

York University Community Newspaper

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### Tenure and promotion link severed by senate

By OAKLAND ROSS

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By a margin of 31 to 21, the university senate voted last Thursday to remove York's traditional link between tenure and promotion.

The legality of the move is currently being studied by a group of solicitors. Assuming that their report, due in the near future, deems the separation to be legal, it will then be possible and even customary for assistant professors to be granted tenure without being promoted to the rank of associate professor, or to be promoted without being granted

The special senate meeting, called specifically in order to debate Fraser Cowley's controversial amendments to the senate tenure and promotion committee report, was attended by only 54 of its 150 members.

Speaking on the issue, D.R. Ewen, chairman of the English department, told the senate the separation of tenure and promotion would help "reduce the case-making of candidates for tenure". He explained that, since professors have traditionally been considered for tenure and promotion simultaneously, there has been a tendency for candidates "to make their cases out to be stronger than they actually are".

This occasionally involves "some untruthfulness", he said.

These sentiments were echoed by G.F. Reed, dean of graduate studies, who referred to the practice of exaggerating claims in applications for tenure as "the year-in and year-out fiddling....familiar to so many others

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in this room."

Dean of arts Sid Eisen reacted strongly against the motion.

"What will happen if the scheme goes through?" he asked. "A professor will get tenure, knowing that in five years or so he'll have to go through the process all over again in order to be promoted to associate

professor." Eisen worried that while good teachers would gain tenure, only those who published would be promoted to associate professor. The potential result, he said, "would be a system of first and second class citizens".

There were a series of attempts to amend or delay Cowley's motion. Christopher Nichol, a sociology professor, moved to refer Cowley's proposed amendments to the tenure and promotion committee for consideration, along with a proposal of his own to delete "service to the university" as a criterion for tenure and promotion,

Senate chairman J.D. McFarland ruled Nichol out of order. The chair was challenged, and its authority was upheld by a narrow margin.

Questioned after the meeting, Dean Eisen expressed concern that the vote to uphold the chair's ruling on Nichol's motion to refer "mixed politics with procedure."

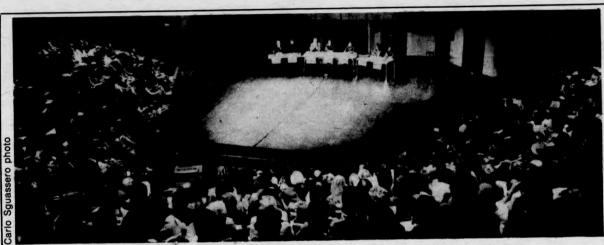
He explained that, in his opinion, the vote did not reflect the senators' views on the propriety of the chair's decision so much as it reflected their political beliefs.

Chairman McFarland vehemently denied that his ruling on the amendment had any political overtones, whatever the motives of the members might have been.
"I did exactly the right thing," he

said. "Senate always has the option to challenge my decision. They did, and in this case I was upheld."

Former senator and past dean of Atkinson College, Harry Crowe, told Excalibur that a motion to refer a question under debate back to an appropriate committee for discussion is always in order, except during a committee of the whole or after a similar motion has already been voted down. Neither of these conditions applied when Nichol's motion was made.

See further tenure story on p.8



Hundreds packed Burton Auditorium at yesterday's budget briefing.

# **Budget forum fills house**

Burton Auditorium's biggest ever sell-out crowd was the scene yesterday afternoon of a universitywide study session on York's current budget crisis.

Classes were cancelled and most offices closed for the event, which attracted such a large number of participants that additional seating and extension speakers were set up in the lobby of the fine arts building next door.

York president Ian Macdonald opened the session by stressing the university administration's priorities: "to look after staff and faculty jobs, to ensure a fair economic progression in terms of salary, to retain and enhance academic quality and to retain our financial integrity."

Macdonald then introduced Benson A. Wilson, assistant deputy minister of MCU, as a former captain of the Western Mustangs football team, and "a man now carrying one of the biggest political footballs ever.'

Wilson deplored the emphasis that has been placed on the 7.4 per cent increase in the basic income unit, suggesting that instead it be viewed as a 16.9 per cent increase in total funding. The advantages of such a perspective seemed to be lost on most of the audience.

