

Excalibur

Everything secret degenerates; nothing is safe that does not show it can bear discussion and publicity
—Lord Acton

Excalibur is the York University weekly and is independent politically. Opinions expressed are the writer's. Unsigned editorials on this page are decided upon by staff vote and do not necessarily reflect the views of individual editors. Excalibur attempts to be an agent of social change and a forum of democratic debate. Typography by Fotoset, printed at Delta Web. Excalibur is published by Excalibur publications, a body incorporated under the laws of Ontario.

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Macdonald short on facts, time for a straight answer

President Macdonald owes us a straight answer.

He owes the whole university some solid details about his plan to create an academic vice-president. Until we get them, it's hard to tell whether this new job is just another addition to an inflated bureaucracy, or a sorely-needed measure to help plan a wise future for York.

Both students and faculty need replies to a few basic questions, such as: what will this person do? How will the new v.p. fit into the decision-making process here? How much will the job cost anyway? These are questions some concerned members of the faculty association have been trying to press home.

Up to now, Macdonald's only response has been, "it is difficult to estimate the precise costs of the office" and that the new vice president would do things like "integrate and co-ordinate the utilization of teaching resources within the university."

Those aren't straight answers.

One of the most puzzling aspects of the issue is Macdonald's turnaround this year. In previous years, he pooh-poohed the idea of another vice-president, but this year, he began campaigning about how

crucial it had suddenly become. Why?

The president has hinted that his present commitments leave him little time to help the university's cause, either pleading for more money from Queen's Park or seeking more corporate research grants. Several of his present tasks would be transferred to this new administrator. But if he has been carrying this workload himself, he should at least be able to describe it clearly.

His waffling can lead to a darker interpretation — that he wants to distance himself from the blame for making the painful cuts that lie ahead—cuts that may involve whole departments at a blow under the guise of "academic reallocation". Meanwhile, he will have more time to publicize York's budget woes, thereby building up his own public image before his inevitable step into politics.

To dispell these suspicions, Macdonald should tell us at once what his intentions really are. And while he's at it, he should give us a straight answer to the most basic question of all: how will spending any money on extra administrators, rather than extra teachers, help students to learn more next year?



Pinball Wally

Our Town

Professor Bob Hoover (Brock University) will be speaking on *Changes in Agricultural Land Use in Ontario - Focus on Niagara*, on Monday, February 12, 7:20 pm in Room S201 Ross.

Calumet

The next Calumet lunch-time concert series features *Convergence*. Come out to the Calumet Common Room at 1 pm, Wednesday, February 14. Will McGarvey's paintings will be displayed in the Calumet Common Room, Monday, February 12 through Friday, February 16.

CYSF Classic Movies Series

CYSF presents a dynamite double feature, *Top Hat* (Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers).... and *Outrageous!* (Craig Russel), tonight at 8 pm in Curtis 'L'.... Admission is \$1.75 for CYSF members, \$2 for others.

CYSF Women's Affairs Committee

A discussion entitled *The Obstacle Course to the Top* is slated for Wednesday, February 14, 12:30-1:30 pm in the bear pit, with guest speakers Marnie Clark, Jane Haynes and Barbara Greene.

Eckankar

Karma and Reincarnation are the topics for the lecture on Eckankar, the Ancient Science of Soul Travel, on Tuesday, February 13, Room S312 Ross.

Inter-college Athletic Department

York University will be hosting the ninth annual Student Intramural Conference on Friday, February 9, 5:30 -11 pm, and Saturday, February 10, 8:30 am-6 pm. The conference, dealing with the pros and cons of intramural

sports, will be drawing Ontario students from high schools, universities and colleges. Sixteen different themes will be discussed.... There's a nominal fee of \$10 which will entitle you to a box dinner on Friday, refreshments throughout the conference, two social hours and a Saturday lunch.... If you're interested in attending, contact the inter-college office at 667-2351.

Religious Studies Students Association

The Religious Studies Students Association is meeting Thursday, February 15 Room 120 Vanier....

All welcome and coffee will be provided.

Stong

Stong and Bethune Colleges proudly present another of their joint Multicultural Arts Series in the Stong J.C.R., Tuesday February 13, from 7:30 - 9:30 pm. There will be a slide show (ancient churches, monuments, scenery and miniatures) with a discussion; a display of early Armenian embroidery and photography; an Armenian Queens Pagaent in colourful costumes with running commentary; and folk dancing and musical ensemble.... All members of the community are welcome and there is no admission charge.

York Student Movement

There is a meeting scheduled for February 8 entitled *Victory to the Just Struggle of the Iranian People*, at 12 noon, Room S130 Ross... Sponsored by York Student Movement.

York Women's Centre

Elsie Hanna, founder of the York University Staff Association, will speak at the York Women's Centre today from 12 noon - 2 pm. Bring your lunch-coffee is available.

Suicide will be the subject of Monday's film presentation. Dr. Ted. Mann interviews women who have become depressed and attempted suicide, and who eventually sought help from the Toronto Distress Centre. The film will be shown at 1 pm, February 12. All events take place in Room 102 B.S.B.

Bethune

The upcoming Bethune Heroes and Beer is scheduled for Tuesday, February 13, at 2 pm in the JCR.

The discussion is entitled *Can the media make or break a political leader?* with guest speakers Fred Fletcher (Political Science professor), Bob Duffey (Toronto Star editorial writer and an NDP party member.) A bar-b-q follows at 4 pm).

NORML

The movie *Reefer Madness* will be shown Monday February 12 at 8 pm in Curtis I. A discussion will follow. Cost is \$1. NORML members are admitted without charge.

Laura Brown



Future businessmen let off a little steam Monday night in an Administrative Studies washroom.

Paul Stuart