

Student wants help for El Salvador

by Juan Carranza

World history is repeating itself in El Salvador. The tears, the agony, the pain, the fear, the suffering, the helplessness, death. All of these combined elements became a historic symbol of the barbaric slaughter of the Jewish people by the Nazis some 50 years ago. The world had paid an outrageous price to learn two unforgettable lessons about the potential danger of powerful men in blind and ill-conceived fanatic pursuits: fanaticism, and the cost of the world's indifference as a response to it.

One would think that the millions of lives lost during that genocide would be a strong reminder of our failure to respond to a cry for help. However, 50 years later, the people

of El Salvador are enduring indescribable pain as a result of persecution, torture and death by their own government's armed forces. This eerily reminiscent of the Holocaust, while the rest of the world looks in a different direction. I do not doubt that we all have valid excuses for our inaction but, I am also sure the people who sat by and did nothing during the Holocaust had their own excuses.

The people of El Salvador need our help. We can provide this by writing letters to our Minister of External Affairs, Joe Clark, urging him to use the Canadian government's new influence in the Organization of American States to seek a settlement to this conflict, and to urge the U.S. government to cease its intervention in the war torn nation of El Salvador.

In addition, the Salvadorean

community in Toronto has set up an Emergency Relief Fund to purchase medicines to be used by the Salvadorean Red Cross. This relief fund will also be used in the relocation of thousands of families left homeless by the brutal destruction of their homes. Your contribution is extremely valuable and appreciated.

A table will be set up at Osgoode Hall Law School November 28 and 29 to accept financial contributions and first-aid supplies. Cheques and money orders can also be mailed to:

Emergency Fund for El Salvador
555 Bloor Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M5S 1Y6

We learned in the Holocaust the painful cost of public indifference to human suffering, or have we?

Will York "run like a hotel"?

by Vicki White and staff

Confusion over the university's space rental policy has mounted in light of the student protest against the administration.

Norman Crandles, director of housing and food services and head of Hospitality York, said if York clubs are to engage in raising money, they will be treated like any other business. Accordingly, he added, any club trying to raise funds will have to pay a rental fee for the use of university space.

The CYSF distributed flyers in Central Square last week protesting what they called violations of student rights. Among the complaints were the "proposed introduction of charges for student use of Junior Common Rooms, Senior Common Rooms and lecture halls," and "increased rental fees for student events in dining halls."

Student clubs then marched to York president Harry Arthurs' office on November 8 at noon to demand some answers. Arthurs was not on campus, as he was downtown booking a trip to Italy, but Bill Farr, vice-president (finance and administration), addressed the crowd.

Farr, however, was unable to answer questions concerning the proposed rental policy. He said he was unaware of the situation but that he had a meeting planned with Crandles to discuss the policy.

Farr, the CYSF and even the Council of Masters are confused about both the existing and proposed rental policies.

Crandles said the CYSF flyer is not accurate. He said student groups have been subject to rental fees for the use of university facilities since 1986.

CYSF president Peter Donato blamed this misunderstanding on the fact that students are not kept informed about university policy. Donato said the CYSF only found out about the proposal on October 30, third hand through the Vanier College Council.

Donato also voiced some misgivings about the wording of the present policy. "There is a lot of room for abuse by the administration as the rules now stand," he said. This is one of the reasons

Donato is concerned that students should get a say in the new policy.

The proposed rate increases published by Hospitality York include an increase in rent on dining halls rising from \$38 to \$150 a night for student groups. For external groups, the rent for dining halls would increase from \$97 to \$500. Junior Common Rooms would cost \$50 a night instead of \$22.50 for student groups while external groups would pay \$100 from the original \$58 charge.

Deborah Hahn, account executive at Hospitality York, said "The increase is so steep because the rules and prices have not been reviewed since 1968. The prices have not been gradually increased as they should have been."

Crandles said the rent charged is used to pay for heating, cleaning, lighting and administrative costs of the university facilities. "Any profit made by Hospitality York goes to the administration to be put to use for the students."

Donato is not convinced. "Why charge the CYSF \$45 a night to rent Lecture Hall I for the Reel and Screen if they're only going to turn around and put it back into student funds?"

As it now stands, student and external groups must apply for the use of university space through Hospitality York. (Student Councils are exempt from this and any rental charge). Student applications will then be evaluated accordingly. If an event is restricted to members of the York community and no admission fee is charged, there will not be a rental cost. If any non-university funding is received or if an admission fee is charged or if an event is open to the public, a rental fee will be charged.

These rules were put into place by the Conference Centre (in charge of booking rooms before Hospitality York) in 1986, but according to Founder's master Arthur Haberman, the CYSF and various clubs, they were never strictly enforced.

Crandles said neither the existing policy nor the proposed policy are meant to restrict legitimate student activities. "A new policy is needed to curb the abuse of the system that has existed in the past," he said. "Groups who had nothing to do with the university

were able to use our space free, and many individuals went home with money in their pockets at the expense of York students."

For student clubs, the rules will be fairly flexible, said Crandles. If the proceeds of an event are going to charity for example, the host club will not be charged rent. External use of facilities during the year, he added, will be minimal.

All parties involved felt there were three controversies with the new proposal. The first is whether students should be charged for use of university space. The second is whether Hospitality York should take over control of booking college rooms from the College masters.

Also under debate is the issue of renting out rooms to external groups during the school year.

Haberman called the proposal to rent rooms to students "inappropriate." He said, "The Council of Masters is dismayed that it is even possible to consider charging members of the university for use of their own facilities."

Haberman is also opposed to the idea of Hospitality York bypassing the masters' authority when booking out college rooms. "The common rooms belong to the students and the college councils pay for their upkeep," said Haberman. "Why should Hospitality York suddenly take control of them? This is an academic institution, it should not be run as a business."

Student groups are split over the proposal. Andy Sitko, a member of the York NDP's steering committee, said "The university is making up for underfunding by bleeding students. The university facilities are here to serve the students... York should not be run like a hotel!"

Stephen Phiele, club secretary of the York Liberals, can't see what all the fuss is about. He says he has always known about the existing rental policy and that "\$150 to rent a dining hall is to be expected and seems reasonable."

Presently there is no indication of when the new rates may go into effect. The administration is split on this issue. There is a meeting scheduled between the masters of Winters and Vanier Colleges and Crandles for this week, to try and reach some kind of agreement about the new rental policy.

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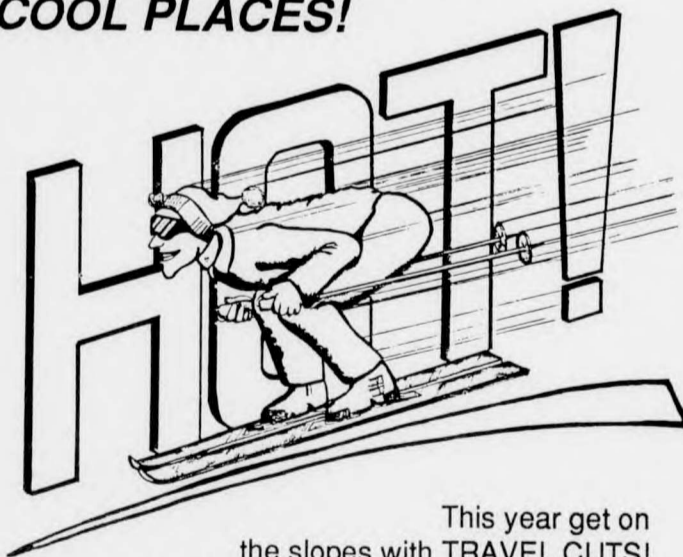
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