Overcrowding at York reaches critical point

By MARK WRIGHT

If appearances are to be trusted, York's space shortage seems to have reached the critical point. Overcrowded classrooms, hallways, cafeterias and parking lots make walking on campus feel like walking through St. George station at 5:00

Although campus construction will ease the problem, York still has the worst space problem of all Ontario universities, says Vice-President of Management Information and Planning Sheldon Levy. "York represents 25 percent of the space problem as a percentage of the Ontario university system," Levy further pointed out that York itself is short 25 percent of the space it needs. The provincial average is 12 percent.

Council of Ontario Universities (COU) Director of Communications Will Sayers said that increased enrolment is contributing to the problem. This year there are 46,000 first-year students across Ontario an increase of 9 percent over last year. Growing numbers of women, people from outside of Toronto and minority groups such as the disabled applying to universities account for some of the increase, as well as additional students from the grade 12/13

Another reason is the funding problem all universities in Ontario

are facing. According to Ontario Federation of Students (OFS) and COU reports released this spring, Ontario's funding for universities is 25 to 30 percent below the national average - Ontario placed sixth among the 10 provinces in funding support per full time student.

Associate Dean of the Faculty of Arts Deborah Hobson said overcrowding will not be a difficulty come November. "Overall, there is not a problem (concerning the number of courses available). The conflict arises when you have too many students wanting to attend a popular course," she said. Many students are sitting in on classes, "shopping around." By September 23, when courses can no longer be changed without the approval of Course Directors, crowding should be eased. As for line-ups, Hobson did point out that "line-ups are a fact of life at York."

Ministry of Colleges and University spokesperson Helena Moncrieff said that to deal with increasing enrolment the Provincial Government injected \$88 million into the Ontario University system.

However, University officials and lobby groups alike feel the funding is still insufficient. As OFS Chairperson Shelly Potter said, the overcrowding problem will continue without a "long-term commitment" from the

Tuition fees up 5%

By DAVID WEBSTER

Tuition fees at York, already the highest among Toronto universities, rose again this year by \$90. This represents an increase of slightly more than five percent since last

A full-time undergraduate student now pays \$1,665 for tuition, up from \$1,575 in 1987-88. The University of Toronto's fees are \$1,410, Ryerson's about the same at \$1,413.

The Ontario average, which last year stood at \$1,350, is now \$1,411.

Vice-President of Management Information and Planning Sheldon Levy said that tuition is raised every year as the ministry puts out a new fee schedule. All except \$200 of tuition is decided by the ministry and not by the individual university institutions

York's tuition fees may be higher than average, but they are not that out of line, said Duncan Iveson of the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS). The OFS is more concerned with an increase of close to 100 percent in the base cost of studying at Ontario universities over the last 10 years. (During the same period, York's tuition has gone up by 77

York fees are based on a rate of \$55.50 per credit, or \$333 for a fullyear course worth six credits. Fulltime students must pay a minimum of \$1,029 to register.

The highest cost of tuition in Canada is paid by students at Dalhousie University in Halifax, who last year paid \$1,630, or \$55 more than undergraduates at York.

Cost of a year's tuition for a full course load at York: \$1665

Average cost of tuition for a full course load at Ontario's Universities:

Cost of a year's tuition at York for a full-time University Staff or Faculty member and his/her immediate family: 0 (subject to certain conditions)

Cost of a year's tuition at Harvard: \$15,138.90 (Cdn.)

At Princeton: \$16,984.80 (Cdn.)

Cost of a year's tuition for a non-Missouri resident at the University of Missouri: \$5,697.22 (Cdn.)

Cost of a single room accommodation for a York undergraduate: \$2,050 Cost of a double room accommodation for York undergraduates: \$1,721

Cost of the minimum level scrip plan a York undergraduate in residence is required to purchase: \$1,300

Undergraduate college that boasts the greatest number of beds: Bethune

Undergraduate college that boast the fewest number of beds: Vanier (259)

Total number of undergraduate beds on the York campus: 1,610

Total number of apartments in Assiniboine Rd. and Moon Rd. residences:

Cost of a furnished bachelor per month in Graduate residence: \$278

Cost of a standard size two-bedroom apartment in Graduate residence: \$466

Cost of the average two-bedroom apartment in the City of Toronto: \$657

figures cited as the latest available compiled by Lorne Manly and Adam Kardash

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