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FACULTY OF ARTS, FACULTY OF FINE ARTS, FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Make the following changes to the Schedule dated February 21, and to Changes in Excalibur dated March 22

DELETE			
Sociology AS 363.6A			
Visual Arts FA 391.6			
Visual Arts FA 395.3(W)			
RE-INSTATE		TO READ	
Sociology AS 363.6B	1:30pm - 4:30 pm	Tuesday, April 24	Curtis K
CHANGE			
Humanities AS 273.6	10:00 am - 1:00 pm	Wednesday, April 18	FAII 312
Physical Education AS/SC 444.3(W)	1:30 pm - 4:30 pm	Wednesday, April 18	Bethune 323
Fisual Arts			
FA 262.6	10:00 am - 1:00 pm	Wednesday, April 18	FAII 312
FA 357.3(W)			FAII 308

York reactions

Peace in mid-east

By Mark Monfette

In Washington, on Monday afternoon, 1,800 invited dignitaries sat on the White House lawn and applauded the signing of the Middle East Peace Treaty.

At York, in the office of the Jewish Student Federation, 100 students huddled around a television set and also watched the signing — though not all applauded and few were comfortable.

"But," said JSF spokesman Charles Lebow, "the treaty gained the support of most of York's Jewish students."

"I think it's a positive step," he said, "and should be considered as such, though how much effect it will have on peace is hard to say. After all, it's only an agreement with one of the Arab states."

The minority of Jewish students who oppose it, he explained, do so because they believe Begin is giving away the Sinai in exchange for words. They fear that this will set a precedent of compromise for Israel.

Down the hall, at the Muslim Student Federation, President Osmangani Omar and spokesman Eb Omar were somewhat less pleased with the document.

"We are for peace," said Osmangani, "but the present treaty does not guarantee the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people nor does it give the Palestinians their land back. Until this problem is solved there cannot be peace."

Osmangani emphasized that war is probably more likely now that the other Arab states are united against Egypt, and Israel is increasing its armaments.

"If Israel wants to solve the Palestinian problem," Eb commented, "they will have to make a declaration of human rights. They must declare that the Palestinians have a right to self-determination."

"We want peace but it must be peace with justice and dignity. If Israel will not give us back our land the Arabs will have to unite and fight for it."

He described Begin's comments on democracy and self-determination as hypocritical and a "lot of baloney."

"But you must understand," he added, "that, as Muslims, we are forbidden to dislike any one people. We do not hate the Jews. It is the political ideology of Zionism that we oppose."

He also wondered why, if Zionists subscribe to democracy, posters dealing with Muslims or Palestinian events and issues are torn down the same day they get put up.

Amnon Cohen, visiting Israeli scholar and professor of history, also regards the Palestinian question as vitally important but does not sympathize with their political approach to the problem.

"The Palestinians," he said, "have never had autonomy. Begin is offering them more than they have ever had and they should be patient. If they have an all or nothing attitude they will get nothing."

The Jews, he pointed out, were always willing to compromise, to settle for second best. He thinks it was this attitude which allowed them to achieve what they have in the past 30 years.

"This is a major difficulty," Cohen commented, "but if you change several blocks in the puzzle the whole situation can change."

He suggested that U.S. pressure on Jordan and Saudi Arabia to limit their funding of the PLO might be one step on the road to creating the proper circumstances.

Cohen noted that respect for the terms of the treaty and peace are not necessarily identical.

"You can have a treaty but not have peace and you can have peace but not have a treaty," he said.

"And although it is a far from perfect document it is a first step to peace. They have started the snowball of peace rolling, they have started a process."

Professor John Gellner, of Political Science, disagrees, somewhat, with this evaluation. "No," he said, "the chance for peace has not improved, but yes the chance for war has decreased. The state of no peace, no war will continue. Only the threat of open warfare has decreased."

Gellner said he sympathized with the Palestinians (he was once a refugee himself) but that justice has no place in politics.

"It's a question of feasibility or unfeasibility," he said, "not of right and wrong." He regards the Palestinian question as practically insoluble.

Professor Naomi Black, also of Political Science, recalled the many years of hatred and bloodshed and stated, "Who would have thought that in 1979 there would be such a settlement?"

"I find it truly astonishing."

Prof blasts faculty union

By Hugh Westrup

A York faculty member has accused his own union of dangerous interference in the affairs of the university.

Isaac Bar-Lewaw, professor of Latin American literature, said in an interview last week that the York University Faculty Association has pursued a course of confrontation that could provoke retaliation by the powers that be.

Bar-Lewaw refers to the most recent YUFA newsletter, as an example, which he interprets as an attack on all influential sectors of the university.

The lead article in the newsletter, written by YUFA information officer Nicky Lary, describes President Macdonald as a man with "a healthy Conservative tradition of benevolent paternalism, along with a less happy tradition of deference to civil-service mandarins and to our quiet, inconspicuous establishment."

Bar-Lewaw insists he is not a defendant of the president, but views Lary's statements as unwarranted personal attacks on Macdonald. By printing such descriptions, Bar-Lewaw fears that YUFA will "polarize to the point of no return" and incur the wrath of the Board of Governors and the president.

"The board has the power and the money to screw us," he said. "You can't antagonize them. They could close departments or call a fiscal emergency."

The article also says that "in the absence of a vigorous senate", Executive Vice-President George Bell's "single-track budgetary vision of the future is determining—and threatening—the academic reality of York".



Randy Bregman

Isaac Bar-Lewaw

Referring to the Board of Governors, it says that uncertainty about the role of BOG has been "a source of demoralizing suspicion."

In response to Bar-Lewaw's charges, Lary justified his statements by saying, "the evidence of our dealings with the board and the president shows that considerable communication barriers have to be overcome. It is occasionally necessary to be forthright to reach an understanding. We have found that the administration responds to pressure."

"YUFA's role is to press those bodies — the BOG, the president, the senate, faculties — to pursue intellectual, spiritual, social moral and physical goals of York."

"The newsletter draws attention to the failure of the administration to provide leadership, planning, and follow-through all needed by York," said Lary.

Bar-Lewaw is also critical of those in the union who favour abolition of the merit clause in the YUFA contract. The merit clause rewards professors with small pay bonuses for producing work of academic distinction.

Bar-Lewaw says that a YUFA

contract without a merit clause will promote mediocrity. For support he points to a letter in the same YUFA newsletter by history professor Jack Granatstein who writes, "If a YUFA negotiating team brings a contract before the membership without a merit clause, I shall resign from YUFA and encourage others to do so." Granatstein was one of the co-founders of YUFA.

Lary's reply is that the financial reward of merit is meaningless at present because the salary structure of York's faculty is below those in most other universities in the province.

"You should first try to recognize the basic merit of all faculty by enabling them to keep up with the standard of living. Meaningful decisions about merit can be made only when we have a rational salary structure which doesn't exist at York at the moment."

Lary adds, "As Professor Bar-Lewaw well knows, there are other ways of protecting merit at the university. These include the dismissal of faculty members for incompetence and persistent neglect of duties."