



Elaine Hui and Mrs. Pearl Kroll

## New computer scheduler to aid room allocation

What comes in a multitude of colours, six hundred little boxes, and takes six weeks to complete? It's the York University classroom scheduling system and it's due for big changes.

The Department of Facilities Planning and Management headed by R.C. Howard plans to install a computer system to substantially reduce the labour intensive method now in use. The Schedule 25 program, which will run on the main administration computer, is an optimizing scheduler focusing on placing the maximum number of classes while maximizing the average utilization rates of York's classrooms, seminar rooms and lecture halls.

Elaine Hui, Assistant Manager (Classrooms), is a graduate of the M.B.A. program here and has been working since June to implement the computer scheduling procedure.

In the past, planning for the September term would begin the previous December and January. The various facilities on campus (excepting Fine Arts) establish a schedule for their professors which covers the courses available. This information, along with additional faculty requirements, is sent to the Room Allocation Centre for the mammoth job of sorting out the individual class schedules.

The University is encumbered by its high utilization rates, which result in little flexibility for changes and additions once classes are in progress.

Class locations may prove to be inappropriate as a result of enrollment projections made nine months in advance, unexpressed faculty requirements and tight teaching resources. Once the schedules have been established it becomes increasingly difficult to find a spot suitable amongst the remaining vacancies.

In addition ad hoc bookings must be incorporated into the existing schedules. These include one time events, tests and Department meetings, film showings and outside group bookings.

The existence of the many start and finish times for the fall term, Winter/Summer term and Summer classes is an additional variable complicating the task.

The Room Allocation Centre is responsible for 183 of the 243 possible class locations. The balance are located either on the Glendon campus (which does its own scheduling) or in Fine Arts.

If you have found yourself in a class with one more student than available seats, don't get angry. Have a little sympathy for the people tucked away in a little cubby hole in the East Office building. If there was really an extra room on campus, surely they would have scheduled themselves into it.

The Room Allocation Centre is located in D26 East Office Building and can be reached at 667-2389/2287. The Facilities Planning and Management Director R.C. Howard can be reached at 667-2266.

## NEWS BEAT BITS

Lilja Lawler, Osgoode Hall Law student, received first prize in an essay competition sponsored by the Canadian Bar Association and the Law Reform Commission of Canada for her essay "Criminal Sanctions against Hate Propaganda Are Not Appropriate to Protect the Interests of Canadian Minorities".

Lorette Stocco and Carl Mandel, both recent graduates from design, received awards from the Society of Graphic Designers of Canada. The best-of-show prize was given to Ms. Stocco for her poster on the Toronto designer, Carmen Djunko. Mr. Mandel received an honourable mention for technical preparation for his poster on

the work of Carl Dair, the designer of the York crest and stationery.

The presentation also included a talk on design and education by Andrew Tomcik, former chairman of the Department of Visual Arts at York.

Greg McGuire, a psychology Ph.D. student, received the American Psychology Association Award, Division 26—History of Psychology, for the best student paper. His paper, "The collective unconscious: psychological research in French psychology (1880-1920)" will be presented at the Symposium on Controversies in Psychology during France's Belle Epoque.

## YORK gets \$400,000 for Canadian Studies

A \$400,000 grant to the Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies, from the Secretary of State's Centres of Specialization Fund, represents significant progress towards establishing a Chair in Canadian Studies.

Inaugurated in May 1984 the Robarts Centre has set a goal of \$1.2 million. Interest earned would provide for incurred expenses and recompense for the Chairholder when the incumbency becomes effective in 1985 or 1986.

The Centre has raised \$400,000 in private donations from individuals and corporations and has asked the Premier of Ontario to join in by matching the Federal with Provincial monies.

Acting Director John Lennox is optimistic about the Province's response and feels he may have an answer by year end. "We are hopeful that the Provincial government will support the Robarts Centre as it was established to honour the name and work of one of the Province's most respected Premiers," he affirmed.

In addition fundraising efforts are ongoing to establish post-doctoral research fellowships in Canadian Studies.

"A teacher's interest and commitment to his or her field depends . . . upon the ability and opportunities to pursue work . . . through various research projects," Lennox stated and continued that as a result enthusiasm and depth is carried back into the classroom. Additionally, opportunities in the area of research for young students are made available as their teachers undertake research in their chosen fields through these projects.

