

HELP!

ARISE!!

This past weekend while in Doug (Federation president-elect) Thompson's office I chanced across the agenda for Math Faculty Council — hence this special issue.

There are 2 motions from Math Faculty Standings & Promotions Committee which read as follows:

1. MOTION:

"A student may withdraw from the Faculty of Mathematics within the first six weeks of classes in a term without incurring any academic penalty. A student who withdraws after this date will normally be responsible for that term's courses in the sense that such courses will count as course attempts and be recorded with a grade of NMR.

NOTE: Effective date, Spring Term 1977

2. MOTION:

"1. Credit will not normally be granted for Math correspondence courses toward an Honours B.Math degree.

2. Concurrent registration in an on-campus and a correspondence course will not normally be permitted.

3. Co-op students will **not** be permitted to take Math correspondence courses while on work term. This same restriction also applies to non-Math courses which are **required** for the degree programme in which a student is registered. For other non-Math courses, when overlap between the end of the correspondence term and the beginning of the subsequent academic term exists, an overall average of at least 70 is required.

MathSoc/mathNEWS urges you to contact the deans or your department chairman immediately to voice your opinions on the motions. Faculty Council meets today, tuesday february 15th in MC5158, so act now (or forever hold your peace)!

Here is a guide on who to contact:

W F Forbes (dean)	ext. 3473 mc5111
P J Ponzio (assoc dean)	ext. 3475 mc5108
K D Fryer (assoc dean)	ext. 2247 mc5106
P C Brillinger (director first year studies)	ext. 2689 mc5109
C F A Beaumont (A.M.)	ext. 3477 mc5005
R C Mullin (C&O)	ext. 3622 mc5170
J D Lawson (C.S.)	ext. 3292 mc5100
R A Staal (Pure Math)	ext. 3483 mc5066
J G Kalbfleisch (Stats)	ext. 2509 mc5033

Tuesday, February 15, 1977.

SPECIAL ISSUE



mathNEWS

Board of Entertainment

Presents

WINTER

CARNIVAL

March 2nd to 6th

Wednesday, March 2nd

Ice Sculpture Contest Opens

12:00 - 4:00 Folk Singers C.C. Great Hall

8:00 - 1:00 Casino Night South Campus Hall

Thursday, March 3rd

8:00 - 12:00 Sleigh Ride

Friday, March 4th

7:00am - 8:00pm Ski Trip

8:00 - 12:00 SCH Pub with "LADY"

Saturday, March 5th

Broomball Tournament V1 Rink

Dog Sled Races Laurel Creek

Pleasure Skating V1 Rink

Sunday, March 6th

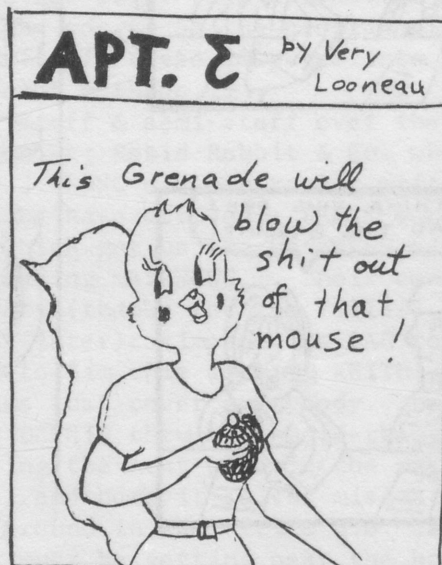
Ice Sculpture Judging

8:00 - 1:00 Coffee House C.C. Pub

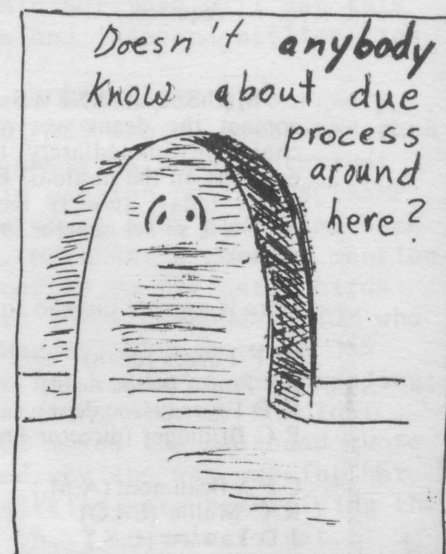
Pleasure Skating V1 Rink

Hot Chocolate, Tea and Coffee
available in the C.C.

apologies to the gaze-at...
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math faculty MOVES

The powers that be on the fifth floor are after us again. Over the past few terms they have shortened the drop period, shortened the add period, raised the necessary average to get honours and general degrees, and limited the number of courses that a student can take each term. And now they're getting set to let loose another salvo.

Firstly, they intend to change the rules so that if a student withdraws from the faculty after six weeks, those courses count as course attempts. Presently, if a student withdraws, he can sacrifice the entire term and not have it count against him/her. This will be no more.

In addition, the rules with regards to students taking correspondence courses are going to be drastically changed. No longer will math correspondence courses be allowed as credits toward an honours degree. No longer will a student be able to enroll in a correspondence course while that student is also on campus. But it gets worse. Co-op students won't even be permitted to take Math correspondence courses while on a work term. This also applies to non-math courses that are required for their degree programme. For other non-math courses, when overlap between the correspondence term and the academic term exists, an overall average of 70 is required.

