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A beer commercial that didn't make it? Not really, just the BOGS caught au naturel in Green Bush Inn.

Excalibur -- Dave Cooper

Prof paternalism, student apathy

Sociology union is in bad shape

By GREG McCONNELL

The sociology course union is in bad shape.

A combination of well-meaning faculty paternalism, student apathy, and poor publicity are leading it down the road it followed last year, when, according to Ken

McMullen, Council of the York Student Federation academic affairs commissioner, it became an "elitist friendship circle".

As last year, the initiative has come from faculty. Professors R. Morris, J. Piker, J. G. Paasche, and J. Nagata, all members of the

departmental faculty-student liaison committee, called a meeting at 9:30 am Oct. 17. The time was one of two slots available to all four professors.

Three of these faculty members, and two of Mrs. Nagata's students showed up. Greg Buck, one of the students, called it "a pretty good sign of general apathy".

Apathy aside, publicity was very poorly handled.

The four professors announced it to their classes, and there were no posters.

For another meeting at the same time on Nov. 7, Morris said that he had asked the two students present to "get their friends to come."

What would a sociology course union do? Morris stressed the desire of faculty for ideas from the students on how to improve the course content.

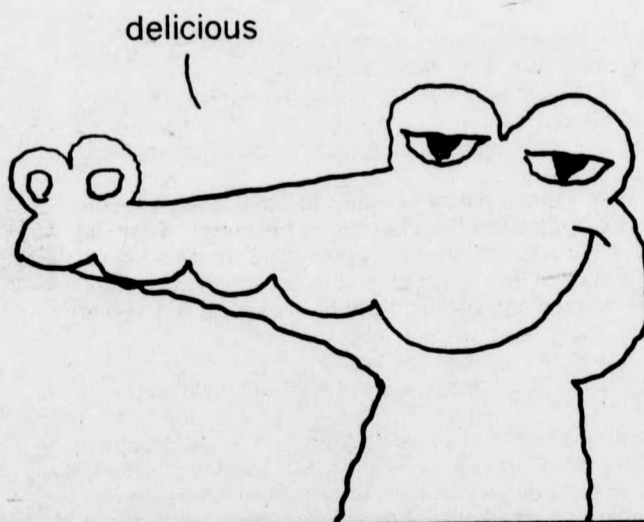
McMullen favored a union totally divorced from the faculty and their desire for feedback. "Besides the educational function there are political and social functions, such as speakers, lunches, and university committees" he said.

McMullen said the CYSF was anxious to help out the course unions in whatever they decided to do. The council will print circulars for them, for example, he said.

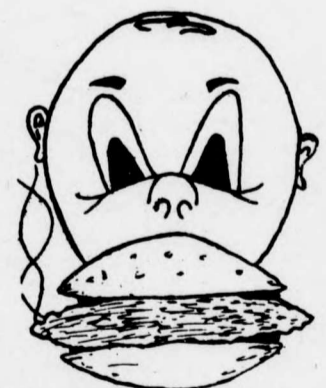
The crux of the thing, though, he said, was that "it has to be the students in the course themselves that organize, rather than me doing it as a bureaucrat, or the professors."

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