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## Chemistry students arrested in drug bust

By DEAN MARTIN

(FAUX PRESS) Five York chemistry students and one pharmacology student from the University of Toronto were arrested Wednesday in connection with a campus drug bust.

Police seized about 200 grams of LSD with a street value of over \$200,000 during a raid on the Steacie Science Building, according to a Metro Police representative.

Police believe the LSD was manufactured in two York chemistry labs over a period of two months.

Chemistry department chair Larry Boon said while the equipment used to make the drug is available in any university chemistry lab, "That's obviously not its original purpose.

"We're not equipping our labs for the students to set up a drug factory at York."

Three of the suspects are honours students with keys to the Steacie Science Building and the two labs which police raided. Although the students had approval to use the labs after-hours, Boon said he didn't know students were making LSD.

Boon admitted there is no strict supervision of experiments conducted by honours students.

"They sign a release form and they outline their experiments to their TA before they start," said Boon. "Our honours students are encouraged to study beyond the regular curriculum, but we had no reason to suspect

any wrongdoing."

Boon said the students split the chemical process into several steps between the two laboratories so lab technicians and faculty would not recognize the process.

"If we had realized what was going on we probably would have notified the police," he said.

Provost Tom Manager said the Administration knew police were investigating a "drug-related case."

He also said a doctor from the York-Finch Hospital called him Monday saying five Stong College residents were treated for drug poisoning over the weekend.

Manager said he kept the information quiet at the request of the police, in spite of the fact that three more students were hospitalized after taking drugs during the week.

"I know it looks like they [Metro Police] have us under their thumb, but releasing the information would have jeopardized the investigation," Manager said.

Police suspected LSD was being manufactured on the York campus only after nearby Finch-York Hospital reported 16 cases of drug poisoning in York students late March.

LSD is an illegal drug in Canada, which causes strong emotional reactions and hallucinations in people.

Police have sealed the two laboratories in connection with the investigation, and have asked students to contact them with any information relating to the case.



**LSD BUST:** Sgt. Enos Slaughter and undercover officer Janice Levine examine an LSD aerosal can confiscated after a drug bust at York last Wednesday. Five York chemistry students were arrested despite police being "extremely impressed" with the students' ingenuity.

### SUMMER EXCAL ISSUES: May 11, May 25

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