Now, you have to wonder what's going on here. Is the faculty telling us that correspondence course credits don't have the same value as regular courses? If so, the faculty should publicize the fact to both people getting their degree by correspondence, and the business community, that our correspondence programme does

not have the value of a normal degree. These people aren't getting full value. If this is the case, then I suppose that the correspondence programme should be upgraded, instead of being cut back.

If this isn't the case, then why aren't co-op students allowed to enroll in correspondence courses while on their work term? Many students have the time available on their work term to do so in order to lessen their work load while they are on campus. This is a perfectly reasonable and normal thing to do. But now the faculty intends to put an end to it.

It appears that these changes fall in line with the other changes being made. All reduce the amount of administrative work required. Presently, changes are also being made which will result in the cutback of the co-op programme. All past changes have cut administration work required and have generally made it tougher for students to fulfil degree requirements. These new requirements appear to be just another step in that direction.

We now have to wonder if this is ever going to end. The faculty continually comes forward with these motions which work to the detriment of the student's interests. If students continue to sit back and take it on the chin, our interests will continue to be ignored. It is apparent that we must look after our own interests, as we are getting very little help from elsewhere. In the past, MathSoc has attempted to inform and mobilize students, with some degree of success, to fight for their interests. For only if we voice our disagreement loudly, and the faculty knows that the introduction of changes of this type will be met with opposition, will they think twice about proposing them.

These latest changes will be ratified by the Faculty Council on Tuesday, Feb 15 and then will be passed on to the University Senate for their meeting on the 21st. If students don't react NOW we're just going to swallow it one more time. * * *

faculty council:

Right To LIFE

They're at it again! It has been almost a year since the Math Faculty Council reduced the course drop period to six weeks, (it would have been three weeks, if the students hadn't protested). Now, on the recommendations of the Standings and Promotions Committee, a committee on which students (unlike other faculties) have no representation, the Faculty might vote to change the last day a student can withdraw from the faculty from the last day of lectures to the last day of the sixth week of the term.

Why are they doing this? Well, many of the Faculty have apparently been impressed by Dr. Kalbfleisch's report, based on anti-cal data, that supposedly indicated that students had an easy work load (I am suprised that Kalbfleish, being the great statistician that he is, did not make a more detailed analysis). The Standings and Promotions Committee is composed of mainly professors who are administrators. There was concern last December about the large number of students dropping out, giving the Faculty an administrative headache. So, reducing the withdrawal period would, like reducing the drop period, cut down the administrative workload of Faculty members.

The shorter withdrawal period will not benefit the students, however. Already, when one withdraws late in the term, he/she receives little or no refund from the Universtiy, so the new regulations will not help the students economically. If a student gets caught in a bind late in the term, (this is much more possible with the shortened drop period), through academic, economic, emotional or personal reasons, he/she is pretty well out of luck.

A person taking six term courses who wishes to withdraw will be faced with six half-course attempts, all marked with NMR (No Mark Recorded).

Of course, under the famous 'normally' clause in the Math Faculty regulations, one can appeal to the Standings and Promotions Committee. Considering the makeup of this committee (no students), its past record and the fact that it was the committee that initiated the rules, one's chances would seem to be slim indeed.

What can one do? Well, you can do nothing and allow this further restriction on your academic freedom. If you want to keep the present withdrawal date you must let the people in power know how you feel. Attend the Faculty Council meeting on Tuesday, Feb 15th at 3:30 pm in MC5158. Contact your department head, the Dean and the Associate Deans and let them know your opinions. Get behind the actions of your Math Society. There is no guarantee that these actions will work, but we'll have a chance. Think about it.

at work:

MathSoc exists, like the Federation, to serve the students. One of its duties is to play watchdog over the various decision-making bodies within the university, whose decisions could change the way of life of mathies.

To this end MathSoc has, over the years, received the privilege of sitting on several committees within the faculty of mathematics. Presently the tally stands thusly:

math committee	# of students
Executive (chaired H F Davis)	1
Curriculum (P J Ponzio)	2
Library (S Lipschitz)	1
Timetable (P C Brillinger)	1
Faculty Council (H F Davis)	2

These committees, and all external relations, are the responsibility of the Education Director, an executive post (i.e.

appointed by the president) in the Math Society. This seat is filled by Ken Lynch, and evidently that is about the extent of part of his efforts. It is part of his job to locate and provide representation on those committees, and report periodically on the significant moves in them. Certainly the motions from Standings & Promotions going before Faculty Council tuesday may be considered worthy of the attention of all mathies.

mathNEWS commends Kevin Willis (MathSoc vice president) for his assumption of Lynch's duties insofar as he attends Curriculum and Faculty meetings, and brought to MathSoc meetings the motions of Faculty Council dealing with general departmental degrees. A full report will be forthcoming in a future issue.

We consider it unusual that Standings & Promotions has no student representation and request such. Math Society would rather work amiably with the faculty and be informed of all changes in the process, rather than find out mere days before final decisions are made.

