

# Grade statistics show who gives most A's

By BARRY LERNER

The most likely way to get an 'A' at this university is to be a fourth year student on the York campus, in a course of under 25 people in either English, math, psychology or social science; or to be a first year Computer Science student.

The most likely way to fail is to be a student in second year, in a course of 100 - 150 students, in economics or math; or to be a first year math student; or to be a fourth year political science or philosophy student.

These are some of the conclusions which can be drawn from the summary of the Faculty of

Arts, 1969-70 breakdown of Department grades.

The report, which will be used shortly by the Committee on Examination and Academic Standards in its consideration of the role and relevance of grading in the university, shows that there are wide differences between the departments of the arts faculty with respect to grades handed out, and that grades differed according to course sizes.

Some of the general trends indicated in the report are that in all departments the grading profile was higher in the higher years of study. Grades on the Glendon

campus were generally lower than those on the York campus. Courses with a small enrollment had higher grades than those with a larger enrollment.

The department with the greatest proportion of high grades was computer science where 34 per cent of all people got an A or A-plus and 74 per cent of all grades handed out were C-plus or higher. Other departments with a high percentage of grades above C-plus were English (82 per cent), history (79 per cent), language arts (82 per cent), philosophy (81 per cent), psychology (85 per cent), sociology (82 per cent) and phys. ed. (78 per cent).

In contrast, 30 per cent of the grades given in economics were below 'C'. In computer science the rate was 19 per cent, in geography 16 per cent, in mathematics 25 per cent, in language training 19 per cent, and in both humanities and social science 12 per cent.

The aggregate figures for the Faculty show that about 14 per cent of the grades given were A or A-plus, 41 per cent were B or B-plus, 34 per cent were C or C-plus, 8 per cent were D or D-plus, and 5 per cent were failures (E, F). About 75 per cent were above a C and about

12 per cent were below a C (with the rest being exactly a C).

What the statistics seem to indicate is that a person cannot be judged on the basis of his grades alone. The student may have been

studying in a department where the standards were high and the amount of good grades low or they may have been studying in a department where the situation was reversed.

## 1969-70 GRADING BREAKDOWN: FACULTY OF ARTS

Subject	C-plus or above	below C	Fail (E,F)	A, A-plus
Comp. Sci.	74%	19%	4%	34%
Econ.	54	30	11	10
English	82	8	5	15
Geog.	65	16	5	5
History	79	10	4	11
Math	63	25	14	19
Lang. Tr.	67	19	6	11
Lang. Art.	82	6	1	18
Pol. Sci.	74	12	5	9
Phil.	81	10	8	15
Psych.	85	5	1	23
Soci.	82	6	2	19
Phys. Ed.	78	11	3	4
Hum.	71	13	5	11
Soc. Sci.	70	13	5	10

Figures supplied by the Faculty of Arts

## PERFORMANCE BY ENROLMENT 1969-70 (by grades)

Class Size	C-plus or above	below C	Fail (E,F)	A, A-plus
1-25	84.1%	8.0%	4.2%	23.8%
26-50	81.1	9.7	4.1	17.3
51-100	74.1	9.2	3.2	12.3
101-150	72.0	17.7	7.7	11.4
151-200	70.7	11.9	5.4	11.9
201-	74.0	14.0	4.9	11.7

## Students having forums on Soviet Union Jews

A campus-wide programme on the situation of Soviet Union Jews is being planned by a group of 20 York students calling themselves the Action Committee for Soviet Jewry.

The week-long programme which begins Monday is a response to the recent Leningrad trials.

The committee, which has been highly involved in recent demonstrations at Toronto city hall, Parliament Hill and Massey Hall, plans "to present to the university community a picture of what is and has been happening to Jews in the USSR," a press release states.

Each day next week students will set up literature tables in the central plaza where committee members will answer questions and distribute books, pamphlets and fact sheets on the question of anti-semitism in the Soviet Union.

A series of speakers and forums is also being prepared.

Tuesday night, in Lecture Hall II, room I, at 8 pm, the movie, *Before Our Eyes*, will be shown. Speakers to follow are poet Irving Layton, of York's English department; Alan Rose, a member of the Canadian Jewish Congress Executive Committee; and Coloney Yakov Kaplan, a former captain in the Soviet military and now a colonel in the Israeli Air Force.

