

Emergency Loan Fund Runs Dry for Needy Memorial Students

By David Cochrane
(ARCUP), Nfld.

tion so that students have somewhere to go," he said.

Mendoza said the council will meet with the administration to try and come up with a solution to the lack of funds.

But Carson Leonard of student services doesn't think there is any more money for the program. "With only finite funding you can only help finite students."

Many students have to apply for emergency funding because of the long delay between receiving the federal portion of their student loan and the provincial contribution, Leonard said.

Federal loans usually come out during the first few weeks of class, while the Newfoundland government won't be distributing its loans until at least October 21.

Mendoza said a change to the student aid system could eliminate the demand for emergency loans and the funding shortage.

"I would like to see the Canada Student Loan and the

Provincial Student Loan come out at the same time," he said.

Meanwhile, the two groups will be looking for a more immediate solution. Leonard said there are two ways to deal with the problem. The first is to look at the funding methods for the program and get more money.

Currently the council has put \$85,000 into the fund while the university chips in \$25,000.

The second option, however, poses a bit of a problem Leonard said. "We could be more strict or stringent on who we give loans to," he said. "But at what point do you become counterproductive? Do you not help 100 students now so you can help 100 students later?"

Student Services won't be able to offer any new emergency loans until some of the old ones are paid back.

The default rate on emergency loans is relatively low, with the program having accumulated only \$10,000 in bad debt since its start more than a decade ago.

MacLean's Ignored by Campus Journalists

By Meg Murphy
The Varsity, University of Toronto

Maclean's magazine is gearing up for its annual survey of Canadian universities and this year many campus papers do not plan to respond to their request for help.

Three years ago the magazine started a "What's hot, what's not" section which appeared along with a ranking of Canadian universities. Campus journalists were asked to help Maclean's prepare the section by letting them in on what was groovy on campus and many responded.

But the relationship between the two parties has soured over the last couple of years. Campus journalists became annoyed last year when the responses they sent to Maclean's were not actually used for the popular magazine feature, but placed in a guidebook instead.

And Maclean's became peeved in turn when they discovered campus journalists were up to their old tricks and sending in false information, as they had the previous year. But most of the erroneous information was caught by the magazine's researchers, who were instructed to begin cross-checking information.

This year Maclean's is once again asking campus papers, clubs, and organizations to provide them with another run down of what is hip and what isn't on campus, and their request is being met with disdain by campus journalists.

Maclean's education editor Victor Dwyer says it is impossible to judge how many campus papers have responded

to the survey, but adds that if no more responses come in, he could care less.

"The responses are trickling in, but if the journalists don't respond then we have plenty of other groups who will," he said.

Both parties are still eyeing each other after last year's show down and it is time for Maclean's to find another way to collect the information they need, says Stu Clark, national bureau chief of the Canadian University Press, a collective of over 40 campus papers from across Canada.

"A lot of papers are still pissed off about the book they put out because we were led to believe [the information] was for the magazine."

Scott Hayward, editor of the *Ubyyssey* at the University of British Columbia, says his staff just doesn't have time to put much effort into the survey.

"You put a paper out once a week and it is not high on your priority list to respond to this sort of thing," he said.

He adds that last year Maclean's phoned the paper during production and the staff just yelled out answers to their questions.

"One of the question was 'What it hot on campus?' and we yelled, 'the Ubyyssey!' Well, what do you know, the Ubyyssey was listed as one of the hot things on campus in Maclean's, I mean, come on."

Laurel Fortin, editor of the *Fulcrum* at the University of Ottawa, says the questions were too trivial to bother answering.

"Students are looking at keeping bread on the table. Whether the campus bar is cool or not has become irrelevant."

UPEI Emergency Loan Program

- * UPEI's student emergency loan program is administered by Student Services
- * There are two types: Advances on student loans, and emergency loans
- * There is no set cap on the total loan fund, since the majority are advances on student loans
- * Less than \$3000 has been requested in loans this year
- * Loans normally range from \$100 - \$200
- * Loans are charged to your student account. A five dollar administration fee is charged, as well as 1% monthly interest.
- * Emergencies are evaluated on a per student basis. Generally they will award funds if you are awaiting a student loan, or if you have unexpected expenses... ie, you have to travel due to a death in the family, or your car breaks down.