

## ELECTION

Applications are now being accepted for the position of the Editor in Chief of the Brunswickan. Applicants must have editorial experience with the Brunswickan or a comparable publication. Send applications to Mike MacKinnon, Senior Editorial Advisor, Room 35, Brunswickan. Deadline for applications is Thursday, Oct. 10

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October 4, 1985

THE BRUNSWICKAN Page-7

## U of T controversy surrounding divestment

Reprinted from the Western Gazette  
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By JOHN DOUGLAS

Despite the overwhelming support of the university's Governing Council September 19, University of Toronto students say a decision to follow federal government guidelines for divesting in companies with South African holdings does not go far enough.

Toronto's Governing Council voted 32-8, with two abstentions to tie the university to federal government codes of conduct when dealing with companies in South African holdings.

'It was quite an overwhelming decision which fairly reflects the judgement of the university community,' Toronto president George Connell said.

'Some individuals expressed some skepticism on leaving this judgement up to the federal government, a skepticism I frankly don't share. I believe only the federal government has the resources to monitor the situation properly and make judgements of this nature.'

Graduate representative Cathy Laurie, who voted against the motion, disagrees

with Connell's stand on the issues.

'The vote by the Governing Council clearly demonstrated that they do not represent the university community's thinking on this matter.'

'How can they say they represent the university community when the student's association, the graduate association, CUPE 230 representing the library staff, the staff association, the faculty association, and tutorial leaders have all stated they are in favour of divestment and then to top it all off, the divestment committee presents a petition with 14,000 names of students, staff and alumni calling for it.'

'I think it represents the community thinking'

The original motion, presented by part-time philosophy student Claire Johnson, called for the university to formulate a policy of having no future investment in companies with holdings in South Africa and to divest all present holdings. Connell proposed a late amendment that students called a 'cop out', stating the university would only divest holdings of companies and banks that fail to

meet Ottawa's guide for conduct.

Laurie argued that Connell's motion 'has no teeth' because the president himself would not tell the assembly what the government's code of conduct was, or if the university would follow only the present code of conduct, or a new version if the government altered it.

'The only real victory is in the fact that the president was forced to backtrack from his original position, but, really it was just a manoeuvre to keep the status quo while fooling everyone, including some papers, that U of T has started divestment. He tried and succeeded in fooling a lot of people,' Laurie said.

One of the co-founders of the University of Toronto Divestment Committee, Ava Szczurko, said students and the group will continue to fight for the university to 'do the responsible thing.'

'Students are really mad. What we have to do is harness all this pent-up frustration. It is obvious that administration does not respond to petitions of motions, meetings are not enough. We'll be organizing within the week to chart a further plan of attack,' she said,

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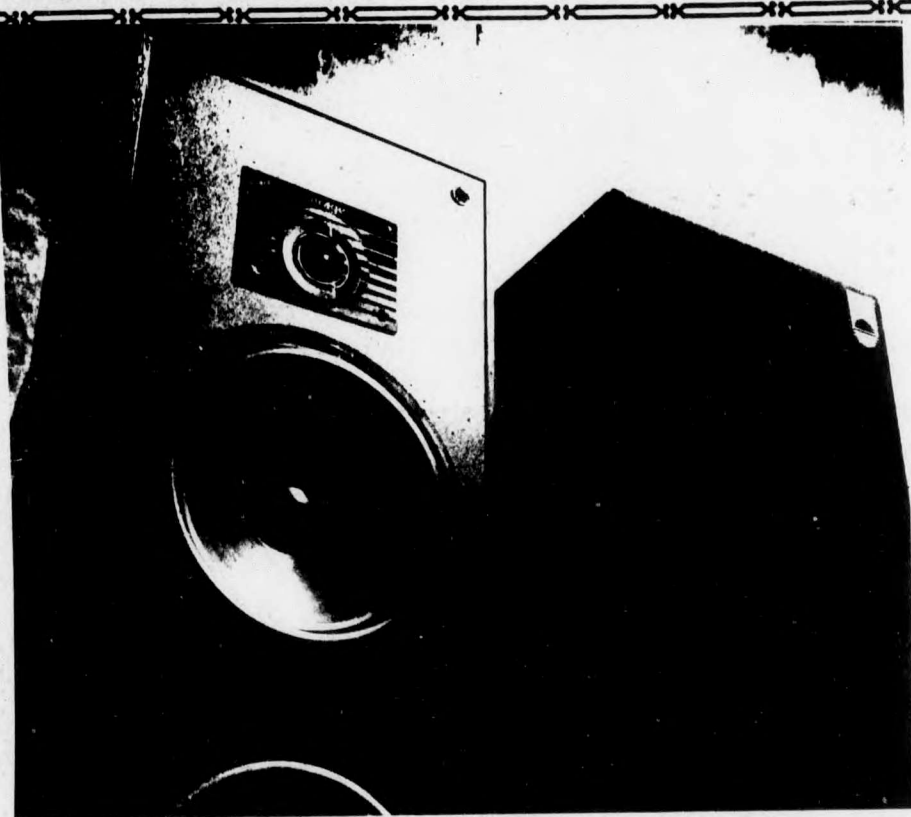
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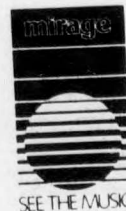
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