

# gateway

Tuesday, November 23, 1982

To my embarrassment...

...I was born in bed with a lady.  
Wilson Mizner

## SU creeps slowly toward the black

by Richard Watts

The final budget of the Students' Union for the 82-83 year projects a surplus of \$225,000.00.

The final draft of the budget was drawn up by the Students' Union finance committee last week and will go to Council for final approval tonight.

The surplus figure of \$225,000.00 is greater than the one in the preliminary budget, which predicted a deficit of only \$22,000.00.

The surplus generated this term will go towards paying off the Student Union debt. At the end of this budget year the Students' Union debt will be reduced to approximately \$300,000.00.

Says SU VP finance, Roger Merkosky, "We won't be out of a financial crisis at the end of this year but we have made significant progress so far."

Merkosky explained this year's surplus is the result of "a composite of many things."

Some of the contributing factors include: increased rental revenue from the food kiosks and the former Art Gallery space in SUB, higher enrolment bringing in more SU fees, the consumer price indexed increase of SU fees, the mortgage deferral on SUB from June till the end of this month, and a generous grant from the Board of Governors.

"We've embarked on a policy of non-expansion and financial consolidation this year," explained Merkosky.

Merkosky also mentioned that a number of moves the Students' Union

has made this year will not have an effect till next year.

These moves include a number of staff reductions the SU has made this year in which the SU made "redundancy payments."

Merkosky explained, "One woman who was let go had been with the SU for about eight years so we had to give her six months pay when she left."

Merkosky also explained the SU will have to pay out money in order to build office space for student clubs, downstairs in the old SUB curling rink.

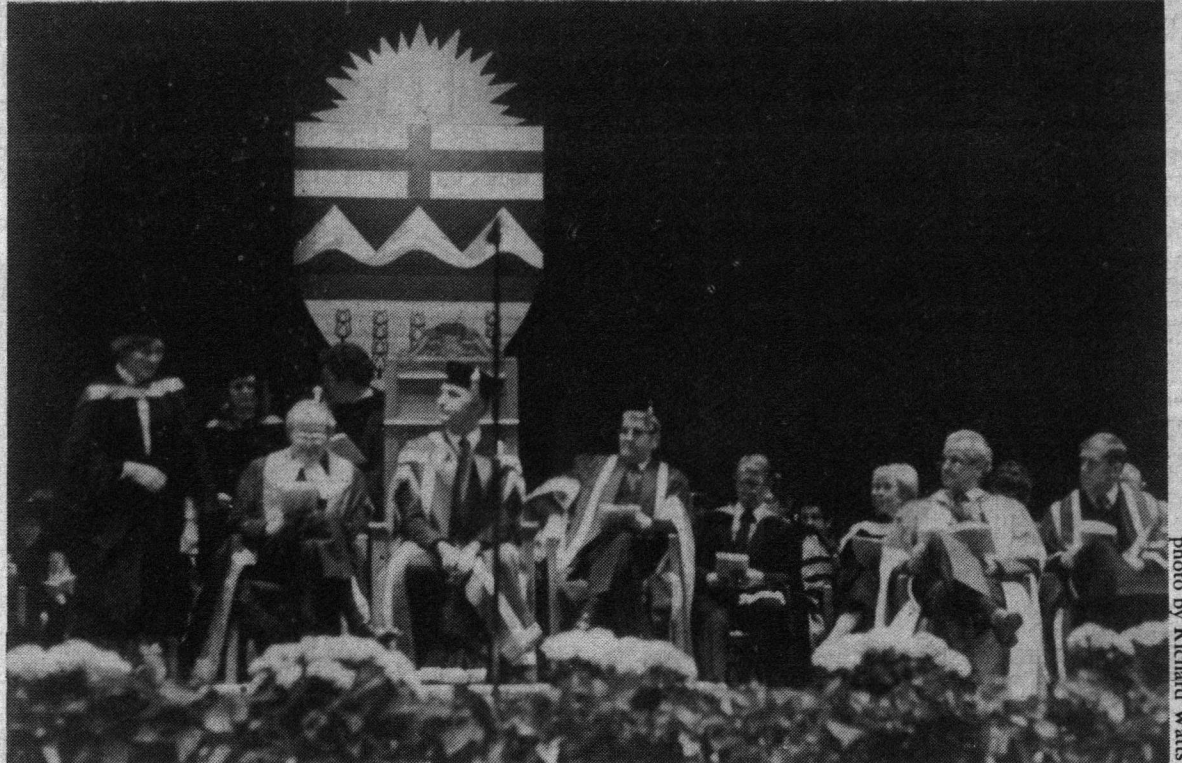
"We don't want to end up financially solvent and be bankrupt facility-wise," he said.

Merkosky explained that the financial situation of the SU fluctuates throughout the year. During the summer when the number of students on campus is low and many of the SU services are still operating the SU debt has sunk as low as \$1.5 million. This debt decreases in the fall when students return and pay their SU fees.

