

Health Centre in Danger

(cont'd from p.1)

according to Jenson, "We [Student Development] get no compensation for it". Therefore, they are looking at charging the doctors overhead fees.

However, the way the Health Centre currently operates makes charging these fees difficult. Zimmerman explained that each of the five doctors who volunteer 1/2 a day per week at the Centre already pay overhead fees at their regular clinics.

One solution that Student Development is looking into is getting a full-time doctor at the clinic. The Health Centre can then generate its own money, and it consequently will be off Student Development's

main operating budget. But the university must find a doctor willing to give up his/her practice and move to the Health Centre.

The way Sharon Zimmerman sees the situation is, "We are getting hit from the Medical, the Government, and the University", bouncing the Health Centre around in their triangle of power.

Zimmerman stated, "here they [administration] think they are saving money by closing these services, but then they won't have the students". Jenson admitted that the Health Centre is a resource issue for the university, "It is time-saving for faculty, and it

is a recruiting issue, not so much for students, but for parents".

Jenson also admitted that the Health Centre provides a convenient service by giving free physicals every year to all the varsity players. Each doctor volunteers one evening of their time to see the players. Other clinics in the province would charge \$35 per player.

The Health Centre may have to charge the athletic department for future physicals. Just the men's and women's basketball would generate about \$840. Jenson describes this situation of hitting other departments for money as, "It's robbing Peter to pay Paul to run the institution".

Student bankruptcies hit record numbers

By Samer Muscati

OTTAWA (CUP) —These days many university and college graduates are finding themselves saddled with unmanageable debt-loads due to declining job prospects coupled with sky-rocketing tuition fees.

And according to new federal government statistics, a record number of students are simply declaring bankruptcy and starting over. During 1995-96, 7,850 postsecondary students went bankrupt (a number that doesn't include Quebec students) costing the federal government \$70 million in defaulted student loans.

The number is in sharp contrast to the 3,300 students that declared insolvency in 1990-91, costing the government \$21 million.

"The figures are pretty scary," said Jennifer Story, a national representative for the Canadian Federation of Students. "and it doesn't look like it's going to get any better in the future."

Statistics Canada estimates that the average student loan debt-load will triple to \$25,000 in 1998 from \$8,700 in 1990. This year it was between \$14,000 and \$16,000.

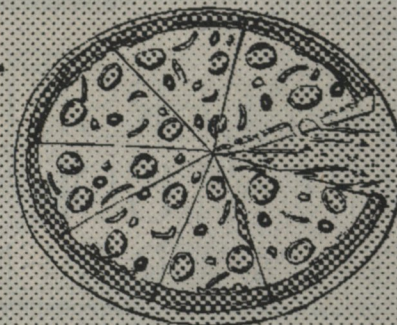
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