The discipline of "Canadian Studies" is a recent development. Virtually all of the research has taken place over the past twenty years. There are centres for Canadian Studies in every country in Europe, in India, Japan and many others. The United

States alone has between 150 and 200 centres reflecting its growing interest in Canada.

"I think this is one of the most important research initiatives the University has undertaken," Lennox continued. "It permits cultural definition. It has the potential to nurture significant research related to this country. Hopeful and most importantly, it gives us the chance of working toward securing Canada's academic future and to support the careers of deserving young scholars who are at the beginning of their careers."

The incumbent of the Robarts Chair will be free to do his or her own research over their year and will be asked to preside over several formal and informal research colloquia. The holder will present the Robarts Lecture which is a formal address and occasion. All well the holder will present one or two lectures on his or her own area of research.

Study at the Centre is both disciplinary and interdisciplinary which means that research can be confined to a single discipline like history or English or it can bridge two or more areas of scrutiny.

The long term impact of the Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies bodes well for York. In John Lennox's words, "It enhances the reputation of the institution nationally and internationally at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. In this day when Canadian Studies have become such an active interest of so many universities in other parts of the world, what we do in terms of research and writing works well for us—for York—for the field."

The Robarts Centre is located in N904 Ross and further information may be obtained there or by calling 667-3454.

The Centre welcomes donations from the York staff and Faculty to assist in funding the Centre's activities.

### Deadline approaching

## Rhodes Scholarships available

Rhodes Scholarships are available to men and women studying at York University but applications must be completed by the October 25, 1984 deadline if the application is to be considered.

Eleven Rhodes Scholarships will be awarded to Canadians again this fall. They will entitle the winners to study at Oxford University in England for two (and possible three) years commencing in September, 1985. The value of each scholarship is approximately £10,000 per annum.

The Rhodes Scholarships, established in 1904 under the will of Cecil Rhodes, are the best known of international scholarships. They have been the model for many similar awards in Canada, the United States and elsewhere. Rhodes Scholars proceed to Oxford where unique opportunities exist for general undergraduate studies and for advanced work in both the humanities and the sciences.

The present stipend is approximately sufficient to pay all expenses and to enable the scholar to take advantage of excellent opportunities for travel in Britain and on the continent of Europe during three lengthy vacations of the Oxford academic year.

Canadians, preferably in their third or fourth year of university work, who are unmarried and between 18 and 24 years of age, are eligible for scholarships.

Applicants for the Rhodes Scholarship are not required to write an examination. Selection is made by provincial committees after personal interviews and on the basis of the candidate's record. Although scholastic ability is of importance, such factors as character, qualities of leadership and interest in outdoor sports are carefully considered.

Some definite quality of distinction, whether in intellect or character or a combination of these, is the essential requirement.

Over 600 Canadians have now held Rhodes Scholarships. Many of these scholars on returning to Canada have had distinguished careers and made significant

contributions to the public life of this country.

Further information can be obtained by contacting York's registrar, Lynda Burton in C130 West Office Building or by calling 667-3029.

The Ontario Provincial Secretary for Rhodes Scholarships in Ontario is D.J. Hamer, Esq., c/o McCarthy & McCarthy, P.O. Box 48, Toronto-Dominion Centre, Toronto, Ontario, M5K 1E6.

## New building frees space for faculty offices

The projected demand for additional academic office space in response to the continuing high level of enrolment at York University has resulted in the construction of a new office building on campus named the West Office Building.

Located to the west of the East Office Building (formerly the Temporary Office Building), the West Office Building was built to allow the relocation of a number of administrative departments from academic buildings, specifically the Ross Building and Stacie Science Library, to create space for the projected increase in faculty.

As of September 1, 1984, offices located in the East Office Building include: Ancillary Services—Finance Office, Housing and Food Services; Facilities Planning and Management; Financial Aid; Finance Division—Comptroller, Chief Accountant, Director of Budgets, General Accounting, Student Accounts; Personnel Services; Physical Plant; Purchasing; and Safety and Security Services—Security, Fire and Safety, Parking, Lost and Found, and Key Control.

Offices located in the West Office Building now include: Admissions—Transcripts, York Enquiry Service, Schools Liaison; Community Relations; Department of Communications; Department of Development and Alumni Affairs; and Office of the Registrar.