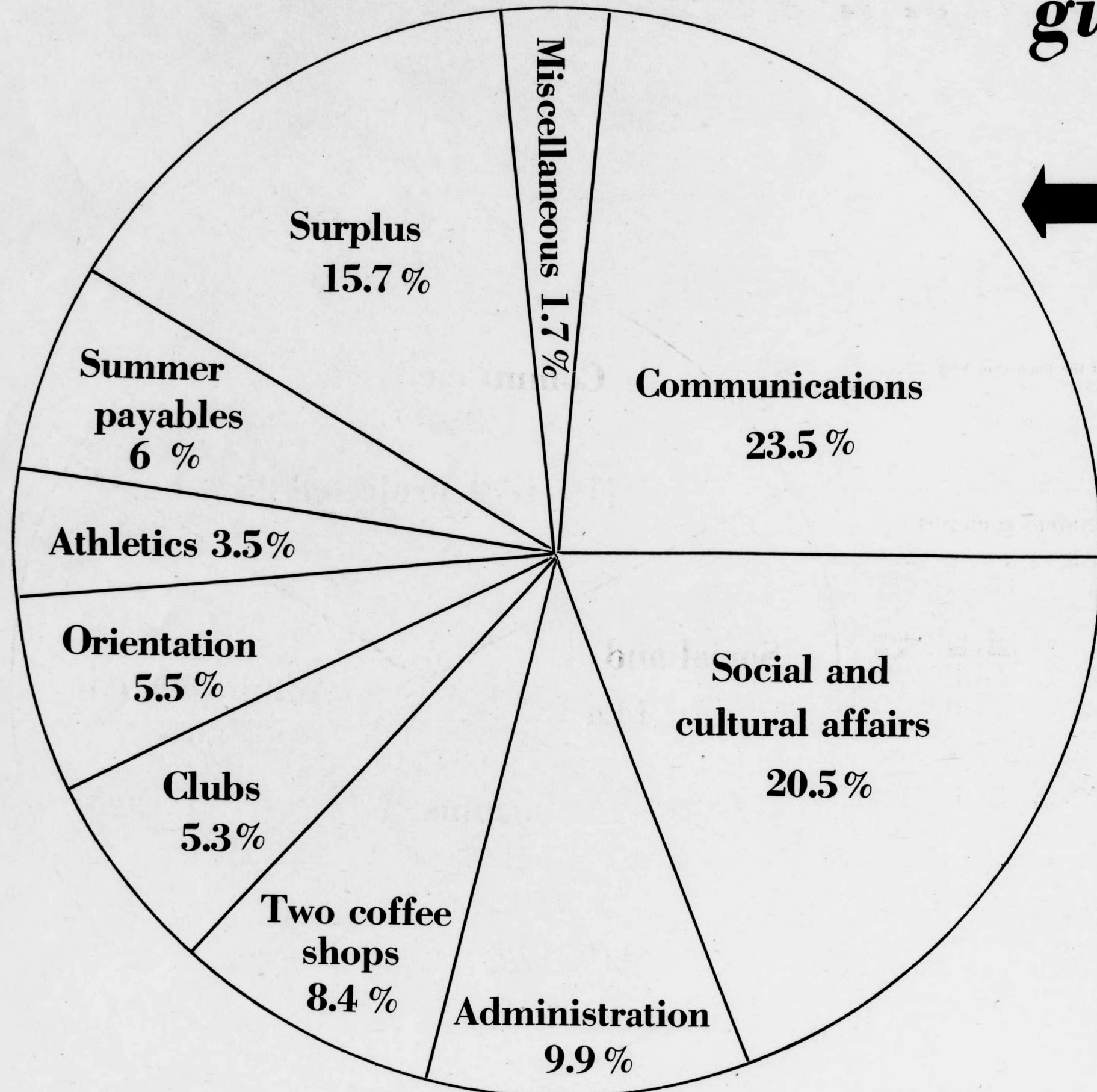


# The handling of student finances at York would give Edgar Benson heart failure

### 1969-70 College Budget

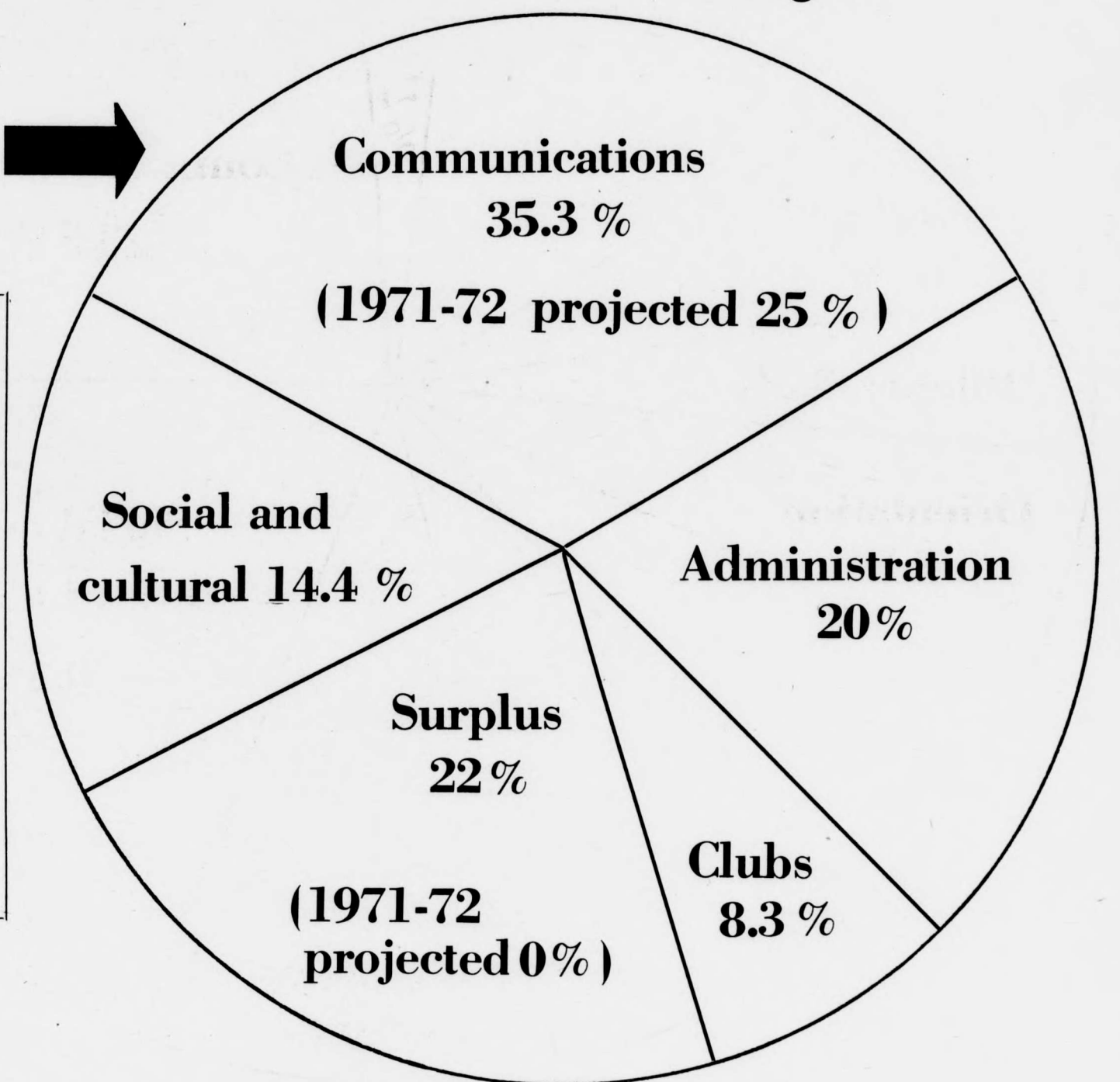


Combined 1969-70 budget of Founders College, McLaughlin College, Winters College, Graduate Business Council, Legal and Literary Society: \$101,235.

1969-70 budget of the Council of York Student Federation: \$71,853.

1971-72 as at Dec. 1, 1971			
(The following assumes a \$17 \$10 split between College Councils and CYSF. This is subject to the acceptance of budget proposals.)			
Undergraduates		CYSF	
Arts	5,893	McLaughlin	1,385 x 17 - 23,545
Science	937	Stong	1,385 x 17 - 23,545
Fine Arts	935	Calumet	500 x 17 - 8,500
Admin. Studies	407	"F"	940 x 17 - 15,980
Special Students	193	Glendon	8,365 x 17 - \$142,205
Glendon	8,365	Atkinson Assoc.	7,500 x \$1.75 - 13,125
Atkinson (individual students)	1,233	Legal & Lit. Soc.	900 x 17 - 15,300
Osgoode	900	Grad. Assoc.	679 x \$ 5 - 3,395
Graduate Studies		Grad. Bus. Council	252 x 17 - 4,284
MA MSc Ph.D. (full time)	679	College Members	8,365 x \$10 - \$ 83,650
MEA MPH A (full time)	252	Atkinson Assoc.	7,500 x \$ .25 - 1,875
Student & College Councils		Grad. Assoc.	679 x \$10 - 6,790
Founders	1,385 x 17 - \$ 23,545	Grad. Bus. Council	252 x \$10 - 2,520
Vanier	1,385 x 17 - 23,545		
Winters	1,385 x 17 - 23,545		
			\$ 94,835
		Gross Totals	\$301,503 +
			+ This figure does not include the total cash flow from coffee clubs in Founders, Vanier, Winters, McLaughlin and Stong College estimated at \$14,300 x 5 = \$71,500.

