

CFS forces fee increase on students

by Elaine Bellio

Undergraduates at York may soon pay an extra \$40,000 a year for membership in a national student lobby group.

At a recent national meeting, the Canadian Federation of Students, which York students voted to join in 1990, voted to increase their membership fee from \$4 to \$6 per student.

Heather Dryden, a York Federation of Students vice-president and one of four delegates representing York at the meeting, supports the increase.

"The increase is needed because inflation has not been taken into account over the years," she said.

This means CFS is making only \$1.27 per student instead \$4, said YFS president Nikki Gershbnain, who also attended the meetings.

"CFS made a mistake in 1981, because they did not use the Canadian Price Index, and now they are trying to compensate for it eleven years later," said Gershbnain.

Last year York students paid \$82,000 dollars to CFS. This plan will increase fees by \$41,000 dollars to \$123,000 dollars a year.

CFS is a national student lobby group which provides services to universities across Canada. York students currently pay four dollars each as members. Atkinson and Glendon students are not subject to the YFS-CFS membership deal.

The national student group has two administrative wings, CFS and CFS-Services. With offices in Ottawa, CFS is the political wing and is responsible for lobbying and educational campaigns.

Toronto-based CFS-Services runs a Student Work Abroad Program, a national health network, owns and operates Travel Cuts, provides student saver cards and runs the Canadian Programming Service.

CFS chair Kelly Lamrock said the money from the fee increase will be

allocated to campaigns. "We want to be able to branch out with campaigns."

"Secondly, we want to get out to Canadians and tell them the importance of post secondary education."

Kelly also said CFS is understaffed. The national organization presently employ eight full-time staff people.

Currently, \$3 is allocated to the CFS and \$1 to CFS-S. The increase will give \$4.50 to CFS and \$1.50 to CFS-S. Delegates also voted to include a provision to account for inflation.

The increase was recommended by the CFS National Executive, which includes member representatives from across the country. The Executive told delegates the membership fee had not increased since 1981 and due to inflation, there is a need to increase it now.

"We need the increase to maintain the CFS services; it's unfortunate, but it has to be done," said Kim Newton, a vice-president at Carleton University's central student government.

Space school might split York

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approve ISU as a public institution. But he acknowledged that in the future "there may be another government in power that may make another decision."

According to Allen's aides, the space university would probably not be regulated in the same way as other Ontario universities. However, the exact nature of the arrangement would have to be negotiated with the ministry if York won the ISU bid.

Some York faculty members say they are worried ISU's precedent will help create a 'multi-tier' university system in Ontario, with expensive semi-private schools offering a more

"Students need a strong voice nationally and sufficient funding will better enable students to achieve a more accessible post-secondary system of education," said the motion.

The original motion called for fees to be increased to \$8 per student, but was eventually reduced to \$6 after debate.

York's student government has a contract with CFS and students will not get to vote on whether or not they are willing to pay it.

"We don't have much of a choice because of the legal contract with CFS," said Gershbnain.

Carleton University, in a different contract with CFS, may have a referendum, depending on their financial situation and whether or not the other universities have implemented it, said Newton.

CFS will re-examine its position if eighty per cent of its university and college members don't implement the fee increase over the next two years.

The CFS general meeting was held in Edmunston, New Brunswick from May 26 to May 30.

prestigious education.

Meuller argues that since the York Senate would have veto power over the bid, York would be able to negotiate a comfortable relationship with ISU. However, he says York would not be able to change the fundamental nature of ISU unless York were to reject the university entirely.

"ISU will very much need York University in order to function. [ISU] will have control over certain things, there's no doubt about that, but there's things they want and they will need the cooperation of people at York and U of T," Meuller says.

"That's ultimate control. If you have the ability to pull the plug on a degree, what more control do you want?"

YORK BRIEFS

Second Race and Ethnic Relations officer

by John Montesano

Weeks of protests, occupation of the university president's office and signed statements from high-level administrators promising direct action against racism in York's full-time security force seem to be getting results.

