



Victims of unnecessary cruelty? York science professors say no, Mobilization for Animals say yes.

Animals demand rights

By KEVIN CONNOLLY

Mobilization for Animals (MFA), a conglomerate of roughly 400 smaller animal rights groups worldwide, met on campus yesterday as part of an ongoing crusade to end what it calls "unnecessary cruelty to animals," particularly in the laboratory.

Members of the biology and psychology departments, however, including the chairman of the York Animal Care Committee (YACC), took issue with many of the group's statements.

A senior psychology professor, who asked to remain anonymous to avoid "potential unpleasantness," objected strongly to the way such groups present the psychologist: as cruel and uncaring "monsters." He ventured that most lab animals are "better cared for than the average household pet."

The experimental psychologist is a particular target for the group. MFA

points to psychology experiments as the "most painful, pointless, and repulsive" of all research involving animals. According to MFA, the experimental psychologist "has made sacraments of needless repetition and unjustifiable suffering." The group calls the psychology lab "a gallery of horror and torture for profit," where animals fall victim to starvation, castration, insanity, and mutilation in countless "trivial" experiments.

They also suggest that personal fame and idle curiosity are the bases for much of the research, and that there is "little evidence to suggest that a single experiment in this field has ever benefitted mankind."

Lab animal facilities at York University are regulated by YACC, a faculty committee which takes its guidelines from both federal and provincial laws. Any experiment on campus which involves live animals

must first be approved by the committee. In addition, regular inspections from autonomous government agencies ensure that the animals originate only from government-regulated supply houses and that the facilities and treatment of the animals meet government standards.

All experiments that are not conducted by faculty members must be supervised to prevent any mistreatment of the animals involved. Any violation of these guidelines can result in the suspension of the university's license to keep animals.

According to the psychology professor it would simply not be in the scientist's best interest to abuse his lab animals. "Good results demand lab animals that are in optimum condition."

He also said psychologists build reputations on new experiments and not through the repetition of old

please turn to page 6

CYSF council meeting sweeps up old issues

By JOHN WRIGHT
and JULIA STEINECKE

The Council of the York Student Federation (CYSF) spent its first general meeting of the year last Tuesday clearing up issues left by last year's Bevilacqua administration.

Council decided to proceed with legal action against Jorge Garretton, former Director of External Affairs. Garretton is accused of making personal long distance calls on the CYSF line, to the tune of approximately \$1,000.

"Students of this school should not be paying for his personal phone calls," said Martin Zarnett, Board of Governors representative. Zarnett will be acting as plaintiff on behalf of the CYSF.

Another left-over dispute centred on Alex Watson, the advertising manager for last year's *Manus* and former *Excalibur* business manager. Bevilacqua's administration refused to pay him \$1,284 in commissions, claiming that he only sold advertis-

ements, and neglected to adequately produce them.

Council believed that while Watson was not entitled to the full amount in question, he did deserve some compensation. A motion delegating Summerhayes the task of arriving at a fair out-of-court settlement passed easily.

Budget Notes

- \$200 voted to the York sculpture students, representing balance of supposedly promised grant (Capital Expense Account)
- \$25 to Martin Zarnett to initiate legal proceedings against former director Jorge Garretton (Legal Account)
- \$1,000 in Executive honoraria (Salaries Account)
- \$138 for Ontario Federation of Students Conference fees (External Affairs Account)
- \$700 to sponsor "Women Against Racism and Violence in Top 40 Music" seminar (Womens Affairs Account)



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