

STM food services under new management

STEVE WRIGHT

St. Thomas More College (STM) once again has a stable food services program running for this school year.

Dean Wilfred Denis of STM said he was pleased to welcome Derek Cotton as the new manager of college food services. Stax Catering, which formerly ran food services in STM, was dismissed from its contract, shortly after it had been renewed for the 1999-2000 school year over the summer. The company had run food services in the college for the past two years. Food services are separate from those of the University of Saskatchewan, and are run entirely by the STM college.

Since early September the services have been "under evaluation," Denis said. Several alternatives, one being the sale of Pizza Hut personal pan pizzas at the beginning of the year had been explored, he added. While the pizzas were successful, "it was getting a bit too complicated to run that," said Denis. A new food services program was implemented Tuesday, October 12.

The decision to dismiss Stax Catering was made after the start of the new school year, due to

"complications" upon which Denis did not care to speculate. Food services of STM remain separate from those of the University to serve residents in the smaller college, students in their own cafeteria and for their internal catering needs.

An employee of the catering service also declined to comment on the complications regarding the dismissal of Stax Catering. "I guess they just wanted to do it themselves," said the employee. While they handled the dismissal with politeness and care, the employee said, the timing was extremely poor. The employee stated the decision to dismiss Stax's Catering should have been made in the summer, when the option to renew or dismiss the company was still open, instead of after the school year had started. Stax was forced to terminate a number of workers hired for the project. "We've lost many man hours [on this job]," the employee confessed.

Cotton, the new director of programs, "comes highly qualified," states Denis, citing Cotton's past experience has been with the Bessborough Hotel and the Terragon restaurant.

A & S split

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While faculty members came out to vote October 18, it was not to vote on an actual split of the college. Rather, it was a vote to determine which method should be used in casting votes on the issue, and whether faculty should vote in favor of the establishment of a separate College of Science or whether the vote should involve all three proposals presented at the meeting. A motion at the start of the meeting called for a decision by mail, on the establishment in principle, of a separate College of Science.

Questions surrounding a split of the largest college at the University of Saskatchewan have been on the minds of many in recent weeks. The Arts and Science Students' Union (ASSU) recently held a meeting to discuss the prospect of a split, raising concerns by many students about the future of their

studies, as well as the possible costs of running two administrations within one college and fears that the majority of funding would be directed to science programs in the college. At that time, most students were in opposition to a split, but also felt that they did not have enough information about a split, or its consequences, to make an educated decision.

day, saying the issue had been kept too long in waiting, some expressed disappointment at the option. Psychology professor John Conway said a mail in ballot would allow for "further collegial discussion" and give all faculty the chance the vote. "A vote today will show just how divided we [the College of Arts and Science] are," he added.

After several defeated motions last Monday on the exact question to be asked by mail ballot, a consensus was finally reached. Faculty members will have one week to submit their vote by mail

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-PROFESSOR JOHN CONWAY

Since that discussion October 5, the ASSU has polled more students about their views on a possible split. At the faculty meeting last Monday, ASSU president Peggy Welter said approximately 98% of the students polled over the last week are against a split of Arts and Science.

Although several faculty members called for a vote that

after they are sent out by the College of Arts and Science. Members will decide on one of the three proposals, to split the college, run it under three deans or modify it under the same structure. The vote will not be binding, but will go to U of S VP Academic Michael Atkinson, and then to the University Board of Governors as a recommendation.

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