

The Gateway

Thursday, October 24, 1985

Suzette Chan,
with laryngitis.

Agriculture crisis solved by education

by Ann Grever

If you're the child of a farmer and you didn't pass Math 30 and you didn't go to university, then you will probably fail as a farmer.

The management of the farm of the future "will require a much higher level of education" said Roy Berg, Dean of Agriculture and Forestry. His statement was part of a collective address of the Deans of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine on the crisis in agriculture.

The Deans are endorsing the request of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council for more money for research and manpower training.

The research will mean that scientists will be very much in demand and will be necessary as "education and research are the long term solutions to the present crisis in agriculture."

Herb MacRae, the principal of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College said "young people are badly needed."

"Agriculture is an industry in the process of change," said Donald Rennie, the Dean of the College of Agriculture at the University of Saskatchewan. "More traditional methods of farming are found want-

ing...we want to arm graduates with technical information."

"Farming used to be sufficiently simple," said Rennie. Tomorrow's farm is more technical, "larger, more specialized and highly capital intensive," according to the statement of the Deans.

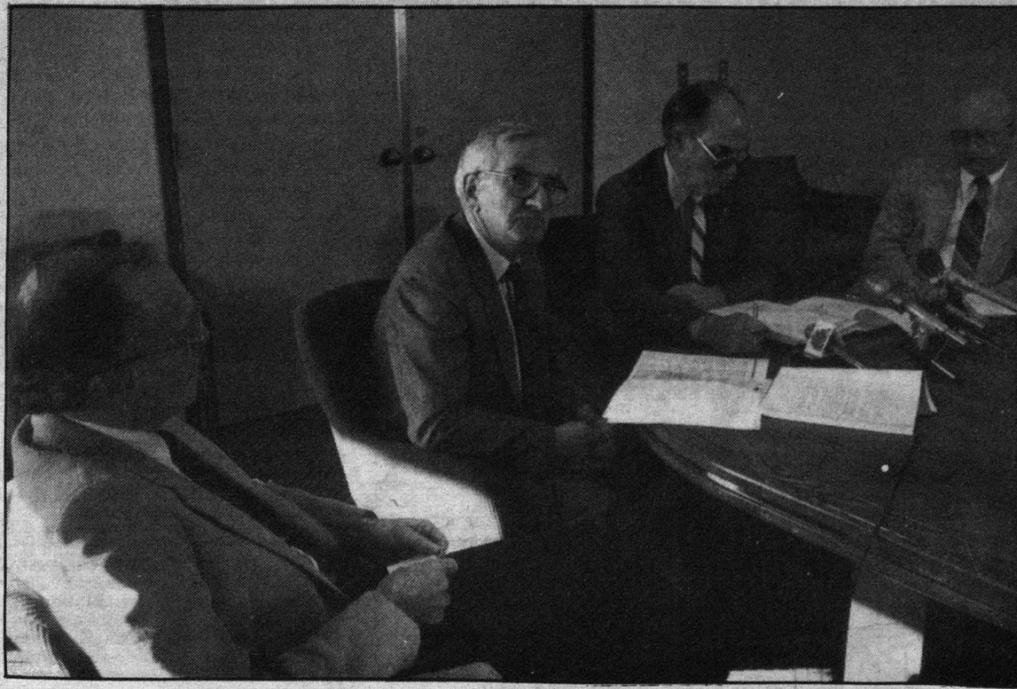
"The family farm of the future will have a highly skilled management," said Rennie. "The trend on more and more farms will be to have more...business training." Those farmers who are more educated — "their families will survive."

Presently half the U of A Agricultural students come from urban settings. Summer work programs and co-op programs in the farming community help give them experience.

Many graduates from the U of A, about one-third of them, will be employed in the private sector, in the agrifood industries and the agricultural services industry.

Farmers can also upgrade their skills by participating in extension courses. These are also "manned by graduates."

The Deans were in support of short-term farm aid schemes such as insurance programs and bridg-



Don Rennie, Herb MacRae, Roy Berg and James Richards (from left to right) "traditional methods of farming are found wanting"

ing financing.

New developments such as the expansion of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, the development

of the Atlantic Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, and the Quebec government's five-year program to increase research, are all, in the long

term, playing "a substantial role in improving our ability to educate the people needs to serve the industry."

