

news Students' union says program is too unspecific and dated

African studies needs improvement

Canadian University Press

MONTREAL — Although African Studies programs have been gaining ground at universities, educators say they need improvement.

McGill, York and U of T all offer programs, although none of the universities have granted African Studies departmental status. Each of the programs offer courses spread out through departments of history, anthropology, economics, political science and sociology.

Course content often focuses on Africa, which makes the program dated, some critics say.

"The African Studies program at McGill lacks political curriculum, it lacks any politics of today," said Christine Archer, an African-Canadian political science student at McGill.

NDP freezes tuition in BC

by Martin Chester
Canadian University Press

VANCOUVER — The British Columbia government has made good on its election promise to freeze tuition fees.

In the NDP government's first budget speech on Mar. 26, finance minister Glen Clark announced a 4.3 percent increase in funding for colleges and universities, and a one-year tuition fee freeze.

Over the last 10 years, fees have increased 190 per cent at universities and 254 per cent at colleges. In the same period, inflation rose 77.5 per cent. B.C. students pay about \$1800 in tuition fees each year.

Post-secondary education minister Tom Perry said the freeze will take effect in September. The province will also examine the barriers to colleges and universities, he added.

"We feel good about this," Perry said. "We're fulfilling a campaign promise we made and, given the difficulty students have had with the Canada Student Loans and our inability to change things on a federal level, I think this will help students."

The Ontario NDP government sparked outrage among students by hiking fees in 1991, despite their pre-election promise to freeze them.

Jacque Best, chair-elect of the B.C. wing of the Canadian Federation of Students, said the B.C. announcement is a victory for students.

"We were concerned a couple of months ago because it didn't look like it was going to happen, but there was a rallying around the issue, and we forced the government to keep its promise," she said.

CFS organized a post-card writing campaign which influenced the government, Best said.

"Given the increases we were going to have, there are students who will be able to attend colleges and universities who otherwise would not have been able to," Best said.

Perry said the government will increase the number of spaces available in universities and colleges by up to 3,000.

Best said CFS is still concerned about the 10,000 students who were turned away from colleges and universities last year.

The budget pledges a two per cent funding hike to cover inflation, and an additional two per cent to make up for the revenue loss of the tuition freeze.

Opposition education critic David Mitchell could not be reached for a comment.

dian political science student at McGill.

"There is nothing that deals with ideologies specific to Black people," she said.

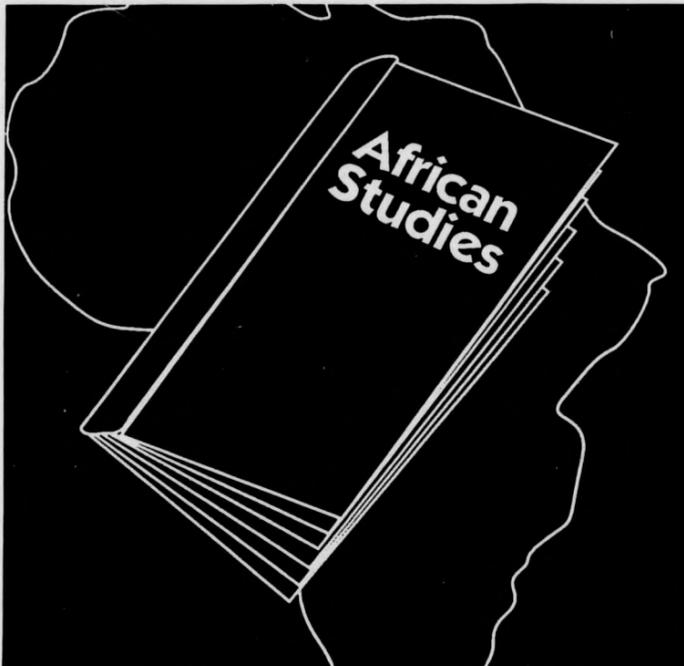
Archer said the program at McGill lacks direction.

"It's just a series of courses from different faculties thrown together under the heading of African Studies," she said.

"The courses we do have in African Studies are not broadly enough based," said McGill sociology student Sogie Omoruyi. "If they do focus on Africa, it's on the continent, not on the Africans."

Dixon Eyoh, African Studies coordinator at York, said the program at his institution is plagued by problems of its own.

"Insufficient numbers of potential faculty in the area of Toronto is an obstacle to the program's future growth," he said. "But student inter-



est in African Studies has been growing steadily over the past few years."

York's interdisciplinary program is taught by three Black full-time faculty, and although it focuses on Africa, it offers a history course on slavery in Africa and the Americas.

"The program's inception 15 years ago was free of resistance," said Eyoh. "It started out as an agglomeration of courses with African content already in existence and was not seen as threatening."

Bernard Moitt, director of African Studies at U of T, said he is optimistic about the program's future.

"We are making some progress, but it's slow and it's taken a good struggle," he said. "The university seems to be more receptive to change now than previously."

But the African Students' Union's request for departmental status for African Studies was rejected in 1990.



YORK UNIVERSITY INTRODUCES RECYCLING PROGRAMME

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NEWSPAPERS ONLY GREEN LID

Bundle with string or place loose in container.

NO OTHER PAPER.
NO telephone books
NO office paper
NO glossy magazines
NO letters or envelopes



GREEN LID



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COLOURED GLASS BOTTLES & JARS MAROON LID

Remove caps and straws.
Rinse and place loose in container.

NO OTHER GLASS.
NO clear glass
NO ceramics (dishes)
NO clay flower pots
NO crystal or porcelain



MAROON LID



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CLEAR GLASS BOTTLES & JARS WHITE LID

Remove caps and straws.
Rinse and place in container.

NO OTHER GLASS.
NO green, amber and coloured glass
NO window glass or mirrors
NO ceramics (dishes)
NO light bulbs
NO crystal or porcelain



WHITE LID

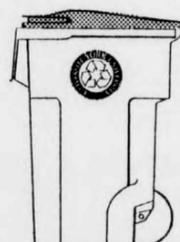


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METAL CANS GREY LID

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NO aerosol cans
NO plumbing or other pipes
NO bicycle parts or toys
NO sheet metal



GREY LID

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