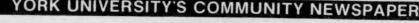
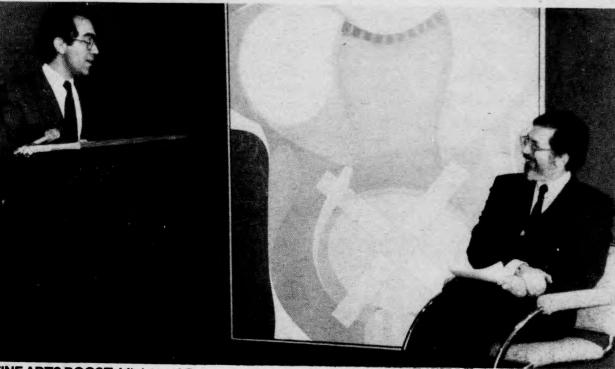
excalibur

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FINE ARTS BOOST: Minister of Colleges and Universities Greg Sorbara (left) announced on Monday that York will receive \$4.3 million towards the building of a new Fine Arts facility. An obviously pleased York President Harry Arthurs looks on.

Convocation decision cannot change Meininger tells angry law students

By DRAZEN BULAT

Provost Tom Meininger spoke last Tuesday to about 100 Osgoode Hall law students concerning the proposed graduation ceremony, which would combine Osgoode Hall Law School and the Administrative Studies Business School convocations.

In a short speech, Meininger expressed the concerns of the Administration which led to the new format. "The new format will allow for better accommodation of both the graduates and their families, the site will be better decorated and an improved sound system will be used. The end result will be a muchimproved ceremony involving a more personal touch." He also said that this year's format is "experimental and will be reviewed next year."

In a question period to follow, one student voiced his concern over the "machine-like quality" of the convocation procedure. The ceremony will include two people alternating in calling out students' names to speed up the convocation and the students will not be allowed to shake the hands of all the dignitaries present.

However, Meininger protested that the new format will in fact result in a better ceremony, adding, "You people are prejudging the issue. I believe that it's worth a shot."

Another issue raised was that the Administration was combining the ceremonies to save money. However, Meinenger said that only about \$3,000 to \$4,000 would be saved by

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combining the ceremonies.

When the issue of jeopardizing Osgoode's tradition and distinct identity by combining the ceremonies was brought up, Meininger said that the "change is not a major ingrowth or a breach of Osgoode's distinctiveness."

"If I could do this again," Meinenger said, "I would certainly meet with the students. However, the decision has been made; the facilities have been booked and the reservations have been made—all is set for this year's graduation ceremonies."

Although Meininger said that he thought "the right decision had been made," and in his opinion "could not be changed," for this year's ceremonies, he said that he would ensure that there would be student input in next year's convocation format.

Kathy Kay, president of Osgoode Hall's Legal and Literary Society, said she was "more optimistic," after attending the forum. "If enough pressure is brought on President Arthurs," she said, "the format of this year's graduation will be changed. Mr. Meininger has clearly realized that he has made a mistake in not consulting the students and it is also clear that there really is no reason why the decision instituting combined ceremonies should not be reversed."

John McCormick, one of the members of the Osgoode's Ad Hoc Committee on Convocation said that the "forum was very effective in presenting the views of Osgoode students. It cannot be emphasized enough, however, that we are not 'anti-York,' but rather that we are 'pro-Osgoode' in our attempt to separate the two graduation ceremonies." McCormick added, "We are a small school interacting only with ourselves and we would like the convocation to reflect this."

Kay, along with Pam Chapman, chairperson of the Osgoode Faculty Council, and the president-elect of the Legal and Literary Society, Atul Tiwari, will present the petition protesting the combined ceremonies to President Arthurs some time next week.

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The petition has about 600 signatures, of which all but about 10 are from law students. Neither the graduate nor the undergraduate business students' councils objected to the petition being passed around the business school, but do not endorse

it as representative of the student body.

Last week, Martin Zarnett, a third-year Osgoode student, sent a letter to the Legal Education Committee of the Law Society of Upper Canada, asking the Law Society to intervene in the dispute. The letter cited the 1965 agreement between the Law Society and York University, specifically paragraph four, which stipulates that "YOrk will use its best efforts to . . . continue the traditions of Osgoode." Zarnett asked the Law Society to "evaluate the situation and assess whether action on the part of the Law Society of Upper Canada would be warranted and beneficial to rectify the situation." The matter was considered but the Law Society refused to intervene, deciding that the issue was an internal matter for York Univer-

The Ad Hoc Committee is now initiating a phone-in campaign directed at President Arthurs. "We want people and their parents to phone the president's office and voice their concerns,"

York gets \$4.3 million grant from province

By JAMES FLAGAL

The Ontario government will grant York \$4.3 million over the next four years towards the building of a new \$6.5 million fine arts facility.

