

Campus finances paint gloomy picture

The end of the tunnel is not yet in sight

By DOUG TINDAL

If enrolment trends which appear to be developing at Ontario's universities continue, the future may hold more financial hardship for York.

Enrolment is up an average of five per cent across the province, and York has managed to stay with the flow to the extent of a three per cent increase. But the programmes which have shown the greatest increases give little cause for optimism here.

Students appear to be choosing courses which give them professional or vocational training—and lead to jobs—more frequently than they do others. The 'liberal education', York's stock-in-trade, has gone by the boards.

TRADE FOR CASH

With inflationary and unemployment problems plaguing North American society, students are apparently more than willing to trade intellectual pursuits for financial ones.

However, Bill Farr, York vice-president in charge of finance, doesn't feel the situation is so clear-cut. He points out that only those professional schools with well-established reputations have shown significant expansion, while some humanities programmes have also had large increases.

"I think it's a case where you can draw whatever conclusion you prefer, then find supporting data," he said.

Whether or not he is right, York is still a long way from being out of the financial woods.

\$895,000 MISSING

York's troubles started in late 1972 when, after the dust had settled and all polls had reported, \$895,000 turned up missing due to an enrolment shortfall.

The major portion of the university's operating income is calculated by multiplying the enrolment of the previous year by the Basic Income Unit (BIU), the amount of money which the Ontario ministry of colleges and universities agrees to pay for each full-time or full-time equivalent student.

Although both the value of the BIU, and enrolment itself, saw moderate increases last year, York operated at a deficit of \$726,000, bringing the accumulated deficit—with which the university started the 1975-76 year—to \$1.6 million.

CRISIS COMEBACK

This year's enrolment (used to calculate next year's grant) is up only three per cent, compared with a four per cent increase between 1972-73 and 1973-74. Thus, unless the value of the BIU dramatically in-

University purge

ATHENS (CUP-ENS) - The universities in Greece have been delayed opening at least one month because of controversy over numerous professors who allegedly collaborated with the fascist dictatorship that ended in July.

Over 100 professors are suspected of having aided the military junta that ruled Greece for seven years. The present government of Premier Caramanlis has established a review system to judge the professors. If a nine man tribunal decides a professor collaborated, he will be dismissed.

Radical student groups are protesting the purge as too mild. They promise to boycott many more professors who were allied with the junta.

The government has already reinstated all professors ousted under the junta and fired about 30 others who were illegally imported by the dictators.

creases for 1975-76, the words "budget crisis" may stage a comeback in the senate vocabulary.

The Council of Ontario Universities has submitted a brief to the government's Ontario Committee on University Affairs which calls for a BIU increase of 16.8 per cent, stating this is the minimum value which will allow universities to meet rising costs.

Dr. Stefan Dupré, chairman of the committee, told Excalibur he has been given "absolutely no indication" of what the government is considering, but Farr expects an increase of from 10 to 15 per cent.

The value of the BIU for this year is \$1,955, up 7.1 per cent from 1973-74.

BALANCED BUDGET

Farr emphasized that this year the university is operating on a balanced budget.

"The slip-year system of financing lets us know how much money we're going to have several months ahead of time," he said, "and we have not allowed ourselves to go beyond that figure in additional spending."

This drastically limits the university's ability to embark on new programmes, or to increase faculty and staff salaries to keep pace with inflation. Certainly there is no immediate possibility of paying off York's \$1.6 million debt, which cost about \$400,000 to service last year.

About half of that debt can be traced to deficits in the operation of ancillary services. By far the biggest losses in this area are incurred by the food services operation, with deficits of \$227,000 in 1972-73, and \$231,000 in

	Per cent increase			
	1972-73 to 1973-74	1973-74 to 1974-75	1974-75 to 1975-76 assuming BIU+7%	1974-75 to 1975-76 assuming BOI+10%
Enrolment (BIU's)	2.2	4.2	3.1	3.1
Total operating income	8.7	10.5	15.9 (\$4 million increase)	16.6 (\$5.5 million increase)

Last year enrolment increased by 4.2 per cent and the value of the BIU by 7.1 per cent over the previous year. This year, with an enrolment increase of only 3.1 per cent, the BIU will have to go up by at least 10 per cent if York is not to fall further behind in the race against inflation. The last two columns indicate the percentages by which next year's operating budget will increase, assuming BIU increases of seven and 10 per cent respectively.

Defecation liberation

DENVER (CUP-ENS) - Pay toilet liberation is spreading. A group of women held a "stand-in" at Stapleton International Airport in Denver, Colorado, to protest the pay toilets there.

The protestors particularly objected to the added burden on women, saying men at least have free urinals.

Toilet news was made in Chicago when City Council there banned pay toilets within the city limits.

Meanwhile, the Committee to End Pay Toilets in America (CEPTIA) boasts 1600 national members after only one year of existence.

CEPTIA's operator, Michael Gissell, a student at the University of Pennsylvania, says the U.S. has 50,000 pay toilets in operation which gross \$30 million a year.

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Area	1972 - 73			1973 - 74		
	Income	Expenses	Balance	Income	Expense	Balance
Scholarships and bursaries	194,000	223,000	-29,000	216,000	480,000	-264,000
Assisted research	2,930,000	2,930,000	—	2,904,000	2,904,000	—
Book stores	1,414,000	1,527,000	-113,000	1,447,000	1,436,000	+11,000
Performing arts	25,000	50,000	-25,000	21,000	53,000	-32,000
Facilities and property rentals	112,000	96,000	+16,000	159,000	108,000	+51,000
Conferences	267,000	204,000	+63,000	Reported in residence category in 1973-74.		
Parking lots	288,000	288,000	—	314,000	314,000	—
Food services	1,986,000	2,213,000	-227,000	2,243,000	3,474,000	-231,000
Residences	2,058,000	2,165,000	-107,000	2,886,000	2,889,000	-3,000
Stationery and duplicating	reported in various departments in 1972-73.			334,000	377,000	-33,000
IBM composer unit	new in 1973-74			33,000	39,000	-6,000
Bus service	new in 1973-74			33,000	94,000	-61,000
Continuing education	629,000	638,000	-9,000	774,000	739,000	+35,000
Bank interest and charges	150,000	134,000	+16,000	348,000	431,000	-83,000
Total	10,053,000	10,439,000	-415,000	11,712,000	12,338,000	-626,000

The above chart lists all sources of income and expenses other than ordinary operating income (BIU generated) and ordinary expenses (salaries,

1973-74.

According to Harry Knox, assistant vice president in charge of

operating supplies, physical plant) for the last two budget years (May 1, 1972 to April 30, 1974).

business operations, the reductions in food service made this past summer have started to "turn it around" to the point where the loss this year will probably be in the area of \$100,000 to \$150,000.

On the brighter side, residences boast almost 100 per cent occupancy this year, leading Knox to predict a profit of from \$70,000 to \$80,000 in that area.

When the anticipated deficits for stationery and duplicating, the performing arts series and the York bus service are added in and balanced against expected profits from the bookstore, facilities and property

rentals and the Centre for Continuing Education, the university can probably expect the net loss in these areas to run in the neighbourhood of \$100,000.

York began the year with \$250,000 in the budget as a contingency fund; \$100,000 of that remains.

Conceivably then, the university may break even this year. But with increasing pressure from York's local of the Canadian Union of Public Employees and York's faculty and staff associations for greater salary increases, and with only marginal enrolment growth, the future is less than rosy.

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