

Who is considered a new student?

Ambiguities plague "foreign" fee system

By IAN KELLOGG and
MARY MARRONE

The Ontario government this spring announced differential fees for foreign students (from outside of Canada) beginning their university studies on January, 1977. But these new fees, which are more than 100 per cent higher than regular fees, may also apply to foreign students entering post-graduate work after completing their undergraduate programme.

This possible interpretation of the

new regulations was suggested by Milt A. Bider, the registrar at York. The ambiguity in the regulations concerns what the government means by its statement that students "beginning programmes" after January '77 will have to pay the higher fees (approximately \$1,500 per year).

The question is, does a master's programme undertaken by a visa-student graduate constitute a new beginning, and hence the higher fee, or is it merely a continuation of his earlier programme? No one

knows yet; however, the registrar's office has three groups preparing a presentation on the implications of the fee increases for the various university departments. Input from the departments will then become part of the administration's feedback to the government.

The registrar's office hopes to be able to clear up ambiguities in the regulations in order to let the 900 foreign students at York know where they stand. At this point, Bider thinks that about 200 new York students will be paying the higher fees next fall.

Criticism of the higher fee policy was voiced by CYSF president Barry Edson in a letter published in the *Toronto Star*. In response to the government's claim that higher fees were needed in the face of increasing costs, Edson pointed out that the new regulations would decrease the budget of the Ministry of Colleges and Universities by only 0.6 per cent. Responding to the government's protests that it is not Ontario's business to subsidize the education of foreigners, he claimed that Canada has a moral obligation to aid the development of the Third World.

In response to the government's claim that Canadians wanted the new fee policy, he said that on January 21, 1976, during the election campaign that led to the re-

election of the Conservatives William Davis promised not to raise tuitions in the 1976-77 school year. Edson also noted the government's actions might lead to retaliation against Canadian students seeking educational opportunities abroad.

The *Student Advocate*, a publication of the National Union of Students, also attacked Ontario's position. The paper tried to dispel some of the "popular myths" used to justify quotas on visa-students or differential fee structures for visa-students by presenting the following points:

1) While absolute numbers of foreign students have been increasing lately, their overall percentage of the Canadian student population has been decreasing;

2) Before 1968, Canadian students abroad have always outnumbered foreign students in Canada so that we still have a 'net debt in terms of international studies';

3) There is no evidence that differential fees will decrease the number of foreigners studying in Canada; they will simply shift the composition of incoming students from the poor to the rich. If this is true, then underdeveloped countries, which can least afford barriers to educational advancement, will be the hardest hit;

4) No important countries where Canadians usually go to study have differential fee structures; in the United States, differential fees are for out-of-state students, and are not specifically designed for foreigners.

The Minister of Colleges and Universities, Harry Parrot, stated in May that the Ontario government did not concern itself about any possible plight of Third World students, since foreign aid was a federal responsibility. However, he did propose that Ontario absorb the tuition hike of those students sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency. Parrot estimated, this would affect about six per cent of the foreign students coming to Ontario.

He noted that even "those foreign students who will be required to pay increased tuition fee will still be heavily subsidized by the Ontario taxpayer".

Ontario is not the only province following the higher fee line. Alberta is preparing for differential fees next year which may be more expensive for the foreign student than Ontario's regulations. As well, Manitoba is considering quotas on the number of foreign students on its campuses, in the belief that otherwise, foreign students from Alberta and Ontario will come to Manitoba.

Inexperienced Edson

continued from page one

When Edson didn't back down the ULC members left the meeting and the motion passed.

The August 5th meeting was devoted almost entirely to an attempted removal of council speaker, George Manios. The move was led by Andrew Madden, of Founders, and Al Dale, of Stong, both Edson Teamers. Manios was acting-president and a ULC member on CYSF last year and Madden said he felt "unsure" of Manios' allegiance. Dale cited his rulings at the previous, clubs resolution meeting for his own lack of confidence in Manios. The debate included personal attacks on Manios and members leaving their seats to shout at each other but after three hours, the motion failed and Manios was maintained as speaker.

Edson feels some of the difficulties experienced by council are the result of the inexperience of many members. He feels the council should be judged more by activities outside of meetings than by behaviour in them. He mentioned work done by council to support National Student Day. The National Union of Students (NUS), has called on students to protest cutbacks in post-secondary education by not attending classes on November 9. CYSF has arranged for speakers that day including; Stephen Lewis and Walter Gordon.

The CYSF, in co-operation with the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS) has organized an unemployment survey of York students during Orientation week.

Council has also been busy investigating the legality of rent increases in the undergraduate residences.

Evan Leibovitch, vice-president of student services and a former member of the Edson Team organized a petition to have the TTC's Steeles bus re-routed on campus. The TTC's decision should be known by the end of September. Leibovitch was an early supporter

of Edson's but now says, "If there ever was an Edson team, I'm no longer on it".

He was critical of both sides and said of Edson's performance "The straw that broke the camel's back was the treatment of Manios, it was like a personal vendetta by Edson and Madden."

Leibovitch was also critical of the clubs resolution. He feels it will be used against left-wing clubs on campus. He said, "They are not content with their majority and a lot of their motions and measures have been made with the implicit intention of eliminating the left on campus. There is going to be a fight about the clubs resolution. It can be used as a form of censorship and it allows CYSF to determine the goals and objectives of clubs".

Edson denied the clubs resolution would be used as a form of censorship and said, "I will state now that the Revolutionary Marxist Group (RMG), the Young Socialists (YS) and the Socialist League (SL) will all get at least minimum funding."

ULC Weisfeld said, "The ULC, as promised, has been an oppositional force over the summer period, which has led to the political and organizational disintegration of the Edson Team. They haven't kept the perspective on which they ran, in fact, Barry now supports many of the same platforms as the ULC. As a result, the Team has begun to fragment and the more conservative, Liberal members haven't been voting with Barry."

Mary Marrone, a ULC member from Calumet was more critical of Edson. She said, "His council has been undemocratic and arbitrary, with no time allowed for discussion of important issues. Discussion was cut off on the two most important issues of the summer, the clubs resolution and tuition fees for foreign students.

"CYSF should promote and encourage clubs rather than trying to limit them. Council should coordinate not control."

APPLICANTS TO MEDICAL SCHOOL

Applications for all Ontario medical schools are now available at the Ontario Medical School Application Service (OMSAS) for the 1977 session.

Completed applications must be received at OMSAS on or before December 1, 1976.

(NOTE: For 1979
the deadline is November 15, 1978)

Write immediately to:

OMSAS
P.O. BOX 1328
GUELPH, ONTARIO N1H 6N8

AGYU
ART GALLERY OF YORK UNIVERSITY
Ross N145 Mon-Fri 10:4:30 Sun 2-5

First Toronto Exhibition of the
Saskatchewan Sculptor

DOUGLAS
BENTHAM

'Enclosures and Opens' 1975/76
To Sunday October 3

TAKE A BREAK.
COFFEE'S ON US

Jewish
Student
Federation

mon.-fri.
9:30-4:30

S-101 Ross