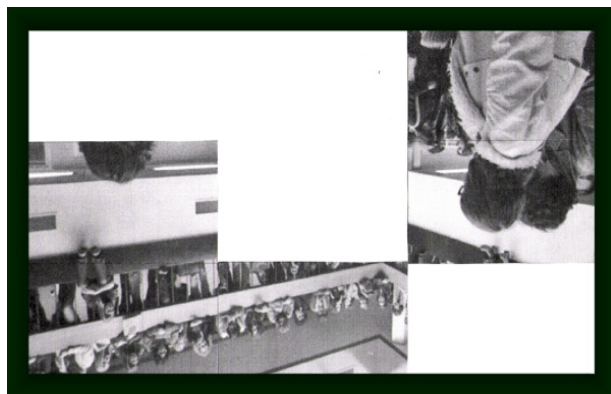


Before student activism took hold in the mid-60s, most students were apathetic and indifferent towards their university (just like most students are today). Student activists begged students to shake off their apathy through student council rallies and publications in *the Coryphaeus* (the name of the University of Waterloo paper in the 1960s). It wasn't until 1965 that we see students shaking off their apathy and starting to protest. The first major protest was against the not-for-profit bookstore for bringing in a revenue of \$65 000 one year. Students decided to plan a sit-in to bring the prices down. This protest proved to be successful for the students, as book prices came down and student activism went up.

## Activism on the UW Campus

Leslie-Anne Purdy

## WHERE ARE THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO STUDENTS WHO QUESTION AND CHALLENGE OUR LEADERS?



In the 1960s the University of Waterloo became known as the "red university". In the 1950s when the University of Waterloo opened, it was known as the small engineering school focused on grades and beer drinking but by the beginning of the 1960s the winds of change began to blow. Students were looking for a way to make their mark and put the University of Waterloo on the map. This need for a student voice brought rise to student rallies that fought the establishment. This in turn put the University of Waterloo on the map due to its radical uprising and thus the University of Waterloo became known as the "red university".

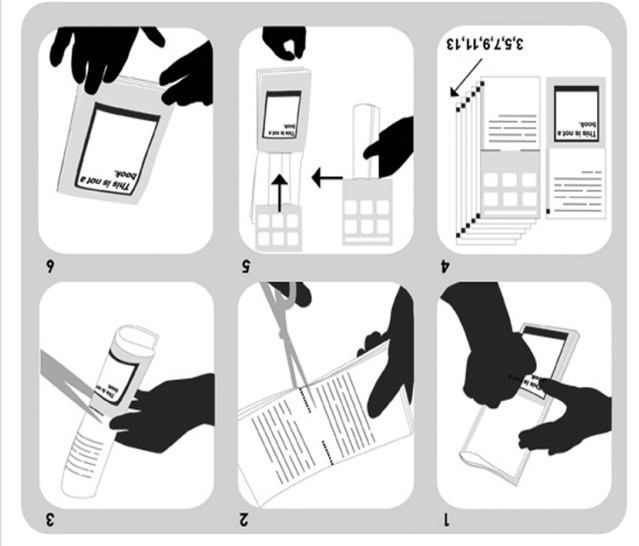
The University of Waterloo once had a very powerful Radical Student Movement (RSM) group. The RSM elected their first activist president in 1966, at which time it became noticeable that the RSM group was affecting every part of the student body. The RSM came to dominate student politics and the student paper in the 1960s. This gave rise to the sentiment that the University of Waterloo was a hotbed of student radicalism in Canada.



**WHERE ARE THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO STUDENT ACTIVISTS NOW A DAYS?**

**WHAT WILL IT TAKE FOR US, UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO STUDENTS, TO REKINDLE THE RADICAL STUDENT MOVEMENT'S LEGACY?**

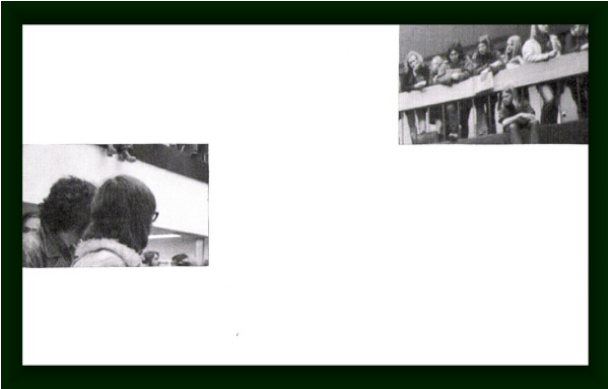
**Activism on the UW Campus**  
**Leslie-Anne Purdy**  
 created on: Tue Mar 4 18:16:12 2008  
[www.diffusion.org.uk](http://www.diffusion.org.uk)  
 DIFFUSION eBooks are designed to be freely available to download, print out and share.



