

UAB under attack

by Wes Oginski

A petition is being passed around the campus.

It calls for the University Athletic Board (UAB) to defeat the motion that would give them constitutional power to raise fees up to 15 per cent per year without obtaining student input outside of the Board.

Liz Lunney, Students' Union representative on UAB, has organized the petition with the help of other concerned students.

"The purpose of the petition is to indicate to the University Athletic Board that students are concerned and want a voice in the issue," she says.

The petition reads:

We the undersigned condemn the University Athletic Board (UAB) for the considering a motion that would empower UAB to increase fees by up to 15 per cent yearly, and further that we call on the University Athletic Board to defeat the motion at its next meeting on December 8, 1981.

Dickson Wood, U of A

chairperson and president of Men's Athletics, was unavailable for comments.

"The wording of the petition is not so much against the fee increase as so much against the process," Lunney says.

Hugh Hoyles, a UAB member and director of intramurals and campus recreation, agrees that most people are questioning the process rather than the issue of the fee increase itself. He also says that UAB should be able to set those fees.

Wood had said earlier that the intent of the motion was not to avoid accountability but rather a method to maintain the present level of programming, and more clearly define UAB's role.

Lunney says the response to the petition has been good.

"People are cautious when discussing this issue," she says. Some are concerned they will appear anti-athletics, when they just object to the process of implementation, she adds.

Lunney is also presenting motions to Students' Council and Faculty Association Council, to support the intent of the petition.

At this moment, these groups have no official position on the UAB fee issue.

Ludger Mogge, v.p. external of the Graduate Students' Association (GSA), says GSA will take a position on the UAB issue soon.

The issue should go to a general student referendum, according to Lunney.

"It would be a lot more effective and a lot more reliable to take it to referendum," she says.

"I hope to present an alternative to them (UAB), a referendum to be held with the Spring election (SU general executive election), a one time referendum for the constitutional change," Lunney says.

"There has been some confusion in that some think I want an annual referendum," she adds, "all I want is a one time referendum that would decide if they (UAB) should have discretionary power."

She does agree that there are other ways to receive student input, like approaching Students' Council, other student groups and associations, and student clubs.

"I would rather see it go to referendum," says Lunney. "More

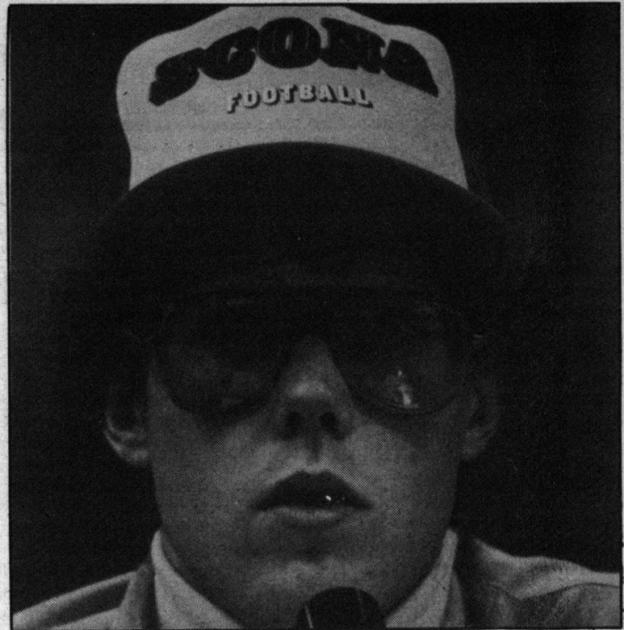


photo Dave Chan

Dickson Wood only wants to maintain present standards.

people participate that way." "Less people are approached the other way," she adds.

This is not to say that the UAB does not have student representation.

"I would say that outside the faculty (of Physical Education and

Recreation), the representation is not as good as we (UAB) would like to see it," Wood said. He adds that the potential is there but it is the student involved in athletics who shows the interest.

Results of the Informal Gateway Survey on the UAB fee issue will be provided in next week's issue.

Board worried about cutbacks

Enrolment record-breaker

by Peter Michalshyn

Early figures from the Registrar's office show U of A enrolment near an all-time high.

Following an increase of almost seven per cent, enrolment has climbed within 600 of 1976/77's record 20,407 full-time students. Present enrolment is roughly 19,842, not including increased part-time enrolment of 3543.

The greatest percentage increase comes in new students at over 16 per cent, the highest since 1968/69. University president Myer Horowitz attributed the increase to great numbers of potential students who for whatever reasons didn't enter university immediately after high school.

By faculty, the largest increases were in Science, Arts, and Business Administration and Commerce. Engineering and Education showed large gains as well.

The only faculties to show decreases in enrolment were Agriculture and Forestry, Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Home Economics.

The effects of quotas in all but the Arts and Science faculties are not available.

Last year new student enrolment was up almost eight per cent, but total enrolment increased only marginally. With one exception (1973/74), new student enrolments declined throughout the '70s, and for the most part total enrolment fluctuated between plus or minus three per cent.

Thus university administrators are hesitant to predict trends on the basis of this year's unexpected increase.

Horowitz told the Board of Governors meeting on November 6, that the university's best research predicted a decline in enrolment this year. He said he could not predict the unexpected increase in new students to continue next year. He also said, however, that this year's increase would continue to be felt in returning students for the next two to three years.

However, Horowitz assured Board members the university would use higher use of the university as one more argument for better funding from the provincial government.

At the Board, members worried that increased enrolment in most faculties would make cutbacks more difficult.

BAZ



by SKEET at Nelson



November 26th
Rutherford Concourse
Educational rally
Against Cutbacks

with: James D. Horsman, Minister of Advanced Education
and: speakers from Academic Staff
Non-Academic Staff
Graduate Students Assoc.

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