

Why is your prof tired?

By Agnes Kruchio

Listless and restless tutorial leaders, vague answers in class, professors who are jumpy and maybe less than kind, essays unreturned and doors closed to students needing extra help—these are the signs of the times. If a resigned hysteria has not yet grasped the university, it may just be a matter of time.

The preoccupied seminar leader does not yet know whether he or she will be among the 300-odd part-time teachers to be fired.

No matter how we look at the situation, it is bad and will probably get worse. Deans of areas seriously affected by the cuts such as Sydney Eisen of the faculty of arts and Margaret Knitt of Atkinson College say York has not yet woken up to the severity of the cutbacks.

Darcy McKeough, treasurer of the province has declared that the budget of Ontario will be balanced by the year 1981.

enough in student aid to make it through.

The decrease in the number of courses clearly indicates many people have to take part-time jobs: in a statement to senate president Macdonald estimated that in the faculty of arts alone, over 50 per cent of students work at part-time jobs for longer than 10 hours each week.

Dean Overng also attributes the drop to York's relatively high standard of admission of 65 per cent, "the third highest standard in the province". (This, he says, is significantly above many other universities, many of whom have been known to have dipped below 60 per cent"; as a result, these well-qualified students may have had offers from other universities).

The income of York University is affected by enrolment both in the long and the short term. This year, York had a decrease in income of about \$803,000 of which about \$600,000 was the result of the loss of these students' fees, and the rest, \$191,000 the result of

that we must consider the large macro—choices between salaries, jobs, workloads, class sizes, course offerings, course materials, equipment, operating costs and the level of support services, along with academic standards and priorities."

It is a Hobson's choice facing York's unions: take four per cent or accept the consequences in losing jobs. This is a difficult enough proposition even when only one union is involved. But there are six unions on campus and it will probably take much restraint if they are to avoid petty infighting, politics based on envy and insecurity, and a failure to point the finger where the blame really belongs: the provincial government.

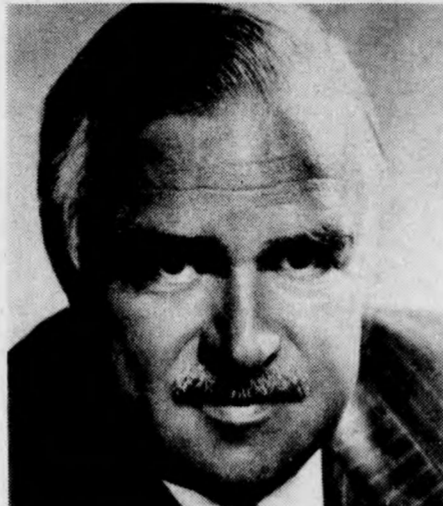
The document continues, "this is a task which involves the whole university and which requires decisions in a fairly short period of time." Calendars and course descriptions are due, and yet at this point in time many chair-persons of academic departments still do not know what their program will be like next year.

Chairman of the Ontario Council of University Affairs Winegard told *Excalibur* the council at present is collecting information on how universities are coping with the situation. In a letter sent to all Ontario universities, the council stated, "In that the first year of treasurer (Darcy McKeough's) plan has been implemented, it is likely that all publicly supported programs face three years of financing below the level we have come to expect...With restricted funding and declining enrolment upon us, are savings possible by the merging of one institution with another, or through the merging of certain specific services such as libraries, computing, campus planning, other administrative support services and even teaching in geographically proximate institutions (or indeed system wide)?"

One thing is certain in this watershed, Winegard said: the future is not going to be a repetition of the past.



Bill Davis pauses during cutbacks to think about...



...ex-tory premier John Robarts, now chancellor of York, who presided over post-secondary expansion in the 60's, and...



...fellow top tory civil servant H. Jan Macdonald, president of York, who presides over York's budget slashing.

Where will the axe fall at York?

By Harvey Pinder and Ian Kellogg

In order to divide the \$4 million budget reduction among all the faculties, departments, programs, libraries and services of the university there have been a great number of meetings in the past months. While the figures coming from these meetings are still tentative, the only anticipation is that the situation will get worse.

