

Engineers concerned about education

WINNIPEG (CUP) — The Engineering Students Society at the University of Manitoba is considering taking the university to court for failing to provide them with a proper education.

Gary Funio, a spokesman for the society, told a meeting of engineering students that they might be launching a suit in a month. The grounds for the suit would be that engineering students pay a higher percentage of the faculty's budget but are not receiving additional assistance.

The dean of engineering, Martin Wedepohl, has called for an investigation into the arbitrary procedures at the U of

Wedepohl said the administration has been consistently underfunding the engineering department since 1971. In recent years, the Canadian Accreditation Board has refused to grant the U of M engineering department the usual five year accreditation and has cited underfunding as one of the department's main problems.

Ray McQuade, the chair of the Board of Governors, has rejected Wedepohl's call for an outside investigation and accused Wedepohl of making "inexcusable attacks" on administration president Ralph Campbell.

Wedepohl has said he will respond to McQuade's vilification of him next week.

Totman new exec officer

Mrs. R. Mary Totman has become executive officer of the University of Alberta Senate on March 1.

The appointment of Mrs. Totman was announced by Chancellor Jean Forest at the February 23rd meeting of the Senate.

Totman, acting executive officer since February 1, 1978, was appointed for a two-year

term. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in history and English from the University of

Manchester, England.

As executive officer, she will assist in and co-ordinate the full range of tasks taken on by the Senate, a 62-member body which has the mandate "to inquire into any matter that might tend to enhance the usefulness of the university."

Although the Senate has little formal decision-making power, it seeks to stimulate issues of concern and to aid in their resolution. It is specifically authorized to interpret the university to the public.

Job vacancies drop

9% in three months

EDMONTON (CUP) — The number of job vacancies dropped 19 per cent in the three months up to the end of January 1979, to 41,000, or one opening for every 20 unemployed Canadians.

The Statistics Canada Job Vacancy Survey released March 1 revealed there were almost 100 fewer job openings by 31 than there were at the end of October. Unemployment rose to 977,000 in January according to Statistics Canada.

This does not include the 1,000 Canadians who have given up looking for work and are therefore not counted in employment statistics, according to Stats Canada.

While unemployment critics say the New Democratic and Conservative parties predict employment will top a million by the winter's over, the federal government will not fund job creation programs.

In February, finance minister Jean Chretien dismissed opposition party demands for job creation incentives, saying he was not surprised there were nearly a million out of work Canadians. January, he said, is

usually a severe month for unemployment.

This job vacancy survey will also be the last one produced, having fallen victim to the government's budget slashing spree in September. At the time, opposition critics said the survey was cut to spare the government embarrassment over the non-existence of jobs.

Drager wins as 11% vote

BACUS elects new executive

Dean Drager is the new president of the Business and Commerce Undergraduate Society (BACUS), after an election lacking participation by both voters and candidates.

All other positions up for election February 23 were filled by acclamation, except for thirteen positions on BACUS council which remain vacant. Only 188 of the 1650 business and commerce undergraduates voted; Drager received 63% of the vote.

The other members of the next BACUS executive are:

Elizabeth Lunney, vp internal; Ron Snyder, vp finance; Ron Zynych, vp social; and Ron Kessler, vp academic. William Gruber was elected students' council rep; Wayne Olmstead and Carol Woo were elected to General Faculties Council.

Drager's platform was a commitment to strong enthusiastic leadership, and he says he wants to pull the faculty together at the student level. "Communication is the biggest thing," he said; "we must make the students aware of what we provide."

Intramural involvement will also be emphasized. Drager said participation was high this year, and with more encouragement, "The commerce intramural program will be one to be feared."

The present BACUS council formed a committee to consider the benefits of belonging to the Students' Union last October. Drager said it would be foolish for him to comment on the issue until the committee makes specific recommendations.

Drager said he ran for the



Grant Notley appeared on campus yesterday and told an audience of about 100 students that he opposed cutbacks and tuition fees.

CWY sends students abroad

Each year, a selected group of Canadians between the ages 17 and 20 travel to Africa, Asia, and Latin America—expenses paid. The reason? Canada World Youth.

Canada World Youth is an exchange program involving youths from Canada and various selected countries. Each program involves working teams with from five to ten Canadians and an equal number of exchange country participants.

During the program, CWY participants have an opportunity to learn about developing countries while working in the culture and communities of that country. The participants work as volunteers and receive no payment. Costs for food, accommodation, transportation, and emergency medical attention, however, are covered by CWY, and pocket money is provided.

Two different programs, each running approximately

seven months, now exist. Both the June and September (A and B, respectively) programs involve equal amounts of time in Canada and the exchange country; this includes a two-week training period in both countries.

The deadline for application for the A (June) program is March 15. Interested students should contact the Prairie Regional Office of the CWY, 10523-77 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T6E 1L3, or telephone 432-0462.



Dean Drager

position because, "I felt I could provide leadership and enthusiasm." He said he enjoyed working with the people involved with BACUS and hoped to get them working in one direction.

Feldman new director of Students' Union Theatre

The appointment of a new director for the Students' Union Theatre was ratified last week by the SU Executive committee. Peter Feldman, a 29 year old Edmonton resident, will take over tomorrow filling the position left vacant when former director Vernon Torstensen resigned February 5.

Feldman was chosen from thirty applicants by a three person selection committee including SU General Manager Bert Best, Finance Manager Len Headley and VP Internal

Kaysi Eastlick. Best was impressed by Feldman's general attitude and his philosophy of the theater's role in the SU.

"Peter seems to understand the unique problems of a student theater," Best explained. "He has good marketing concepts and I think he will achieve the proper balance of film, theater and concerts for the operation."

Feldman has an extensive background in local theater. He was one of the originators of Edmonton's only theater-restaurant, Stage West, serving

as its Artistic Director in 1975. His experience includes all aspects of theater work — producing, directing and performing.

Most recently Feldman has been the associate production manager of Theatre 3 and currently works part-time for CBC.

Feldman's immediate plans for SUB Theatre are tentative. However he hopes to establish a student advisory committee to help him gauge student opinion on the Theatre's programming.

He points to the success of a similar advisory committee at the SU Art Gallery.

"I believe the theater, in fact the Students' Union Building itself, is a student service that must reflect the students' needs. We need some direct student input."

Should the theater be a revenue producing area for the Students' Union? "I think the theater can, at best, work on a breakeven basis, and the management agrees with me on that. But right now the deficit is

too big. One of my first priorities will be to chisel away at that deficit."

Interestingly, Feldman is the husband of SU Art Gallery Director Joan Borsa. While SU policy forbids spouses to work together in one area, Feldman and Borsa qualify, as each will direct a separate area of SU operations.

Bert Best felt this relationship had to be cleared up immediately. "I don't want anyone to think we've overlooked something," he said.