Wilson pointed out that government funding of

post-secondary education has grown from \$25 million in 1960 to \$568 million (projected) in 1975. Sometime later in the programme, Mark Golden, graduate assistants association chairman, answered that for a comparable period (1961 to 1972), the personal income tax share of government funds had grown from 11 per cent to 20 per cent, while the corporate share shrank from 18 per cent to six per cent.

'The question," he said, "is not 'Is there enough money?', but 'Where does the money come from?'

Some speakers adopted a narrow stance concerned with the interests of a university sub-group, while others emphasized the need for collective action; some called for both. The inherent contradiction in this approach was never resolved, nor was the target of the action specified.

York Socialist League organizer Dale Ritch won enthusiastic approval from the audience when he argued that other publicly funded areas, such as hospitals, had moved ahead because "the workers fought against the cutbacks and won", and that the universities should pursue similar action. The applause died, however, as Ritch went on to ask if Macdonald were not "still on the payroll of the Ontario government".

### Vague space policy for coffee shops

## No plan to enforce overhead fee

By JULIAN BELTRAME

There are no definite plans to charge college coffee shops university overhead charges, assistant vice president Harry Knox told Excalibur Tuesday.

The issue, first raised by York's food service committee last spring, concerns the committee's recommendation that all groups in compethe same university overhead charges as food services.

"Nothing in the deck indicates that something is going to happen in the next 24 hours, 48 hours, or the next two months," said Knox.

"We're in effect trying to decide if it would be reasonable to ask the coffee shops to pay for the running of the place.'

He added that if and when overhead charges were implemented, "they would only be done through thorough consultation with the college councils" as to the amount and the type of charge (by square footage or actual meter readings.)

Although discussion was spearheaded by the university food service committee recommendation, vice president John Becker said Tuesday the recommendation was "simply an extension of the generalized student entrepreneurial policy of three years ago.

'All these are talking about the same thing," said Becker, "and that is that any activity in the university which involves revenue should participate in meeting general university expenses. One could say the university has always had this policy in relation to non-university groups, and now it applies to university

groups as well."

Mike Hennessey of the food service committee said he supported last spring's recommendation but has now developed serious doubts.

"I don't know what good it would do food services and what harm it would do coffee shops. It might help

tition with food services be liable for food services, but the damage that it might do the community would not compensate for the effect on food services.

Peter Jarvis, chairman of the committee, said the plan had not been under discussion this year. "As far as I'm concerned, it's a dead issue," he said

Although the official university word is that "the matter is under consideration", Mark Lipman, manager of Winter's Absinthe, told Excalibur that he personally had never been approached by Knox's office to discuss the matter.

Lipman indicated that a physical plant charge would most likely mean an increase both in food prices and liquor prices, "because we don't make much profits as it is."

He also said that any university charges would infringe on the college's autonomy.

"The space the college coffee shops inhabit belongs to the college councils and they should have the right to do what they want with it."

John Becker summed up the situation by specifying that "it's one thing to announce a policy-it's quite another thing to implement it.

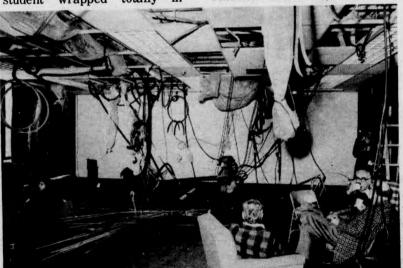
> Season's greetings from the staff of Excalibur

### Calumet common room disembowelled

Tubing tires, extension cords and rubber molding coiled around uprooted tree stumps. A student wrapped totally in

plastic and tape squirmed in the centre of the room.

And visitors to Calumet's common room inspected the



The gutting of the Calumet common room as performed by the inmates of Calumet college under the direction of the general meeting.

holocaust which had hit the room under the guise of an "environment and interaction".

"It looks more like an accident than art," mused one student.

"I think it makes its own quiet statement," remarked another. The damage, affectionately

referred to as The Disembowelment of the Common Room, was wreaked by four visual arts students on a \$150 commission from Calumet's general meeting.

"It took three weeks to plan," said Jocelyne Wallingford, one of the creators, "and five hours to put up. A lot of it was found in garbage heaps behind factories.'

"It's very interesting," commented student Paul Taylor halfway through last week, "but it makes me want to clean up."