### 1969-70 CYSF Budget



Anyone with experience will tell you: college councils are idiotic in nature, nefarious in scheming and haphazard with student funds.

Each student pays \$27 in fees at registration with \$17 going to the college council and \$10 to the Council of York Student Federation. CYSF's budget must be approved each year by six of the nine college councils. Can you imagine federal finance minister Edgar Benson going to each province to get his budget endorsed? As you may have guessed, every year there's total chaos at York.

Each college council has a different constitution. (Calumet has no council at all.) No College council clearly defines what its financial responsibilities are, but merely resorts to exotic language on protecting the rights of its own college students. All fail to mention the rights of York students as a group. College council presidents rarely talk to each other and therefore operate in a void unaware of what the other is doing.

A look at the college financial statements for 1969-70 offers an insight to the yearly mess. Master of business administration graduate Steven Kelman prepared the audit of college council and CYSF books and his comments are incisive:

- honorariums should not be disguised under various college activities
- various expenditures could not be verified
- off campus expenditures cannot be justified in view of the college council constitutions
- off campus expenditures should be coordinated to avoid duplication; CYSF has proved inadequate for this function

#### Those financial statements

Excalibur investigated the 1969-70 statements of the Graduate Business Council, Legal and Literary Society, CYSF as well as the those of McLaughlin, Winters, and Founders colleges. Glendon College (on a separate campus), Stong College (a small account)

and Vanier College (Vanier's books are integrated with the University) were not included in the survey. Unfortunately the 1970-71 books of all those organizations mentioned are not yet ready.

#### Ah, those honorariums

The \$10,036 spent by the colleges on administration does not tell the real story nor does the \$15,192 CYSF paid into administrative costs. These figures do not include honorariums paid to committee and club chairmen. Thus the real figure for cost of administration is much higher — in fact perhaps over \$30,000 for the six councils checked.

#### Buy a piece of a dance

The college councils' approach to dances is interesting. They give partial support to any organizer — with no strings attached, then tell him to get more from other councils. They ask him to come back, but only if there's a profit. Quite naturally, few return.

Social contracts fall through sometimes and all money is lost or kept by the organizer.

Money is given to off campus organizations in the same manner. Few are checked for their authenticity or real need of funds. As Kelman points out, college constitutions do not provide for off campus donations.

This is not to say off campus organizations do not deserve support. Quite rightly they do, but CYSF should be handling it, not the college councils.

The six colleges spent \$23,581 on communications, the bulk of which went to monthly newspapers. Their quality was sporadic at best and rarely fulfilled any sort of news function.

#### Distribution of funds poor

Poor coordination of student funds seems apparent everywhere. Elected or appointed once a year, college finance commissioners have proven themselves incapable of efficient distribution of monies, not through their own fault but through the divisive and

duplicating nature of the college system.

Although in 1969-70 CYSF showed a surplus, this no longer holds true. New services such as the day care centre and student clinic together with the expanded communications service (Excalibur and Radio York) demanded more money. CYSF found itself increasingly unable to help campus wide political and social clubs. With budget cutbacks, communications and student services did not keep pace with York's expansion. Political and social clubs were sent to the colleges for money who in turn said this was CYSF's responsibility.

#### Some have surpluses

Since 1969-70, some colleges have accumulated surpluses with nowhere to spend it except on dubious ventures and their own administration. Calumet — organized last year — is an exception and is experimenting with farm communes and academic

formats. They have no council but a general assembly with an elected business manager. But this form of government will not work in large colleges.

If there is a solution to this inefficiency, it lies with a complete revamping of the college council system. With a projected \$273,144 in York student revenue this year (plus \$28,359 at Glendon), the present distribution of funds appears totally inadequate. The administration costs — despite the needs of campus wide service — will be well over the \$25,000 spent in 1969-70.

Most college councillors seem content with the present situation. Why shouldn't they? They get the lion's share of the money plus control over CYSF's budget. Like spoiled children, they will continue to jealously guard their paper kingdoms above the common good.