

Welcome to campus

It's a great pleasure for me to welcome to our campus the men and women who will be studying here during the next academic year. Those of you who are returning will be meeting old friends and you know how to find your way around a campus that has grown larger during the last few years. For people coming to the university for the first time, the size and impersonality of the campus often pose problems, and so I hope that those of you who have been here before will make an effort to help the students who are just beginning their studies here.

To the students who are coming here for the first time, I want to bid a special welcome. Having mentioned the size and impersonality of the campus, I'd like to qualify that remark by saying that the problems posed by size and impersonality can also be exaggerated. In comparison with many other universities, the University of Alberta is not a huge place, and there are many people, especially members of the staff, who are most anxious to help. People in the university community are very approachable. So don't hesitate to ask for advice and assistance. And

And remember also that the size of the university makes it possible for us to have the resources--the libraries, laboratories, and a multitude of activities--that make this one of the finest universities in Canada. Any student who wants to pursue excellence will find the human and material resources to do so.

In the last two or three years there have been a lot of comments about the economic aspects of a university education. A general university education, it is said, no longer guarantees a job. What tends to be forgotten is that the function of the university goes beyond the preparation of people for specific careers, important though that function is. The university is also a place where people--staff and students alike--pursue the goal of discovery and understanding of the world in which we live as well as of ourselves. No one can foretell how much you will discover, how

No one can foretell how much you will discover, how much you will ultimately understand, but to set out on the road is itself exciting.

I wish you all a very successful and rewarding year.

Henry Kreisel
Vice President (Academic)

Registration fun??

The University of Alberta is holding a special event this week for all the fine upstanding youth who wish to further their education. Because the university Administration is so pleased to see us, they have decided to honor us with that horror of horrors, "registration."

Your Students' Union, commonly known as "the bad guys," has decided that you will need some form of relaxation and entertainment to help see you through this crisis. Therefore, we have planned a week of activities which we hope will accommodate all tastes and preferences, especially those with insatiable thirsts. Tuesday at 11 a.m. there will be a Beer Garden in the Quad. That is the area between the Students' Union Building and Central Academic. Here you will be able to sit in comfort after your battle with the registration procedure and drink your sorrows away. The Beer Garden will be open Tuesday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Entertainment will be supplied.

Tuesday night at 8 p.m. you can let loose to the sound of Yellowhead and Freeway in Central Academic Building.

Wednesday being a new day and another battle, we will

calm your nerves with the golden sound of Tom Northcott and Abraham's Children. They will be playing in Dinwoodie Lounge in SUB starting at 8:30. As only a limited number of people can be seated, we advise that you buy your tickets in advance at the Students' Union information desk.

The Privilege and Seeds of Time will entertain Thursday at the Social of socials, the "Joe College Dance," in the Ice Arena.

The week will be brought to a close Saturday with a Golden Bear football game followed by Bear Country. The game begins at 2 p.m. and Bear Country at 8 p.m. in the Ice Arena. The Unholy Rollers and Great Canadian River Race will be playing.

This leaves us with just one day left, Sunday. For Sunday, we have scheduled a day of rest, we think you will need it.

We hope you will enjoy the events planned. See you there.

Please Note: The Students' Union will not take responsibility for those uninformed individuals who do not see fit to attend any of these events or for those people who come out to have an intoxicated, disorderly time.

Randy McDonald,
Vice-President, Services

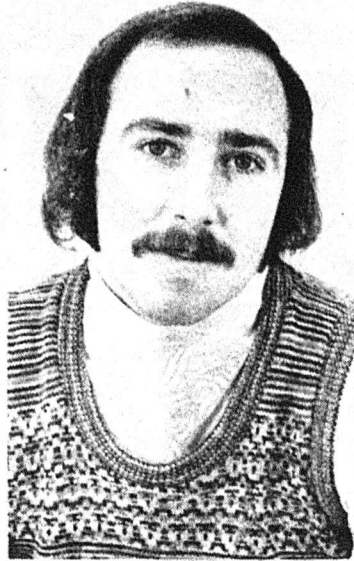
The Gateway

THE GATEWAY is the newspaper of the students of the University of Alberta. It is published by the Students Union twice weekly during the winter session on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Contents are the responsibility of the editor, opinions are those of the person expressing them. Letters to the editor on any subject are welcome, but must be signed. Please keep them short, letters should not exceed 200 words. Deadlines for submitting copy are 2 P.M. Mondays and Wednesdays.

editor-in-chief.....Allyn Cadogan

news..... Brian Tucker production.....Loreen Lennon
arts..... Walter Pliing photography..... Sandy Campbell

STAFF THIS ISSUE: Sandy Drever, Hugh Hoyles, Bob McIntyre, Colleen Milne, Vidya Thakur.



