

York students demonstrate closing of pubs

By GARRY MARR

One hundred angry students marched from Vanier and Stong Colleges to the Provost's office last Thursday to protest the one-night closure of campus pubs.

Vanier Council President Phil Downes organized the demonstration to protest the "unfair" actions of the University. Downes and fellow students—with financial aid from the CYSF—distributed 1,700 flyers around campus to voice their concerns and to encourage a strong turnout.

Pubs in the college complexes were closed Thursday night in response to escalating vandalism. The previous Thursday, vandalism was reported in Founders and Vanier Colleges, McLaughlin residence, Central Square, and Curtis Lecture Halls, prompting the University to take action.

Downes and the colleges objected to the decision to close the pubs for not consulting the councils. In addition, pub managers estimated the losses for the night at \$4,000 for the pubs and \$80 in wages for pub employees.

Provost Tom Meininger said he was pleased with the turnout for the demonstration because it showed student concern. However, Meininger

said it occurred too late to have any impact on the night's closing.

Meininger told students that the administration was "floundering" for solutions to vandalism. He added that although it wasn't sure the drinking was related to the vandalism, the administration was "trying to send a clear message that incidents will not be tolerated."

"What I have done is offensive to the student body," he said, "I take the heat for that."

Meininger said the University would consult the colleges in the future on the vandalism problem. He added that "Permanent closure of the pubs is highly unlikely... unless there is a fatality."

Students at the demonstration said the one-night ban would force them back to their rooms to drink and create a potential problem in residence. They added that they would head to off-campus bars to drink for the night.

No vandalism was reported on Thursday but Meininger did not attribute the tranquil night solely to the pub closures. He added that if damages did occur, he wouldn't have blamed the pubs for it.

Crandles and Meininger will meet the college councils to further discuss the problem on October 19.



OUTRAGE!!! Angry students marched last Thursday from Vanier and Stong colleges to the Provost's office to protest campus pub closures

Reform concerns drafted

By ADAM KARDASH

A document prepared by two student leaders which outlines their major concerns with respect to student government reform will be presented to President Harry Arthurs this Wednesday.

Last week, CYSF President Tammy Hasselfeldt and Graduate Students Association (GSA) President Lee Wiggins drafted a paper which outlines central concerns the two have with respect to President Arthurs' Green Paper on student government reform. The Green Paper's proposals, scheduled to be implemented early next year, will drastically reform the nature of existing student government.

Most of Hasselfeldt's and Wiggins' paper contains concerns pre-

viously expressed by student leaders. The paper first outlines that the students have "philosophical objections" with the Deans' and Masters' Fund — a proposal which will give the College Deans and Masters student activity fee money.

"If this Fund is in fact monies from student fees for student events and activities... then why do democratically elected student governments not have control of the monies," the paper states.

Hasselfeldt added "that the problem with the entire situation is that we're relying on the Masters' and Deans' good nature. This is bad."

The paper did accept, however, that Arthurs may not budge from his stance on this issue. It suggests that if the Deans' and Masters' Fund is put in place that "there be some body or set of guidelines in place which would come into operation in the event of possible future disputes" between the Masters' and Deans' and the students.

The document also raises concerns about York's present grant system of collecting student activity fees. The paper states that, like every other University in Canada, student governments should have direct control over their financial resources by means of a direct levy.

It optimistically adds, however, that the student leaders "anticipate that... York will move to a clearly delineated system of student activity fees premised on the direct levies of other universities."

The paper also raises concerns with Arthurs' proposal that a specified percentage (10 per cent) of voter turnout be required at all referenda, ensuring a valid vote.

Wiggins and Hasselfeldt doubt if this change would be practical and suggest "more realistic" student determined guidelines — such as a specified number of polling stations and polling choices, and a minimum required amount of advertising.

The final point in the paper, entitled "Conflict of Tone," calls for the administration to treat student governments in "a like manner."

"We've raised the above concerns before," Hasselfeldt explained. "But he (Arthurs) has completely ignored them. This has to change."

Vanier Council President Phil Downes said he was pleased with the draft concerns. "I like the tone of it. I thought it was a very workable solution," he said. "It narrows the focus sufficiently... for the presentation to the President."

Bethune College President Peter Donato agreed with the contents of Hasselfeldt's and Wiggins' paper but was not sure the paper will have the desired effect.

"There's no way Arthurs will do anything about it," Donato said. "He's listening but I'd be surprised if he will make any changes."

Before their presentation with Arthurs, the college presidents will meet with the Student Relations Committee this Tuesday.

University uncertain about fire policy

By NANCY PHILLIPS

Uncertainty exists at York as to whether or not professors are liable if students in their overcrowded classrooms are injured in a fire.

In September, U of T's Dean of Arts Robin Armstrong sent a directive to professors warning them that they are responsible for class size. In the case of a fire they would be potentially liable. As a result, U of T professors now have the right to cancel overcrowded classes, or demand that unenrolled students leave.

In most York classes enrolment is limited and many are still overloaded with unregistered students.

York Director of Occupational Health and Safety David Kurosky said that professors know the capacity of their classrooms, and that if they encounter overcrowding they have to let their department know. He was not sure if professors would be liable in the case of a fire.

Dean of Arts Tom Traves said, however, that the Administration would be liable, and not the professors. He added that if a problem does arise, the faculty

member has to take it up with his or her department.

Traves' comments conflict with last year's Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations (OCUFA) warning to full time professors that overcrowded classrooms are illegal. OCUFA said that any faculty member in charge of a classroom could be subject to civil and criminal charges in the case of a fire.

Humanities professor Frank Zingrone said that "there is really serious trouble in this area. There is no policy at this point." He said that there is great pressure on professors to accept more students into their classes, and "we're wondering if we'll have to bear the brunt of transgressing the space rules."

Zingrone added that while there is concern among faculty over the non-existence of a policy, there have been inter-departmental discussions on the issue.

Kurosky stressed that the seating available in each classroom "meets the requirements of the law." He added that the university is in the final stages of posting capacity figures inside the classrooms.



OVERCROWDING causing more problems at York

INSIDE

TRADE OF THE WEEK: Anything for a double letter parking spot.

STUDENT EXAMINES GLASNOST: Effect of Glasnost on Soviet university students. Page 7

ZIPPY THE PINHEAD: jwcurry and Excal's Heather Sangster talk to bizarre comic artist Bill Griffith. Page 10

INDIE MUSIC FESTIVAL: A critical review of festival's finale. Page 14

TENNIS ACTION: York's Alex Nestor defended his OUA singles title. Page 19

Late-night service in '89

Despite the TTC's Planning Department's refusal to endorse it, a six month trial of late night TTC service will begin January 3. The TTC's Commissioners overruled the Planning Department but warned that service would be discontinued if students did not use the service.

When the trial begins, the last York University 106 bus will leave campus for Wilson station 2:25 a.m. Monday through Saturday.