

Clubs angry over Centre plans

By CHRISTINE GOMES

The Student Centre Committee has released a proposal to reduce club space in the upcoming centre, causing much consternation in the ranks of campus clubs.

The still tentative decision of a 15% to 12% reduction in club space has many clubs indignant. The major point of contention is the planned increase in the size of the Centre's pub from 400 to 600 students.

According to Student Centre Committee Chairperson, Robert Castle, "clubs have to realize not all York students participate in clubs, so we have to not only good quality club space but good quality general space that all students can have access to. Our feeling is that the pub is such a space."

Gavin Ferreira, a member of the York University Hispanic Student association, believed that, "the Centre's capacity was to encompass all the student groups." But now he contends that "it's obviously turned into a money-making business."

In response to Ferreira's charges, Castle said that the "pub will be a revenue generator, but it will also be a place where students can eat in a nice environment, have dances, concerts and will be a great way to reach out to the outside community by allowing them to rent facilities during the summer."

The opinion that the Centre has become a commercial project is shared by other clubs. Members of these clubs feel their efforts in promoting the Student Centre vote were in

vain. In their view, clubs played an important role in last year's vote but are now being ignored. Ferreira noted that "What we voted for was something that we felt was better, not better than what we had, but a lot better than what we would have liked to have had."

According to Castle, a compromise is necessary to appease the clubs' anxieties. "Instead of reducing club space from 60 to 48 offices, we'll set the median at 54 offices. That represents unmatched commitment to club space in university Student Centre space," said Castle.

Rhoda Drash, a member of the Jewish Student Federation, stated that "one of the main reasons why the clubs were supporting this push for the student building was because we are looking to expand. We are looking for an area which will make us more efficient and effective on campus. So our whole reason for supporting [the Centre] was because we were going to be able to move out and grow."

For some clubs though, this growth may be stunted. According to this latest proposal, club office space is set at 100 square feet with the option to lease additional space. While it's feasible for larger clubs to lease more space, smaller clubs with tighter budgets will find this added expense difficult to absorb.

A lounge area of 240 square feet has been allotted for every four to five groups. If groups are of comparable size, this poses no problem. But, Michele Lichman, from the Association for Baha'i Studies, points out that "If a club [which] has quite a few numbers is given a small space and they're used to being in the club office then this [overflow from the office into the lounge area] could intimidate students from smaller clubs or just students who want to gather and meet a couple of friends."

Other reasons for the decrease in club space include the Day Care facility and the Atkinson College Student Association, which will also require space in the Student Centre.

Krishna members kicked off York campus during Veg Day

By DARYL SHADRACK

Members of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKC) were asked to leave York campus last Thursday after being accused of "proselytization" during the World Vegetarian Day Programme, according to Provost Tom Meininger.

"One of the ground rules (for the Vegetarian Day Programme," said Meininger, "would be on this occasion, no religious proselytization, meaning...a possibly aggressive effort to win adherents to a particular religious belief and doing so by the excessively zealous forcing of one's attention on others by special kinds of inducements and tactics." Meininger further stated that he did not know for a fact that the two representatives of the Krishna faith acted in such a manner, and has asked the Director of Student Affairs, Cora Dusk, for a report on the event.

Tom Salsberg, a member of both the Jewish Students Federation (JSF) and the York University Vegetarians (YUV), invited the ISKC to York, on behalf of the YUV, along with other groups such as: the Toronto Vegetarian Association, the Jewish Vegetarian Society, the Action Volunteer for Animals and the Canadian National Hygiene Society. Groups were invited on campus by the YUV in order to promote vegetarianism dur-

ing the World Vegetarian Day Programme.

According to JSF President Rayzel Robinson, members of the Krishna group, Gaur and Bhaktimag, "crossed the line between talking about vegetarianism and recruiting people to get involved in their organization... (by) inviting people down to their headquarters."

Sheila Wallace of the Interfaith Council who received complaints from a concerned student said, "clearly this group was considered to be on campus during the World Vegetarian Day for the purpose of informing (the community) about vegetarianism. During the course of the morning though the purpose for which this group was there was changed by them," she added. Wallace explained that, "If through vegetarianism a person experiences a sense of the spiritual, that is one thing. But when it or any other facet of life is used to direct or control the spiritual experience for any one group's understanding of the spiritual then we have to consider it as controlling and directing the experience into a specific channel."

Gaur and Bhaktimag, the Krishna representatives, said they did not think they had done anything illegal and, hope to be welcome at York campus...in the future.

Hiring centre closed

By PIERRE IMLAY

The government, in a controversial decision, has decided to close the Canada employment centre on campus.

According to the director of the Career and Counselling Centre, John Harries, the problems arose in August of 1986 when the Canada Employment Centre (CEC) on campus was reduced from five to only two staff members. The lack of advance notification of the reduction put the university in a difficult position.

According to Director of Student Affairs, Cora Dusk, "We were extremely disappointed to have an announcement at a time so close to classes that it basically rendered our services inoperable."

Later in the school year Dusk, along with Harries and University Provost Tom Meininger, went to the CEC and protested the move. In December, 1986, the federal government issued a reply stating that no further action would be taken.

In the interim, the Career and Placement Centre was revised to incorporate the employment services of the federal employment centre. In addition, it was to be operated entirely by York University staff.

At present, the University is still waiting for a government reply to the recommendations of a task force created by Dusk last winter. These included increases in computer facilities, office space, and additional staff for the Career and Placement Centre.

The result of government cut-backs is that York has picked up the additional costs. Consequently, the \$10,000 cost that the university had devoted annually to the centre has soared.

According to Dusk, York is no exception in these government cut-backs. The CEC has been applying the same measures to other universities, at the expense of staff and students, in order to cut costs.

Pickers harassed

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council. Cleveland requests that all witnesses who were at the scene of the crime, especially the driver of the yellow car, come forward by calling YUSA's office at 631-6519.

According to Michael O'Neil, Director of Security and Parking, one individual has repeatedly provoked verbal confrontation at the picket line.

Another YUSA member who asked not to be identified, said that some students "have been coming to the picket lines with squirt guns," which

contain chemicals that are irritating to the eyes. Also, he said one student got out of his car with a baseball bat and accused the picketers of jaywalking while threatening picketers with the bat.

According to Harte, only isolated incidents have occurred, and most students seem to be sympathetic for the strikers' situation. Harte also noted that picket lines are now ending at 8:00 p.m., so buses can come on campus preventing students from walking to stops off campus in the dark.

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