

# TUITION FEES TO DOUBLE NEXT YEAR

# Link

## ★ EXTRA!! ★

ISSUE 25½, APRIL 1, 1977

BCIT STUDENT ASSOCIATION

## Boycotts, sit-ins today

The LINK is advising all students in all technologies to boycott classes today to protest the doubling of tuition fees.

Nick Caracciolo, LINK editor, said: "What's the use of attending classes when you don't even know if you're going to be able to afford to complete your education?"

By the time you read this, a sit-in will have begun in Principal Gordon Thom's office (Room 225, Main Building), to be followed by a full-scale press conference and demonstration there today at 11:30.

The LINK, to repeat, urges all students to attend. The inroads made by this government and this

administration into students' standards of living, including auto insurance, transit fares, ferry fares, sales tax increases and personal income tax increases, cannot go unchallenged.

**This is a call to action! If you delay, most of us can kiss our second year here goodbye.**

Tuition fees at BCIT will double next fall, according to a source close to the Board of Governors.

The source stated that the Governors, in an 'in camera' meeting held Wednesday night, agreed that in light of the massive increases in administrative costs, a \$700 per year "basic fee structure" was the only way to keep the Institute's financial solvency.

Frantic phone calls yesterday morning failed to raise any comment from any members of the BoG; the only comment was: "Who the hell told you that, anyway?"

Principal Gordon Thom, in Victoria for meetings with Education Minister Pat McGeer, was "unable to come to the phone" for the first four phone calls. On the fifth call, the secretary said simply: "I'm sorry, Mr. Thom has left this office...."

Education Minister Pat McGeer was finally summoned to the phone yesterday at 11:30, one half hour before this issue went to press. He blamed the mismanagement of the previous government for the increase, and claimed its negligence had forced rate and fare doublings all through the provincial economy. When questioned further by LINK reporter Ben Day, McGeer said that "BCIT is the flagship of technological education in this province — it's something we can be proud of and we have to pay to maintain that reputation."

SA President Sharon McElroy told the LINK Thursday morning, after hearing of the Board's secret decision, that a demonstration was planned at 11:30 this morning (today, Friday) outside Principal Gordon Thom's office (room 225 in the Main Building). "If we can't get any results out of talking to the Administration, the SA will hire two buses to take BCIT protestors to Victoria [this] afternoon," she said. "I think it's an outrage, a scandal."

Staff Society secretary Pat Thomas told the LINK that it was a typical example of the sort of double-standard this institute and government lives by. "We, and the BCGEU local on campus, have been strapped in by the AIB regulations and have done more than our share in keeping costs down around this place. Now, because they have hired so much dead weight, students are getting the shaft." BCGEU secretary Josie Stockdale, representing the Administrative workers on campus, echoed Thomas' feelings.

A random survey of students going by our office Thursday morning gleaned us a variety of responses, most unprintable. A typical response, edited for taste, was: "Well, there goes next year's education."

A spot analysis of the situation indicates that any government agency or institution is totally incapable of staying within budget and undertaking adequate financial planning. UBC, as

the darling of the province, has managed to get away with only moderate increases, after having enjoyed over ten years with no tuition fee increases.

It seems, however, that BCIT, with its reputation of being a "Career oriented" campus, generates its own demand; thus, said one top administration official, students will pay the price, regardless of what happens to it.

Fees were \$187 in 1974; they rose to \$350 in 1975 and to the present \$450 last September. Principal Gordon Thom told the LINK last fall that he was recommending no fee increases and a hold-the-line budget to the Board of Governors. Subsequent information, rumours and innuendos surfaced over the next several months, culminating in Sharon McElroy's revelations of a conversation held with "a top administrator" at the school, who posed the question: "If you had a choice between quality and

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Displaying superb form and amazing control, Prentice "Dragon" Tweet administers the death blow to Erasmus Slashpan while C.I. Nutbrown and Dipnarine Persade B. Carmage Wells [Esq.] hold him in position. Nathaniel Tarbox Slagboom is seen in the background running in to deliver the coup de grace. Funeral services were held yesterday at the Bide-a-Wéey funeral home [Rugby Dept.] on Sperling at Canada Way. This is another example of the deteriorating level of sportsmanship in extramural games. There should only have been one person holding the victim. Photo by Karsh.

