

not attached to these donations there would be less cause for concern. Yet in many cases strings are attached.

The uneasy relationship between big business and universities is nothing new. In 1951, the Massey Royal Commission on the Arts, Letters and Sciences warned that commercial influences endangered the university's moral and intellectual purposes.

The Commission advised that public money be used to strengthen university independence. The

federal government responded by granting \$7 million to universities. This figure increased to \$99 million in 1966 and up to \$628 million in 1970.

By the mid-'70s, though, universities were forced into a position of restraint. A nationwide economic slowdown combined with a renewal of public sector conservatism slimmed universities' budgets.

But despite the reduced funding, the number of students continued to grow. From 1970 to 1983, enrolment rose at a rate more

than 15 times faster than public spending on post-secondary education.

At the same time, profit margins were slipping and the early stages of globalization saw competition stream in from abroad. Companies recognized the potential benefits of partnering with the academic world.

In what has been described by some scholars as a "marriage of convenience," technology poor businesses associated themselves with financially strapped universities.

Neil Tudiver,

a professor of social work at the University of Manitoba and author of the recently published book *Universities For Sale*, coined the term "trafficking in intellectual property" to describe this trend.

Traditional universities produced knowledge through research and distributed it freely through publication and teaching.

The new corporate university views "knowledge as intellectual property, a commodity to be bought and sold,"

according to Tudiver.

The knowledge and research of academics does have profit potential, particularly in areas like engineering and health sciences.

Professors are encouraged, sometimes even pressured, to get patents on their work before anything is made public. When the work is sold, both the professor and the university benefit financially.

Universities also try to help academics make links with industries for the funding

of projects.

Many professors, like Dr. Hojatollah Vali from McGill's Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology, believe these links are important.

"To some extent we need to go to corporations and industry. We are using taxpayers' money to conduct research and industries may eventually use our data without contributing anything," said Vali. "Getting industry support is positive."

Ironically, the

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Montreal citizens may not understand the details of the case, Mumia's name lives on in alleyways and on buildings.

(Additional reporting by Adam Graham)

Mumia Abu-Jamal

Born: April 23, 1954 in Philadelphia, PA

Father of three children, grandfather of three children

Occupation: Journalist. Recipient of awards for reporting on police misconduct, abuse of authority and racial discrimination.

Political activities:

* Founding member of the Black Panther Party in Philadelphia

* Convicted of first degree murder and given the death penalty for the alleged shooting and killing of a white police officer on December 9, 1981.

* Has been on death row in Pennsylvania for 17 years, awaiting execution. His death warrant was signed twice, and was stayed both times - the last

time over a week ago.

* Since his incarceration, Jamal has written two books, *Live From Death Row*, and *Death Blossoms*. A third book, *Race For Justice*, was written about his case by his attorneys.

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For Maureen Faulkner's response, try:

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