Federation Notes

YES, YOU CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT TUITION FEES As everyone knows by now, the Minister of Colleges and Universities announced a major increase in tuition fees on New Year's Eve. These tuition increases will allow universities across the province to raise their fee levels as high as 18.25 per cent. This will have major effects on enrollment right across Ontario and is a major change in government policy, a shift that was not publicly debated in the Legislature.

Presently, the tuition fee at York is \$817.50 for five courses and is basically standard right across all faculties. The province is decreasing their funding grants to force the universities to increase tuition by an initial 7.5 per cent. This action was approved by the Board of Governors on February 19, and will result in an approximate \$54 increase for the summer courses offered in Atkinson and elsewhere. On March 10, 1980, the Board of Governors will decide on a further 10 per cent increase in tuition, which will increase tuition approximately another \$80 for five courses. This would put tuition for 1980-81 over \$950, or in excess of \$190 per course.

DIFFERENTIAL FEES

Just as important as the increase in costs for students, is the differential fee being implemented. The differential fee allows each university to charge different rates for different faculties. Obviously, the university could begin charging much higher tuition for Osgoode Hall Law School and the Master's Business Administration program. The difference this year will not be huge, but if the policy continues, then you could be paying \$1500-\$2000 for law school within three to four years. Students have two options: 1) Forget about going



When the announcement was first made Bette Stephenson, Minister of Colleges and Universities, said that OSAP could cover the increase. She repeated this at Western last week. So far funding for OSAP has increased by 4 per cent or \$3.3 million. If you consider that 75,000 people receive money from OSAP, then this works out to about \$44 per student. Tuition is to increase over \$130. Let's hope she finds some more money to back her promise.

By her own admission, OSAP has not followed a cost-of-living allowance even remotely similar to the inflation rate. Funding to Universites and Colleges has increased at a rate of 6 per cent per annum when government funding has increased at a rate of 9 per cent per annum. If tuition fees (18.25 per cent) should go up because of inflation then why doesn't funding (6 per cent) and OSAP (4 per cent) rise at them same level.

In 1973, Ontario was third among all provinces in per capita funding of universities in Canada. By 1978, it was eighth and falling. Not a very enviable record.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN AT YORK

York University like Trent, Brock, Lakehead and Laurentian, is

rather new on the University scene.

We are hard pressed to compete with Queens, Western and the other university in Toronto. In 1978-79, full-time enrollment dropped 5.3% as more people attended part-time. For every 100 students who pay the additional 10% in tuition fees, the University will receive about \$7700. If three students drop out, the University loses over \$11,000. Economics 201.3 would underscore the lack of intelligence in the 10% increase.

UNION SUPPORT

It would seem ironic that the people who get paid as employees of this University are also opposed to the tuition increase. The Faculty ociation, The Staff Association and the Graduate Assistant's Association have all come out in support of the Federation's demands that tuition not be increased a further 10%. They recognize the impact this will have on the academic life of the University, and the Faculty Association presented a brief at the February 19th meeting of the Board opposing the increase. We welcome their

WHAT CAN WE DO?

1. Pick up a pamphlet and a Tuition \$1000 button in any of the campus pubs or Federation Office, Room 105 Central Square. 2. Come out today at noon in the Bearpit to hear speakers on the

subject.

3. Sign the petition in Central Square that is being presented to Bette Stephenson on February 29th and to the Board of Governors on March 10th.

4. Come to the Federation Office any time during the day and offer

5. Join us on March 10, 1980 at 4:00 p.m. in the Board/Senate Room at Glendon when the Board of Governors makes their decision. Transportation will be provided. 6. If you have any questions call any of the following people:

President Macdonald (667-2223), Vice-President Farr (667-6283) and Keith Smockum (667-2515).

We can do something about tuition increases. In the absence of an access study, the Board of Governors could make a decision that would lower enrollment and cost us money. The Student Federation believes that the Board requires Student Participation and Advice. Let's give it to them.

Free Speech

Radical film criticism

We live under a system that calls itself democratic, but is in fact merely a pseudo-democracy. In a true democracy all people are equal; in our pseudo-democracy all white adult bourgeois heterosexual males are equal, and society is dominated by the norms that this minority group creates, reinforces and perpetuates.

