

the way I want you to think, you will be penalized." Of course this entails its own problems, but what happens when our elected officials start to behave the same way, worse yet, what if they start doing so while passing themselves off as "we" the public. I can see that if you were grading my leadership qualities by your standards why I should fail. I stand firm on my stance that I am not a dictator, who bosses the rest of the executives around, and I feel comfortable working together as a collective with this group. If these qualities means that I am riding on the coattails of my executives, then let it be so.

One of the first rules of grading, is that the grader is qualified to grade. The editorial staff of the *Excilbur* seems to derive its authorization from spying on the YFS/FEY. I contend that as members of a body that is also set up to provide a service to the York community, they should make sure their record is above reproach before they go off grading others. Without addressing the issue of the management of the newspaper here, I strongly advise them to pay more attention to improving their performance as providing a medium for students to freely express their opinions, instead of speaking for them and ask you to follow the platform that you ran on.

Just out of interest, on the point of accessibility, I am not sure how far you would like this to go, considering you and your reporters have been known to phone me and others at our homes at all hours of the night.

Michelle Hughes,
YFS/FEY President.

YFS a leftwing haven

Dear Editor,

Congratulations to Doug Saunders for his appraisal of the YFS. I agree that our

Letters

continued

student government is in need of restructuring and that it should be given an active — rather than token — place in the administrative management structure.

I would also like to see less "revolutionaries" in the YFS. What we need are realists, people who understand that both the federal and provincial governments are cash-strapped and funding cuts and tuition raises are unavoidable. I have had my fill of the idealists and their utopian socialist drivel (prime example, Mr. Centa), who constantly whine and bitch because post-sec education is not free. (It probably never will be.) We need a YFS that represents the entire student body; at the moment it merely represents the leftwing fringe interest groups on campus.

I fully support the dissolution of the Office of Student Affairs: It is an administrative tool of manipulation staffed by people who work for the administration rather than students. The OSA should be transferred to the control of a reformed YFS, its staff to receive its paychecks from YFS instead of the ninth floor. Of course, I would support these measures only if the OAS were not subverted into another YFS medium for pandering its leftwing idealism.

Unfortunately, I do not believe these changes will come. YFS is dominated from top to bottom by leftwing representatives of fringe groups, who are there to play the game of politician and social reformer. Why should this close knit play group want to actually work for their salaries? (Prime example, our current president. Some socialist!)

The transfer of OAS to the YFS will probably never happen. Such a measure would be a direct threat to the power of

the top administration. Here I think Saunders is too lenient towards the Board of Governors: they are a collection of self-serving borderline fascists who draw large and unneeded salaries from York while telling us we must cut back. They too must change (or be changed).

What puzzles me though, is why *Excilbur* is bashing the YFS. For at least the last two years, this paper has been the political mouthpiece of YFS. In fact, I was surprised that the new offices of *Excilbur* and YFS were so far apart — why not side by side to symbolize their symbiosis?

Perhaps it is not just the YFS that needs to be cleaned out and reformed: *Excilbur* itself is completely dominated by leftwing idealist proponents of extensive social changes (revolution?). Anyone not proclaiming themselves a Social Democrat (trendy word for an age-old delusion) has not a chance in Hell of becoming Editor. Perhaps internal elections need to be abolished in *Excilbur*. How about a university newspaper that is directly accountable to the students as well?

Still, an interesting and well argued case, Mr. Saunders.

Chris Honke.

Excal offends YFS & Winters

Dear Editor,

We at Winters College Council found your article on abolishing the YFS and the college system uninformed and generalized. We work hard to meet our student's needs in all areas. We believe in being very open, hiding nothing, and, if students or faculty have any questions we answer them straight out. However, when comments are geared towards us, that are incorrect, we believe in setting the record straight. It would seem an article of this magnitude and impact, as

published in the main university newspaper would be researched properly. We believe it was not.

We invite you, *Excilbur*, to challenge us to an open public forum on this issue.

Therefore, let the record show that not once has *Excilbur* questioned what we do as a council, contacted us as to our events, or the way we spend our student's dollars. Our relationship with both YFS and other college councils has been extremely productive. We consider your article slanderous and offensive, and question why any responsible newspaper would allow such an article to go to press. In addition to challenging our student governments, perhaps York students should also be questioning the integrity of our student newspaper — the *Excilbur*.

Sincerely,
Winters College Council.

Incompetence is the issue

Dear Editor,

Re: "Professor claims sexism as reason for student boycott of film exam" (*Excilbur*, Jan 22/92)

Let me address Kalli Paakspuu directly: I am in the 2010 film class and feel that your complaints are completely unfounded. Last year there was a female prof for 1010 and I must say that she

was probably one of the best profs I've yet encountered at York (Film dept or not). She was quite prepared both technically and critically to assess and TEACH her students. I've highlighted the word teach in the previous sentence because I think that it should be brought to your attention that this is what teachers are supposed to do — What you did not do.

I reluctantly attended one of those ridiculous YVSA meetings where Film students sit around and attempt to get problems solved. One of the problems that arose was your inability to teach (there's that word again). And, as far as I can recall (which means this is what happened), the four students that spoke out against you were female, ie. of your gender.

And while you are slinging accusations of sexism around (and comparing your dismissal to the Montreal Massacre because it happened on the same day totally throws your credibility out the window — as both a teacher and person, not to mention as a feminist) let me point out that I take exception to your implying that because the majority of the people in your class were male, sexism must be the reason for the boycott. This sort of argument says to me that the concept of a male being able to take lessons from a female is not foreign to them, but to you.

Sincerely,
Lincoln Stewart

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