GEORGE MANTOR
president



GARY CROXTON
executive vp



PATRICK DELANEY
vp-academic



CHARLIE HALL
vp-finance and administration



RANDY McDONALD
vp-services

student journalism:

Where do we go from here?

On campuses across Canada, one of the most hotly debated topics today is the role of the student newspaper.

Faced with the problems of declining quality in the student press, and of radical drops in readership, student editors have asked themselves, "Where do we go from here?"

Ordered to justify our existence to budget makers, we ask ourselves, "How do we increase our readership?"

And on another front, we are faced not only with the problem of how to recruit experienced, reliable staff, but with how to recruit any staff at all.

Individually, we go sleepless on press nights, sacrifice academic standing and occasionally expose ourselves to ridicule from our fellow students. As an organization, we cost student governments several thousand dollars each year. It's a

valid question: What *are* we good for?

For the past few years, our role was fairly clear-cut. We acted as the mouth-piece for whichever political group controlled the editor's desk in any given year. It was "in" to be radical and student journalism was expected to adopt an underground style.

In the era preceding that of the campus radical, the student press had been an excellent training ground for professional journalists.

And now we find our society once again in a state of flux. In the past three years, students have suddenly become aware that a university degree no longer guarantees a job. If anything, it often "overqualifies" him.

Trade schools are enjoying a boom in enrollment while universities are faced with the crisis of declining enrollment.

social change

Not all of us are satisfied with trade schools, though. Maybe we want a little purely "aesthetic" education, with perhaps some practical work experience picked up on the side. Could student press become once again good preparation for work on the daily newspaper?

It is a policy of Canadian University Press that student newspapers act as "an organ for social change." Today many are translating that phrase just a little differently than what has been customary.

We have learned through bitter experience that shoving a political ideology down the students' throats just doesn't work. It turns people off.

Granted, we do need social reform in many areas, but telling people that they must change, must do a thing *this* way is not the right approach. We feel the way to reach people is to

approach potentially political topics obliquely. For example, you may read an article later this year on the quality of day care.

Yes, Virginia, the very existence of day care is political. It is social change. But it's the type of social change with which the average student can identify.

No, it's not as romantic as standing on street corners handing out pamphlets urging citizens to protest a war in a country most of them will never see.

The war is real, alright. But so is the need for day care. The difference is that the need for day care is here and now and personal, and that's a difference that counts.

I won't deny that idealists are a necessary part of our society. But as a student press we have learned that adopting a policy of starry-eyed idealism doesn't work. We don't reach enough people with it.

a new direction

This year we will try a little "practical" idealism. Maybe some of it will hit people where they live.

We are not trying to build up readership at any cost. What we are trying to do is to produce a newspaper that you, the students, want to read.

We won't insult your intelligence by writing articles so highly opinionated they are rendered unreadable. We will grant you the right to reach your own conclusions on any given topic. We strongly believe that opinion belongs on the editorial pages, and nowhere else.

Another aspect of Gateway's existence brought up by numerous individuals has been our close proximity to the offices of the Students' Union Executive.

It's funny, some are so quick to accuse us of being the mouth-piece of the executive who supposedly exercise editorial control over Gateway.

On the other hand, a remark was repeated to me the other day, attributed to a member of the executive who supposedly said, "You know, we are financially supporting our official opposition."

Last year we bent over almost backward to prove we weren't under SU control. This year we certainly will not go to the other extreme. I can probably answer both sides best with a quote from J. Robert Oppenheimer: "We do not believe any group of men adequate enough or wise enough to operate without scrutiny or without criticism. We know that the only way to avoid error is to detect it, that the only way to detect it is to be free to enquire. We know that in secrecy error undetected will flourish and subvert."

Personally, I see Gateway and the executive as two branches of one union (Students' Union, right?) working toward the same goals. We just keep each other in line when needed. Simplistic, maybe, but I don't see the necessity of difficult problems.

We aren't totally sure which direction we're heading at this point. We don't have all the answers. Our basic policy is to put out a quality, useful, credible, enjoyable student paper. With a little help from you, we know we can do it.

Allyn Cadogan

Get to know your Student's Union Executive

GATEWAY has created the

TOTEM POSTER

to give you some idea of how our Executive ...

Stacks Up.