## First ever at BCIT

## Murdered student to get diploma?

An unidentified male student was found stabbed to death in the North Foyer men's washroom Monday morning. The coroner has determined that the young man, 6'1", slight build, long black hair and a moustache died after the fifth of forty-seven stab wounds.

The knife used was found beside the body without any trace of fingerprints. It was a long-bladed hunting knife which the police later discovered had belonged to the deceased. Said one RCMP officer, "Worst case of suicide I've ever come across."

Mr. Gordon Thom, principal of BCIT, asked RCMP inspector Warren Beatty, the officer in charge of the investigation, to keep the incident under wraps. Thom felt that if the public learned of the incident, next year's enrolment may drop. He felt that this would be "...an unfortunate and unnecessary dilemma to be brought about by such a trivial occurrence."

This seems to be the general feeling of the entire administration. Said one secretary: "Who gives a damn anyway! The kid was

probably a spazz."

Others were a little more sympathetic. Graham Fane, BCIT Ombudsman, told the LINK that he would do his best to mediate between the registrar and the deceased in order to ac-

quire a diploma for him. He felt that any student who has undergone such a trying ordeal should not be neglected his diploma. The Registrar, Mr. J. T. Fields, feels differently though. He said: "How can we possibly

grant a diploma to the lad. He didn't write any final exams...."

Not since the opening of the school in 1962 has such a dramatic event taken place, with the possible ex-

ception of the thrilling construction of the new building. If anybody has information on the stabbing incident, please write to the editor of the LINK. With your assistance we can pick up the pieces, so to speak.



SA business manager Phil Henderson at the OPEC Petroleum Ministers Conference held in Vienna last month. Henderson and his wife attended on behalf of the BCIT SA, and was highly successful in extending the SA multi-national business holdings. Lord Snowden pic.

## All 1976 building classes cancelled Tuesday

All students with classes in the 1976 Building are advised that the building will be closed all day next Tuesday.

This will enable a team of surveyors and structural engineers from the Department of Public Works to investigate reports that the building is slowly sinking on its south-west corner.

Students have pointed out that a "bump" has appeared in the corridor linking the 1976 building with the Main building. That was originally thought to have

been a construction error, but, as large cracks have appeared in the concrete facing of that cantilever, Operations Manager Richard Smyth decided to call in the experts.

The building has already dropped a couple of inches, and the engineers will attempt to decide if this sinking is a temporary phenomenon or if they should start drawing up plans for a new building, should the present one disappear from sight.

## Amin to visit BCIT?

Ugandan President Idi Amin Dada may be visiting BCIT early next month.

Amin, who will be attending the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' conference in Ottawa, is planning

to visit Vancouver. This visit was confirmed by a local External Affairs spokesman Tuesday morning. The spokesman said, however, that he knew nothing of Amin's plans to visit BCIT.

A call to the Department of Education in Victoria confirmed the rumour. The official stated that Amin is very interested in western nations' advanced technology, and hopes to create a "U.I.T." (Ugandan Institute of Technology) to train specialists to operate some of the Russian-built hardware they've been getting so much of. The official refused to be specific about the date and time, stating that such matters as security and the itinerary have yet to be worked out.

## About time

## Commissioner gets towed away

Last Tuesday one of the commissioners was late for work so he decided to leave his automobile in the reserved side of the north parking lot. He finished his work around 4:30 and when he went to pick up his car it was not there.

Immediately, he reported it to the police and an investigation was underway. It took the Burnaby detachment of the RCMP to finally locate the car. It was found in the Buster's lot on Royal Oak.

What apparently happened was that one of the commissioners got totally fed up with students parking illegally so he decided to tow the first car that he saw violating the rules.

The commissioners were slightly embarrassed by this act of auto-cannibalism, but it only goes to show that they are doing a good job. This is a warning to students that whoever you are the rules apply to all — none have special privileges. It cost that commissioner a considerable penny to get his car out but he says that he will never violate the rules again.

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## The Link

**437-1333**  
**3700 Willingdon,**  
**Burnaby, BC**

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## Residence to be buried?

BCIT's new residence may be put under the main parking lot.