The general feeling of those contacted by *Excalibur* was that while the essential elements of their departments or services will not be hurt, any further cuts will be extremely difficult to make without jeopardizing the academic viability and integrity of York.

The following is only a partial list of the many faculties, departments, programs and services. *Excalibur* will be carrying more in the coming issues.

The LIBRARY SYSTEM of York, which included Scott, Steacie, Glendon, Business and Law libraries, is faced with a \$239,000 cut next year on top of the cut this year of approximately \$80,000. Leonard Draper, from the office of the Director of Libraries said that, "cuts will contribute to a general deterioration of library services." The book acquisition budget has declined in terms of real dollars over the past few years and it will be hit "fairly hard" next year. It was cut \$29,400 this year and will be cut another \$30,000 next year. When asked about a possible reduction in the hours of operation he said nothing had been planned "yet".

ATKINSON COLLEGE is terminating 30 courses, and depending on enrolment, may cut another 18. This will save \$105,000, and end the jobs of about 20 part-time faculty. Dean Margaret Knitt said, "we have also decided not to renew the contracts of two faculty members because of the cuts". In addition various operating budgets have been slashed, such as the furniture acquisition and replacement budget which has been reduced 50 percent. The

college's counselling office will consist of three persons instead of the former four.

When asked what effect further cuts would have Knitt said, "in-year cuts next year similar to those of last September are not feasible, we just can't do it". She added that, "the budgetary problems are more serious than the York community has yet realized," and that "some small programmes may eventually disappear, such as Classics."

FINE ARTS is being cut \$233,000 and Dean Joseph Green said that while it was

unknown at this time how many part-time and full-time faculty would be dropped, he estimated that 15 to 18 courses would be abolished. He said that the cuts may threaten the existence of the Performing Arts Series, the York Art Gallery, the York Chorus, Cabaret and York Winds.

In regards to the possibility of further paring, Green replied, "I cannot bend my mind around the thought of further cuts."

COUNSELLING AND DEVELOPMENT CENTRE head Joan Stewart said, "reduced funding will result in fewer staff, and a reduction in emergency services" while a further reduction would, "result in waiting lists for counselling and possible termination of emergency services." Emergency services consist of an all-night telephone number to help urgent cases. Stewart said that the centre sees about 1,800 people a year in about 12,000 separate visits.

MATHEMATICS LEARNING CENTRE said they didn't know if they would be around next year, and "when you phoned we were talking about which employment agency was best." Pat Scull noted that the Math Centre had, in its three year existence, received most of its funding from outside the university, but that those sources were now drying up. She was pessimistic about the possibility of getting money from the administration and added that they would know by April 15 whether they still had jobs.

FACULTY OF SCIENCE Dean O.R. Lundell said that \$275,000 is being cut from his budget but he, "hopes that no essential core courses will be cut". He did, however expect a drop in the number of tutorials. Budgets for supplies, operating expenses, and equipment have been cut.

BIOLOGY, the largest department in Science, is finding it "extremely hard to organize next year's class schedule, and it may end up that a professor who would not normally teach a course may have to," said Lundell. He felt that the number of upper year courses may be reduced, and, in some cases, unified with similar Atkinson courses.

He stated that this year they had received no increase in operating funds but had had a 25 percent increase in students. Furthermore, equipment is beginning to wear out and will need replacement soon. When asked if class size will increase he said that this had been done several years ago, resulting in

a first year class of 400 and second year classes of 200.

GRADUATE STUDIES has decided to terminate four summer courses, said Dean G. Reed, and will reduce its student counselling, shifting this responsibility onto other university departments. He commented, "we've got to realize that cuts are inescapable in view of the policy of the government to give universities increases which are lower than the rate of inflation."

When asked that effect further cuts would have, he replied, "we have a very small budget, and another 1 percent reduction would put us in real trouble", but, if it came down to it, "I would choose quality over quantity" in regards to graduate students.

