

Excalibur

Vol. 10 No. 5

York University Community Newspaper

October 16, 1975

"Change the bloody rules"

Ritch barred from study, expelled by senate

By JULIAN BELTRAME

The Senate of York University, last week, expelled student president Dale Ritch from the senate, on the grounds that Ritch is no longer a York student.

News of Ritch's expulsion from the senate was followed closely by

Grad. assistants request increase of 15 per cent

By OAKLAND ROSS

York's 600 graduate assistants and teaching assistants requested last week that the university administration grant them an immediate 15 per cent cost-of-living salary increase.

The request was also made on behalf of the roughly 100 part-time tutors and college tutors at York.

Most GA's and TA's at York are currently earning \$2,400 annually. If granted, the increase would provide each of them with an additional \$360 per year.

Although most part-time tutors and college tutors at York currently earn less than \$1,000, the GAA is requesting they also be granted a lump sum increase of \$360.

In a letter sent last week to York president H. Ian Macdonald, graduate assistants association president Mark Golden explained that there "is ample precedent for such a raise. YUFA members - who make up the rest of York's teaching staff - were given an average raise of between 12.1 per cent and 14.6 per cent this fall. And the Staff Association, which like the GAA is in the process of being certified (as a union), has just accepted an interim increase on behalf of its members."

Golden also reminded Macdonald of his promise, last December, to ensure all York workers "a fair progression in terms of salary."

Contacted this week, president Macdonald said that he had not yet made any decision on the GAA request.

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the disclosure that Ritch has been barred from enrolling in any Canadian university for two years, for reasons of "academic incompetence".

Senate chairman John Warkentin told Excalibur, Tuesday, that the decision to expel Ritch was a purely administrative one, made in observance of the rules of the senate.

Article 2-e of the Senate handbook, under the heading "Composition of the Senate as determined by resolution of the Senate" states that - "a person who ceases to be a student or member

of faculty or staff, also ceases to be a Senator or member of a Senate committee."

Ritch called the action by the Senate an unwanted intrusion by the administration into CYSF affairs, and urged the university to either re-classify him or change its rules.

"It's ludicrous that I'm not considered either a student or staff member—I am a member of the staff of CYSF, paid by the student body to represent them, and I am on the university payroll.

"We (CYSF) want the administration to recognize that I

am a bonifide member of this community, whether they want to call me a student or staff member. The easy way out, for them, is to call me a staff member, but if they don't want to do that, then they can just change the bloody rules," said Ritch.

Ritch added that the senate membership requirements leave no place for a CYSF president who wants to devote all his time to the students. In the past three years, however, CYSF presidents have either been full-time or part-time students at York.

Responding to a question, Ritch admitted that he had been barred from taking classes at any Canadian university for two years because of "academic incompetence", but said the expulsion was not the primary reason he did not take classes this year.

"I could have appealed that ruling but I didn't bother because I had no intention of taking classes," said Ritch.

Ritch said that he failed one of the two courses he took last year (he dropped the other) because of his involvement in a car accident, last April, which injured him and

left his wife comatose for one month.

According to York student programmes a student must fail a minimum of three to four courses in two or more years, before he would face a two-year suspension.

Asked what affect this would have on his ability to represent students, Ritch said it would make no difference.

"I've been a student here for four years and I think I know enough of the aspirations of students to represent them."

Warkentin admitted that the addition of a special provision by which a non-student CYSF president could become a member of senate, was one of the possibilities under consideration for study at the next executive meeting of the senate, but added that any changes would require three readings in senate because the regulation is a statutory rule.

"However, I certainly think that the president of the student body is a person who can make a valuable contribution to Senate, in the same way as the president of YUFA and YUSA may do," said Warkentin.

Atkinson cites oversights in senate's tenure report

By OAKLAND ROSS

Deep concern has been expressed by both Atkinson and Glendon Colleges over the number of times their recommendations on tenure for 1974-75 were overturned by the senate tenure and promotions committee.

However, senate committee chairman Graeme McKechnie denied this week that his committee used new or different criteria in making its recommendations on tenure.

The Atkinson protest (expressed last July, in a letter to McKechnie from Atkinson tenure and promotions committee chairman Matthew Aherne) came after nine of 17 recommendations from the Atkinson committee were over-

turned by the senate committee.