A suggestion from the study group headed by the Zoltan Kish firm of architects pointed to the success of the underground Sedge- wick Library and other ex- periences across Canada. They suggested that the removal of any space from the campus would be an irreplaceable loss; as the campus is operating with a fixed amount of land, the loss of any green space or parking would render an extreme inconvenience to many students and faculty.

Architect Robert Anton- ioni of the Zoltan Kish firm told the study group that underground buildings are extremely cost-effective. Heating costs are minimal, and although lighting has in the past been a problem, he explained that the new cold-flow arc fluorescent lighting systems will make the interior "like daylight" with minimal energy waste- age. "Besides," he quip- ped, "you only have to put a roof on the thing and it's done!"

The money saved by this radical proposal will, if accepted, be ploughed into improved facilities for the students living there. Initial fears were that Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation's financing would only provide a min- imal level of amenities to students. With the new scheme, the architects are talking of the feasibility of a student recreation com- plex, with a gym, fitness room, swimming pool, sau- na and whirlpool.

Parking will remain on top of the building, with a series of terraced plazas opening out into the exca- vation, similar to UBC's Sedgewick, which straddles the Main Mall in front of the old Library.

The plan must first re- ceive the approval of the Provincial Government, who have title to the land. CMHC must further ap- prove the specifics with re- gard to their particular Housing Codes.

The study group meets fortnightly in the Housing Office in the SAC. Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday at 5:30 pm. Every- one is welcome.

## Fees doubled next fall

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no fee increase, which would it be?"

Last month, it appeared that the figure would be somewhere around 20%. The events of the last 48 hours have only served to prove the old adage: "an elephant is a mouse built to government specifications."

# RESTAURANTS REVIEWED

A VERY RARE FEATURE DUE TO THE SPECIAL NATURE OF THIS ISSUE



"I wanted to have Granny here for dinner, but there's not enough meat on her."



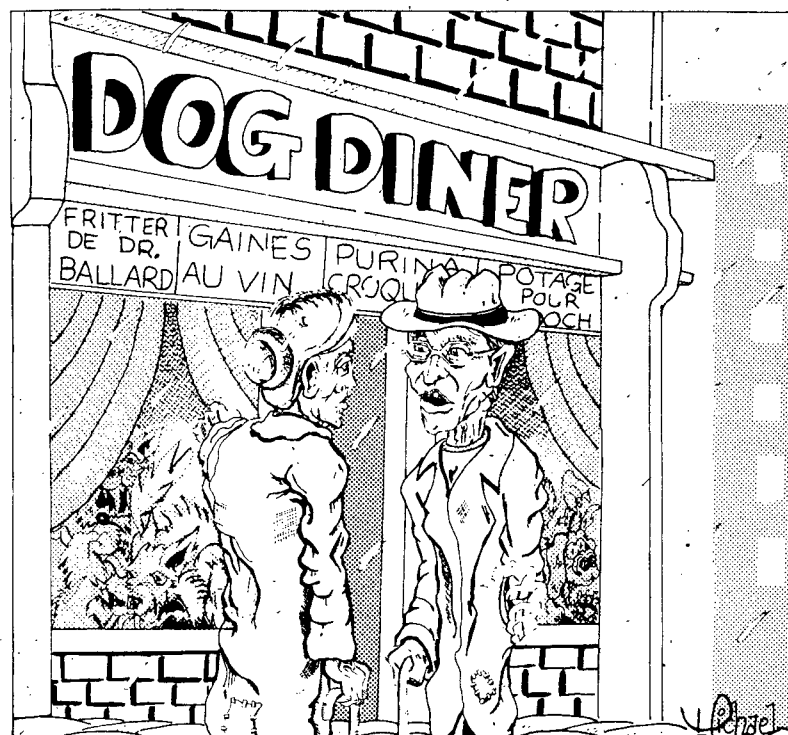
"Sure, he makes hamburgers by banging the meat on his chest. You should see him make doughnuts...."



"Dinner is served."



"The washrooms, sir? Just follow your nose."



"Yeah, I'm hungry too, but the sign on the door says 'No Pensioners.'"

## Board of Governors' report

# 5 year degrees possible in future

BCIT's Board of Governors is considering a proposal modelled after the famed "Course Rotation" experiment created by Dr. Martin Schrum of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

MIT's program consists of a five-year, multi-disciplinary "learning experience" in which students receive comprehensive instruction in all aspects of Technological Education.

