

GFC meetings open to public

Half day seminar ok'd

By KEN BAILEY

Student cooperation may be the key to a benevolent General Faculty Council (GFC).

Two major student proposals were passed in Monday's General Faculty Council meeting as a result of student cooperation and pressure.

The most significant student gain was the opening of GFC meetings to the public and the press.

This was the result of six months of students' council pressure on GFC. The pressure began last April when GFC voted down a student request to open their meetings to The Gateway. In September, students' council extended their request to allow both the press and the public to attend GFC meetings.

"It is particularly significant that this important change proposed by students has been achieved through cooperation rather than confrontation," said president of the students' union, Marilyn Pilkington, one of the three student representatives on GFC.

Previous to the Monday meeting the GFC executive committee had formulated a recommendation to open the meetings to students and The Gateway.

"We must bear in mind that the General Faculty Council is the senior academic body at the university. Therefore a great deal of work must be done at meetings," said university president and GFC chairman, Dr. W. H. Johns.

One of the objections to the opening of GFC meetings was the members would not feel free to give opinions on major policies.

"I am afraid that the GFC may change its operating functions to making major policy decisions at the committee level, then just

'rubber stamping' the decisions in the open meeting," said Phil Ponting, a student representative to GFC.

Dr. Johns did not think this would be done.

"As far as I can see, there will be no change in General Faculty Council or executive committee procedures," said Dr. Johns.

The second student proposal passed by the GFC dealt with student-faculty-administration seminars. It was agreed that on one half-day before the end of January, campus-wide seminars will be substituted for classes.

Dr. Johns stressed the point that the proposal had only been approved in principle.

GFC is establishing a joint student-faculty-administration committee to work out the details of the organization of the seminars, publicity, selection of topics and to secure reports from the seminars.

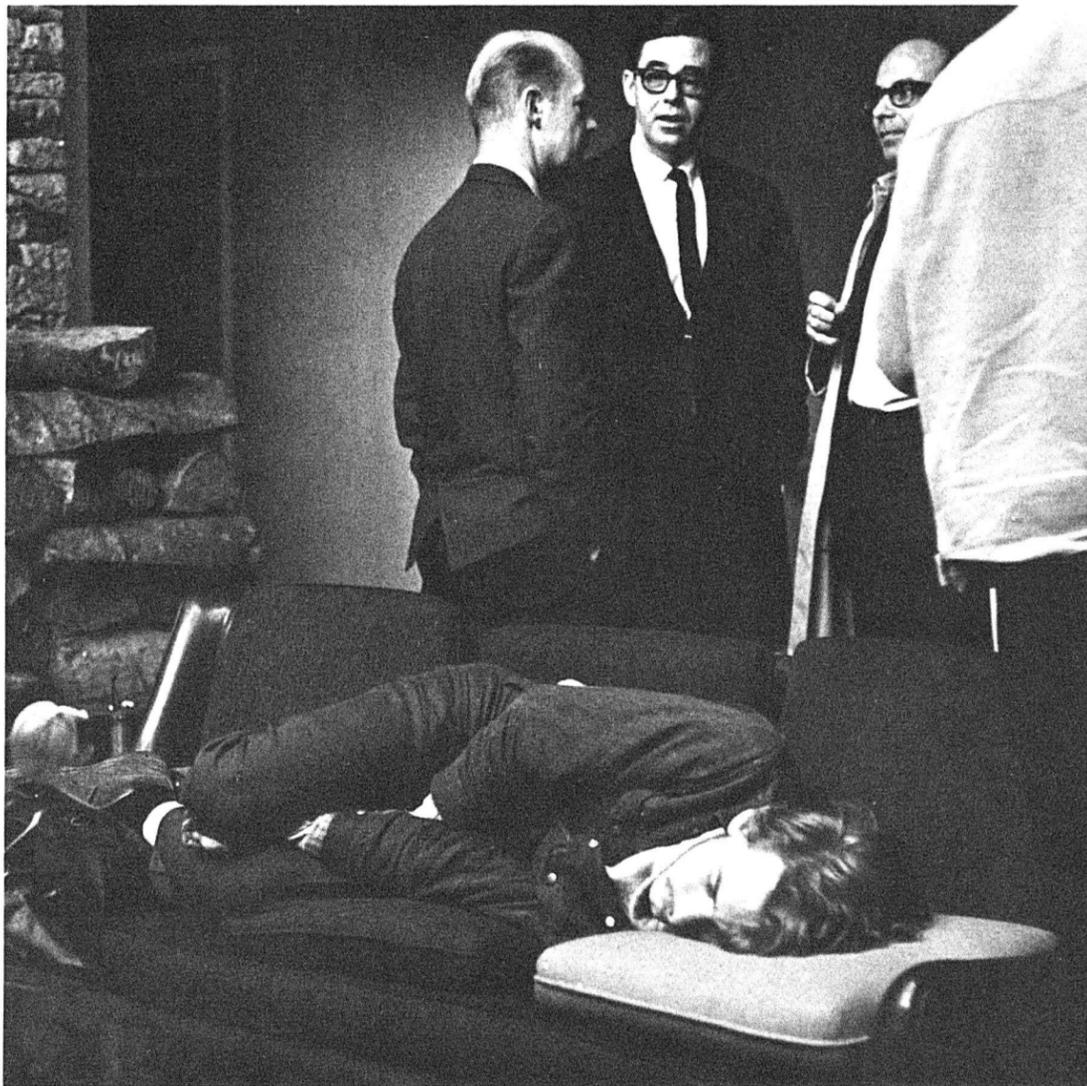
A major goal of the student representatives on GFC will be to increase the student representation.

