

OFS says CYSF has much to loose if it withdraws

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The only council member who opposed the referendum was Environmental Studies representative Bob Freeman, who felt the pairing of the question of membership and the CYSF budget "would look mercenary". He also warned that CYSF's withdrawal from NUS and OFS might "start a landslide".

A non-voting representative from Atkinson College Students' Association (ACSA) Hazel St.

Pierre, said she was "dismayed at the wording" of the referendum. "How anyone can suggest withdrawal at this point is beyond me," she told the meeting. St. Pierre also stated the onus was on local student organizations such as CYSF and ACSA to familiarize their members with the existence and workings of OFS and NUS.

Several representatives of OFS, including information officer, Alan Golombeck, and fieldworker, Lynn Fledman, were present to argue the case against putting member-

ship to a vote. John Doherty, who is a member of the executives of NUS, OFS AND SAC (the University of Toronto Students' Administrative Council), said the vote would come at a "politically inopportune time". Doherty maintained that OFS and NUS have never required that member schools take the same political line as themselves. He cited OFS' decision to change the focus of the acceptance of CYSF's decision to change the focus of the February 10 province-wide moratorium from

tuition increases to summer unemployment.

Doherty went on to say, "You can change NUS and OFS from the inside, not the outside." He told the meeting that the University of Western Ontario, which withdrew from OFS after a membership referendum last October, was now regretting the action. An attempt by UWO student council president Margo Grandy to start an alternative organization to OFS was shortlived, because of, the distinct lack of interest on the part of other

schools, he noted.

Murray Miskin, the executive chairperson of OFS, told Excalibur Monday that, "Edson and the other members of the council don't realise that if they pull out, they'll have absolutely no say in what OFS does. OFS will continue to represent Ontario students, but without the input of students at York. This will be a loss for both York students and students across the province. The only way they (CYSF) can change OFS is by remaining a member."



Michael Seymour
McGill University



Reg A. Watson
University of Manitoba



Brian Luborsky
University of Toronto

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