This means that BCIT students would be forced to take a five-year diploma, which, on graduation, would leave them qualified as technologists in Business, Health and Engineering. Under Schrum's proposal, the Business Division would be comprised of general topics such as Administration, Building, Structural Management, Financial Engineering and Marketing Radiography.

Engineering students would receive instruction in such subjects as BioMedical Accounting, Forest Products Haemotherapy, cloning of wood chips and chokerman's nursing.

Schrum's proposal was presented to the Board's regular annual meeting held a week ago Tuesday at the Hyatt Regency. The BoG's secretary, Mrs. Pat Maertz, told the LINK that initial response from the Board to Schrum's proposal was "guarded." She continued, however, that as Schrum zeroed in on MIT's fantastic reputation and the esteem in which its graduates are held around the world, the BoG members began to gain interest in the subject.

One Board member, Mr. Andre Gelding of Rayonier, told the LINK that he was initially dubious of the strange course offerings and the attempts to combine such diverse subjects as Health and Engineering. "However," he said, "we often find that this is the case when dealing with radically new subjects. Canada's problem has been, in a lot of ways, that we are too slow to adapt to new ideas, especially ones which have been implemented so successfully at world-renowned institutes such as MIT."

Should the Board decide to implement Schrum's proposal — and there are strong indications that they may — BCIT would cease to be a two-year degree-granting school. Five years is a long time to go to school, but, as the Board heard Schrum say, MIT felt the same way in the late sixties when they were first considering their switch.

One source in the administration, who denied to be quoted, said that it was obviously a power-play. "If

they eliminate BCIT as a two-year school," he said, "they'll just have to start up another one to take its place. BCIT's filling a real demand in BC post-secondary education, and making the process more lengthy and complicated will just limit the pool of potential students."

In other business, the Board tabled a recommendation from the Business Management Executive committee on the reinstatement of the Dress Code.

The recommendation came from Business Division Ernie Iannoccone, after talks with student representatives, including Lianne Kos, president of the Business Society. Kos reportedly told Iannoccone that "students are shattering employers' faith in their suitability by dressing like university students."

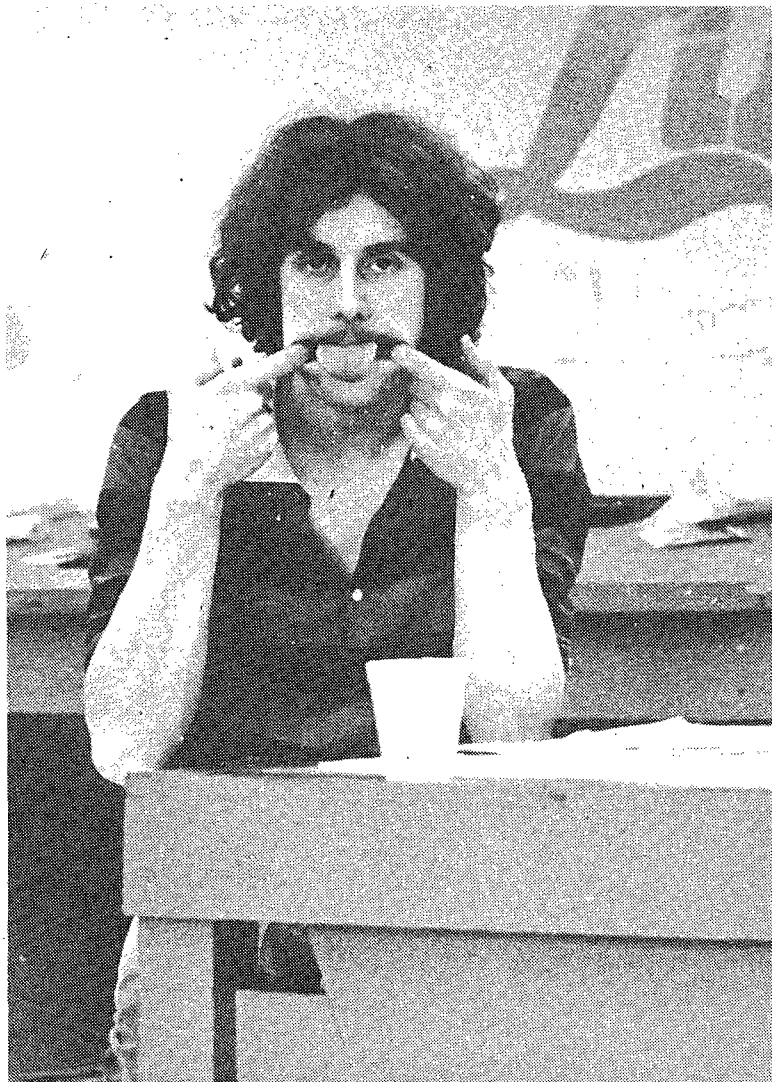
It has been a common complaint among Business instructors, ever since the

