

Excalibur

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"More scholar for the dollar"

Confidential report asks for tuition increase, discloses plan to decrease faculty, courses

By DOUG TINDAL

Ontario universities will drastically increase student to faculty ratios, decrease course options, and raise tuition to cope with budget cutbacks, if a report prepared by a special committee of the Council of Ontario Universities is implemented.

The committee, composed of Laurentian University president Ed Monahan, University of Toronto president John Evans and York president Ian Macdonald, and chaired by University of Ottawa president Roger Guindon, was established by COU "to assess the goals, policies and plans of the Ontario university system for the remainder of the 1970s and the 1980s".

A copy of the committee's draft report was leaked to the Ontario Federation of Students earlier this week.

The committee notes that the maxim of Ontario treasurer John White, "more scholar for the dollar", will continue to be the standard of the government for many years to come.

The report proposes that "the universities acknowledge the necessity of maintaining and improving the quality of teaching at a lower cost than at the present time".

The committee suggests a list of 16 proposed methods of achieving this, including:

- cease hiring all faculty;
- determine with each department

the maximum feasible size of classes;

- relate merit increases in salary to willingness to teach larger classes;
- reduce number of course offerings;
- consider the possibility of trading off some salary increase to avoid dismissals.

President Macdonald told Excalibur the suggestions were an attempt to "straddle the line between desirability and inevitability".

He said the committee "has not taken a stand on its priorities, nor

evaluated the alternatives", but all of the proposals were "conceived as potential possibilities".

The report also considers the potential for "rationalization" of the university system. This approach, much favoured by the government, would involve greater specialization — cutting back or eliminating programmes with low enrolments — in individual universities.

With a trend in this direction, "students will have to choose between the programme they want and the university they want, since

the two may no longer be compatible," Macdonald said.

"A number of people feel the potential of rationalization is overstated," he said. "Others worry about rationalization since they feel that somewhere down the road we will notice that we have created willy-nilly a 'University of Ontario', which is completely interdependent.

"The question is, how much rationalization can we do without digging ourselves into that hole."

Representatives of the ministry of

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Ritch gains mandate in second ULS win

By JULIAN BELTRAME

Jubilant and calling it a vindication for himself and the United Left Slate, Dale Ritch swept to a decisive presidential election victory Monday and Tuesday, winning 54.6 per cent of the 1,155 votes cast.

It was the second time in as many weeks a ULS presidential candidate posted an impressive win. Last week, J.J. Koornstra, standing for the disqualified Ritch, won with 635 votes to Paul Higeli's 245.

Ritch collected 631 votes this time, while Higeli jumped to 436. Higeli's gain was credited to the withdrawal from the race of Rob Wearing, Ted Kapusta, Rick Leswick, Bill Eggertson, and Peter Desrochers, all of whom openly threw their support behind him.

"It's a tremendous vindication for the ULS programme and our politics," said the president-elect.

"The total support for the right wing candidates decreased this time

because many of their supporters were appalled by this manoeuvre (second election) and didn't come out to vote again."

There were 179 fewer votes cast this week than last.

Runner-up Paul Higeli made a brief appearance at the ULS victory party to congratulate Ritch. At press time, Higeli was unavailable for comment.

Joe Renda, who finished third with 79 votes, seemed as enthusiastic as Ritch, calling it "a victory for the people".

Ritch said he did not think the small voter turnout would present problems for his "confrontation politics" approach, next year.

"The percentage of votes was as high as it's ever been," said Ritch, "which indicates that we have a strong and growing support on campus, and it's these students who want to see changes."

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With the wind gently creasing their notes and the mud swallowing their chairs, members of this tutorial group concentrate on a lecture by Emo 246, the university's latest bid in its effort to eliminate faculty members without scaring away the students.

Smith "election" call was CKRY hoax

York students listening to Radio York Tuesday evening might have been justifiably confused as to who will be York's CYSF president for the upcoming year.

Chief returning officer Henry Goldberg and CYSF president Anne

Scotton talked to students through Radio York at about 9:30 p.m. Tuesday to announce that complaints had been lodged against Dale Ritch, Paul Higeli and Joe Renda and that a tribunal decision had disqualified the three candidates.

Which, of course, left James Smith, who polled a total of nine votes ("a 300 per cent increase over the previous election," as York party organizer Larry Stockhamer said), as the undisputed president-elect.

Care was taken by both Goldberg and Scotton not to explicitly declare Smith the winner, a move which confused many students on campus, if

the flood of phone calls to Excalibur's offices were any indication.

Scotton said on the air, "I was informed after the tribunal's decision had taken place, and as far as I know Smith is the official winner."

Earlier, Excalibur had been told that the tribunal would meet on the complaints against the three candidates Wednesday. As Radio York continued broadcasting misleading statements, a member of the tribunal was contacted and it was discovered that the tribunal had met and made a decision, but that the decision would not be announced until Wednesday.

Informed of the Radio York announcement, Bonnie Sandison, tribunal member, said the tribunal's decision was to reject the complaints and not to interfere with Dale Ritch's election.

"It's all a big joke," Ritch told Radio York listeners about midnight. "I'm sure everybody had a good laugh over it."

Sandison said the misleading broadcast was an attempt to embarrass Excalibur by causing it to print the wrong information, and to bait Ritch into a temperamental appearance on the air.

INSIDE

FM licence p.2

Radio Varsity's efforts to obtain an FM broadcasting licence may spell the end of a dream for Radio York.

Urban studies p.10,11

A three day symposium last week focused on architecture, renovation and urban planning. Anna Vaitiekunas reports.

Big Bunny p.16

Founders brings in the Easter bunny to meet some new kids on the block. Paul Kellogg was there.

Happy holidays
from the
staff of Excalibur



Smiling broadly, Dale Ritch appears outside the CYSF offices with his supporters shortly after his presidential victory Tuesday night. To his left is

Anhelyna Szuch, who captured a seat on the board of governors two weeks ago.

C. T. Squassero photo