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Zarnett pushes for asbestos removal, demands it be number one priority

"There is no evidence of the breakdown of asbestos"

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said "the prospect of the immediate implementation of phase one of the report is not that great, but that does not make the problem (of the funding formula) go away."

Some members of BOG discussed strategies York could use to encourage the Tories to change the government's formula. One member suggested Ontario's universities confront the provincial PCs with a united education lobby. Another trustee said York should take advantage of this provincial election year to pressure the government into making changes by mobilizing public opinion.

"When political changes are in the wind that's when you have the greatest leverage," the trustee said. "Make it a political issue if you can stand the heat," another said.

When one board member made some queries about cutting York's enrolment, BOG trustee F. Stronach said. "I believe we have an over-educated society. The Achilles heel of North American society is the lack of skilled labor."

Stronach is the President of a Canadian automobile parts manufacturing firm.

Sonja Bata recommended the board act within the spirit of the Bovey commission.

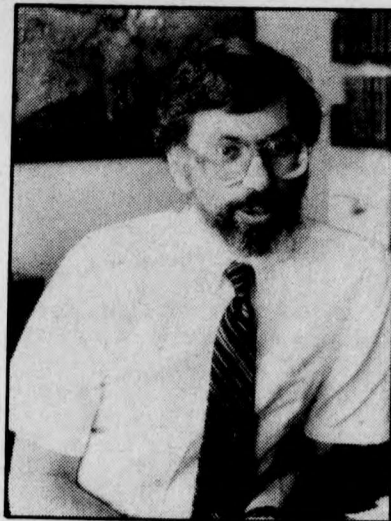
"The will of the people throughout North America is that government spend less money," Bata said. "You have to be a realist... there is no light at the end of this tunnel (taking in higher levels of students).

Having been in office for only three weeks, President Arthurs said he would be presenting a more comprehensive outline of his of his goals at the next meeting, but did list three concrete objectives which he said are priorities.

Arthurs spoke about exploring the possibility of using university lands for new undefined projects.

"We have to be absolutely relentless, financially, to make best use of land we can," Arthurs said.

Arthurs also singled out what he



MARIO SCATTOLONI

York President Harry Arthurs.

called the "immediate problem" of the University's "unusual reliance on part-time faculty."

"We'll try and strengthen the full-time component of the university," Arthurs said.

Arthurs also mentioned the labor relations problems that plagued the University last fall. While indicating that he could not produce any magical solutions, Arthurs pointed out that the labor problems are more than "squalid economic arguments." Arthurs said he detects an unease about the university among the faculty and stated that this problem "must be addressed at the its roots."

Arthurs specifically mentioned the need for a place where faculty members can congregate. "This is a dimension of the labor problem that we can progress on," he said.

Student BOG representative Martin Zarnett raised a question concerning asbestos at Osgoode Hall. Zarnett asked the BOG to reopen the investigation into the asbestos levels at the law school.

"If full abatement cannot be achieved, I hope the Board will consider partial abatement in high risk areas," Zarnett said.

"Sure it will be looked into," BOG Property and Building Committee Chairman Leonard Lumbers said, "but I don't agree with you entirely (about the asbestos risks). We're just as interested in it as anyone else, please believe me," added Lumbers.

"There is no evidence," Arthurs said, "of the breakdown of asbestos," although "there is the possibility that if some things happen it may break down and enter the air supply."

Arthurs mentioned that he had discussed partial or "staged abatement" of the asbestos with Vice President of External Affairs and University Development George Bell.

The proposed "abatement" is currently fourth on the BOG's capital project list, behind improving electrical power supply to computers and the installation of another elevator in the Ross Building.



Board of Governors meeting at Glendon College.

FILE PHOTO

