



ARTS NEWS

Vol. 1, No. 4

A TRI-WEEKLY TABLOID COMPILED AND PAID FOR BY
THE FACULTY OF ARTS STUDENT CAUCUS

Editors: Evan Leibovitch, George Manios

Ending Misinformation

Caucus looking for more input next year

What you see before you is the last issue of this year's Arts News. This newsletter was launched by a highly motivated student caucus as a forum for discussion for the Faculty of Arts. It also encompassed the function of a centrally located bulletin board presenting to the students of the Faculty that information which was vital for them to have at their disposal.

Student reaction to the newsletter attested to the importance and timeliness of such a page. Various individuals contacting members of the Student Caucus Executive Committee stressed the need for such a page, for not only does it draw members of the Faculty of Arts closer together by influencing informal discussion, but it also helps the "freshmen" amongst us to understand some of the complexities of the decision-making process as well as the various other administrative creatures, rules and procedures.

While this year served as a "pre-test" the Student Caucus is already looking forward to next year, and is attempting to find ways and means of increasing the student and faculty input so as to make the newsletter more of the forum for discussion as it was designed to be. This will require motivated individuals willing to give of their time freely to write articles, letters to the editor, or just express a personal opinion. Too often we hear those terms which have come to characterize a large institution like York; student apathy, student alienation, lack of viable means of input. But what do they really mean?

Perhaps they mean that students are misinformed of the various areas where they can participate, perhaps they mean that no attempts are being made to reach those individuals who would like to be active but are overwhelmed by the environment, and then again they could mean that students are searching for a fresh new approach. In response to this last possibility Arts News was offered where it was not solely a vehicle for us writing to you but one where you were invited to help direct, run and produce via your input.

Many people responded, the various course unions found this an excellent means of communicating with their members, the Caucus found this a welcome opportunity to inform arts students of the work being done by the various committees of the Caucus. All in all this experiment proved highly successful

and should be continued. This necessitates however increased student involvement. Such involvement must span not only the Arts News newsletter but the Student Caucus as well.

Representation of students on various legislation-making committees is an important function if we as students are to maintain any type of input into the system which affects our student career. There are many individuals in the administrative

structure who are genuinely concerned about students and as such are willing to help, but it's up to us the students to take the initiative. This year has been one of the most productive yet, let's continue in this vein and make next year even better.

At this time the Faculty of Arts Student Caucus would like to formally thank those numerous individuals who inhabit the ninth floor of the Ross Building for their unending and unselfish co-operation and assistance to

the Caucus throughout the year, in terms of funding, moral support and various secretarial services. Particular thanks must go to Dean Eisen; Associate Deans Whitla and Byers; Marla Chodak, Administrative Assistant; and to Colin Guenther, Secretary of Council. These individuals helped to make one student's career here at York more than mere "book-learning".

Tony Varriano.



Last week's F.A.S.C. luncheon was well attended by both faculty and students

Psych students to end cynicism

Have you started thinking about next year yet? Synapse has and we need a group of involved psychology undergraduates to carry on the work which has begun this year. Synapse is a course union and as such is a constituted body funded by CYSF. Our constitution provides for a chairperson, two assistant chairpeople, a secretary and a treasurer. All of these positions are open next

year, since none of the present executive plan on returning next year as undergraduates. We also have positions on all of our standing committees open to those who want them. You may have had occasion during the priority registration to meet and receive advice from our advising team in 294 B.S.B. If you want to you can be an adviser next year. All you have to do is get in touch with us in Rm 294 B.S.B. before the end of the school year or write us during the summer. You may have suggestions about how Synapse can involve more people in its activities. Why not tell us?

For those psychology majors who are now or plan in the future to conduct research it may interest you to know that the University of Toronto Psychology Students Association has started a publication which they call the "Psychology Bulletin: Undergraduate Research". They plan to collect outstanding

research papers written by undergraduate Psychology students from Ontario Universities and publish them in this "Bulletin". If you have questions about this project, you can get them answered in Synapse.

Another item which should interest undergraduates who are doing thesis research in the future is the Undergraduate Thesis Conference arranged by the University of Western Ontario. You should make enquiries about this early next year.

There may at one time have been those who were skeptical about the ability of students to advise their fellow students. The success of the Synapse advising team over the last few weeks has demonstrated that this is an excellent way for students to be advised. The Synapse advisers did a tremendous job and deserve a vote of thanks from all of us.

Students needs unionism for voicing interests

Now more than ever, the future of Canadian university students is at stake. Students in Canada have enjoyed a relatively peaceful and inexpensive place in higher learning. However, with the forthcoming tuition increases and the high graduate unemployment levels (to mention only a few problems), it is clear that we are experiencing the beginning of a new era in education. Certainly the situation is not yet critical and we should avoid sensationalising our speculations about the future. But we the students must be prepared to cope with any internal or external forces that affect our role in the university. We must make an unprecedented effort to provide an input into the dynamics of the university and society.

We can begin by unifying to preserve and where necessary reshape the nature of the university, thereby giving direction to its development. If this essential solidarity is not achieved, our position will be left to the mercy of administrators, bureaucrats and politicians.

How do we unify? With a little initiative the solution is simple. There are various

academically oriented political organizations at York U. that can provide the necessary input. They are, to cite a few, FASC and the Departmental Course Unions. They are political bodies that affect decision making with respect to academic policy at the local level but they are also successful in translating the collective student interest and delivering this interest to the "top" while simultaneously catering to the needs of every individual student who seeks them out.

It is time we stopped burying our heads in the sand. We can no longer assume that the students' role will remain secure as it has in the past. Support for our political bodies and the media within the University is absolutely mandatory and integral to the necessary unification and cooperation of the students. Only through your support can we become coherent and capable of articulating constructively and critically our stance on any issues that confront us.

Tom Dallas
Chairman, Political Science Student Council

Submit your applications early for education co-registration for 77-78

Applications are being accepted by the Faculty of Education from students wishing to co-register in the Bachelor of Education degree programme. As the number of places available in the programme is limited, students are urged to submit their application as soon as possible.

Several features distinguish York's Faculty of Education from many other teacher education programmes. First, it offers only a concurrent programme in which students pursue their academic and professional studies simultaneously. Thus a student is co-registered in an academic faculty at the same time as being registered in the Faculty of Education. Second, because professional training extends over at least

three years, students are able to spend greater amounts of time than is usual acquiring classroom experience in carefully selected schools. This, the staffing pattern of the Faculty is unique in that almost all members are cross-appointed from among the regular staff of the academic departments of the University or of local Boards of Education. As a result, the Faculty is thoroughly rooted both in the academic disciplines and in the schools, and the programme and curriculum reflect this close liaison.

For further information, contact the Office of Student Programmes — Education, N802 Ross, or Call 667-6305.