The reinforcing is done through the media, including the medium of film (though one can readily analyse its operations just by studying the advertisements on any subway train). It is on this level, the level of ideology, that political-critical work must be

The dominant ideology of our culture can be defined as:

• Capitalist: the need/desire for money and property structures all our activities and relationships;

• Bourgeois: the norms of our society, by which its inhabitants are conditioned to live, are those necessary to support and strengthen the dominant class.

 Patriarchal: the ideologically dominant figure is that of the Father (i.e., the heterosexual male), who controls all our social institutions

Radical political film criticism will be concerned primarily with establishing the relationship of specific films to this ideology. A very spectrum of relationships is possible (even within the "entertainment" film): the ideology of culture is not a coherent, deliberate construct but an extremely complex growth,

many tensions and contradictions; it is challenged, on different levels and in different ways, by every minority group within the culture.

When director Samuel Fuller (Shock Corridor) said that a film is a "battleground," he was referring to the violent actions and emotional conflicts within it; but a film can also be seen as an ideological battleground on which the tensions and contradictions within the culture are fought out, often at unconscious levels.

Though it will offer us only rough and rudimentary guidelines, we can establish a set of categories of films in relation to the dominant ideology. The first two categories represent the extreme poles; the others (necessarily less clear-cut) cover the great majority of films, which fall between those poles.

1. Films that overtly and deliberately attack, on the level of both form and content the dominant norms of society, hence of mainstream cinema. Such films are likely to encounter problems at every stage financing, distribution, censorship — and you will not see them at your commercial theatre. The later films of Jean-Luc Godard, such as Wind From the East and Number Two, are striking exam-

2. Films that are blatantly reactionary, reinforcing the dominant ideology in a clear and straighforward way. Rocky is a good example: Sylvester Stallone

which may contain within itself himself said that it reaffirmed the "good old values" - which prove to be capitalism, sexism and racism.

3. Films that attempt a compromise between a radical viewpoint and the demands of mainstream cinema. Analysis will generally be concerned with the ways in which their radicalism is compromised. Good examples are 1900 and Apocalypse Now.

4. Liberal-progressive films that deal with current social issues without managing to confront the fundamental enormities of patriarchal-capitalist culture. They are of some political value in raising the issues, but tend to be ultimately evasive. (An Unmarried Woman, Coming Home.)

5. Films that appear at first sight politically reactionary, but prove on closer inspection to be so riddled with tensions and contradictions that their ultimate effect is at least ambiguous. The Deerhunter seems to me an outstanding example, its richness being inseparable from its ideological complexity.

6. The great mass of genre movies — westerns, horror films, comedies - put forward as "entertainment" and all too often ignored by intellectuals for that reason. In fact, in the mainstream commercial cinema it is only under cover of "entertainment" that genuinely subversive and radical attitudes can be expressed: 10 and Dawn of the Dead are for me among the most admirable films of the past year.

Robin Wood

ANNUAL ELECTIONS

The Council of the York Student Federation Inc.

Nominations open until

Friday, February 29, 1980 Friday, February 29, 1980 4:30 p.m.

Campaigning starts: closes:

Tuesday, March 11, 1980

4:31 p.m. 4:30 p.m.

Election: Advance Polls Thursday, March 13, 1980

10:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Monday, March 10, 1980

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 11, 1980 Wednesday, March 12, 1980

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. 10:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Position Open:

- 1. President
- 2. Director of External Affairs
- 3. Director of University Affairs
- 4. Director of Women's Commission
- 5. Board of Governors Representative

A description of all available positions, nomination forms, a constitution and a copy of the Resolutions Governing the Conduct of Elections can be picked up in the CYSF office, Room 105, Central Square during office hours.

The Board of Governors position is open to all York students while all other positions are open only to CYSF constituent members (Environmental Studies, Founders College, Graduate Students, McLaughlin College, Stong College, Vanier College and Winters College).

> **Chief Returning Officer** Council of the York Student Federation Inc. 667-2515