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# EDITORIAL

## Conference flops

### Stop talking and start listening

OFS is in trouble. Last week at their convention in Toronto members were saddled with the problems of underfunding, cutbacks and, to top it off, a lack of attendance and a certain amount of internal bickering.

There appears to be major gaps in communication between student bodies, their student councils and OFS. Most students don't know who their student council representatives are, don't know what OFS is, and aren't aware of the major cutbacks implemented by both the

provincial and federal governments recently.

Many councils didn't even bother to send representatives to the conference, and many who did attend spent the time partying. Finally this week comes the news that the University of Waterloo has threatened that this past conference was their last and are contemplating pulling out of the OFS altogether.

At this point OFS must seriously examine if they are the true voice of Ontario's students.

In the last provincial election results showed that students voted along the same lines as most of the general population; that is towards a PC government, and its policies on funding.

Maybe that says something. Perhaps students actually agree with the policies of Bob, Bette and the rest of the 'Big Blue Machine'.

OFS has prided itself on being the voice of Ontario's students for several years. Maybe it's time for the Federation to stop talking and start listening.

## Forget the image; we're unique

Leora Aisenberg

*It was well past midnight. The party was located on Brunswick Ave., deep in the heart of U. of T. territory. The Boy Wonder was seated beneath the skylight, voraciously chewing an ice cube. A droplet clung to his chin.*

*"I was in Energy Economics at South Harvard," he said.*

*"Oh," I replied.*

*"Now I'm a T.A. in Commerce at North Harvard," he added.*

*"Oh," I replied. His drivel formed a puddle on my sleeve.*

*"I go to York," I exclaimed.*

*He gloated. "So you go to York, eh? Summer camp!"*

*The Joker, personified. "One of my best friends goes to York," he whispered. "He takes basket-weaving."*

*With a loud guffaw, he waddled off for more ice.*

their Keele campus counterparts. Witness a random sample of comments from U. of T. and Western students:

"Grade 14"

"Bird"

"A bunch of freaks"

"Fashion haven"

"Stoned profs"

and, of course

"It's cold, out there in the boondocks"

Such remarks egress from the mouths of York students, themselves. But who can blame them when a poster, intended to promote a healthy York - U. of T. rivalry, brazenly states:

"The only reason you went to York is because you didn't have the marks to get into U of T."

The fact that, at least in the case of some undergrads, an inferiority complex exists suggests an image problem. Yet York is not alone. The University of Western Ontario for example, is frequently dubbed "the country club". According to U.W.O.'s specious stereotype, apple-cheeked preppies study Ivy League history and Rowing 101. (Rumour has it that Holden Caulfield is running for student president.) One almost expects to see football fans, clad in long

muskrat coats, shouting "Score one for the Gipper". Unfortunately, at a recent Mustang-Yeomen game, the Mustangs scored forty-four.

So, York may not have a winning football team. Or a medical school. Or Phi Beta Snob. What those who choose to chaff this institution fail to realize is that York's uniqueness is one of its greatest virtues. The spirited environment that began with a handful of students has developed into a vibrant, active society. Important discoveries and new ideas emerge from this campus every day. Quality education is not a goal, but a reality.

York is alive. And, to borrow a phrase from another misunderstood community, we're talkin' proud.

Take that, Batman.

*Leora Aisenberg is a fourth-year student at York majoring in baton twirling and basket weaving. Her low marks did not allow her to get into the University of Toronto, but that's okay. York is easier to spell. The opinions she has expressed are stupid and do not reflect those of Excalibur.*

## Next Week In Excalibur:

**U of T—York Football:** Toronto's finest clash in gridiron combat and Mike Leonetti is there to cover all the action.

**Los Populares:** West coast rock group invades Toronto and entertainment writers Yolanta Morowitz and Liz Alt report.

**Students in Business:** Enterprising Yorkites are everywhere. Just look around you.....or better yet, check out next week's Excalibur.



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