

THE GATEWAY

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UP UP & AWAY The Pepperdine Waves (blue) were in town for the Can-Am Challenge—check our feature on pages 8-9.

Future of federal grants up in the air

RYAN HEISE
Deputy News Editor

With the funding set to expire in 2009 for the Canadian Millennium Scholarship Foundation (CMSF), Canada's two largest student lobby groups—the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) and the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA)—are taking aim at the federal government to reinvest in postsecondary granting, each with very different goals in mind.

CFS, the larger of the two groups, released a policy paper earlier this month titled *Strategy for Change: Money does Matter*, which called for “a new grants program to replace the beleaguered [CMSF].”

CFS National Chairperson Amanda Aziz explained that her organization's primary concern with the CMSF was that it lacked public accountability.

“Because foundations are operated by private boards and are arm's-length bodies of government, they lack the same sort of accountability mechanisms that exist within other programs, like the Canada Student Loans Program,” Aziz said.

Aziz went on to explain how, in the

past, funds from the CMSF have been diverted to other provincial expenditures, such as infrastructure, rather than going to students. She blames this on the organization's lack of accountability.

“[Funding foundations] lack the same sort of accountability mechanisms that exist within other programs, like the Canada Student Loans Program.”

AMANDA AZIZ
CFS NATIONAL CHAIRPERSON

The CFS has proposed a new needs-based grants system that would operate through an expanded Canada Student Loans Program (CSLP). According to Aziz, this would make the allocation of funds directly accountable through elected officials.

PLEASE SEE **MILLENNIUM** • PAGE 2

CJSR kicks off annual FunDrive

Station aims to connect with its listeners through more diverse programming

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA
Senior News Editor

There's a relatively small group of people who tune in to CJSR's Nepalese radio show Sundays at 11am, but according to the station's program manager, Daryl Richel, numbers aren't the only marker of success.

“We may not have hundreds of thousands of listeners like the more commercial radio stations do, but there is one thing that CJSR does much better than most other radio stations: we serve a much broader range of the public,” Richel said.

It's this diversity that Richel hopes will encourage people to call in and pledge donations during the station's 23rd annual FunDrive, which kicked off last Friday and will continue until 6pm on Saturday, 20 October.

“For us, one of our measures of success is how diverse we are, and during the FunDrive, we wear our diversity on our sleeve,” Richel explained, adding that, unlike most commercial radio stations, CJSR doesn't focus on a specific demographic.

“We're about addressing communities that don't have a service that they would appreciate,” he said.

Touted as the only radio station in Canada that broadcasts from a bank vault, CJSR is run almost entirely by volunteers, and every year it relies on the FunDrive to generate almost half of its \$300 000 operating budget. Richel explained that this year's goal is \$125 000 in pledges, of which he said “the lion's share comes from individual donations.”

“We're about addressing communities that don't have a service that they would appreciate.”

DARYL RICHEL
CJSR PROGRAM MANAGER

Richel said one question that often comes up is why don't they move the FunDrive's monetary goal up every year.

“In the business world, there's this

idea of continual growth in terms of numbers—more money, more listeners, et cetera,” Richel said. “And those things are to a certain extent important to CJSR [...], but raw numbers are only one way to measure success. Another way to measure success is how diverse an organization is.”

Samantha Power, CJSR news director, added that because there's no journalism program at the U of A, the campus radio station offers students a unique chance to “figure out what they want to do with their degree.”

“It's an opportunity to actually apply their skills to something technical and practical; like for myself, I didn't know what I wanted to do with my poli sci degree, and so I started coming here and volunteering,” Power explained.

Power said that for a campus radio station, CJSR produces some of the largest radio news coverage, noting that many campus stations don't even have a news director, relying instead on pre-produced shows.

PLEASE SEE **CJSR** • PAGE 2



RIDING THE AIR WAVES Crystal Tracy broadcasts from CJSR's headquarters.

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But I didn't get high

Harper's new drug policy is a downer, but at least after you're done reading, you can use this article for papers.

OPINION, PAGE 5



We ran out of words

A page and a half of comics?! Poppycock! Balderdash! These scoundrels have lost their minds!

COMICS, PAGE 14