ADMINISTRATIVE STUDIES will chop 37 half courses in order to meet its \$137,000 reduction. Dean W.B. Crowston said administrative costs will also be trimmed and that, while not happy, feels, "our financial difficulties do not allow us the luxury of spreading the cuts over several years." Conditions may worsen since he expects even greater government restraint in the next few years.

FACULTY OF EDUCATION is being cut \$95,000 and Dean R.L.R. Overing said some part-time faculty would be cut but no damage will be done to the program. He added that some separate Glendon and York courses may be combined.

Many of the people *Excalibur* attempted to contact earlier this week were in meeting or otherwise not available. Only one was hesitant to speak, supposedly because the amount of the cut wasn't precisely known, therefore no plans had been developed.

Considering that the \$4 million figure is conservative and depends on salary settlements of 4 percent next year, it is likely increased cries of agony will be heard as the axe is taken to the various essential parts of the university body.



According to chairman of the Ontario Council for University Affairs (OCUA) Dr. William Winegard, "while in general terms everyone applauds the ideal of a balanced budget" the attempt to balance the provincial budget will mean it will be tough for the universities during the next three-four years.

York's Board of Governors seems to have taken the government at its word and insists that York keep a balanced budget. The Ontario government has confirmed an increase in the amount of grant to the universities of 5.8 per cent for 1977-78.

While OCUA has asked for an increase of \$67-million in the total budget the government increased its grant to the 15 Ontario universities by only \$41 million. This means \$745.4 million operating grants for 1978-79 in Ontario. While it is not known what the percentage increase the government will allow for the Ministry of colleges and Universities in the years following, York's planners are counting on an increase of about 4.5 per cent only.

After the provincial budget is balanced, there will be other problems, Winegard said. "The demographic projections of those then in grade 13 indicate there will be a decrease in the participation rate," he said. This year, in Ontario as a whole, fewer students returned to university and there was a drop of about 2.8 per cent over last year.

The general budget problem of universities is aggravated at York by the fact that about 7 per cent or over 1,000 full-time equivalents students (a way of calculating numbers by equating students with 5 courses) did not come back to York this year. Of the 15 Ontario universities, only Windsor had a greater drop in enrolment, 8.5 per cent.

According to a report on recruitment prepared by R.L.R. Overing, dean of the faculty of education at York, students dropped out in all years. Fewer students came to York in their first year, and those who came, are taking fewer courses.

The report states, "The depressed state of the economy might have been a factor, especially in the case of non-grade 13 applicants who were notably down from 1976, presumably because individuals who were loath to give up jobs to come to university, or who, because of unemployment were unable to finance university study. "We all know of someone who did not get a job last summer and could not afford to come back, or who had to drop out in the year when he found out he would not get

the resulting reduced grant. The effect of this year's drop will be felt for several years because of the formula the ministry uses to calculate grants.

The reduced numbers in the first year this year will affect the university financing in all years from now on, as students in first year now will be next year's second year students. In order to maintain even its present budget levels, the university must increase its enrolment. York will have to increase its undergraduate enrolment by 5 per cent on the whole and in the face of projected drops, will have to increase its upper year enrolment by 15-20 per cent over the first year enrolment level of 1976-77.

It has to recruit like mad just to stay in one spot. There are now about 16,000 full-time equivalent students at York. Now, the reason all this is important is that the university at the present time is grappling with a \$4-million dollar cut, out of a budget of about \$73 million. This is a softened figure from the previous \$5.7 million that repeatedly cropped up in senate and board meetings in the earlier part of the year.

President Macdonald has told senate last week, the 5.7 would be too much to cut out in one year. But, Macdonald said in an interview earlier this week, the "\$4 million figure seems attainable."

Since about 83 per cent of the university budget is made up of salaries, they are a sensitive item.

In its estimation of future costs, the university has drawn up charts with no salary increases, two per cent, four per cent, six per cent and eight per cent salary increases and what these figures would mean for the university budget.

Even with no salary increases for 1978-79, there would be a short fall of \$2 million.