The Radical Student Movement group started something. Can you imagine this many protesters in Modern Languages today?



**HAVE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO STUDENTS  
BEEN TRAINED TO ACCEPT SOCIETY'S  
NORMS?**



**WHERE IS THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO  
STUDENTS PASSION FOR JUSTICE THESE  
DAYS?**

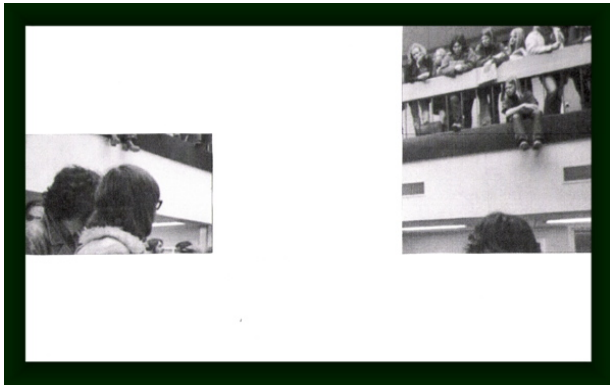
The strong presence of activism on the University of Waterloo campus attracted large numbers of students to enroll at the university between the mid-60s and the mid-70s. At this time students enrolling at the University of Waterloo were not from wealthy families that traditionally had a university education. In other words, most of the new University of Waterloo students were the first person in their family to attend university. New students at this time felt the University of Waterloo had high ideals and could effect change.

**DID YOU KNOW...**

## DID YOU KNOW...

The first candidate in student council (now known as Feds) to be concerned with giving students the opportunity to have their voice heard and contribute to the decision making process on campus was Mike Sheppard. Sheppard addressed issues that were important to students in large discussion forms. As well, he empowered students by giving them the opportunity to make decisions on how things were run on their campus.

## WHERE ARE THE ARTICLES IN IMPRINT THAT CHALLENGE THE STATUS QUO?



## HAVE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO STUDENTS HEARTS OF PASSION TURNED TO PASSION FOR WEALTH?

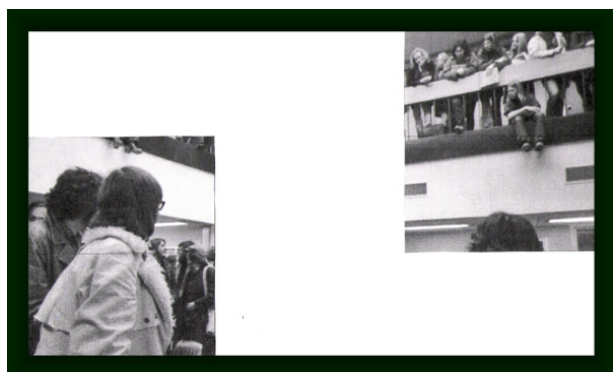
The University of Waterloo drew so many activist students between 1961 and 1970 that the student enrollment jumped 1200%. For the University of Waterloo to attract that many students in such a short period of time goes to show that growth can and should be the outcome of promoting activism on campus.

## DID YOU KNOW...

## DID YOU KNOW...

The student paper, *the Coryphaeus*, which later became *the Chevron*, which is now known as *Imprint*, was once a platform for activists to spread their ideological thoughts throughout campus. The student activists on campus would exploit all possible resources in order to get their word out and effect change.

## WHEN WILL UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO STUDENTS SHAKE OFF THEIR APATHY?



## WHAT HAS STUNTED THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO'S GROWTH IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ACTIVISM?

The creation of the arts faculties were the result of an influx of activist student enrollment. In other words, the University of Waterloo may never have become the comprehensive leader we know it to be today, if it wasn't for the influx of activism on the University of Waterloo campus in the 1960s.

## DID YOU KNOW...