

"Being a political prisoner is like being a monster"

Martha Kumsa rebuilds a life and a culture after 10 years in an Ethiopian prison • Feature, p. 13

excalibur

INSIDE

Frat boys get pissed • p.5

Your free copy of Aye Weekly

inside • pullout centerspread

Sports round up • p.25-26

excalibur

Stephen Fienberg's corporate York

by Doug Saunders

T

here's a battle waging to turn York into an entirely different kind of university, and a major weapon is Stephen Fienberg.

The martial metaphor is fitting, since the goal of the battle — a money-making, big-business York — will involve a major military and arms industry presence on campus and in the university's balance sheets.

Fienberg is the candidate of choice for those who see the solution to York's financial crises in the private sector. And while Canadian universities can't become entirely private, profit-driven corporations like their U.S. counterparts — where Fienberg has spent most of his academic life — they can still turn into lucrative workshops and training centres for multinationals.

For the people who see this in York's future — and they include our most prominent administrators and Board of Governors members — Stephen Fienberg is made to order. Not only does he have all the right connections, he also has an unabashedly corporatist philosophy and first-hand experience transforming a university into a military-industrial research institution.

Man with a mission

From the moment Fienberg arrived at York to become vice president of academic affairs last summer, the campus was abuzz with rumours that he was being groomed for the presidency. Why else, after all, would a noted statistician with a deanship and a chair at a respected American university abandon everything for a suburban school in his home town?

Fienberg's decade of experience at Pittsburgh's Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) served as a dress rehearsal for the transformation of York — but at York, Fienberg would no longer be a mere under-study.

When he arrived as a professor of statistics and social science in 1980, CMU faced many of the financial difficulties York does today: operating costs were quickly increasing while many funding sources were running dry.

By 1991 the university had undergone a startling transformation. CMU had discovered a nearly endless source of funds: the U.S. military. CMU is now the sixth largest defence

continued on page 10



PRESIDENTIAL SELECTION SUPPLEMENT •

NEXT WEEK YORK UNIVERSITY SELECTS A NEW PRESIDENT FROM 3 CANDIDATES • **YOU BE THE JUDGE** • **STEPHEN FIENBERG** PAGE 1 • **SUSAN MANN** PAGE 12 • **HENRY "VIV" NELLES** PAGE 12 • **HOW WE GOT FROM THERE TO HERE** PAGES 10 & 11