A \$4 million cut is based on holding salary increases for all people at York to four per cent next year. It costs the university about \$500,000 for each per cent increase in salary. President Macdonald said if the pressure of salaries is lifted, you can retain more people.

President Macdonald said he believes York can bounce back in its enrolment. "Where we are located," he said, and "building our strengths, we can recover."

"It depends how we arrange our internal affairs," he added. He said this meant the type and number of options York could arrange to offer, and the way York could arrange its classes.

In a document released last December on budget planning for 1978-79, the university states, "The situation is such

The political economy of cutbacks: where York fits into the scheme of things

By Tony Woolfson

The spectre of cutbacks is haunting York right now.

In the face of the enormity of planned cutbacks and the fact that these only represent a beginning, it becomes particularly important not to give way to hysteria or stupefaction. The situation must first of all be assessed so that we can all decide on what needs to be done.

The cutbacks process operates on three levels, the economic, political, and human, and they are, of course, interconnected. For the purpose of this analysis, they will be treated separately, and in that order. It is interesting to note that the power holders at York, the Board of Governors and the administration, talk much about the first, keep very quiet about the second, and surely know about the third.

The provincial government claims that in the past ten years it has spent far too much time and money on 'social over-management' and on attempts to 'redistribute income' in Ontario; at the expense of not encouraging 'the economic growth that feeds us.'

In Darcy McKeough's judgement, "it has been a process of constant leeching on private sector initiatives that has brought us to a condition of virtual non-competitiveness in so many areas of our economy. "The answer," he says, "must lie in self-discipline across the whole public sector."

Translated that means the provincial government wants to wipe out its budgetary deficit, \$1.6 billion this year, (in a Gross Provincial Product of over \$80 billion) by 1981 (Ontario Budget 1977).

Further translated, it means that 'uneconomic' areas like higher education get drastically cut back. That has resulted in an increase in the pool of money, from which the universities get their basic operating grants (about 75 per cent of revenue in York's \$72 million budget), of only 5.8 per cent this year, with an even smaller raise likely in future years.

With inflation currently running at over nine per cent per annum, there's a

Table 1
Ontario Government Expenditures as Percent of Gross Provincial Product (G.P.P.)

G.P.P. (\$Billions)	1975-1977 Expenditures on Education (\$Billions)	Percent of G.P.P.	Expenditures on Colleges and Universities (\$Billions)	Percent of G.P.P.
1975 65.3	1.776	2.77%	1.019	1.54%
1976 75.0	1.990	2.66%	1.160	1.53%
1977 84.0	2.130	2.50%	1.273	1.50%

(Note: Expenditures are for the school years, 1975-76, 1976-77, 1977-78, respectively; source, Ontario Budget 1977)

problem. Nine per cent more is needed this year just to meet the cost of last year's goods and services, never mind any increase for this year.

Enrolments at York are down by the equivalent of about 1,040 full-time students this year (*York Gazette*, Jan. 27th, 1978); long-term projections are for more of the same unless York manages to sell itself to prospective customers with more success than it has had so far.

Accurately reflecting the provincial government's balanced budget mentality, York's Board of Governors seeks to balance York's budget each year.

That all adds up to one message:—cut, cut, cut, until there may be no university, as we know it, left.

