

take five

Page five this week is devoted to the candidates who are running for the office of president of the York Student Council.

Excalibur asked all candidates to submit a copy of their campaign platforms. The following articles are edited versions of those submitted.

John Adams, chairman of the committee which drew up the constitution for York Student Council, has submitted the following statement as his stand on the issues he feels will face the fledgling YSC.

The interests of students are best served when no single viewpoint is supreme. We can no longer be satisfied with old attitudes that supply a pat answer to any question. It is time to assess the role of the university, the student within the university, and the student government. I am determined to improve this university for those who follow.

The cost of YSC will have to be borne by the students. The constitution has been ratified by the college councils, and now the students must judge the need for a YSC. I am convinced of the need and our willingness to pay. Some support should come from the college councils, as YSC will take over responsibility for such as Excalibur, Century II and campus clubs. However, additional expenses will result in an extra fee. It can be collected by the administration at registration. This will ensure YSC of financial security. The lack of this doomed the old SRC.

Students can justifiably expect the senior members of YSC to put a great deal of time and effort into YSC. I believe all members of the executive should be reimbursed. For the president the honorarium should be equal to the cost of residence, and slightly lesser amounts for other executives.

What is the proper role of the student and of YSC? President Ross has established a 3 member committee to report on the rights, responsibilities and privileges of all members of the York community. This committee is made up of one student, one faculty rep. and a member of the board of governors. It is encouraging that the students have equal representation in this committee, and I praise the administration for this attitude. The real test will come when we can judge the impact of student view on the faculty and Board members. I am concerned however, with an issue more fundamental to the university than equal representation.

I am worried lest the committee work quietly and efficiently behind closed doors. This kind of policy is repugnant to open and free inquiry, which is the essence of a university. Confidentiality and secrecy must be the exception, not the rule.

As a presidential candidate, I seek a mandate for YSC to sponsor and organize a conference next fall on York's college system, its successes, failures, and its future. We should involve outside ideas from such places as Trent and Simon Fraser, which have also tried to develop a new type of university.

Joe Young is a third year founders student running for the position of President of YSC. He is well known for his involvement in the Committee to End the War in Vietnam, better known as CEVV.



My program for YSC, on which I am basing my campaign for president is outlined in the following points.

1. Participation of the student council in the struggle against the war in Vietnam both on and off campus.

2. An end to campus complicity in the war in Vietnam. No more war recruiters on campus. No directors of war industry on the Board of Governors.

3. The student council to have final authority over the discipline of students. Resident students to control their residences.

4. Student representatives on the Board of Governors elected by the students and responsible to them. Workers who are the majority of the population, should have increased representation on the Board of Governors, though elected trade union rep-

resentatives. All Board of Governors meetings should be open to the public.

5. Joint student-faculty committees should control course content and arrangement of classes. These committees should hold meetings concerning their courses.

6. Abolition of ACSA, which has no power and is not representative of the students of faculty.

7. Student council should have control of bookstore prices.

8. Political groups should receive financial grants on the same basis as other campus clubs.

9. Residence and tuition be allowances for those who need additional assistance.

10. Distribution of contraceptive information and supply of free contraceptives

financed by the university.

STUDENTS FOR YSC PRES.

MAKE YOUR CHOICE - VOTE



Sue Himmer, the only women candidate for president, and former SRC representative, submitted the following statement of policy.

As a student, what is your role at York University? The only justification of a student is his academic existence. University life is intended to develop your intellectual capacity, your critical awareness, in short, your self.

Education is not, however, restricted to courses. Students must not be mere recipients of technical knowledge on an assembly line. The concept of the whole man is to be highly praised, but cannot be achieved by limiting student endeavour and involvement.

