

OFFICE OF THE MASTER

Atkinson College York University

SPRING CONFERENCE

CRISIS IN THE ECONOMY

Saturday, April 15th, 1978

CURTIS LECTURE HALL 'I', ROSS BUILDING
York University

PROGRAMME

MORNING SESSION: (10:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.)

PROFESSOR ERIC KIERANS, Department of Economics, McGill University

Topic: "DIMENSIONS OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS: THE CANADIAN CONTEXT."

PROFESSOR MEL WATKINS, Department of Political Economy, University of Toronto

Topic: "CUTTING BACK IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR: ECONOMIC SENSE OR NONSENSE."

MR. BOB KAPLAN, Chairman, Economics and Finance Committee, House of Commons, M.P. for York Centre

Topic: "THE ECONOMIC CRISIS: A LIBERAL PERSPECTIVE."

DISCUSSANT:

PROFESSOR CY GONICK, Department of Economics, University of Manitoba

LUNCH 12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. EARLY AFTERNOON SESSION (1:30 - 3:00 p.m.)

PANEL DISCUSSION: CUTBACKS IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR

MODERATOR: Professor John Saul, Atkinson College

PARTICIPANTS:

LOUISE BLAIS, Community Health Worker, Montreal
DR. JANUSZ DUKSZTA, M.P.P., Parkdale Riding
DIERDRE GALLAGHER, Organized Working Women REPRESENTATIVE, Ontario Ministry of Health

COFFEE BREAK 3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

LATE AFTERNOON SESSION (3:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.)

PANEL DISCUSSION: EDUCATION: CUTTING BACK ON SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

MODERATOR: To be announced

PARTICIPANTS:

Mr. DAN LECKIE, Chairman, Toronto Board of Education
MR. MENNO VORSTER, President, Toronto Teachers Federation
PROFESSOR JOHN BUTTRICK, Professor of Economics, York University
MR. TONY WOOLFSON, Chairperson, Graduate Assistants Association, York University
PROFESSOR LEE LORCH, Professor of Mathematics and Vice-President, York University, Faculty Association.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Professor David C. Davies,
office of the Master,
Atkinson College
667-6434 or 667-6436

Administration says they're serious

York outlines cutbacks

By Harvey Pinder

The administration of York University recently submitted a brief to the Ontario Council on University Affairs which contained a series of recommendations and comments on the cutbacks we are experiencing.

The university called the cutbacks "serious", and said "the present intention of the Government to finance universities below the rate of inflation and real cost, which is apparent from the funding levels of the past years, will have an undoubted impact on academic quality and accessibility.

Miskin in at Osgoode

By Paul Kellogg

With over 50 percent of Osgoode Law School's 960 students voting, Murray H. Miskin was elected the new president of the Osgoode Legal and Literary Society, the law school's students' council.

Miskin received 221 votes (45 percent) to runner-up Bruce Daley's 170, and Michael Barrack's 108.

As a consequence of the vote, Osgoode will take out a one-year trial membership in the 172,000 member Ontario Federation of Students (OFS). Osgoode is the only law school in Ontario which is currently not a member of OFS.

The question of membership in OFS was a big issue in the campaign. Miskin is a past-chairperson of the organization, and his chief rival Bruce Daley was strongly against membership in the provincial federation. Barrack thought that a task force should be set-up to investigate membership.

Miskin told *Excalibur* that it was the other candidates who made OFS a big issue. He said that it was only one part of his platform which encompassed many other issues. One of Miskin's main planks concerned cutbacks. His platform stated that "Close scrutiny must be given to the York University budget next year to see how cutbacks are administered. With the large amount of cuts that will certainly be made, an all-out effort should be launched to expose those affecting the quality of our education. Administrative waste in non-essential costs should be exposed and cutback first."

Among the new president's other concerns are making a greater effort to get law students summer jobs, in addition to the present practice of assisting them in getting articling jobs after graduation; working for a reform of the bar admissions course; working to increase the availability of financial assistance; and establishing greater contact with other law schools, to "coordinate work for students' interests."

Your Student Council

Manus is the official York Student Handbook published by the Council of The York Student Federation. At this time every year, the C.Y.S.F. seeks an editor for the magazine. The editor is a salaried position. The work begins in May and hopefully the Handbook is completed and ready for publication in August so that it can be distributed in the first week of September. If you are interested please hand in a resumé, with all relevant information for the position to the secretary of the C.Y.S.F. in room 105 Central Square. Applications will be received until Thursday, April 13, 1978 at 5:00 p.m.

For further information call 667-2515 or -2516.

