

National Notes

British differential fees increase

LONDON (CUP) — England's 85,000 foreign students, including 1,000 Canadians, could be paying the full cost of their studies — \$4,080 to \$5,440 a year — if the Conservative government has its way.

Currently the government pays 60 per cent of the cost of foreign students' studies but the Conservatives are looking for a way out of spending the estimated \$225 million a year.

The government has also announced that the annual grant to universities and colleges will be cut by \$18 million dollars this year and that grants to Great Britain's research councils will be cut by \$10 million.

Foreign students are currently facing a tuition increase this term of between \$350 and \$830 but this increase still leaves the government paying 60 per cent.

Education department spokespersons say reports of plans to eliminate the foreign student subsidies are "pure speculation".

Tuition fees for foreign undergraduates in England this fall are about \$2,550, up from last year's \$1,900, while postgraduates will be hit with fees of about \$3,300, compared to last year's \$2,500.

More U.S. students this year

WASHINGTON (CPS) — While Canadian educators predict a levelling off and eventual decline in college and university enrolment, U.S. post-secondary education enrolment is expected to rise slightly this fall.

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) also says it expects the full and part-time faculty members' ranks to swell to 830,000 from the 820,000 level of last fall.

NCES reports that 11.4 million students will register in the U.S. this fall, an increase of more than 100,000 compared to last year's enrolment.

But NCES still expects precipitous drops in college enrolment in the 1980s and early 1990s. Enrolment in the U.S. fell a drastic nine per cent in 1976 but has stabilized since then, with only a one to two per cent variance. However elementary school enrolment has declined every year since 1970. Colleges and universities will feel the results when 1970s first-graders reach age 18 in 1982 and 1983.

Montreal students plan strike

MONTREAL (CUP) — Fourth year notarial students at the Université de Montréal are planning to strike if year-end exams are not abolished.

The students are asking for the abolition of two year-end exams given during a two-day period and worth 50 per cent of their final grade.

Student representative Pierre Peladeau says the students feel the 30 exams and 10 assignments given by the university during the course of the year are sufficient. He said he wants a four to six month internship in a notary's office to replace the exams.

Last year 178 law students at the universities of Laval, Ottawa, Sherbrooke and Montreal took part in a two-month strike when the same demands were made.

Other demands include reducing the number of students per class and the hiring of more notaries as full-time professors.

The Chambre des Notaires was supposed to give the students their answer to the demands at a June meeting but the meeting was rescheduled for an undetermined date in September. Now the students have been told it will be held in early October.

Look-out, Lister Hall

DENVER (CPS) — "Sexual pressure" is more common in sexually-segregated dorms than in co-ed dorms, according to a recent survey published in a U.S. magazine.

The survey showed that four out of five of the students living in co-ed dorms found it easier to form non-sexual relationships with the opposite sex.

However more than half the students responding to the survey said they have little or no sex life at all. And almost 85 per cent of the men living in co-ed dorms said they make it a policy not to date women living in their own dorms.

Student sardine circus

TORONTO (CUP) — When professor J.B. Gilmore looks for a glimmer of understanding in the eyes of his Psychology 100 class he has a big job to undertake. That's because there are 1,400 eyes on him.

The University of Toronto, in an attempt to cope with insufficient funding at the university, has put about 700 students in Gilmore's Thursday morning class.

U of T president James Ham is worried that huge classes at universities could become the rule rather than the exception if continued underfunding of universities takes place.

"What must worry us is to what extent classes like this become common experience," said Ham. "It's intolerable that a person's university experience be dominated by classes that large."

Harvey Cooper, arts and science students' union executive assistant, said the class will have a "circus environment" and that such large classes make "a farce of education."

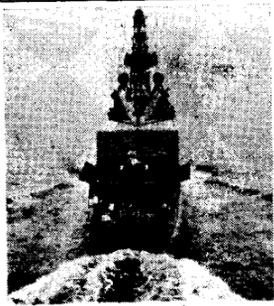
Gilmore says some students in the class of 700 will be unhappy with the crowding but he believes the majority will be satisfied.

Horsman, from p. 1

He also hinted at the possibility of a provision for a permanent student representative on the SFB, if that representative had the mandate of all Alberta students.

Horsman indicated that there would be no removal of differential fees for foreign students and said that the U of A's policy was not unreasonable when compared to that of other countries.

But Horsman encouraged students to pursue a university education, particularly in the liberal arts region "because our society is going to need people trained in the arts as we move into a different way of life in Alberta."



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