

Student Centre initiators confident about talks with Arthurs later this month

By LAURA LUSH

The initiators of the proposed York student centre emerged from a meeting with members of the Administration last Friday, confident that they are well prepared for their negotiations with the University later this month.

"It was a good first step for getting prepared to meet with the President (Harry Arthurs)," said Council of York Student Federation (CYSF) President Gerard Blink of the two hour meeting.

Blink, along with student centre executive assistant Rob Castle, met with Provost Tom Meininger, John Becker, assistant vice president for Business Operations; Peter Struk, assistant vice president of Physical Plant and Greg Spearn, vice president of the York University Development Corporation (YUDC) to discuss what kind of information President Arthurs wanted to see for the upcoming negotiations.

Blink said that most of the issues discussed at the preparatory meeting were "already underway" in various project form. For example, MBA students of Professor Tillo Kuhn's Microeconomics for Management course, unveiled the preliminary results of their feasibility study on the student centre yesterday. "Essentially we have to show," Blink said, "that if we put up this building, it's going to be self-supporting, or as close to it as possible, so the operating costs are nil."

"The meeting reinforced the homework we are doing now," Castle said. "The fundamental question that President Arthurs is concerned about, is, will the numbers work." Castle said that the areas of concern are finance, facilities, business operations and food services.

"I mentioned (at the meeting) that the key thing (for Blink and Castle) is to have a clear indication of what they felt they will need in the new centre in terms of student offices, games rooms, lounges, etc.," said Struk. "We are trying to develop a building that can accommodate the large population at York," he added. "We understand that there will be adjustments to this plan, but the building shouldn't be too small."

Struk said he recommended that Blink and Castle lower their projected interest rates on the estimated \$8,000,000 mortgage from about 12 to 10 percent to allow for a bigger building. "(If we can get a lower interest rate," Struk said, "then we could have a bigger building of approximately 60,000 square feet."

"If the financial funds can be put together for the building, I'm confident that the people at the

University will support the centre," he added.

Castle said that CYSF hired the architect firm of Dunlop, Farrow and Cansfield to study cost projections per square foot for the proposed centre. "We need to find out how many square feet we can afford," Blink added.

Another item of concern was the actual negotiations between the students and Administration over the control of the student financed building. "Much will depend on what President Arthur feels," Castle said. "We are sticking with the position that the (pending) Management Board of the student centre will be a legal creation of CYSF and the Board of Governors (BOG), consisting of a majority of students," Castle said. "As long as students are coming up with the majority of the money, we have to bear that in mind in terms of management."

"I will not ask students to pay \$30.00 (the estimating levy fee) for a building they wouldn't have control over," Blink said. "I do not want to have the same situation as Guelph and other universities, whose administrations are causing lots of problems in terms of trying to control their centres."

"We are in a positive bargaining position if we win the referendum for the student centre in February," Blink added. "If we can guarantee the \$8,000,000, then we will have the money" (to negotiate), he concluded.

Castle also said that the students' bargaining position depends on the goodwill of the University, which is expected to put up the initial capital for the building, and is also hoped to make a contribution to the centre.

Blink said there might be a possibility of working the student centre initiative in with the YUDC's plans to develop a new campus plan. "YUDC wondered if the centre could fall into place with their consultant firm IBI's plans," Blink added.

To add to the main CYSF student centre initiative, various constituencies at York have mobilized to form their own centre committees. Castle said that all but one college, Calumet, have put together some sort of committee to assist in the initiative.

"Because Calumet is a very distinct constituency at York, I got the impression (from a November 13th meeting) that they were wary of starting a committee because of their own needs and concerns to attain a building of their own."

Currently, Calumet College is housed in Atkinson College, and has been trying to obtain its own building since 1972. "We are hoping we

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JAMES HOGGETT

YORK AIRPORT OPENS: Due to overcrowding at nearby Downsview airport the York campus has been pressed into service as an airport. Prof Daphne Schiff is pictured here with her 'show and tell—college style' presentation.

New residence regulation implemented following Stong student's fall from ledge

By PAULETTE PEIROL

A Stong College resident suffered internal injuries after falling off a third floor ledge jutting out from the college's residence building, two weeks ago.

The student, Paul Taylor, was kept for observation in the Intensive Care unit of the Scarborough Grace Hospital until last week.

According to Stong Residence tutor Marianne Kelley, on November 6, Taylor entered his friend Bob Haddow's room and climbed out of the window onto the ledge below. Taylor's intention was to crawl through the adjacent window and open the door for its tenant (who asked not to be identified). The tenant was struggling to open her locked door which had been "macaronied"—a residence prank whereby locks are filled with cooked macaroni.

The tenant said that she did not see Taylor enter Haddow's room because she was busy with her lock, and that Haddow was having a party with friends in his room at the time. The tenant also remembers that the occupants of Haddow's apartment exited the room and locked the door before Metro Police arrived on the scene.

Kelley said that Taylor fell off the ledge at about 9:30 p.m., and that the ledge was wet and slippery (although it had not rained in the previous 24 hours). "He fell straight down a four storey drop onto hard grass," Kelley said, "then blacked out for 15-20 minutes." After he came to, Taylor was let into the residence, but soon after doubled over in pain.

Bergman brought Taylor straight

to Kelley's apartment and York Security, Metro Police, and an ambulance were called to the scene.

"At first we thought (Taylor) may have been beaten or robbed, since he couldn't remember what had happened until about two hours late in emergency at York Finch Hospital," Kelley said. "He was in incredible pain . . . I went to the hospital and stayed with him for four hours until 1:45 a.m.," she added.

Taylor suffered a bruised kidney, and "maybe a strained shoulder," Kelley said, but "no broken bones." A notice was later circulated to all Stong residence students stating that anyone caught on the ledge will be fined and expelled from residence.

Stong residence is the only apartment building with such a ledge, according to Kelley. The ledge spans across two windows and is approximately four feet deep.

Ryerson prez backs down from threat to close library

By NICK LORUSSO

In response to a threat to close the library by President Brian Segal, students at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute conducted a sit-in last Sunday.

Ryerson Student Council President, Barry Hayward, decided to hold the sit-in after the library was ordered closed by Segal for what he termed "blatant disregard of library policy" by students.

In a newsletter released last week, Segal said, "I find it hard to express my disdain and disgust at the state of the library when I walked through it Monday, November 12. The blatant disregard of the policy which prohibits the consumption of food and drink; evidence of smoking; and the general state of disarray of the facility, leave me no choice but to take this action (closing the library)."

Segal later retracted his decision on the recommendation of Ryerson's Learning Resource Commit-

tee, which wants to consider the grievances before taking action. As a result, the sit-in, which was originally intended to last throughout Sunday, was shortened, ending when the library opened on Sunday.

Hayward indicated that the sit-in, prompted by Segal's action, was also held to protest "the general quality of the facility (which) is not up to what it should be for a school the size and calibre of Ryerson."

"Some days, there are only five library staff on duty," Hayward said. "This leaves nine floors unattended and leads to theft and vandalism."

Other complaints included the decreased hours in certain areas of the library and the shortage of library materials. Hayward attributed the library's problems to underfunding and stated that "our role now is to participate in anything that will help both the short and long term situation of the library, either in protests or at meetings."

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