A recent report by the Committee of University Presidents of Ontario stated 'there is no such thing as a student right to representation in university government.' I challenge Dr. Ross to justify this statement. The community of scholars consists of faculty, administration, and students. One cannot deny meaningful representation to such a large sector of the community. Students should be allowed to make their meaningful contribution. There seems a great fear that student representation will lead to a tyranny of the majority. I do not ask for a student take-over, but a student partnership and participation. A report on student participation at York (October, 1966) clearly summarized the students' position: 'We do not desire to displace faculty or administrators from decision-making bodies, rather we wish to supplement their deliberations with the student viewpoint.'

The college should be the focal point of the individual student. The administration has made this system academically irrelevant. Academic life is not centred in the college. The role of the college fellows is obscure. The architecture, a vital factor in college life, has been

vance. A yearly social calendar might be published before classes begin in September. It should establish a university-wide student court or disciplinary body. It should entice Glendon campus into once again becoming an integral part of the university. YSC must appoint post-haste the five student senators allotted to us and if these prove inadequate, to increase the number by any legitimate means.

Student representation must be increased on any Administrative committee directly concerned with student affairs.

YSC must recognize that political and religious clubs contribute to student life and deserve financial support. Cultural affairs as well, are a vital student concern, and should receive council support, especially the York University Players.

The YSC must become a stable and demanding organization,

planned for the new college without any formal mean of student consultation. By achieving undergraduate membership on committees, YSC reinforces the college system.

YSC represents York in external affairs, such as membership in Canadian University Students. Students tend to evaluate CUS in concrete terms. Results are actually quite impressive: income tax exemptions for students tuition, inexpensive life insurance, student discount service and the POSAP financial aid program.

I stand for membership in CUS. It is a democratic union linking Canadian students to each other and to student unions in foreign countries. The first year of YSC cannot be one of mere organization. Too many issues including tuition and residence fees, York Coop Housing, and student participation in governing their own interests (residence rules, parking etc.,) demand immediate and decisive action.

The function of the college councils and YSC must be to make the college and the university more relevant to the student.

A am a second year student of Founders, and served SRC last year. Some of my views on student government are expressed in this article. I sincerely feel I can do the job as president, and I ask for your support.



We should hear from an educator such as Paul Goodman or sociologist David Reisman to focus our attention on the larger issues of society.

We are here for only four years. This does not limit our right to participate, it only gives us a freedom to question the status quo. Our opinions thus differ from administrative or some faculty who have a lengthy tenure. We must separate the valuable from the habitual.

We have 5 seats on the senate. But let's not kid ourselves: 5 seats out of 104 is tokenism. It is however better than nothing.

One issue YSC must face is whether or not we should belong to the Canadian Union of Students. I feel most of us do not know enough about CUS to make a proper judgment. We should maintain membership for one year to find out what it is all about. Next fall we should stage a series of discussions and debates to focus attention on CUS, and then hold a referendum.

Ira Goldhar, former public relations man for the Great Debate of last year, wants a step in the right direction. He'd do it this way.

The York student Council has a three-fold job: coordination of inter-college and super-college affairs; consolidation of student thought and opinion; and communication on campus and to the outside world.

The degree of financial security will make or break YSC as it did to SRC. It must not be left to the college councils to supply the full budget. Each student should be taxed an additional ten dollars on his tuition payment, to go directly to YSC.

Granted a full source of funds, YSC must do the following:

Provide funds for publications; increase funds to Excalibur so that they may expand and minimize dependence on advertizing; increase funds to the Yearbook to lower its price; encourage the establishment of some sort of literary review or quarterly.

YSC should establish an efficient campus-wide communications system, even if it means resorting to closed circuit television. It must encourage as much off-campus publicity of York affairs as possible.

YSC must co-ordinate all campus-wide social events, and plan them well in ad-



complimenting the college system, protecting students' rights, and taking stands on student issues.

To be stable it must be financially secure. To be demanding it must have strong members who are willing to shoulder responsibility.

If the students of York elect me I will attempt to encourage adopting the above program. It is a step, but only a step, in the right direction.