

Atkinson prof. objects

York pay stubs include United Way brochures

By ROSEMARY McCracken
Howard Buchbinder, social science professor at Atkinson College, has objected to the enclosure of United Way brochures with university pay stubs.

Buchbinder said York staff was not consulted as to whether it should support the United Way. He feels that a vote should have been taken, or a motion proposed, before the university publicly endorsed, by flying the United Way's flag and using the un-

iversity's stationery for United Way correspondence, an organization which an increasing number of people are openly criticizing.

According to Barbara McCaw, assistant to the dean of arts, the York University Staff Association does not hold a general vote before adopting policies; however, the executive of YUSA did vote to adopt this policy.

Buchbinder feels sending out brochures in pay envelopes is a form of pressure.

In the beginning of October, he wrote a letter to acting president John Yolton concerning enclosure of brochures with the pay stubs of York employees. He questioned the value of a "campaign for funds controlled by large corporate executives which pressure wage earners to give "charity" in a city where the average reported income is some \$7,500 per annum".

Buchbinder "respectfully requested" that a copy of "Citizens Concerned About Social Action," a pamphlet accusing the United Way of being an "antiquated and ineffectual method of raising money to solve social and economic problems," be enclosed in each pay envelope.

Yolton's reply to Buchbinder read, "I do not think the university has put any pressure on any individual to give, although I note that you feel our distributing the brochure is a form of pressure." Yolton further commented, "I would think it not appropriate for me to authorize the distribution of your brochure."

Buchbinder sent copies of his letters to Yolton to the faculty association, the staff association, the dean of Atkinson College, the chairman of Atkinson College Council, CYSF, Excalibur Publications, and the Atkinson

Balloon.

Michael Mouritsen, president of CYSF, said the CYSF executive committee has decided not to involve itself in the question of the university's support of the United Appeal because the affair is "out of its sphere." He said the matter could be brought up at a council meeting from a private member but it won't come forth as a recommendation from the executive committee.

Malcolm Westcott, a psychology professor and chairman of the York United Way Campaign, in a form letter dated October 5 sent to each York staff member, made an appeal for contributions: "The United Way has a fine record of economy in the distribution of funds. More than 90 per cent of your gift will be used to provide direct service to the community."

Westcott outlined three ways in which a contribution could be made: by payroll deduction—12 equal monthly deductions at a minimum of \$1 monthly; by a single cash or cheque payment to the York United Way office; or, by direct contributions to the

Metro Toronto United Way office.

R.J. Faulkes, director of York's payroll office, said the United Way brochure "It's in Your Hands" was included in each staff member's pay envelope, not just in those of the faculty. Faulkes stressed that each contributor must submit a signed card allowing his donation to be deducted from his salary on a 12 month basis.

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