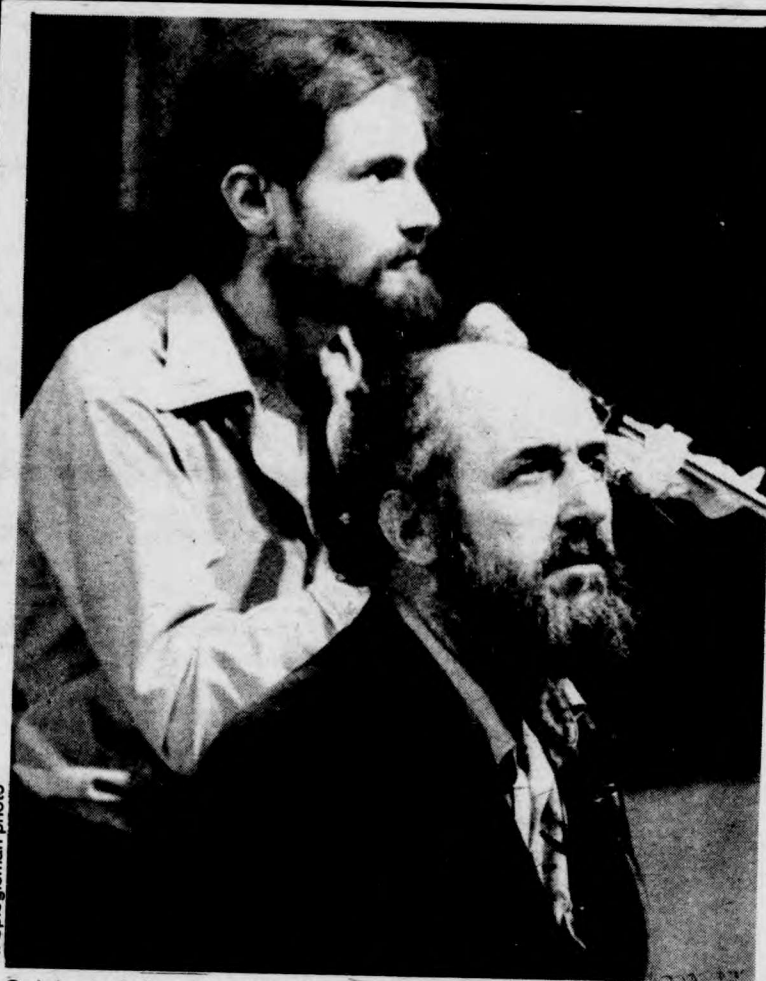
Eight of these were subsequently appealed and, in six cases, the appeals were successful.

Aherne described the reversals as "amazing".

McKechnie said this week that his committee's reversals of its previous decisions on Atkinson tenure applicants resulted from "new information" provided during the appeals.

But, according to Aherne, this information was at all times available to the senate committee. In his letter to McKechnie, Aherne documented a number of "oversights" on the part of the senate committee.

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R. Spiegelman photo

Celebrated Canadian film director Michel Brault looks towards the audience, while student president Dale Ritch stands ready with the mike. When Brault came to York, Thursday, to screen his award winning film Les Ordres, little did he know

that besides sharing a Cannes Film Festival best director award with Costa-Gavras, he would soon win a best director, best film, and best screenplay award at the Canadian film awards. See story on page 12.

York and Track Association battle over stadium site

By PAUL STUART

York University is asking Metro Council to build an Olympic calibre, \$3,900,000 track and field facility on the main campus, despite criticism from the Ontario Track and Field Association, Orville McKeough, York's Director of Development, told Excalibur on Friday.

The York proposal which has been evolving since last year, could be the first major addition to the main campus since Bethune College was finished in 1972. At present it calls for an indoor track with portable bleachers for 1,000 spectators, an outdoor track and stadium with 3,000 seats, and a field house which would become part of the phys-ed complex and which fits into the master plan of York University.

Beneath the outdoor stadium would be dressing rooms that could also serve the indoor track.

Contacted at this office by phone, York's director of development Orville McKeough said, "We'd be way out in left field if we said that York will be the site of

the facility; it's just too early to tell. But if the complex is built here, it will be on a nine to ten acre area in the vicinity of Tait McKenzie. It will be facing directly onto Steeles Avenue. Our estimates now are that it will cost \$3.9 million. And it will all be built to Olympic standards."

Asked where the financially strapped University will find this money, McKeough replied, "Well, the university doesn't have any money. All we have is the land."

YORK HAS LAND

"We would make available our land and other facilities; the project will be built with support from Metro and the federal and provincial levels of government."

McKeough said that York could provide land without encroaching on residential areas.

"As a university, we will have a better chance to obtain funds than another institution," he added.

York is vying for the facility against two other sites. One proposal calls for the complex to be built at a park beside

Lamoureux Collegiate in Scarborough; another plan cites East York Collegiate.

The Ontario Track and Field Association (OTFA) favours the East York proposal. OTFA President Ian Anderson, sharply criticized York and Lamoureux.

RENEGADE PROPOSALS

"The York and Lamoureux proposals are what I call (and don't take me too literally on this) renegades. By that I mean that they are being put forward by people in their own interests, and not in the interests of the whole community."

On September 10, Anderson wrote a very concerned letter about the York proposal to CYSF President Dale Ritch. The letter described a severe shortage of suitable track and field facilities in Metro.

According to Anderson's letter, the situation "has become such a serious problem that some Toronto-based Canadian Olympic athletes now go to Sudbury to train with proper facilities."

While stressing that the OTFA is "not opposed" to the York site, the letter said

that, for two reasons, the OTFA does not favour it.

ALIENATE STUDENTS

OTFA time requirements, ("exclusive use of the facility 3-9 p.m. every weekday and throughout the day on most weekends") might alienate the York student body.

"I've been told by one university official that there could be a minor rebellion if students see off-campus people using the track a good deal of the time," commented Anderson.

Anderson's letter also outlines a second OTFA objection to the York site.

"In the York proposal," read the letter, "plans for both the indoor and outdoor facilities anticipate that the area inside the circumference of the track would be used for other sports."

"Such a plan would frequently rule out the use of this space by field event athletes, who at present face an even more desperate facility shortage than the runners."

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