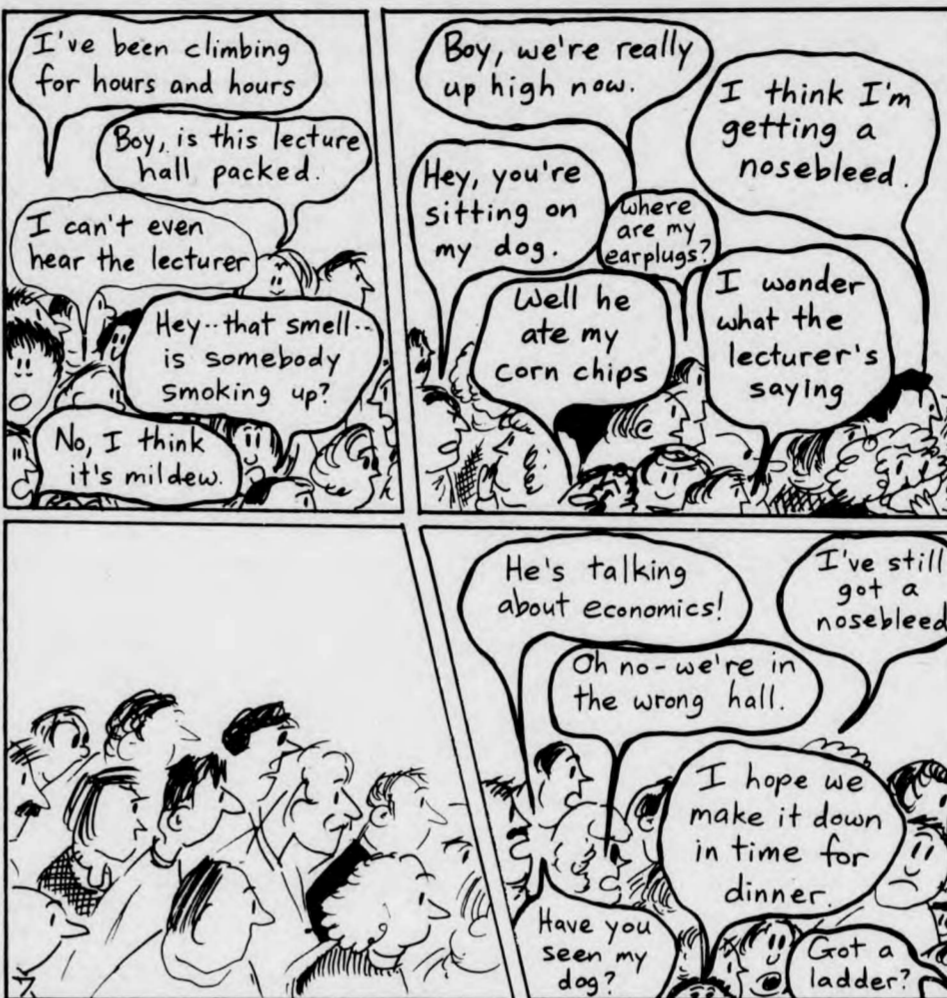
So much for the dismal science of economics; now for the political reality of structural inequalities, rigid hierarchy, and competing vested interests that characterise Canadian society today. Securely perched at the top of the Canadian pyramid is the status quo: the employers, the administration, the leaders, the elite, call them what you will. They give the orders, and even if they aren't actually the owners themselves, they get paid to administer cutbacks while they themselves remain secure in their commanding position. They have talked themselves into believing that university funding must be cut back and

we're all expected to believe them. Well, it isn't quite so simple.

Contrary to what Darcy McKeough and the provincial government would have us all believe about government overdoing its expenditures in such social service fields as education, the fact of the matter is quite different. When we compare expenditures on education to the total value of the Gross Provincial Product (i.e., the goods and services produced by working people in Ontario) a different picture emerges.

While G.P.P. has risen from \$65 billion in 1975 to \$84 billion in 1977, expenditures on education have gone down from 2.77 per cent of G.P.P. in 1975, to 2.50 per cent of G.P.P. in 1977. Expenditures on colleges and universities have remained somewhat more stable, going down from 1.54 per cent of G.P.P. in 1975 to 1.50 per cent of G.P.P. in 1977. (see table No. 1) In other words, expenditures have not increased relatively speaking.

Secondly Darcy McKeough—and all of the corporate elite in Canada for that matter—would have us believe that the public sector, taking more and more money from corporations in the form of taxes. Well, that simply isn't so. Governments have, in fact, been holding back corporate taxes, relative to personal taxes, with some consistency.



The Canadian Tax Foundation has documented that, during the years 1961-1976, corporate income tax has steadily fallen as a source of federal and provincial revenues. At the same time, individual income tax, paid for primarily by workers, has risen dramatically. Between 1961 and 1976, corporate income taxes as a source of federal government revenues, fell by 30.8 per cent. In 1962, personal income tax provided 30.5 per cent of revenue and corporations contributed 22.7 per cent.

