

Glendon votes to drop compulsory French

Glendon College will recommend to the Presidential Task Force on the Future of Glendon College that a limited number of places be opened next fall to English-speaking students who would be exempt from the college's normal requirement of taking two courses in French.

This was announced February 3 by Albert Tucker, principal of the college, after the counting of the votes cast by members of the faculty council in a postal ballot on this question. Of the 114 members on the council, 97 voted; 55 in favour of the proposal, 40 opposed and 2 abstentions.

Under the proposal students choosing the bilingual programme would be given preference for admission. An estimate would be made of the number of students likely to register in the bilingual programme in the fall; the difference between this estimated number and the enrollment target of the college would then be established as the quota for the second stream.

English-speaking students who choose the bilingual programme would normally be required to do one course in French in each of their first two years at the college. They would not be permitted to

transfer to the unilingual stream in their first year.

Students admitted to the unilingual stream would be required to take at least one course focusing on French Canada.

Faculty council on the same ballot endorsed the principle of awarding a diploma in bilingual studies in addition to the B.A. to Glendon students who fulfill certain requirements. These requirements will be worked out in detail by two of the College's academic committees.

Tucker expressed particular pleasure at the adoption of this latter proposal because, as he said, "It is an important safeguard of

bilingualism which remains as one of the central aims of the college.

"Now that we may have to accept a partial suspension of compulsory French it is all the more important to promote bilingualism by positive means such as the proposed diploma in bilingual studies, an enrichment of our programme of French-Canadian cultural activities, arranging for as many Glendon students as possible to spend some time in a French-speaking environment, and in many other ways. We intend to pursue these aims vigorously."

The proposal to open temporarily a unilingual stream was

made because the enrollment in Glendon's bilingual programme has not been sufficient to fill the college. First year registrations dropped from a high of 360 two years ago to 300 last fall.

However, based on the number of applications received to date, it appears that next fall there will be a substantial reversal of the trend, with a first year enrollment now projected at 425. If this encouraging trend is maintained over the next few years, Dr. Tucker said, the small unilingual stream, if implemented, would be phased out and the college would revert to its all bilingual programme.

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Excalibur

Vol. 5 No. 19

THE YORK UNIVERSITY WEEKLY

February 11, 1971

Profs reject Indian course for soc. dept.

By BOB ROTH

The anthropology section of the sociology department has rejected a request by a professor to teach a full-year course next year on contemporary Canadian Indians.

Roma Standefer says she is only being allowed to teach a half-year course which, in her opinion, places the study of Canadian Indians on the same level as studies of Asian and African cultures. (There are half-year courses on these topics.)

Standefer feels there is a need for more Canadian content in the sociology department and is upset that she is not being allowed to teach a full course.

Forum today on Canadian abortion law

Eleanor Pelrine, author of *Abortion in Canada*, will speak in Central Square today at 2 pm at a forum on abortion.

The forum, to be held near the bank, is the first in a series of events being held in conjunction with the York Student Clinic.

Background on the need for reform of abortion laws is provided in a statement released by the forum organizers:

"There were 200,000 illegal abortions in Canada last year, 45,000 admissions to hospitals for post-abortive complications, and 2,000 deaths or permanent disabilities.

"In Bulgaria, where abortions are legal, there were 67,000 abortions between 1962 and 1964 without a single death. In Czechoslovakia there were 140,000 legal abortions without a single death.

"Why must Canadian women suffer death and permanent disabilities because of an outdated law!" the organizers ask.

Abortion in Canada is the only book written with explicit reference to Canadian women, Canadian law and Canadian practices.

"I am willing to teach this course and I'm not being allowed to," she said in an EXCALIBUR interview.

"I offered to teach it as an extra load. I thought it was so important that I was willing to teach three full courses." (She is required by the department to teach two and a half.)

There is enough material for such a full-year course, Standefer argues.

"There is so much material you could sit and read two years and not read everything. Lack of material is not a problem."

Gustav Thaiss, who co-ordinates the seven-man anthropology section in the department, said the section was not yet sure it wanted to major in Canadian studies and was presently developing a "basic programme" before specializing.

He said the section wanted to be careful "not to go overboard to become a completely Canadian studies programme."

He termed Standefer's charges that the section was unsympathetic towards Canadian studies "utter nonsense."

Standefer, he said, was reacting to "the emotionalism of Canadian content."

A half-year course is being offered next year on "North American Indians", he said, which would include some material on Canadian Indians.

He said other universities in Ontario have Canadian studies programmes so there is no real need to develop one at York.

"We felt that there is already enough being done on the Canadian Indian. Other universities are doing a good job."

Thaiss also argued that Standefer is now teaching a course on Anthropology and Development that deals with Indians and claimed the two courses would be "essentially the same."

Standefer says this is untrue and she is spending only three weeks on Canadian Indians in this course.

"I feel that students at York who are interested in Canadian Indian people should have an opportunity to take a course that specifically focuses on Canadian Indians," she said.

At present Standefer is trying to get the section to reverse its decision.



photo by Harry Kitz

Well-known Canadian author Farley Mowat raises a clenched fist and urges students to throw off the yoke of U.S. domination during Vanier College's Encounter Canada. See page 12.

Arts faculty overruled

Halpern's petition invalid

By BARRY LERNER

The decision made by the Faculty of Arts allowing Howard Halpern to take all his courses on an ungraded basis is invalid.

In December, the faculty council finally decided to accept the petition of the fourth year psychology student, who had won the approval of his professors and the department to take his courses on an ungraded basis, only to have the request turned down by a faculty council committee. Halpern then fought that decision and won.

However, the university senate's Committee on Examinations and

Academic Standards has informed faculty council that it has no power to make such a decision.

In a letter to council chairman Hugh Parry, CEAS chairman T.K. Olson says that while the faculty council has some discretionary authority to grant petitions asking for waiving of a university rule, in "cases where a petition clearly extends beyond previous practice, the council concerned is obliged to seek senate legislative approval for the principal involved before the petition can be acted upon favourably."

Thus, the arts faculty, in order to grant Halpern's petition must first

get senate legislation concerning the taking of ungraded courses by any student and not just Halpern.

As for Halpern, Olson says he is legally "acting under existing regulations... until the senate passes new legislation." In other words, as of February 4 he is taking his courses like everyone else, on a graded basis.

The Council of the Faculty of Arts meets today and will decide if any further action will be taken.

Halpern, who has had his request accepted twice and now invalidated twice since he made the original request on October 26 was unavailable for comment at press time.