

A politician is an ass upon which everyone has sat...

...but a man.
e.e. cummings

Task Force under fire

by Lucinda Chodan

A member of the Grantham Task Force has published a report conflicting with Task Force recommendations.

The report, titled *Rationales for Determining Student Contributions to Costs of Post-Secondary Education* was released by Dr. Steve Hunka of the U of A's Educational Research Services Friday.

The report contains Hunka's personal recommendations on tuition fees in post-secondary institutions and a discussion of the Task Force recommendations.

"I don't feel the Task Force really thought about rationales things like social equity, societal benefits, and individual benefits and costs," said Hunka.

"I'm not questioning the majority's right to make their decision. But that doesn't mean a majority vote guarantees a wise decision, or that it has any divine right."

Hunka's report discusses the beneficiaries of post-secondary education, compares post-secondary education in other countries with Alberta's system, and analyses the Alberta Student Loan program. Some of his conclusions:

- Post-secondary education is as valuable to society as it is to the individual; a fact the government of Alberta and the Grantham report tend to under-emphasize.
- The level of tuition fees affects accessibility to post-secondary institutions. In Europe, this problem of social equity has been recognized, and attempts have been made to solve it.

- The advancement and utilization of knowledge should be considered an important part of

a province's economic growth.

- Tuition fees are only a small part of a student's investment in an education.

- The operating costs of universities are less than other post-secondary institutions and these operating costs have remained nearly constant in the face of mounting inflation.

- The provincial government should increase its financial commitment to university funding.

Alberta's government is side-stepping its financial commitment to the Alberta Student Loan program.

Ron Grantham, chairman of the provincial government's Task Force on student contributions to the cost of post-secondary education, says he is pleased a member of the task force chose to investigate the subject further.

"I'm rather glad that Dr. Hunka apparently has the time to do this...he was a valued member of the Task Force.

"I've scanned the report, and what I've seen is very learned, studied, and intellectual...He speaks of the need for greater study, but there are limitations on the time any group of ten could spend. We spent a year and did the best we could."

However, Grantham said the report was only a personal assessment by Dr. Hunka.

Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower James Horsman said he had been unable to review Hunka's report yet. However, he said the report would be reviewed in connection with the overall look at student finances.

"I wouldn't like to comment before I've reviewed the whole situation."

Election controversy arises

Two people involved in the upcoming Students' Union by-election have announced their intentions to take complaints to the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement Board (DIE Board).

Willie Gruber, candidate for the position of vice-president finance and administration, and

Scott Thorkelson, Gruber's campaign manager and a GFC candidate, are planning to charge Glen Gallinger, another vp finance candidate, and returning officer Sue Savage with unfair election practices.

The charges against Gallinger stem from his mounting of posters. Thorkelson says



A Pacific Rim contestant balances victory and defeat in the Coliseum last week. For more, see pages 10 and 11.

photo Stan Mah

Gallinger faces criticism

by Keith Krause

The activities of Students' Union interim vp finance and administration, Glen Gallinger, have created controversy between the Administration (Admin) Board and some student groups.

Gallinger has posted them in Lister Hall and HUB without approval. Also, Gallinger posters have been placed on campus trees, in direct contravention of the Students' Union constitution and the Student Code of Behavior.

The complaints against Savage include her neglecting to distribute a schedule of election events to candidates, and not informing candidates of the rules involving poster distribution and approval.

Thorkelson also said Savage was "considering" granting extra campaign funds to all candidates, at Gallinger's request.

Glen Gallinger said as far as he knew, all his posters had been placed legally. And Savage responded that she had contacted each candidate individually, informing him of his rights and obligations as a candidate.

"I also informed them of the possibility of a delayed election before the decision was made and confirmed this to them as soon as possible afterwards," she said.

The Admin Board, which Gallinger chairs, is the agency responsible for the allocation of funds to clubs and student groups on campus. The controversy centers around board decisions concerning the engineering clubs.

This year, the Mechanical Engineering Club received \$900 from Admin Board. Last year their grant was \$465. The Civil Engineering Club, which last year received \$475, got only \$245 this time.

"There is an inconsistency in the way the grants were handled," said John Harder, president of the Civil Engineer-

ing Club. "We're displeased."

The \$900 was granted to the Mech Eng Club largely to offset the cost of the Iron Ring graduation banquet, which about 150 people attend. The grad banquet is held by all engineering clubs, but most clubs hold the social event on a nearly break-even basis.

Gallinger says he scrutinized the budgets of the clubs before the meeting.

"There is little I can do when they submit a budget except look at it and accept it, or poke at it a bit," said Gallinger.

Continued on page 18

CANDU march a first

OTTAWA (CUP) - More than one thousand people marched on Parliament Hill Saturday to protest Canadian overseas sales of nuclear reactors.

Demonstrators from across Canada came to the first national anti nuclear march. They walked through the streets of Ottawa, carrying banners and chanting slogans before ending the nonviolent protest with a rally in front of the parliament buildings.

On Parliament Hill, Dr. Gordon Edwards, chairman of the Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility (CCNR), spoke of the federal government's lack of understanding of the nuclear issue. He criticized the Clark government for its failure to involve the

public. "We want an honest and open inquiry to involve the public. We want an honest and open inquiry and a moratorium on all future sales of the Canadian CANDU reactor to foreign nations."

The protestors claimed the proposed parliamentary inquiry into nuclear energy will be done by bureaucrats and officials with an interest in the survival of the Canadian nuclear industry.

The CCNR has attempted to meet with energy minister Ray Hnatyshin for four months but has yet to receive an appointment. The government has also refused to hold a public inquiry into Canada's future energy supplies. "Everyone knows about the China Syndrome, but

Continued on page 2



A Gallinger poster on a SUB window.

Continued on page 2