Faculties vague about WCT appeals

by Bill Doskoch

On Tuesday, the Faculty of Science articulated its policy on the Writing Competency Test (WCT) but it, along with other faculties, remains unique on appeal procedures.

"All Faculty of Science students who fail to receive a passing mark on the WCT within the specified time limit will be required to withdraw. Students from other faculties who have not passed the WCT will

not be allowed to transfer into the faculty until they have completed that requirement. The decision is subject to the usual faculty academic procedures," read the motion from Dr. D. Nash, chairman of the Genetics Department, at the Council of the Faculty of Science meeting.

The clause regarding appeals was inserted after arguments from student science reps.

Grounds for appeals for those

receiving a grade of Marginally Unsatisfactory (MU) are being kept vague.

"It's hard for me to think of one. We'll just have to deal with each case as it comes along," said Dean of Science W. J. McDonald. "But from the examples I've seen of papers that were graded MU, they were pretty poor."

"If there were no special reason a person hadn't made it after their fourth try, there wouldn't be much

chance of a successful appeal," he said.

Other deans were similarly un-specific.

"We haven't really dealt with any of them yet. We'll look at individuals on an ad hoc basis," said Dean of Engineering F. D. Otto.

Spokespersons for the Faculty of Arts and Business said policies dealing with the question wouldn't be in place until early to mid November, but felt that would be adequate time, seeing as the tests weren't to be written until the end of November.

Action against drunks

by Ann Grever

Two new programs are starting up at the U of A to help prevent drinking and driving.

The Designated Driver Program has one member of a group designated the driver who is served free non-alcoholic drinks all night. The idea comes from Hiram Walker's campaign to promote responsible drinking. The Designated Driver Program has been functioning in Dinwoodie already. RATT and

Dewey's are also planning to implement it soon.

"It's not cheap," RATT manager Don Moore said. In September, the response to the program was not good. Says Moore: "It was abused...if it is again, we'll stop it."

Dewey's manager Greg Holmes said he's just waiting for the printed matter to come through. He hopes people will "get used to the whole idea."

The program is set up "for

groups." Holmes hopes the program will not be abused by "people who order free pop and bring in their own booze, or who are non-drivers or who have been drinking elsewhere."

"The cost is not prohibitive...you're looking at 3 cents a cup of coffee for a little social awareness."

Another program the Student's Union is trying to promote is awaiting the university's approval.

The Parking Permit Program is for people who, after having drunk at the university bars, don't wish to drive home. They can obtain a visitor's parking permit and leave their car overnight without fear of it being ticketed or towed. Thus, said VP Internal Scott Richardson, "Parking services is essentially donating space for a certain time."

The permit would be valid until noon on a weekend and until 9:00 a.m. Tuesday to Friday. The program "is geared towards weekends," he said.

The Student's Union will pick up the cost of printing passes and administration. The program is endorsed by BACCHUS (Boast Alcohol Consciousness Concerning Student Health), the Students Union Executive, AADAC, and Dr. Miller, the Dean of Student Services.

CJSR
THE ALTERNATIVE

FM 88.5

Invite to FACRA meeting

by Mike Evans

The annual meeting of the First Alberta Council of Radio Associations will be held this evening in room 142 SUB at 7:00 p.m.

FACRA is the owner/operator of CJSR and holds the radio station's FM license.

On the agenda for tonight's meeting is the selection of two student-at-large members to the FACRA Board of Directors, the administrative body of CJSR. Any student in good standing at the U of A is eligible to vote or to run for these two positions.

Also on the agenda for tonight's meeting are the examination of the FACRA Board of Governor's annual report, examination of the past year's performance of CJSR,

budget approval and goal setting for the coming year.

Station manager Don Buchanan said "Even if you're not interested in becoming a functional member of FACRA or CJSR, tonight's meeting is a good open forum to see how the station is operated."

FACRA is also the body responsible for determining policy and financial operations for CJSR. In theory, they have final approval for all paid positions at the station though in practice they generally restrict their involvement to the hiring and firing of the station manager and program director.

An open invitation is also offered to any members of the community at large who might like to learn about the operations of CJSR.



Bet VP academic Caroline Nevin won't be driving home tonight.