

New manpower enters SU



Whopping deficit welcomes new Financial Manager

by Allison Annesley

The position of Students' Union general manager, previously held by one person, has been divided into two separate jobs, those of business and financial manager. Tom Wright, the manager since January, was joined in June by financial manager Ryan Beebe.

Beebe graduated in '74 from the U of A with a Bachelor of Commerce degree. He comes to the S U from the Ross Hill Controls oil patch co., where he was financial controller.

The most significant change Beebe has been responsible for since his appointment, is the inception of a monthly inventory report system. The new system monitors all SU expenditures.

Managers of all business and service areas submit a comprehensive inventory report to Beebe each month. Beebe then examines the reasons behind budget variances and predicts when he can expect large revenues or expenditures to appear for past transactions.

Says Beebe, "In the past, the system hasn't been monitored on a monthly basis and there has been a total lack of inventory control. This is a very fast way to lose money."

Beebe has saved staff in his own area by reducing full-time accounting clerks to half-days.

The university has given the SU a January 1st, 1985 deadline to erase its debt to them, before the university will cease to be the SU's banker. The resolution Beebe sees for this is a substantial raise in SU fees. The increase will have to be raised in a referendum to the students. It should amount to \$5.50 per student. If rejected, Beebe cites three additional means of increasing revenue:

- An increased efficiency in the volume of SU businesses
- An increase in SU rentals
- The expected increased revenue from Universiade business.

These three points alone though, even if successful, would likely not be sufficient to meet the university's 1985 deadline.

Beebe describes the most necessary change in SU policy as being tight inventory control. The results of his new inventory monitoring system should show up later this year. SU president Robert Greenhill calls Beebe's system "very useful," and predicts it will be "invaluable within half a year."

Java Jive and an ice cream shop have both signed rental contracts for space in SUB, while a computing service company's contract is pending. Beebe still hopes to open a food kiosk in room 142 SUB, on the main floor.

The financial manager finds his new job "intriguing, because it is a quasi-government situation that not only provides services but involves itself in business."

Beebe's probationary contract runs until January 7th, at which point it will be reviewed by Students' Council.

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