service is the most important thing, but I still believe that if it must run at a deficit it should at least be an efficient operation in order to minimize the deficit, and at least break even, and I think a lot of changes can be made in the exam registry to do that.

Those are just some of the issues I feel are important.

Gateway: O.K., Martin, did you want to respond to that?

Schug: Well I'll just read what I have. I'm running for v.p. internal because I feel there should be several improvements made to help the students. The number one issue - the Students Union needs control of the liquor license on campus. We have to be able to set up licensed entertainment when it is needed. The Students Union will co-sponsor all cabarets with clubs and organizations - no tickets for any cabaret will be sold to non-students until six days before they start. That way students won't run into the problem of perhaps coming to the booth with tickets already being sold out because of outsiders coming in and buying all the tickets up, which has happened before.

Another thing I will try and do is to get the fraternities to be able to use the quad area for Saturday beer gardens. They will supply the labor and receive all the profits less the costs of the students union services. I don't see why only certain groups of people should be limited to using this area for entertainment.

There will be no censorship of any

activity on campus as long as it does not break the Alberta obscenity laws - and in that field I specifically want to focus on engineering week. And I want to bring back, and keep the assassins game going, because that is a good cause in my point of view.

I believe that if students want the most in entertainment, honesty, and protection in 1982-83, the Stamp slate should be voted in on Friday the 26th of March.

Gateway: Hear hear.

Schug: Oh yes, also I'd like to bring up a few points that Jeff was commenting on - regarding the office space which he was pointing out that he wanted to be filled for the next year's future clubs - those offices are already in the planning stage and they are going to be built anyway. And another point the Dinwoodie, Dewey's and RATT, on the food. These establishments, already in the past, were places where you could purchase food and they were losing money on it, and so I don't see why we have to bring that up again and have them lose money all over.

Reading: May I clarify that point?

Gateway: Sure.

Reading: When I spoke about RATT and Dewey's in particular I was referring to a full liquor license. I think the full liquor license would give better service to both those areas for students and it would improve the profit picture. We have to be fiscally responsible in the Students' Union in order for the Students' Union to survive.

As far as food goes, I didn't say that we should start the food service again, I said that we should open those areas for sort of study areas and eating areas. If people want to brown bag it, in HUB mall, then (why shouldn't the SU provide space.)

Gateway: O.K. does that clear up any...

Stamp: Dewey's is already making over ten thousand dollars a month right now - do you think it could make more money?

Schug: I think they'd lose money, if anything...because you have to hire people for that. Or what - you just want machines?

Reading: There's people there working as waiters and bartenders right now. If you put in liquor, your bar costs are going to be better - that's a fact. I've checked this out with the business manager and we've already had negotiations on it. The thing is I've been involved with this and I know.

Gateway: O.K....

Greenhill: Can I just make a point on that?

Gateway: I think we'll shut this one down and perhaps get back to it later - there's a few other questions that should be asked.

(Walker arrives).

Mike, Robert and Gord started off with their platform policy statements, I guess you could call them, and if you want to take a minute to tell us why your running, ...and what you're running on....?

Walker: O.K. Well, the Students' Union president I think has to be familiar with issues in all the areas that concern the Students' Union, and I'm sure that Jeff has covered the internal areas and the building and so on quite adequately. Some of the other issues though, that the Students' Union president will have to address will be continuing underfunding of the institution from both levels of government. There will be attempts by both levels of government to increase tuition fees here, and if the Students' Union is going to be effective in stopping cutbacks, in lobbying at both levels of government for adequate funding; in lobbying at the Board of Governors level for students interests, then the president as well as the rest of the executive, but specifically the president, is going to have to have a grasp of the issues, a clear idea of where students stand to lose and gain on the issues, and a clear idea of how to go about defending students interests. I think it's also very important for Students' Union executive members to have proven that they do have a concern for the issues, and I think Jeff's experience specifically with the internal issues is ample evidence that he has been involved and that he has the concern and commitment that is going to be needed to address these issues.

I think on some of the other issues I've demonstrated in the past that I have the commitment and the grasp of the issues to address them properly and I think one of the issues that is going to have to be addressed in this campaign is not only cutbacks or tuition, and the Students' Union Building, but whether the people running have a legitimate concern for students' interests or are just building resumes.

Gateway: Alright, Robert or Gord do you want to say anything?

Stamp: Sorry Mike, but you may have your own ideas of what the issues are but you are not saying anything about what you are going to do about it.

Walker: Oh, would you like to hear?

Stamp: Yes I would like to hear exactly what you are going to do.

Walker: On the issues?

Stamp: On the funding on the provincial and federal government levels which you say you can do lots about....

Walker: Yep. Well, the president can't do alot of this in isolation. The president is going to have to have support not only from people on students council and a strong anti-cutbacks team, but from students across campus; and I think some of the things that have gone on this year are an indication of how strong the support can be across campus. I think the president has to take a leadership role in organizing things like the rally that was held in Rutherford library last fall and has to take a leadership role in planning things like the march on the legislature. The president also has to consistently lobby both the Minister of Advanced Education, MLAs, and MPs whenever the opportunity arises. And a strong position has to be put forward to those people, and that position has to be backed up with awareness on campus, and it has to be backed up with awareness on campus, and it has to be backed up with strong lobbying at the Board of Governors level, and that means that when the Board of Governors discusses the budget, which they'll be doing at the first meeting in April, they are going to be faced with a government grant of an increase of somewhere around 12 per cent for this year. It's clearly inadequate, and the Board of Governors is going to be looking for ways to mitigate the damage that that is going to do. In doing so they'll probably be looking at raising tuition fees - they already have - they'll probably want to look at raising residence fees further, they are going to look at raising food prices again, and I think the Students' Union president has to take the leadership in demanding that the Board of Governors as well as both levels of government acknowledge that there are 20,000 students on this campus who have legitimate concerns.

Stamp: You still haven't said what you are going to do. You've just talked about how much awareness. You still haven't said what you are going to do.

Walker: Well would you like Molotov cocktails Gord?

Greenhill: Are you proposing it?

Stamp: ...what are you asking for, how are you going to effectively lobby the government?

...To Be Continued...

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