Thursday night another movie will be shown before a second

group of speakers: J.B. Salsberg, former Communist MP for Spadina riding; Irwin Cotler, professor of international law at Osgoode Hall and special assistant to Justice Minister John Turner; and Jerry Rosenfield, principal of Associated Hebrew Schools.

Most speakers presently scheduled have been to the Soviet Union.

Wednesday afternoon there will be a student seminar led by some of the organizers.

Two of the committee's founders, Mark Clarfield (Science IV) and David Sadowski (Poli. Sci. II), stress that the programme is also very "action-oriented." Petitions and letters will be sent to the Russian ambassador and messages of support will be sent to Jewish families inside the Soviet Union who have made their names public.

The committee intends to continue functioning after the programme, acting at York and in the general Toronto community.



Some Yorkers, especially those in wheelchairs, have noted that walkways are not always cleared as quickly as they should be.

TIM CLARK

## Atkinson views Americanization

By PAUL THOMSON

The committee of Atkinson students formed last fall to look into Gwen Matheson's resignation has broadened its terms of reference and been renamed "Committee on the Responsibilities of Canadian Universities".

Matheson resigned earlier this year charging she was not allowed to teach Canadian Studies.

The committee which has a dozen members, will be manning a booth on February 27, Atkinson Day, the 10th anniversary of the College. They hope to "get feedback from the faculty and students" on this question.

The committee chairman, Bob Holden expressed the desire to stay away from the personality issues involved in Matheson's removal. Instead, there is a need to look at the university's hiring policies and its responsibilities to the community. The statistics on recent faculty appointments to Atkinson, released last summer, were "somewhat shocking" to Holden because about 40 per cent of the

appointees were Americans.

What the problem amounts to, according to Holden, is that "Canadian universities have a responsibility to the international community which most Canadian universities, including York fulfill very well. But when it comes to their responsibilities to this country, they fall down."

Holden feels there is not enough emphasis on, and research into, Canadian topics. Professors generally excuse the lack of Canadian material on their courses by saying there is none available in their field.

Holden asked whether "we (the university) don't have a responsibility to organize Canadian material".

He went on to say that traditional fields, for instance European studies, have been examined and taught over and over, while possibilities for newer analyses of Canadian fields have been ignored.

Holden believes there are times when the national interest should

come before the university's interest, particularly with respect to its hiring policies. He does not accept the alleged superiority of foreign scholars over Canadians. Since the sensitive areas are generally the social sciences, Holden proposes a 75 per cent

quota of Canadian teaching staff in these departments.

Further, Holden declared, "I would not like to see a backlash in Canada on the nationalism issue to the point that we put up absolute bars to outsiders; there has to be some middle ground".

## Glendon gets \$100,000

By ANDY MICHALSKI

The Committee on University Affairs has promised about \$100,000 to Glendon College to bolster its bilingual programmes. Glendon principal, Albert Tucker, voiced surprise when faced with the speculation. He said that it was his "distinct impression that the CUA was not prepared to make any extra grants at all."

Highly reliable sources say the extra grant will come on condition that the federal secretary of state change its policy towards bilingual institutions.

The \$100,000 appropriation to Glendon made up only a segment

of the report. Changes in formula granting include an increase in graduate student fees and a decrease of 50 per cent in graduate student bursaries.

Also, the plan to curtail the number of foreign students being accepted by Ontario graduate schools was declared unfeasible and will be put off until next year.

Sagging enrollment figures over the past four years have been blamed on the two years of compulsory French placed on registered Glendon students. Faculty of Arts students from the main campus have been used to fill Glendon's quota so far.

## Thieves obtain \$475 in goods in Vanier theft

\$475 worth of goods were stolen from the Vanier camera club sometime over the Christmas holidays.

Club president Jon Young reports the goods were not insured and the club is making a plea for them to be returned. If this does not happen, the club will be forced to pay at the rate of \$20-30 per member.

The equipment was heavy and the thief had to make several trips in transporting the equipment.

Metro police, who were called in by security as soon as the theft was discovered, believe they have a suspect. If the equipment is returned, no charges will be laid.