"I definitely think that we must continue our push for more representation on GFC," said Ponting.

"I think that the students have enough representation, although I realize that it does place a heavy responsibility on the three student members," said Dr. Johns.

At the present time the students have three representatives to the GFC: Phil Ponting, who is also president of the Alberta Association of Students; Richard Watson, president of the Graduate Students' Association; and students' union president Marilyn Pilkington.

Phil Ponting's appointment to the executive committee of the General Faculty Council was recently confirmed by GFC.



—photo by Chuck Lyall

AND SOME JUST SLEPT—Friday morning one tired student was found dead to the world in UBC Faculty Club. Apparently occupation gets to be tiring at times.

Faculty Club falls to students

VANCOUVER (CUP) — "What needs liberating at UBC?" asked Yippie Jerry Rubin.

"The faculty club," someone shouted. And that was that.

Over 2,000 gleeful University of British Columbia students marched

a half mile to the faculty club Thursday and took over.

The students, led by Rubin, and members of UBC's Students for a Democratic Society, paraded a squealing pig (presidential candidate for Rubin's Youth International Party) into the opulent "faculty only" restaurant and bar.

By late Thursday afternoon, observers had estimated 3,000 UBC students passed through the doors at one point or another, ignoring the "Members Only" sign.

There appeared to be few concrete demands or problems to justify the takeover though one SDS member advised the crowd to stay until charges are dropped against the Georgia Straight, a Vancouver underground newspaper. The paper has been charged by the city prosecutor with printing obscene material.

On Friday, at a mass meeting of over 2,000 UBC students, occupiers said they left the building to talk about academic reform.

Faculty club president D. S. Huberman, a UBC commerce professor, was not upset: "This is just delightful—there's nothing against your being here as long as you don't break into the liquor cabinet or damage the building. Otherwise we will consider prosecution."

Thursday, many occupiers turned on (with pot and hash), others drank, and political discussion buzzed through the building.

And one person who took the whole thing like a trouper was Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, who is staying in the

faculty club's presidential suite during a visit to Vancouver.

"I'm totally unconcerned," he said. "It takes a lot worse than this to get me excited. I can't see the point of it all but it's rather funny."

As if the campus hadn't had enough trouble, Mark Rudd, SDS chairman at Columbia and leader of the spring revolt there is scheduled to speak today. There is some doubt about him being allowed into the country and if he is, some people at UBC are reluctant to follow Rubin with Rudd.

CUS is coming

One of three hard line Canadian Union of Students supporters will debate with Marilyn Pilkington Monday on U of A's role in CUS.

Either Peter Warrian, CUS president; Martin Loney, CUS president-elect; or John Gallagher, University of Saskatchewan at Regina student councillor will be expounding the CUS viewpoint.

The debate will take place in the SUB theatre lobby at noon.

The Gateway has on page four an article on Peter Warrian stating some of his viewpoints.

Kicked out again

Poli sci changes still secret

By RONALD YAKIMCHUK

The department of political science is trundling forward in a screen of silence to democratization.

Faculty and students alike say the secrecy is because the issues are too controversial and any open debate would stifle free criticism.

They want to settle the whole matter without trouble. Open debate would cause more problems like the Oct. 22 resignation of Dr. Christian Bay, the department head.

It was Dr. Bay's resignation and his subsequent withdrawal on Oct. 23 which revealed the strife in the department, evidently concerning the proportion of representation undergrads and grads should have on department committees.

While all parties—faculty, grad

students, and undergraduates—deny that anything has been agreed except there are problems, it nevertheless appears undergraduates as well as graduates will now be on the department's councils.

On Monday the undergraduates of the department met to select undergrad representatives to four committees of the department. Three of these committees are permanent, while the fourth is the committee of Democracy in the Department (Melvin committee), which held its first meeting Tuesday.

The other three are the department faculty committee, which is the final policy maker within the department, the curriculum committee, and the undergraduate committee.

The Melvin committee, which is studying the possibility of changing the department so as to improve its representation, is made up of four faculty, four grad students, and four undergrads.

This would seem to indicate undergrads will have a large voice in the policy making of the department.

Secrecy is still the rule except in the undergrad meetings. An attempt by a Gateway reporter to cover Tuesday's Melvin committee meeting was met with unanimous refusal by the committee.

If the department finally breaks out of its shroud of secrecy and reveals what has been going on, the campus could be presented with a model which other departments and faculties could use to admit students into their own decision making bodies.