

CUPE & York break off talks - strike possible



York and the Canadian Union of Public Employees have broken off negotiations in their contract dispute paving the way for CUPE's demand of a "no board" report from Department of Labor negotiator Gordon Greenaway. When the report is issued, the union can strike or the university can lock out employees in 14 days.

CUPE negotiator Jim Anderson said although York and CUPE officials made a great deal of progress in non-monetary matters, they were miles apart on wages.

He said they didn't even get to wages after York refused to change sick leave and welfare benefits. Men now get \$2.50 an hour and women \$2.06 an hour.

In a statement issued Tuesday, personnel director Don Mitchell said no further meetings were planned. He said there was no move from the union's original position in response to the university's offer (of the status quo).

The union will hold a meeting Sunday to give the negotiating committee authorization for a strike.

Anderson said the issue of money blew the negotiations apart. "I'm hopeful for a settlement before any strike," he said, "And I don't think they want one (a strike) either."

Administration vice-president Bill Small said the union refused to discuss York's wage offer. "It's the obvious thing," he said, "we need to sit down and discuss it when we haven't taken this step."

He didn't rule out using a private cleaning staff or soliciting university personnel to clean the university to meet health obligations in the event of a strike. "We have to maintain health and common decency with a community of over 20,000 people. We can't let a group of a few hundred block it," he said.

With no contract for two years he felt York was under no obligations

towards the union. York he said, was prepared to give higher wages last July when it had the money but had to wait until now to negotiate with the new union. The maintenance workers were attached to the Building and Maintenance

Employees Union before bringing in CUPE last spring.

He described York's budget as complex and said the university was unable to pay North York board of education's \$3.80 an hour for men and \$2.78 for women because York's

budget was fixed by the provincial government and North York just had to raise the tax rate.

With University of Windsor Employees at \$3.57 and \$2.74 an hour, he said York still could not afford those rates. He said Windsor

had to compete with high labor rates at the auto factories but York could rely on the large supply of unskilled labor in Toronto. He claimed York was ready to negotiate a new contract for over a year but had to wait for the union to respond.

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York could become the great garbage dump. CUPE-University talks broke off Friday and CUPE could strike within two weeks. A union strike vote Sunday may authorize a possible strike.

Student parity is dropped from the York gov't probe

By MARILYN SMITH

The senate's Committee on Organization and Structure of Senate and the University decided on Tuesday to drop faculty-student parity on the committee looking into York's government.

Instead, COSSU agreed to a four-three split at a joint meeting of the board of governors, COSSU's co-chairmen, and the senate executive committee.

The 13 member committee also has four board members plus president David Slater and one non-academic representative.

Two of the students are senators, and the third is chosen by Council of the York Student Federation. Three of the faculty are senators and the

fourth a representative of the York University Faculty Association. One of the four board representatives is chairman Robert MacIntosh.

After some discussion, COSSU agreed that the real issue was not parity, but the need for changes in the York University Act. A fight over the committee structure would delay the investigation they said.

COSSU also said the clause stating "that the committee make recommendations to the board, the senate and the president on governance and administration of the university" directed itself to the bodies of authority outlined in the York Act, but not to the bulk of the constituency at York. Some members expressed concern that the clause might justify a confidential report to the cited bodies.

COSSU wants the clause scrapped, and the report made public both within and outside the university. The initial clause "that a University-wide representative committee be established to examine and make recommendations upon a system of governance and administration for York University that is appropriate to its changing internal needs and its contemporary environment," adequately states the committee's goals and responsibilities, COSSU said.

With one woman and one labor representative on the board COSSU recommended that each group (faculty, students, board) on the committee make its membership as representative as possible. But co-chairman Howard Adelman said this was a "faith and trust recommendation, with no actual weight." In September senate accepted parity for an 11 member committee to study York government. At that time, COSSU rejected the board's offer of one student representative on the committee.

The latest COSSU decision will go to the senate and board for endorsement.

Alberta students favour probation over tenure

CALGARY (CUP) — The Alberta Association of Students has urged that steps be taken to abolish tenure at the Alberta campuses.

At the Thanksgiving weekend conference, the U of A delegates proposed to use instead the Minnesota system of a three year probationary period followed by five year renewable contracts. U of Calgary student Ron Murphy described tenure as a hangover from the McCarthy era to guarantee academic freedom and said tenure was now used to gain job security and to hide incompetence.

U of A students have parity on the general faculty council level and feel they should have an equal say in instructor evaluation. They want teaching ability to become an important criterion but faculty say students don't have the ability to judge on scholarship.

Committee: teaching for tenure

The senate took no action on its Committee on Tenure and Promotion report which emphasized teaching assessment as a basis for tenure and promotion.

At the special Tuesday meeting, committee chairman Michael Lanphier said the report was compiled "to update and create the proper organization at York."