Minister of Colleges and Universities Gregory Sorbara made the announcement Monday in the Purple Lounge of the Fine Arts Building to enthusiastic response from York representatives assembled for the occasion.

York President Harry Arthurs told Sorbara he is "deeply, deeply grateful" for the grant, which he sees as a step towards complete facilities for the Fine Arts faculty. "What would be needed to house all the Fine Arts departments in one complex is a \$15-20 million building" Arthurs said. "But York has been treated very decently, and we can't expect the government in one swoop to solve the underfunding problem which has been going on for the past decade."

Associate Dean of Fine Arts Alan Lessem called Monday's announcement "a step in the road towards the long term goal of a complete facility for Fine Arts."

Lessem said that construction on the new facility should begin within a year, but it is still very much in the planning stages. Lessem sees teaching space for the theatre and film departments as priorities for the building, which he said will also include common facilities for all departments. "Exact and specific priorities have yet to be decided, but will be determined in the process of an intensified planning process over the next few months" Lessem said.

Vice President of External Affairs Ian Lithgow said that York will try to raise the remainder of the \$6.5 million cost of the building from donations. "Basically the rest of the funds (\$2.2 million) will be collected through fund raising campaigns for the next four years" Lithgow said. "The campaign is generally geared towards the cultural-oriented segment of society like cultural-related industry."

Sorbara noted that the proposed Fine Arts complex is an important initiative for all York, saying "not only will the building begin consolidating the Fine Arts programme in one location, but it will free up space that is desperately needed for other departments."

On Monday Sorbara also announced capital grants to Wilfred Laurier University and the University of Toronto. Laurier will receive \$5.46 million for a new arts and social sciences building and the U of T has been allocated \$4 million to begin renovation and expansion of its faculty of law library.

"We're determined to make this system a better system" Sorbara told the York assembly. "There is a pressing need for more capital funds, but not enough to fill the demand, so we better put what we have in the right places like this Fine Arts complex."

Four directorships acclaimed as CYSF campaigns begin

By LAURA LUSH

Student apathy has led to four out of the seven 1986-87 CYSF directorships being acclaimed, according to CYSF Chief Returning Officer (CRO) Marshall Golden.

"The number of people who run for Council is usually an indication of the interest in student government," Golden said. "The fact that over half of the directorships have been acclaimed says that students no longer care about their govern-

When the nomination period closed on March 21, Golden said there were four acclaimed directorships: Adam French for Internal Affairs; Joseph Baiardo for Services and Communications; Allan Armstrong for Academic Affairs and Catherine Lake for Women's Affairs. The other two directorships

Faculty Club bars students from facility amidst fears of being 'overrun by students'

By LORNE MANLY

Following a number of complaints from faculty members, the Management Committee of the Faculty Club has publicly announced that students are no longer welcome in the lounge.

Fears that the Club might becoming a 'student hangout' prompted the Management Committee to place an advertisement in this week's issue of *Excalibur* to convey its decision to the student body.

"The Club was always intended as a place for staff and faculty," Professor David Davies, the chairman of the Management Committee, said. "We never anticipated student use but students are going in there in increasing numbers and this detracts from the animoment of it."

from the enjoyment of it."

"We had a mandate (from YUFA) to create a haven for faculty and guests in a fairly tranquil place," Davies added, "not noisy, crowded, and overrun with students. It is now in danger of becoming a student hangout. The bottom line is that the

Faculty Club is for faculty . . . It is a place where faculty can meet colleagues and other staff. They don't want students asking for papers and making other student demands, but a moment of tranquility in their day."

"They (the students) don't spend too much money," Davies said. "They just get a coffee or something and talk, and we're not too happy about it. The students approach profs; there's no privacy, it's irritating."

The Administration chipped in approximately one third of the initial \$160,000 cost. Now, in light of increasing student use of the Club, the Management Committee has reiterated that the restaurant is "intended for Faculty, Staff and their guests only." This announcement has irritated Council of the York Student Federaition (CYSF) President Reya Ali.

"Given the amount of money the President's Office put into the Club," Ali said, "and since only the unions (YUFA, CUEW, and YUSA) can

use it, I do hope that those unions will reimburse the University the money spent on the Club."

"If the Management Committee is going to prevent students from using the Faculty Club," Ali continued, "then I hope the President (Harry Arthurs) places a proportionate amount of dollars into a Student Union building, because dollars put into the Faculty Club could have gone into academic programs."

Davies dismissed these concerns, adding that "it's sad students don't have a centre of their own but they voted no (in last year's referendum on the student centre). Our membership decided in favor of a club."

When asked if the Club could designate certain hours that would be off-limits to students Davies said that this is not the approach the Committee wanted to take. "If we allow student use at any time," Davies said, "they'll assume they can use it all the time. The Management Committee came to the conclusion we couldn't permit any use as it would lead to more student use."