David W. Chodikoff

In terms of declining enrollment the university refused the explanation which the Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU) seems to be using, and which is increasingly becoming the "common sense" assumption, namely that the baby boom has passed.

"The current enrollment decrease ... would appear to result from a drop in the participation rate rather than from demographic factors ... There are also indications that students are being discouraged, directly and indirectly, from attending universities in favor of more job-oriented study," stated the brief.

In response to this situation, the university urged two moves under a heading of "Priority Interim Actions." "These were A) A vigorous, deliberate and sustained publicity campaign whose message is: *Stay In School: Learn Now, Work Later.* and B) To give teeth to this campaign, both levels of government should undertake to increase student grants, loans, scholarships and other assistance."

The York brief indicated the effect that cutbacks will have at York:

- Salary levels for faculty "which continue to be towards the bottom of Ontario scales" and in the future that all "salary and fringe benefit adjustments would have to be at extremely low levels and well below

the forecast cost-of-living (increase).

- Important and necessary purchases of equipment and replacement of worn-out machinery had been delayed, but could not be forever. And that purchase of supplies had been curtailed. Likewise maintenance levels could not be decreased without jeopardizing the buildings.

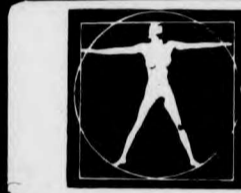
- Inflation for York in the past year was the product of a 66 percent hike in insurance, 24 percent in electricity and water, and 10 percent for books. Next year will see similar over-all increases.

The Ontario Council on University Affairs, the body to which this brief was submitted, is the group appointed by the government to make recommendations on levels of financial aid to universities.

This body is an intended guarantee that the government will not interfere with academic freedom. Up until now, the government had always accepted the figure given them by OCUA. However, breaking with tradition this year, the government gave approximately 40 percent less than recommended.

The Conference of Ontario Universities, a body formed by the universities to lobby for their interests, recently revealed that if cutbacks continue, 2,000 faculty and support staff jobs will be lost in two years.

Harbinger's
Column
by Chuck Wheeler



Harbinger needs YOU

There will be an information meeting for people interested in working with Harbinger next year today at 2 pm and at 4 pm in room 116 Vanier College. This meeting will determine how extensive Harbinger's services will be next year. The Harbinger collective has developed a new structure to ensure the continuation of our programme. We need you to make it work.

Social Services are facing cutbacks everywhere and, at York, innovative programmes which have helped many people, will disappear next year. (For example, Women's Workshops at the Counselling and Development Centre and the International Student Centre.) Harbinger will not be one of them; we want to assure the survival of one important service.

Our main *raison d'être* is the individual with unique concerns, who is in need of someone to talk to frankly and openly, without fear of judgement or ridicule. As voices become more obvious and effective in labelling many of the issues we deal with (sexuality, relationships, birth control, abortion, drugs) as unimportant or unacceptable; as these voices continue to label these concerns as sick or immoral, the need for Harbinger becomes more critical.

Consider a woman facing an unplanned pregnancy. She confronts a lot of ignorance and prejudice, and a lot of pressure to conform and deny her sexuality and her options. She lives in a city which is growing more repressive in all sex-related matters. She needs a place which not only gives her the right to talk about her options, but which proclaims that only through open discussion can she make choices which are honestly hers. She, like a student doing speed to get those papers done or someone expanding his her sexual experiences, needs accurate information and a person

she can trust to help her learn to use this data to achieve her own goals.

Harbinger openly and proudly proclaims the right of individuals to enjoy their lives and make responsible and informed decisions.

To continue our services, we need your help. First and foremost, we need volunteer staff to provide face to face counselling, listening and creating an accepting environment where people can discuss their concerns. Hard work? Yes, but it is vastly rewarding. Can you listen creatively to others, without imposing your own values? Do you know your own weaknesses and strengths? If so, please volunteer. Harbinger, and the many who have benefitted from our service need you. If you have a special gift — share it.

With the loss of substantial funding and consequently our full time co-ordinator, Sue Kaiser, volunteers will now be taking on new responsibilities. New committees next year will include people with skills and interests in working on publicity, educational programmes, research and column writing, bookkeeping, fundraising, services liaison, special projects, and ongoing groups. And more! If you have a special skill that needs practice, we want you! In return, Harbinger offers you a chance to gain experience and a chance to learn and grow.

Think about being a volunteer. Check us out at the information meetings today at 2 pm and 4 pm in 116 Vanier. Or contact us at 667-3509.

Harbinger is York University's peer counselling and referral service. Drop in at 214 Vanier residence, or phone 667-3059 — 3632.

Open 10 am - 6 pm, Monday to Friday.