

U of Saskatchewan students fight differential tuition

By Hannah Scissons

Source:
Saskatchewan
Bureau

REGINA (CUP) - Despite strong criticism from faculty and staff, the University of Saskatchewan is considering an option that would introduce differential tuition on campus. In late October, hundreds of students attended a U of S Council meeting where a budget committee recommended a vote on differential tuition. The Council - made up of deans, students and a large number of faculty - rejected the report in response to student concerns. But according to U of S Vice-President (Academic) Michael Atkinson, University administrators are still considering introducing differential

tuition. The option is likely to be presented to the University's Board of Governors, the body with the power to determine tuition. If implemented, differential tuition would mean students in programs with a high delivery cost - like medicine, law or dentistry - would pay a significantly higher amount of tuition than students in lower cost programs, like arts and science. The reasoning behind the proposal is that students should assume a proportionate amount of the cost of their program. Moreover, students in professional programs, who would see the highest tuition increase, can expect to earn more upon graduation than students in non-professional programs. But many faculty

and students see fundamental flaws in imposing differential tuition. U of S Commerce professor Larry Haiven says differential tuition would make students pay the price for government cutbacks. "Different governments have been moving away from the collective approach where education is seen as a public good toward an approach based on user pay," said Haiven. But according to Vice-President (Academic) Atkinson, the university has exhausted all its options. "We've explored all kinds of ways, from quiet pleading to open confrontation," he said. "We simply can't let the university disintegrate." Yet while students realize the financial pressure on the university, U of S Students' Union

**Continued on
page 7**

UNB student violently attacked

By Heather K. Cyr

Source: The
Brunswikan (Uni-
versity of New
Brunswick)

FREDERICTON (CUP) - Robbie Peterson is breaking his silence.

The first-year law student at the University of New Brunswick is not allowing the bruises and abrasions caused by a late-night attack to stop him from voicing his concerns about the silence over hate crimes.

Despite discomfort from the stitches that put his eyelid back together, Peterson is using his battered face and strong voice to tell Fredericton that he and many others have had enough. "I think it's quite frightening to think that you can be walking home alone on a Saturday night with your friends and be assaulted by a complete stranger for who you are," Peterson said in an interview. The attacker confronted Peterson on Saturday night, Nov. 6, while he was returning from downtown where he had been hanging out with his friends. He had been out for dinner and went to a

local Irish pub and had stopped in for a few minutes at a gay-friendly bar on the way home. He bumped into some friends as he began walking, and strolled with them until venturing up Regent Street towards his home alone.

It was just past St. Dunstan's Catholic Church on Regent Street when Robbie was grabbed. He was struck in the face but had a glimpse of his attacker and the next thing he remembers is being on his knees covering his face with his hands and being kicked in the face. The attacker left Robbie yelling "faggot, what's wrong with you?" and Robbie only answered, "just trying to get away from you."

The attack happened during a busy time of night with many people going to and from the local hotspots. Cars drove past and people passed as the attack happened. Robbie remembers seeing a mini-van but no one stopped to help. Police are looking for help from those at the scene. Robbie described the man as clean-cut and of average height

wearing an orange and white shirt. He may have been alone but Peterson isn't completely sure. Once the attacker left Peterson made his way to a near by payphone and called 911. Police arrived and rushed the blood-covered Peterson to hospital where his eyelid was sewn up. He suffered two black eyes and needed more stitches above his eye. Peterson says the police are not looking at this as a gay assault.

Thankfully, said friend Andrea Baldwin, Peterson was not injured more severely. "Fredericton is outraged, the gay and lesbian community is outraged, the school is outraged and we are not going to tolerate these kinds of attitudes that lead to these kinds of crimes," she said. "I'm not afraid to say why I think he did what he did. It was completely unprovoked I don't recognize this person," added Paterson. "If the environment was more condemning I think it would be less likely to hap-

**Continued on
page 7**