Dress Code was dropped in 1973, that the dress habits of students had dropped to an all-time low.

In a final bit of news of concern to students, the Board re-affirmed their commitment to student involvement by selecting a first year engineering student as a signing officer for all the Institute's business.

Irwin Janzen, a first-year C & S student, was selected by Computer to be the student representative on

BCIT's cheque-signing committee. The random, computer-generated selection was made because it was felt that the potential of personal gain made it imperative to eliminate as many troublesome variables as possible from the process. Janzen will receive a \$100 per month honorarium and a 10K gold Parker Jotter desk set, inscribed with his name, in gratitude for his participation.



## BCIT to start metric time

BCIT will be the first school in British Columbia to go on to the metric calendar and clock, it was announced Monday. Dale Michaels, the Executive Director of Student, Information and Personnel Services, told a press conference that this bold step will place BCIT grads "at least five years ahead of the rest of the country."

Canada, which is in the process of "going metric" now, has not scheduled the introduction of metric time until 1982. Metric time and the metric calendar were the inventions of Dr. Julius Horowitz, a disciple of Dr. Albert Einstein and a member of the so-called "Group of Thirteen" who designed the first atomic clock.

Horowitz noted that the universe has several "magic numbers," including  $\frac{1}{2}$  the square root of five, pi, and the number 10. He postulated first that all timepieces should be divi-

ded into units of the  $\frac{1}{2}$  root-five number, but this was rejected by his colleagues as being unworkable. The group finally settled on the number 10 as being the basis of the new system.

Metric time has, of course, ten seconds to the minute, ten minutes to the hour, ten hours to the day, ten days to the week, ten weeks to the month and ten months to the year. The system is successfully used in all the countries (except Britain) in the Common Market, plus the Warsaw pact countries.

The impetus for the Canadian decision is primarily economic — the Common Market will, after 1980, only deal with countries whose goods are "metric."

BCIT grads can thus expect to be in the unique position of being familiar with the new time concepts. This will most certainly create an even broader job market for us.

## Society to consider Asian language step

The BC Society of Technicians and Engineering Technologists (STET) announced last week a bold new step to make BC engineering technologists more acceptable to potential employers in the Far East.

In a press release signed by Society president John Reynolds, it was stated that the by 1979 the group would withhold certification "to any technologist not having a working knowledge of at least one Asiatic language." These include Japanese, Mandarin, Cantonese, the new 'streamlined' Chinese from the People's Republic, Malay, Thai, Vietnamese and two others whose characters were not translatable into English.

Mr. Reynolds stated that, as an increasing share of Canada's trading is taking place within the so-called Pacific Rim, progres-

sive groups such as Engineers must take the initiative and keep Canada's specialists competitive in the world market.

The release stated that a decision has not yet been reached on whether to force already-certified technologists to learn the languages. "The Society is not interested in duplicating the unfortunate experiences of the Federal Public Service," the release stated. "However, we feel that Canada's international customers should be able to be served in the language of their choice. Such is the nature of internationalism."

Reaction from the independent-minded technologists is expected to be swift and bitter. Civil libertarians are expected to jump on the bandwagon, claiming that the ruling is an infringement of the rights of the individual in a free society.

**DO NOT READ  
THIS UNTIL  
AFTER  
12 p.m.**

**Due to a typo in the last LINK,  
the deadline for nominations  
for the SA elections  
was wrong!**

**That's wrong, right?**

**The deadline  
for nominations  
is 4:30 p.m. today.**