By 1976, the corporate income tax share was down to 15.6 per cent and individuals were filling 43 per cent of the federal revenue cup. Provincial government policies have been consistent with this pattern. In fiscal year 1962-63, personal income tax provided 8.5 per cent of all provincial revenues.

By 1975-76, personal income taxes provided 21.1 per cent of revenues—and increase of 148.2 per cent. During the same twelve year period, the corporate tax share dropped from 9.4 per cent to 5.5 per cent—a decline of 41.5 per cent (see table No. 2)

One can only conclude that it is still a businessman's world. Businessmen have only to cry 'wolf' about the so-called increases in funds going to such 'uneconomic' sectors as education and social services, and governments' come running. Give us the money and we'll create the jobs the businessmen say.

Well, governments have clearly been doing that, but the corporations have conspicuously not created the jobs (unemployment last months was a record 8.5 per cent), nor have profits conspicuously fallen.

York University is no exception to this pattern. The Board of Governors and the President are presumably going to put their seal on the planned program of cutbacks. The Board of Governors reads like a corporate Who's Who of Ontario. President Macdonald presumably has the ear of the Ontario cabinet.

And we have yet to hear one public statement from either Macdonald or the Board of Governors that actually condemns the provincial government's cutback policy, the real cause of all our worries at York. All we hear is that we must tighten our belts by a notch. For people at the bottom, however, that means taking off their belts altogether.

And now we come to the real human dimension of cutbacks. The people at the bottom are the ones who really pay for government economic policies and political priorities, not the businessmen. The unemployed, the people on fixed incomes, the part-time workers, the welfare recipients, the low-wage earners of every kind, needy students—they all have to live with the effects of regressive policies that lead to increases in sales tax and TTC fares, closures of hospitals and day care centres. Their jobs, if they have

one, are always in jeopardy. They have to accept AIB regulated wage increases that do not in any way match increases in the cost of living.

Here at York, the picture is similar. Literally hundreds of people who work at York on a part-time basis, either by choice or by necessity, as well as many who work on a contractually limited basis, are going to be fired, as they represent the area of greatest budgetary flexibility. They are the real human cost of the \$4-million budget cut next year.

Hundreds of part-time faculty will simply find themselves out on the streets because they were born ten years too late!

Table 2
CORPORATE AND PERSONAL INCOME TAX AS A SOURCE OF GOVERNMENT REVENUES

Source	All Provincial Governments		
	Percent of total Revenue		
	1962/63	1974/75	Percent change
Corporate Inc. Tax	9.4%	5.5%	-41.5%
Personal Inc. Tax	8.5%	21.1%	+148.2%
Federal Government			
	Percent of total revenue		
Source	1961	1976	Percent change
Corporate Inc. Tax	22.7%	15.7%	-30.8%
Personal Inc. Tax	30.5%	43.5%	+42.6%

York's full-time faculty is young, with an average age of about forty. The percentage of women faculty will be greatly reduced at York, as fully half the women faculty teach part-time. As far as the learning environment at York is concerned, some of the very best quality minds of a generation will be irretrievably lost.

Last, but by no means least, we come to the students at York. The doors of the university were just beginning to open up to the 'less advantaged' student, to the children of New Canadians, and to women, who now make up a much larger percentage of the student population than they did as recently as eighteen years ago.

Government rhetoric used to be that equality of opportunity existed in Ontario, that those at the bottom could surely 'make it' if they really wanted to (and, by extension, that it was their own fault if they didn't), and that the university was not just for the children of the elite.

Economic realities and political priorities have dispelled that idea. Today's students try to cope with tuition fee increases, and the likelihood of student loans being harder to get in the future and the prospect of not having a job at the end of it. (Unemployment in the 16-24 age group is currently around 14 per cent.) But the major point is this:

It's not true that we don't need teachers; it's just that the provincial government won't pay for them. It's not true that we don't need university education; it's just that the provincial government won't pay for it.

