

Additional funds sought by libraries

by Roslyn Angel

York University's libraries raised about \$40,000 last year with the Book Gift programme for parents.

The Book Gift programme for students' parents was launched in the fall of 1987, but contact was strictly by mail, explained associate director of private funding Steve Dranitsaris. He said it was not until the fall of 1988 that the parents in Metro Toronto and the surrounding area were contacted

by telephone, and the response was great.

The libraries had hoped to raise \$25,000 with the telephone programme so the unexpected \$40,000 was a nice surprise, he added.

Only a certain amount of money is given by the university for the library operating budget, "but it is never enough," said Dranitsaris. They continually look for additional funds, not only from parents, but also from alumni and staff. Another Book Gift programme for alumni began in the fall of 1986, he said.

"We also get in-kind donations," said Dranitsaris. "In-kind donations are books, journals and other reference materials. If faculty members have a unique collection, or a law firm has too many copies of a journal, they will donate volumes to us. This greatly enhances the resources in the libraries."

In 1988-89, the average cost of a library book was \$39.87. In 1989-90, that cost increased by 14 per cent to \$45.71. However, "the increase from government funding was less than 6 per cent," said

Dranitsaris, so additional funds are constantly in demand.

In the past year (January-December 1988), the university received approximately \$250,000 in cash and in-kind donations for the York libraries. "And we expect approximately the same amount for the year 1989-90," said Dranitsaris.

"We now have parents calling us wanting to contribute," he said. "The parents are really interested in York, because they aren't familiar with it. It is an interest in making the university a better place to learn."

When a parent decides to donate money to buy a book, a name plate is put in the book saying who bought it, he explained.

"[Parents] can also request a dedication be placed in the book," Dranitsaris said. "It's a nice thing to do, especially at graduation time."

The additional support is welcomed and appreciated, because, said Dranitsaris, "The York library is the head and heart of the university. Therefore, the quality of the university is determined by the quality of the library."

Pub debt problem solved by Vanier

by Natalia Smith and Daniel Wolgelerenter

Vanier's Open End pub is back on track after Vanier College Council (VCC), the pub's owner, worked out a long term solution to its debt problem with the university.

According to food and beverages manager Paul Leonard, the debt stood at about \$37,000 last April. On April 30, \$14,500 dollars from the VCC's general operations fund was applied to the debt and to the pub's operating deficit for 1989. Leonard said revenues that would have gone to cover the deficit will now be applied to the debt.

On May 1, \$10,000 more was applied to the debt, leaving it at about \$17,000. According to the VCC's financial statements published in the September issue of the Vando, the debt will be paid in three more instalments of about \$4,000 each on December 1 of the next three years.

The remaining \$4,711 will be forgiven by the university. Director of housing and food services Norman Crandles said that his department, under authorization of vice-president of finance Bill Farr, will forgive "a small amount of interest" on the debt if the pub makes all its payments on time.

The debt was incurred after the pub could not meet its obligations to the university due to poor financial management, said Crandles. The university is required to pay the LCBO upon receipt of alcohol, and then gives the pubs seven days to pay the university, he said.

By April 1988, the Open End had run up a \$20,000 debt under this arrangement.

"We just kept giving them (the Open End) break after break after break," Crandles said. He said the pub was supposed to pay back the debt by last October, but instead the situation got worse. Manager Pat Chester was fired and an interim manager was found after the pub was temporarily closed.

The debt was then supposed to be paid up by last February but the university shut down the pub after its management board could not reach an agreement with the university over interest on the debt, Crandles said. He said the VCC wanted to have the interest forgiven.

VCC president Kate Collins said that she is confident the pub will be able to make the first \$4,000 payment using its own revenues, but the VCC has set aside money just in case the payment defaults to the college. The same will be done for future payments.

"The pub is doing very well," Collins said. "It's back producing the kind of revenues a pub should be producing." She added that the VCC is counting on putting the \$4,500 set aside to cover the payment back into college programmes.

She said the pub's performance improved greatly in the last quarter with new management and staff. She said the new manager, Clayton Hillis, was chosen very carefully and that a concerted effort has been made to eliminate factors like theft, wastage, unrecorded sales, freebies, and staff consumption which have contributed to financial problems.

Collins said the VCC has "yet to set a business plan" for the pub but said that council is "going to have set goals for the pub's performance."

"In the next couple of months we'll have an idea of what to expect from the pub and we'll know how much money it will contribute to programmes," she said.

She added that the pub's management board will be monitoring the pub's performance more closely this year and may require that it produce partial financial statements monthly in addition to full quarterly reports.

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