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Arthurs announcements will decide colleges' fate

By STACEY BEAUCHAMP
and JAMES FLAGAL

Two major documents, to be presented by President Harry Arthurs in the next couple of days, threaten to drastically reform the existing college and student government structures at York.

The first document, which is supposed to be released by tomorrow, is essentially a response to the Hare Commission Report, a study of the college system which was published last spring. Among the Commission's recommendations was for colleges to assume special identities in order to decrease commuter apathy and increase student participation in the college system.

College masters and student representatives were then invited to provide feedback on the findings of the Commission which were then submitted to the President. (For a full analysis of the Commission, reactions, and the college system in general, see feature on page 12 and 13.)

In his reply, Arthurs, acting on the recommendations and the advice of his colleagues, will be proposing the establishment of identity colleges. According to Vanier Master Mary-Sue McCarthy, "This will allow each college to have a clearer focus and a clearer mandate to meet the needs of students."

Essentially, colleges will be matched up with a separate faculty. According to McCarthy, it is being proposed that Norman Bethune College be associated with the Faculty of Science, Winters College be linked to the Faculty of Fine Arts, and the Faculty of Arts to be broken up among the remaining five non-faculty colleges.

McCarthy says that instead of breaking Arts up strictly among departmental lines, each college will have a separate theme. So far, it is suggested that Founders be devoted to the study of Values and Social Change, Stong to Multiculturalism, and Vanier to Cultural and Critical Values of Thinking. McCarthy emphasizes that the colleges will still offer courses in each area of study, but that students from similar areas of study will be brought together in one college.

Another document, which Arthurs does not plan to release until early next week, will outline his proposals for changes to the structure of student government. The document will be a response to the Student Relations Committee Paper published last summer which was based on recommendations made in the Gilmore Report.

Arthurs will be calling for formal responses to both discussion papers. If an agreement in principle is obtained on the college paper by May 1, then Arthurs and the colleges will begin the process of determining and setting up identities.

Along with Arthurs reforms, the CYSF has recently tabled constitutional reforms which underwent

second reading last Wednesday. The reforms call for reducing the size of the executive, redefining the jurisdiction of each student government, creating a Constituency Committee which will serve as a senate to the CYSF, and establishing a Governmental Affairs Tribunal (GAT) which will act somewhat like a Supreme Court.

According to CYSF President Drew McCreadie, both the Council's and Arthurs' reforms are completely consistent; they both call for the establishment of one undergraduate and one graduate central student government. Norman Bethune and Calumet College will become a part of CYSF. The fate of Atkinson College, Osgoode Hall and Glendon College have yet to be determined.

The model of student government, says McCreadie, will be changed into one like the federal political system existing in Canada today. The colleges will essentially be the provinces while the CYSF will serve as the federal government. College council representatives will also be dropped. Instead, each college constituency will elect a CYSF representative who will be responsible directly to the students rather than the college council.

After lengthy debate, the following amendments were passed. Duties for college representatives were established that are intended to prevent representatives from being elected in and "never heard from again," says McCreadie. Such safeguards include demanding that such representatives hold office hours and post a report on all CYSF functions. They will also be required to keep in contact with their college council government.

Changes were also made on how much a CYSF candidate is allowed to spend during a campaign. Any editorial endorsements and letters to the editor will not be considered benefits to the candidate, and therefore cannot be added to their budget of campaign expenses. Last year, Jill Shibou was voted in as President during CYSF's general elections, but was subsequently disqualified by a tribunal after she was convicted of surpassing the \$300 campaign limit.

During her campaign, Shibou took an Excalibur editorial endorsing her candidacy, photo-copied it and posted it around campus. The Tribunal says that this was an unaccounted expense and an improper act. According to McCreadie, the new amendment will prevent such disqualifications.

Also, members of the GAT will be required to give up their position if they miss two meetings or hearings without a valid reason. GAT will not be able to hold a meeting if more than one of their five members is absent.

Additional information on Arthur's documents, and the third reading of the CYSF reforms plus reactions will be featured in next week's Excalibur.



ANDRE SOUFLOUON

THE THRILL OF VICTORY: The Yeomen won their first playoff match vs. Laurier, in their quest for a fourth straight OUAA title. Tonight (Thursday) at 7:30 they face arch rivals Western at the Ice Palace. Oh, by the way, kiddies, leave the beer at home or face house arrest.

Job problems eased for visa students

By JAMES FLAGAL

In response to pressure from a number of interest groups over the past year, the federal government announced last Wednesday that foreign students will now be able to apply for jobs and get work permits without going through the normal validation process.

The announcement was made in the House of Commons by the Minister of Employment and Immigration, Benoit Boucher. "Canada has long welcomed international students, and we recognize the economic, academic, and social contributions these students make to our country. These measures will go even further to see that Canada continue to attract foreign students from around the world," he said.

According to Robert Greenslade, an Information Officer with Immigration, "Foreign students will now be granted permission to accept work without the jobs needing validation." This means that an employer who wishes to hire a foreign student will no longer have to prove to the federal government that the position cannot be filled by a Canadian.

Usually, such jobs must be listed at a Canadian Employment Centre (CEC) for a specified period of time, to allow Canadians a chance to get the position. The rules often prevented employers from even considering hiring foreign students, especially since the process takes so much time.

Work permits will now be granted to the following: foreign students working on university campuses; spouses of foreign students; foreign student graduates from a Canadian university seeking work for up to 12 months in a job related to their field

of study; and students who are currently studying under the sponsorship of the Canadian Education Development Association (CEDA).

Presently, there are more than 67,000 foreign students in Canada, with 1,548 at York alone. But the number of foreign students has been steadily dropping both at York and throughout the province. In the past five years, Ontario foreign student enrolment has fallen by 40%, while foreign enrolment at York has dropped almost 300 over the past year.

"I think the federal government's announcement is great," says Clark Hortsing of Student Affairs. "Foreign students have a lot higher tuition fees than Canadians, and they need all the financial help they can get." This year, foreign students paid \$5193 for a five-course load.

Hortsing points out that enrolment of international students from developing countries has also experienced a sharp decline in recent years because of exorbitant differential fees and the lack of federal scholarships. For example, only 53 from York's pool of international students come from African countries.

Hortsing explains that students from Trinidad and Tobago, for example, have especially run into financial difficulties in recent years.

Trinidad's currency was devalued so substantially against the Canadian dollar in the past year that students who at the beginning of the year thought they had enough money for a Canadian school now see that they will need more to complete their studies. For these cases, Hortsing says, this kind of legislation is essential.

But the government still has to answer many questions, explains

Hortsing. "For instance, will these visas also apply for summer jobs? And what exactly is the definition of a campus job? Can these students also work in businesses located on the campus?"

According to Greenslade, the Ministry's announcement is only the *cont'd on page 2*

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"The Free Trade Deal is a lousy deal for Canadians, especially for women."

SUSAN PRENTICE,
MEMBER OF CUEW'S
WOMEN'S CAUCUS
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JUST IGNORE IT: Polanski's latest film, *Frantic*, is not even worth talking about, let alone seeing. Page 12

ENOUGH BABIES: Hollywood's latest trend of revolving its films around infants is disgusting already. Page 13

BY THE HAIR OF OUR CHINNY CHIN CHIN: The Volleyball Yeomen just managed to squeeze by Laurentian in Eastern Division semi-final play. Page 17

Pub Brawl

In what started as a verbal confrontation over a girlfriend, ended with Stong College's The Orange Snail liquor license being temporarily suspended and charges of assault being laid against a football Yeoman. The whole affair which took place last Thursday night is still under investigation. For details see page 3.