

BCSA: Few recruits

The Black Canadian Students' Association, the cultural group for black students at Dalhousie, is having difficulty attracting members.

"Many potential members are reluctant to join because they see it as a mini-Black Panthers, or something of the sort, where people with a common variable unite to fight the tyranny of an oppressive world," says BCSA publicist, Michael Oredugba. Many black

students don't see the world that way, Oredugba says.

Although the population of black students at Dalhousie is large enough to support a group, its membership remains small. Oredugba admits some people may be staying away because of apathy but he feels a majority simply don't want to join the group out of fear of isolating themselves from the larger community.

"They (black students) have succeeded in creating a safe niche for themselves, so they do not see the need to join (a black organization)," Oredugba says. "It is not an altogether deplorable sentiment. One can understand a need to protect a state of social acceptance gained through hard struggle."

"The purpose is not to isolate, but to enrich, through associating with individuals possessing many things in common. In these groups people learn more about themselves, both positive and negative, and thus can better function with other members of the mainstream," Oredugba says.

BCSA does not demand that members forsake old friends in favour of new ones, nor does it ask them to abandon their old habits and lifestyle. "It is just a place where bright young students meet to share experiences in a sincere way, have fun together and, most importantly, discuss the problems plaguing the black community," Oredugba says.

"If you are unashamed of what you are, you will feel quite comfortable with BCSA," Oredugba says.

CUP BRIEFS

Ray will pay

TORONTO (CUP) — A student who feels victimized by York University's phone enrolment system is offering cash to anyone who will drop a course he needs to graduate.

Third year sociology student Ray Thapar has put up notices across campus offering \$100 to any student who drops two core sociology courses.

To collect, the student must drop the courses right before Thapar calls York's voice-enrollment system to register in that course.

"I'm flabbergasted," said York sociology professor Desmond Ellis, director of one of the courses.

Thapar said he had received four or five calls. Thapar, who had to call the system long distance from his home in Whitby, said he spent over \$500 trying to get into the course.

He said \$100 is a reasonable price to pay.

"Students who live outside of Toronto are forced to pay an unfair premium to register in courses," says Thapar. "The university has made a mistake, they know it, and they should fix it."

Thapar said he warned York Associate Dean of Arts Robert Drummond of his intentions, before putting up the notices. Drummond said he knew about Thapar's plan in advance.

"It's silly, tacky and offensive but it's not illegal," Drummond said.

Drummond said he hoped Thapar's action would not set a precedent for students negotiating outside of official University channels to get into courses.

Thapar said the Voice Response Enrolment System will lead to a "black market" in courses.

"It perverts that individuals will take action to subvert a system that doesn't serve them," he said.

Although the University administration has contacted Thapar, they have so far refused to comment publicly on the situation.

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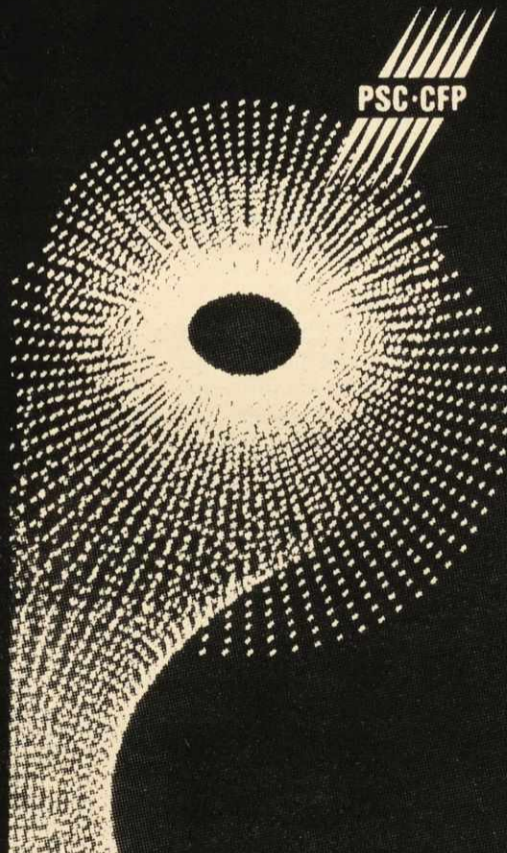
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Nazis in Ottawa

by Brigitte Audet and Chethan Lakshman

OTTAWA (CUP) — A Carleton student who asked for funding to start a fascist club has withdrawn his application and disavowed fascism.

Carleton student council vice president Joe Katzman refused Geoff Lupton's application to form a "Nationalist Party" club last week, because the group's objectives were in violation of human rights provisions in the council's constitution, Lupton said.

Lupton, a former president of the Carleton Social Credit Club, said he thought the club's views would be well-received on campus.

"There are worse groups, like socialists, or worse — Communists," Lupton said. "I think many students don't agree with groups like (the Carleton gay and lesbian association) and Oxfam, because people aren't flocking to join these groups."

"We're not Nazis," Lupton said. "There are different levels of fascism. There are good and bad things about Nazi policies."

Lupton later withdrew the application and apologized to anyone he offended. He said he disagreed with many of the Nationalist Party policies.

Nationalist Party leader Donald Andrews was recently convicted of publishing hate literature.

He said the application was not a hoax or a joke, as he told the *Ottawa Citizen*. But he admits the application was not totally honest, because the party has only two members at Carleton — Lupton and his roommate.

Council president Bruce Linton said the NPC may not be dead on campus. "Seeing the amount of work into putting the constitution together, it's not a joke," he said.

"I think (Lupton) probably realized it was a mistake or whatever and he's just trying to cover up, but it can't be a joke."

Linton said the NPC may have gone underground at Carleton, because NPC membership cards were found on campus this week.

Had the party gained club status, it would have been eligible for council funding and would have been able to use campus facilities for its events.

NPC propaganda says the party is made up of "real racists (who) respect other races, but demand their own homeland and do their own labor."

Lupton said he's sorry he ever gave the NPC publicity. "I want to fade back into the background and be a regular student."