For students waging a long-time battle against racism on campus, the next victory is about to come: the hiring of a second full-time Race and Ethnic Relations officer.

Chet Singh is currently York's only Race and Ethnic Relations officer and has been responding to complaints, setting up seminars and counselling community members.

York Federation of Students Vice President Heather Dryden, who sits on a committee which could select a new officer as early as next week, said hiring a second Race and Ethnic Relations officer is the least the administration could do.

"Chet already is doing the job of ten for 40,000 students," she said. "It will mean more business will go through that office."

Footing the bill to hire a second Race and Ethnic Relations officer is one of the ways York's administration is fulfilling promises responding to a list of student demands.

The demands were presented to York vice-presidents, Security Director Pam Macdonald and other high-level administrators by over 300 student protestors during rallies last March.

The protestors are being represented by steering committee members who will ensure all admin promises are kept and sit on a number of newly formed committees.

Student demands included a full scale investigation into York Security by an external body, mandatory and ongoing race relations training for security staff, annual security review

committee, and the immediate firing of officers found guilty of discriminatory behaviour.

The Black Secretariat is the external body conducting an investigation of York Security.

Clem Marshall, former chair of the Black Secretariat, has initiated an ongoing race relations training program for York Security officers.

Marriott cashes in

by Sara Singer

Marriott Food Services has won the bid to take over the Central Square cafeteria.

The previous Central Square caterer, Elite Food Services, went broke two months before their contract ended with York.

"They (Marriott) have a reputation to uphold in universities across the country that they would not want to jeopardize by not doing their job," said Eric Steinbach, a student representative on a tendering committee.

The committee reviewed four bids contract throughout March and signed a five year deal with Marriott, with an option to renew for another five years.

Marriott also agreed to pick up the remainder of Elite Foods contract.

Marriott is one of six caterers on York and Glendon campuses. They have contracts in three cafeterias on York campus in complex one and two and now Central Square. Three other catering companies have contracts respectively in Osgoode Hall, Atkinson and the kosher deli cafeterias.

Although Marriott lost money in its first two years at York, last year it managed to turn things around and show a profit for the first time.

Susanne Cullen, director of Marriott Food Services at York said the satisfaction rate from students has been high.

For the new contract in Central Square she said students can expect a variety of fast foods outlets, including a Pizza Hut, a Tim Horton's, a deli, a charcoal grill and a chinese style wok option

Drop Everything

Harnessing Intuition

The second annual Global Intuition Conference will focus on issues such as how intuitive ability can be measured, and how intuitive skills can be practically used to increase productivity, profitability and effectiveness within organizations. At York University, August 20 to 22. Cost is \$300.00, or \$150.00 for students. For more information contact Dr. Rebecca Jubis at 736-5252.

York By Cycle

A York-based bicycle user group. The ring-posts are popping up everywhere. The more bicycles come on campus, the more they will be planned for. For more info call Ed or Mel at 322-9440.

Ride Board

Going somewhere? Need a ride? Have extra space in your car? Announce it and reduce your costs. Located outside the YFS office.

Bisexual Lesbian and Gay Peer Support Group

Discrete and confidential. Addressing personal issues, Continuing through the summer. Tuesday 5-7pm, at 315C Student Centre. Any hesitations call Doug at 736-2100, ext.20494.

Student Centre Childcare

The Student Centre Childcare will be operating its summer programme from May to August 7. The centre will continue to offer its flexible part-time care for children ages 18 months to 5 years, but will also be offering school age care on a limited basis, full or part-time. For more info call Denise or Lesley at 736-5959.

Drop Everything for your campus announcements. Leave submissions in the Drop Everything envelope in the Excal production room, 420 Student Centre. Deadlines are Thursdays before Wednesday's publications

**THE
 CLUBS
 COALITION
 IS
 BURNING HOT**

**Don't miss
 the next
 meeting:
 June 19,
 5:00pm
 313
 Student
 Centre**