

Nightlife stones conference

Elliott Lefko
Ontario Universities have recently been the recipient of a two billion dollar cut courtesy of a magnanimous Federal Government. Yet judging by the recent poor turnout for the Ontario Federation Of Students Fall Conference, the Federal Government won't find too much opposition to their plan.

"I think the attitude of many university and college councils is that we've been pounded so many times, and we're just going to get pounded again," says CYSF president Greg Gaudet in a voice traced with mild resignation.

Attendance, or rather the lack of it, was a big problem for the conference. According to Gaudet the fact that some schools failed to send representatives meant that their students will be in the dark concerning most of the issues affecting their future.

"Because they failed to take part in any of the discussions, those student council representatives will have nothing to take back to their constituents. Unfortunately, next year when those students won't be able to afford to pay their fees, or when they won't be able to get into a class because of over-crowding, they'll have to deal with the problem after it's too late," says Gaudet.

Another problem affecting attendance was the fact that many delegates from small towns in Ontario who did arrive at the Conference, failed to show at the activities. "There was no quorum at the opening plenary and no quorum at the closing plenary until noon. I guess many delegates were more concerned with taking in Toronto than in participating in the conference," Gaudet argued.

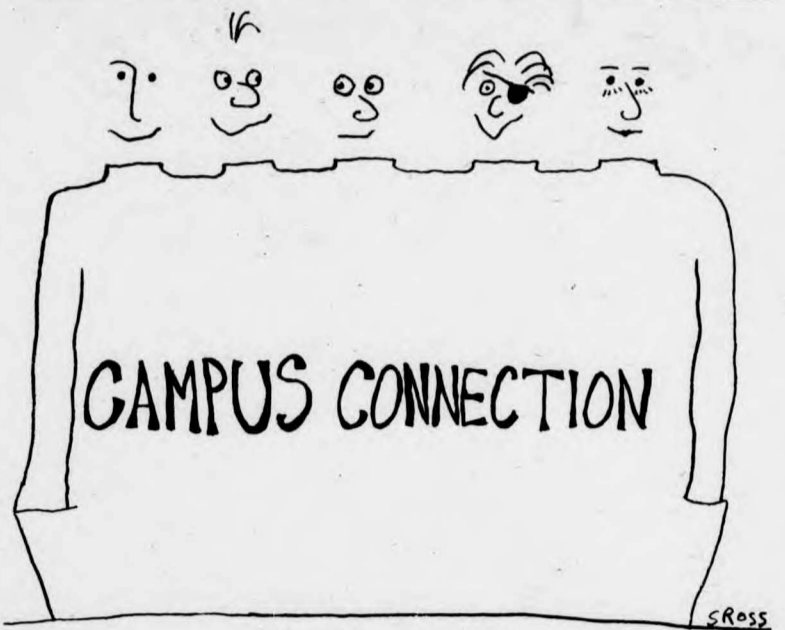
OFS officials have attempted

to rectify the situation by holding the next conference, in June, in the less exciting confines of Sault Ste. Marie.

After participating in his first OFS Conference as a York student president, Gaudet says that aside from the attendance problem, he was moderately pleased with the direction of OFS. He believes that the organization is presently attempting to find a way to combat the cutbacks imposed by both the Federal and Provincial Governments.

"Demonstration alone doesn't seem to be the answer," he says. "Students feel fed up with placard waving. And even the intense lobbying, making the M.P.'s aware of the issues, doesn't seem to be enough."

One positive step taken towards finding a constructive answer, is the upcoming Canadian Federation of Students Conference to be held in Ottawa on Oct. 14. "It's the first time that the National and Provincial student organizations are getting together. We'll be staging a mass lobby with a large petition representing students from across the country," says Gaudet.



Connection needs spark

Sharlene Sing
Campus Connection, formerly known as the Harbinger Community Service, is a peer-counselling service which is available to all York students. Operating out of its offices at 026 and 027 McLaughlin, the service provides counselling and information about birth control, venereal disease, drugs, alcohol abuse and other problems.

Campus Connection has always operated on shaky ground and this year is no exception. In the past, financial difficulties plagued the organization, but this season the problems are administrative. The service still needs a co-ordinator to organize its operations, because meetings of the nine-member board have as yet failed to achieve the quorum necessary to elect the official.

Some of the board members have left the campus and others are no longer volunteering their time. Those remaining, such as the chairman, Dr. Rob Webb, feel they are seriously overworked. Although some of the board members are still interested in assisting the service, they have no direction.

Dr. Webb, who accepted his position three years ago, did so on an interim basis, and now wishes to resign. He feels his term has been extended far beyond what had originally been agreed upon. Dr. Webb says he needs more time to accommodate his heavy teaching schedule and his responsibilities to other university boards.

However, he and Lois Spencer, a former treasurer, are willing to get the ball rolling again. They can be reached at 667-3187 and 667-3433 respectively. All persons interested in becoming a board member, a co-ordinator or a voluntary counsellor are urged to call. The co-ordinator will be provided remuneration based on his or her qualifications.

Council sessions begin

Michael Monastyrskij
In its first council meeting since the start of the season the Council of the York Student Federation, at least six members thereof, discussed a proposed budget, future council elections, and a Fan Van to promote school spirit.

Director of Finance Pamela Fruitman presented a budget that if eventually accepted by the CYSF, means that the council will be performing its usual functions but there will be little left for special projects.

Although last year's CYSF left a debt of six thousand dollars, this did not affect this year's operating budget. Instead, the debt was subtracted from the council's equity.

According to the new budget External Affairs would be granted a ten thousand dollar increase in order to compensate for an Ontario Federation of Students fee increase. President Greg Gaudet later stated, "with the government cutting two

million dollars from the provinces, obviously, our external membership in things like the OFS is very important." However, he also said "Our own services have to be developed first."

Referring to the weekend OFS conference, he said, "It was mediocre; there wasn't a large amount of attendance." He mentioned a possible thirty per cent increase in tuition, and stated that CYSF needs "to get its External Affairs act together."

Peter Mednis, who won the position of Director of External Affairs last May, has since lost it for having missed meetings during the summer. Mednis was to have pleaded for his seat Sunday, but according to Fruitman, "When I left for the council meeting he was sitting in residence watching T.V." The council must now hold two by-elections, one for student Board of Governors representative and one for External Affairs.

Vandalism knocks Off-Campus Housing

Berel Wetstein
A double-theft has closed the Off-Campus Housing Centre until at least the first of December.

Mr. John Becker, Vice-President of Student Affairs, found, upon his return Wednesday morning, that all the record cards and telephones at the centre were missing. Contacting the caretaking service, Becker found that the centre had been vandalized prior to 11:00 p.m. Tuesday night and that the telephones had been stolen later that evening.

The centre is closed because the method of keeping records was single entry and with no duplicates it is impossible for the centre to function. In an effort to find the missing cards, Mr. Becker and four staff members searched more than twenty-five bags of garbage, but found nothing.

The vandalism is believed to be a prank as a file box full of cards was emptied of its contents, but the metal file holder was left behind. The disappearance of

the phones is being treated as a straight case of larceny.

The thefts were possible because the Campus Housing Service was forced to locate in the hallway outside of the Canada Employment Centre. This was due to the severe space shortage presently facing York. In an effort to combat vandalism, Becker had a shoulder-high barrier installed at the north end of the hallway. The decision not to put in stronger protection was "unwise" said Becker, in light of Tuesday's thefts.

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