

Women (and men) from all around York University celebrate the official opening of the Women's Centre

By REX BUCALI

The ribbon has been cut, the speeches have been made, and York now has an information centre for women on campus.

As president H. Ian Macdonald said in his opening speech, the centre holds special significance for York because it was established in response to the collective actions of interested people at York.

Further impetus to establish the centre was provided by the findings of the senate report on the Status of Women at York.

The report revealed an average \$500 wage discrepancy between male and female staff members on campus.

The opening ceremonies last Friday ran smoothly as Atkinson dean Margaret Knittl and Macdonald took their turns to address the crowd.

"I'd rather be closing this centre than opening it," said Knittl, expressing the hope that women's lib would become a thing of the past.

"People are a little bored with the rhetoric of women's lib", she added. "But women still have a long way to go in society and at York".

Macdonald said the university, being a microcosm of society, should act as a catalyst to change some of the attitudes of men.

He added that male suppression is a "subtle process" that must be

changed in the formative years rather than in post-secondary school years.

The panel on Where are the Women at York? was equally exciting, as its members lent enthusiasm and optimism to audience.

Department of Humanities chairman Johanna Stuckey emphasized the need for more involvement in the women's movement. Stuckey felt that female apathy in the movement was due to the constant male overruling of female sex roles.

"We are made to feel that we shouldn't fight for our rights".

YUSA negotiating committee chairman Pam Horton cited YUSA's struggle with the York administration for union status as an example of the male attitude towards women.

"YUSA has largely been regarded as a 'sweetheart union' with dubious circumstances surrounding its membership qualifications", she said.

Currently representing 85 per cent of female all staff members at York, YUSA has been delayed for several years in its efforts for certification as a union.

CYSF business assistant Alice Klein added that women have been the "victims of streaming" in schools and universities. "Women are expected to enter fields like sociology or psychology, but are never encouraged to train for politics or science".

Harbinger counsellor Carol McBride said that the woman who is asserting herself as a confident member of society is realizing that



Atkinson dean Margaret Knittl cautioned that people are getting bored with women's lib rhetoric. "But women still have a long way to go," she added.

women have ultimate control over humanity.

"Woman, by withholding her reproductive function can determine the future of mankind", she said.

"These implications are very scary when one stops and thinks about them".

Films were shown to illustrate the different ways women have been portrayed in the media.

McBride condemned social

service agencies for giving "bandage treatment" to women in society.

The centre will be open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from twelve to seven, and nine to eleven p.m. to provide information about women's studies courses and degree programmes, and political and academic issues pertinent to women. All interested persons should drop by the centre at 257 Atkinson college or call 667-3484.



Amid enthusiasm and fanfare, the York Women's Centre officially opened its doors last Friday. The Centre requires volunteers: call -3484 or -3172.

Douglas knocks York for complicity in racism, hunger

By PAUL STUART

"York University, through its Board of Governors (B. of G.), is thoroughly linked up to the most powerful Canadian and American business monopolies, whose policies are the cause of poverty and racism throughout the world."

This in a nutshell, is the message that black revolutionary, Rosie Douglas, brought to a small but enthusiastic gathering of supporters, last Thursday in Curtis Lecture Hall B.

Douglas faces a possible death sentence, if deported to his native Domenica by Immigration authorities on December 15, because the Immigration Department considers him a highly vocal revolutionary and a threat to state security. Douglas and his defenders, however, claim that he should be allowed to stay, since his political goals and his anti-racist stance, are beneficial to the majority of the Canadian people.

"I have had to cope with the RCMP, CIA and FBI following me, because they want to get their in-

formation from the horses' mouth," Douglas began. He released a torrent of information in support of his indictment of corporate capitalism, including members of the York B. of G.

EXCESS POWER

He cited Board member, Robert McIntosh, President of the Bank of Nova Scotia, and a director of both Noranda Mines and Canada Packers, as examples of people "the system" has invested with too much power. Another Board member named was, L.G. Lumbers, Vice-President of Noranda Mines, Director of the Royal Bank and Governor of the Canadian Association in Latin America. The Association was characterized by Douglas, as an institution which strives to insure that investors in the Caribbean, are undisturbed while "sucking" big profits out of the area.

Douglas read a frightening quote from the January issue of This Magazine, in which the Association's executive director, A. Michael Lubbock, reflected on the military take-over of Chile in 1973: "...the military coup is much more efficient, infinitely quicker and much cheaper than a general election..." read the quote.

Though no one can come up with definite figures, it is estimated that between 15 and 75 thousand people have been killed by the Chilean armed forces, since they overthrew the first Marxist government to come to power through the parliamentary process. Allegations of torture against the Junta, recently substantiated by a U.N. commission, make for grisly reading.

Douglas drew attention to the York administration's complicity in the Vietnam war. The U.S. Congressional record shows that

York received \$26,000 in U.S. military research grants in 1968, he said.

The September 30, 1971 issue of Excalibur, lists York's pentagon bounty as \$17,425 for 70-71, and \$86,660 for the following year.

Despite the pressures he is under, Douglas displayed a well developed sense of humour at the rally. With an off-hand delivery reminiscent of Woody Allen's drier moments, he repeatedly set off bursts of laughter, while describing a typical college student's progress through University.

SHEDDING THE JEANS

He portrayed ambitious young students gradually losing their beards and blue jeans as they climb the academic ladder, dreaming of the day when they will possess their own office, complete with thick carpet and secretary.

He grinned as talked about professors who like to have copies of Marx and Lenin, "which they don't read", sitting on their bookshelves to impress people.

Douglas' low opinion of the academic world, may stem from his unhappy experience at Sir George William's University in Montreal during the late sixties.

As Douglas tells it these days, he and his "friends" went to university "like most of you. We were told that an education would help us make some money, buy a big car and all that.

"But we ran up against the contradictions of the university," he said, peering out from beneath dark glasses.

"We struggled against one racist professor and this led to our struggle against the men at the top, the Board of Governors at Sir George."

Charges of racism led to a sit-in

at the Sir George computer centre, where computers were damaged when police broke up the protest. The third world students involved said they were innocent of any wrongdoing and that the police caused the damage. The authorities claim that the students went on a destructive rampage.

It is this incident, more than any other, which is generally used by Immigration as justification for Douglas' impending deportation.

JOB OFFER

"Well when Solicitor General Allmand offered me a job in his department, I asked him how he could do so if I was a security risk," said Douglas.

"He told me, 'that's no problem it can be waived'. So I said if you want to call me a security risk, I think you should have to do it before the courts, where I can exercise my democratic right to defend myself."

Douglas did not confine himself to analyzing the evils of imperialism or talking about racism. He also, condemned the Trudeau government's recent application of economic controls, as measures which would benefit big business.

The real wages of workers went down four per cent last year while the profits of the major corporations went up by thirty per cent, claimed Douglas.

"So how can the labour unions be blamed for inflation?" he asked.

While no students at the meeting voiced criticism of Douglas' views, he did have to reassure a questioner that he did not consider the offspring of people such as financier, E.P. Taylor, genetically inferior. He was, he said, simply criticizing the system which concentrated so much wealth and power in the hands of their parents.



Black revolutionary Rosie Douglas talking to a group of York students last Thursday. Kishore Jaggernauth who, like Douglas, is facing deportation also spoke at the rally.