While Merkosky did admit that next year's executive will be in a better financial position than this year's, he warned that the SU is not yet "out of a financial crisis".

He said that the fee referendum which will be held later this month will ask students whether they are willing to support the SU's \$5.00 fee hike next year, and will be of "crucial importance."

"I hope that next year's executive will take the financial situation seriously," said Merkosky.



Chancellor Peter Savaryn glances offstage whilst graduates enter stage right and exit stage left at Fall Convocation. More than three hundred graduate students and seven hundred undergraduates have now lost those all important tax deductions and face glorious unemployment. If you work really hard, you too can enjoy this exciting experience!

photo by Richard Watts

## Alta nixes campaign theme

by Ken Lenz

Alberta's representatives at a recent Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) conference disagreed with the majority stand on what is the most relevant issue affecting education today.

About 200 people representing 60 campuses attended a recent seven day conference in Victoria. Five Albertan institutions were represented.

The CFS organizes a national week of action every year designed to promote public awareness of current relevant issues affecting education today.

Dispute arose over the choice made for this year's theme.

"Student Unemployment in the Eighties," was the theme supported by the majority of Canadian representatives.

"Invest in the Future, Support Education," was the alternative favored by Alberta and eight other

Canadian campuses.

Alberta delegates also rejected federal restraint as the sole reason for education cutbacks. The 14-16% increase in post-secondary funding as compared with a 25% overall increase in government spending was the delegates' major complaint.

Student's Union President Robert Greenhill said of the national stand, "Trying to tackle the whole government system regarding policy on unemployment is more than we have the resources to handle."

Greenhill added, "If we argue only against student unemployment we'll neglect the issue of the quality of education received."

Further, Greenhill stated, "By using this theme we will be playing right into the hands of the National Training Act (NTA) who want to turn universities into glorified apprenticeship programs."

University of Alberta CFS representative Teresa Gonzalez said of the theme chosen, "Albertans are

realists. We are facing some of the highest unemployment since the 1930s. If we lobby against unemployment people will say 'so what' because they're in the same boat. We won't get much sympathy from the public with this stand."

Federation of Alberta Students (FAS) President Don Millar says, "Although the theme chosen by the CFS was intended to be a national one, individual areas use the platform that they think will be in the best interests of their particular area, in this case Alberta."

Robert Greenhill expressed some discontent with the CFS as a whole: "CFS hasn't matured enough to deal effectively with student concerns."

The next CFS conference is in May. This conference will stress the political role the CFS should take on specific issues.

## CJSR loses director



Soon departing CJSR director, Steve Cummings, seen here almost naked without a bandanna, couldn't commit himself to two more years.

by Mark Roppel

CJSR Director Steve Cummings has resigned effective Nov. 30 or later depending on when a new director can be found.

Cummings has been director since April 1980 and he feels that if he does not resign now he will have to stay at the job for another two years. "I can't see myself remaining effective," he said.

CJSR is expected to have its FM license by late summer or early fall 1983. That would be "a time of major crisis and a poor time to change directors," said Cummings. "The new director should have a reasonable amount of time to learn the job at a

time when, operationally, things are moving pretty smoothly."

Cummings also cited personal reasons for leaving, "the budget was substantially reduced and I have had to in effect work since last April without being paid."

"The struggle with (SU) executive in council over the FM project has depleted my stocks. I am happy with the results, but I'm not that up to the job anymore."

Cummings dispelled the notion that his departure will have a major effect on the station, "Over 100 people work here, at any one time ten or twenty are extensively involved."

## Senate revives language issue

by Allison Annesley

The question of the status of French at the U of A is an old issue which Senate re-examined Friday with a new twist: multi-cultural course teaching.

The necessity of offering comprehensive instruction in a variety of second languages was the major topic of debate between Senate members.

Senator Peter Hunt, an engineer, argued that Senate should first be concerned with English and French competency and worry about the instruction of other languages later.

Board of Governors representative and initiator of the Task Force which sparked the controversy, Senator Joe Kandler, countered that "knowledge of another language has a beneficial effect on the knowledge of the first language. What counts is the result."

Professor Manoly Lupul, Director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, also argued in favor of second-language instruction. Lupul even implied that Senators were divided in their stand on the issue according to their own ethnic backgrounds.

Dean Baldwin, Vice President Academic of the University, took offense to Lupul's insinuation and called it "absurd and insulting". Baldwin later remarked that it was the first time in his career that he had ever been personally attacked in public.

Earlier on in the meeting, President Myer Horowitz announced that the University had received an anonymous \$150,000 donation, which will be used to create an endowment fund for the improvement of teaching. The donation was matched

by a Provincial government grant, bringing the total figure to \$300,000. Senator Kandler also suggested during the languages debate that funds from any future "unnamed donor" might be used for language education.

A last minute addition was made to the agenda to obtain a Senate evaluation of the importance of grade twelve comprehensive exams. When the item came up, though, Senators decided they needed more information before they could collectively deliberate.

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