"The report reflects the change in size and complexity at York since 1968."

History chairman Sydney Eisen

said "Other universities pay lip service to teaching but when the chips are down, they look at a man's publication list."

Lanphier said the committee had tried to create a comprehensive and yet brief document crossing all faculties yet allowing flexibility for individual faculties to decide criteria for rank and tenure assessment.

Debate dragged for two hours despite a broken thermostat and the

sweltering heat of the senate chamber.

The report sparked much discussion and some disfavor. Osgoode law dean Gerald LeDain asked that the report be sent back to the committee to allow for more comment from deans and councils. He claimed that neither he nor his faculty had been invited to submit reports to the committee.

Committee members stressed the report was not the finished product, and debate continued.

Tarnopolsky accepts Yorks offer as v-pres.

On Monday, Windsor law dean Walter Tarnopolsky accepted the position of academic affairs vice-president. President David Slater said the job would begin no later than July 1 but Tarnopolsky would participate in arranging affairs before then.

Tarnopolsky will serve one five year term as vice-president and then teach law at Osgoode law school. He said he would not hesitate to shorten his vice-presidential term if he thought he was failing to do the job well. He also said he thought a one term administration appointment long enough, adding "it's important for an administrator to maintain academic connections."

Slater said Tarnopolsky would be doing "one-third of what I now do, work involving academic planning and performance, work with the faculty and general academic problems."

Tarnopolsky said the erroneous charges of anti-semitism reported in Excalibur "made me think about it (the job offer) during three or four days."

"I personally won't go any further, I'll let the matter rest where it is," he said about the retraction and apology appearing Oct. 14 in Excalibur. He said the reactions of support from so many quarters had

"in a perverted way, made the whole thing worthwhile. I owe a debt to so many people, many of whom I don't know personally."

Slater had two proposals to make as a result of the Tarnopolsky affair. He would make acknowledgements to the people who had come to

Tarnopolsky's defence, and give a factual low key report to the senate. This would serve as an official record of all the information in-

involved for anyone inquiring into the matter.

"The matter is closed as far as I'm concerned. I would rather hope for improved communications with Excalibur in the future," Slater said.

Tarnopolsky comes to York after a three year stint at the University of Windsor. He is recently known for his arbitration work in the Stanley Gray affair, the Marxist lecturer fired by McGill two years ago. Tarnopolsky and his committee ruled that the administration could terminate Gray's contract providing they reimbursed him for lost salary. Tarnopolsky previously taught law at Osgoode and served several times on the Ontario Human Rights Commission.

Tarnopolsky's background includes undergraduate studies at the University of Saskatchewan and an MA at Columbia University at New York. His doctoral work was done at the University of Saskatchewan and the London School of Economics. While at Saskatchewan, he was president of the students' union and later president of the Canadian Union of Students.

Known as a plethoric writer, Tarnopolsky has done extensive work in the field of civil rights.

Retraction genuine, not from board or legal pressure -ed.

By ANDY MICHALSKI

Confusion still rules York as to why Excalibur suddenly retracted its charges against Walter Tarnopolsky and then supported the Windsor law dean as academic vice-president.

With the board of governors' condemnation of Excalibur last week, some students say it looks as if Excalibur retracted more from board pressure than from the editor's free will. Excalibur denies this and says the retraction was sincere. (See detailed retraction on page 3.)

Excalibur decided to retract its charges on the Sunday night before this reporter travelled to Windsor. With the decision made, Excalibur ordered all copies removed from the stands and also suspended its mailing list for that issue.

With the never-ending letters to Excalibur supporting Tarnopolsky, York's reaction to last week's retraction has varied with comments ranging from brave and adequate to a handsome confession of journalistic incompetence. David Meadows, co-editor of Osgoode Hall's Obiter Dicta described the move as courageous and commendable but likened it to "handing a man a

towel to wipe the shit you've just thrown in his face." Letters to the editor were almost unanimous in their praise of Tarnopolsky. Windsor's Jewish students said he has "at all times exemplified all qualities of equity and fairness that may be expected from any man."

A former Windsor lecturer Ruth Deech said she could only conclude that Excalibur's informers did not reach Windsor's standards and had fed false information out of malice towards the dean.

Despite the contrary opinion of several Osgoode students, Excalibur's lawyers and Council of the York Student Federation lawyers said the paper was in a strong position to handle any court action.

Despite rumors of York's or Windsor's board filing suit, Excalibur has not received any notice.

In a telephone interview, Tarnopolsky said that for him the retraction was acceptable and that he'd let the matter rest. He felt the apology was inadequate for the Windsor law school and York president David Slater.

Slater described the retraction as a clear forthright statement, a deep expression of regret and generally a satisfactory response.