

Professionalism versus experimentalism

Executive control conflict divides radio staff

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plaints regarding the firing of disc jockeys. "We don't fire them, we just take them off the air and offer to re-train them. So far only two of the eight people fired have asked to be re-trained."

Some station members have complained that the executive acted arbitrarily in firing volunteer disc-jockeys, and that there is no opportunity to appeal the executive's decision.

"The executive is in charge of hiring and firing jocks," responded Marwood. "You can't let them appeal their firings to a general staff meeting, because those people aren't going to fire one of their friends."

"We now have a board of governors, and people can appeal to it." The board has yet to meet this year.

Answering a complaint that since the executive members put more time into the station than other staff, they feel it owes them something, Marwood said, "I expect to get a job in the radio industry, that's payment enough."

He dismissed the possibility that the executive's regimented attitudes

toward programming would lead to the station's sounding like any other FM rock station.

"We're different," he explained. "We do all kinds of interviews and we give public service announcements to the York community."

It was pointed out that the station did not do interviews with members of the York community, and that public service announcements appeared in the university's Daily Bulletin.

"We are serving York because our programming is geared towards students," he replied, "while CHUM-FM gears its daily programming to workers and housewives."

Station members have complained that the executive's attempts to create a regimented format have led to a stifling of creativity.

"When I first brought them an idea for a new kind of show, they showed no interest," said ex-disc jockey Steve Hain. "When they finally accepted it, they wouldn't let me use the people I wanted."

"After that, they demanded to see my script before I went on the air,

and then they monitored my show when it did go on to check up on me. After all this, they liked the show once it was given a chance."

Radio York station members have complained that since a general meeting was not called prior to tomorrow's election, it is impossible to learn the platforms of the candidates.

"Platforms are bullshit," commented Marwood. "If a guy can't get in touch with people and do his campaigning, he's not much of a candidate."

"There is no need for a meeting before the election. People were just going to use the meeting as a grinding post for the present executive."

Bob Kasher (Homily), Marwood's opponent for station manager, was critical of the decision not to hold a pre-election meeting, and was dissatisfied with Radio York's current executive in general.

"Without a pre-election meeting, it is difficult for station members to know the candidates' policies. I've tried to talk with every station member, but this is difficult," he said.

Homily, with Radio York for three years and a past programming director, said the conflict was between the executive and the station members, "but it's unfair, because the executive has all the power".

"The executive wants to create a consistent, cleaner sound, and the station members want a fairly informal, creative station that's enjoyable to work in ahead of this professionalism."

He believed the present executive at Radio York is functioning as an elite and not as a representative body of the station members, and outlined some of the executive's plans to 'tighten up' Radio York.

"They want ad-lib cards, which in effect means that a jock must write



Announcer David Marshall (seated) and station manager Scott Marwood in Radio York's Vanier studio.

down what he is going to say at a given time during his show.

"They even considered not allowing people with voices they didn't like talk on the air. The executive would only allow these people to play records, and then to play pre-recorded voices where the announcer would usually talk."

"Then there was the tribunal. This was Marwood's tool for judging station members. A group of three people were to have checked up on an announcer's shows and decided if they were good enough to be on the air. They were to have been the final authority, with no appeal."

The idea of the tribunal has since been abandoned.

"The executive refuses to entrust any long term powers to people who

may not put an enormous amount of time into the station," said Homily. "But they don't realize that an announcer must put about six hours a week into a show, and that's a lot of time to spend on an extra-curricular activity."

"The executive's paternalistic attitude toward policy tends to alienate many people, both station members and potential station members."

Homily said the station put "too much emphasis on getting the industry's respect so that working at Radio York will help people get jobs and look good on a resumé."

"Radio York should provide alternative programming and be available to people who wish to work in radio. Stations at this level provide one of the few outlets for creativity in radio."

Theft of films breaks Con bank, bills may come for lost bookings

By JULIAN BELTRAME

For the second time in as many years, thieves struck the Cosmicon, blackening the lustre of York's yearly fantasy feature.

Four films, estimated to be worth \$2,000, were discovered missing Sunday evening.

"No-one knows how it happened," said Con organizer Anne Scotton Tuesday. "They were taken from a locked room."

Police were called into the case by Scotton to try to recover the stolen property, and as of press time, no progress had been made.

"We have a suspect already," Scotton told Excalibur Monday, "and we hope we can persuade him to return the films to us; that way, we won't press charges."

While four films were stolen, including one feature length movie, one novelty, a cartoon, and a short, more films could have been stolen.

"There were many films in the room," explained Scotton, "They (the stolen films) seem to have been

the thieves' choice of the lot."

Besides being responsible for the cost of the prints stolen, Cosmicon could conceivably also be charged for booking engagements cancelled by the distributors because of the films' disappearance.

Although no final audit of the Con had been taken, Scotton said that the if the films were not recovered, the Con was sure to lose money.

Last year, a print of Night of the Living Dead was stolen, and has not been recovered.

Union bid blocked, charges YUSA

By AGNES KRUCHIO

The York administration is deliberately trying to block the York University Staff Association from receiving certification as a union, a YUSA press release charged this week.

The release claimed that the university has told the Ontario Labour Relations Board, to which YUSA is currently applying for certification, that the association "is not an employees' organization", and that it has had "management participation in its formation, building and

operation, and therefore should not be eligible to be certified".

Personnel services director J.D. Mitchell denied the charge, claiming that "the university is not raising the issue about status, and could not, even if it wanted to".

"Both parties submit a list of names and job titles to be included in the union," he said. "The board registers any discrepancy, and will ask individuals to testify about their particular jobs."

Six management positions are involved in the dispute; the university

argues that they have important decision-making powers, while YUSA claims the official job descriptions differ from the day-to-day workings of the job.

Mitchell told Excalibur he thought certification of YUSA would be beneficial. "We've had three unions on this campus for the last 10 years," he said, "and we've never had any trouble."

YUFA rejects salary offer

An administration offer of a 10 per cent salary increase for York's faculty was rejected this week by the faculty association's negotiating committee.

"We met with President Macdonald (on Tuesday)," said YUFA chairman Harvey Simmons, "and he offered us the 10 per cent figure based on the board of governors' desire to have a balanced budget next year."

"We strongly protested that this increase wouldn't even cover the rise in the cost of living over the past year, and that there was no point in our even discussing the figure."

Simmons said the association (YUFA) is aiming for a 23 per cent raise when their contract expires on June 30.

Asked whether the 10 per cent offer was final, Macdonald replied, "It is conceivable that the size of our supplementary grant (an extra grant from the government) could significantly affect the size of our offer to YUFA."

He added that the supplementary grant was "the only variable" in the negotiations. Talks between YUFA and the University resume on February 17.

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