

Divestment awaits provincial bill

By STACEY BEAUCHAMP

The percentage of York Pension Funds invested in South Africa has declined from over 8% in March 1986 to 4% as of September 1987. This amount will be further reduced by the passage of the provincial government's Bill 5.

Divestment has been an ongoing issue since January 1986, when the York Divestment Committee (YDC) proposed that York Pension funds be pulled out of those companies which have holdings in South Africa. President Harry Arthurs and the York University Faculty and Staff Associations were in favour of this motion. The proposal was also approved by the All University Pension Committee. The issue had yet to be approved by the Board of Trustees, an eight-member committee of the Board of Governors.

In February 1986, the Trustees' concern over the legal implications of divestment was expressed by Bill

Small, the Board's secretary. If, as a result of the divesting funds, a loss of revenue occurs, those beneficiaries who are against the move could legally sue the Board of Trustees.

In March 1986 the Board passed three motions on the issue. First, they stated that apartheid was "abhorrent." The second motion stipulated that in each area of the pension fund a proposal on the consequences of divestment would be submitted by each of the Trustees. Finally the board would seek legal advice on the issue. After receiving the legal advice proposed in March, the Trustees decided, in May 1986, not to divest York Pension Fund holdings in South Africa.

The YDC continued to exert pressure on the Trustees until the end of last year when the issue suddenly died down. Michael Stevenson, a YDC representative, provided two reasons for this apparent lack of interest. In the first place, some of the firms that the Fund held invest-

ments in were pulling out of South Africa, leaving a very small percentage of the total portfolio in the country. According to Bill Small, these firms were Amca, a Canadian company, and the US company, Cominco. In fact, this was responsible for reducing total holdings in South Africa from over \$278 million to just over \$11 as of September 30, 1987.

Stevenson's second point was that the provincial government had proposed legislation to "facilitate the divestment of the Pension Fund." Apparently, Bill 5 would enable the trustees to dispose of their South African investments while being protected from any potential lawsuits. Its first reading took place last April, but according to Small the elections delayed the process.

Both the Board of Trustees and the YDC are awaiting the government's decision before proceeding any further with the issue.

Vanier fears effects of SRC paper

By NANCY PHILIPS

In the third part of a series of articles focusing on the restructuring of student government, Excalibur's Nancy Philips looks at the Vanier point of view towards the SRC policy recommendations.

The Student Relations Committee (SRC) of the Board of Governors has submitted a paper on student government reforms for consideration by York President Harry Arthurs.

The SRC is recommending that Calumet and Bethune join the CYSF, and that faculty-based student governments be created. All undergraduate students, except for those at Glendon and Atkinson would have the option of joining either a college or faculty, or both. Only first-year students would be required to belong to both. To ensure funding stability for student governments, once a student's choice has been

made it will be binding for two years.

The Master of Vanier, Mary Sue McCarty and Vanier's College Council President Andy McCrae are both concerned about the SRC paper. They fear that college funding will be reduced, because of the competition which would result between colleges and faculties in their pursuit for membership. McCarty is aware that the majority of students are not involved in their college, and she said that "The average student who has no reason to care about their college will choose to belong to that which costs the least money." With less money, the colleges would have "less outreach," and therefore have even lower participation rates.

McCarty does not believe that the creation of faculty-based governments will increase student participation on campus. She said that the "Faculty of Arts is so big that I believe students would be absolutely lost."

One of the reasons for low college participation is a lack of space. McCarthy said that Vanier "can't possibly meet the needs of all of the day students." McCrae pointed out that around 2200 students belong to Vanier. He said that "if we ever had to serve 2200 people we couldn't. The space and facilities are not here." McCrae wondered how the faculty governments would function, as "There are no buildings on campus for them."

One of the benefits of college affiliation is the opportunity to meet people with varying interests, said McCarty. "If you stay narrow and focus on your field, I don't think it's as humane an experience at a university."

Both McCarthy and McCrae have faith in the college system and they believe that President Arthurs will not approve the SRC recommendations.

Filipinos reflect on their homeland

CAMPUS CLUBS

Cultural clubs have always been an integral part of campus life at York. Their diversity reflects the multicultural face of this university's populace and gives students a forum to meet people and get more involved in campus life. In the first part of a series of articles highlighting cultural clubs on campus, Excalibur's Graham Thompson focuses on the Filipino Students Association, their operation, and their views of the political turmoil which their native country is currently experiencing.

By GRAHAM THOMPSON

You don't have to be Philippine to join York's Filipino Student Association (FSAY). Like all of the University's clubs anyone can join. In fact, "membership is 15-20% non-Filipino," says Elmore Jornada, editor-in-chief of the group's monthly newsletter.

Most of the Filipino members have been in Canada most, or all, of their lives with only five or six visa students belonging to FSAY. Therefore, there is less an emphasis on visa student orientation than there is on educating interested students about the many cultures of the Philippines. "We have so many islands and each one has its own culture," Jornada said. While the main language of the northern Island of Luzon is Tagalog—with stress on the second syllable—the dialect can be radically different only 20 or 30 miles outside the capital of Manila. The country is also religiously diverse, with Catholics predominant in Luzon to the north and Muslims in the southern Islands.

Yet, for all this diversity Jornada says he had little trouble adapting to Canada when he emigrated here 10 years ago. "There was no major feeling of change," Jornada said. "The Philippines have been a very western-

influenced nation," he explained, which accounts for his ease of adjusting to the North American way of life. Another reason is that, because of the American influence in the 20th century, English is popular in the Philippines. Perhaps for these reasons Toronto Filipinos do not congregate together in tight-knit groups but are spread out in the downtown area and Scarborough.

"Filipinos have a loyalty to the United States," says Jornada because during the Pacific War US troops liberated the islands from their occupation by imperial Japan. Still, all is not well between the two nations today. Because of US support for former President Ferdinand Marcos who ruled the nation since the mid-1960s, and the presence of large US military installations there is uncertainty in US-Philippine relations. Marcos is suspected of ordering the assassination of Benigno Aquino, the late husband of current President Corizon Aquino. The nation was also under a state of emergency from 1973 until Marcos was ousted by the military following an election widely perceived to be crooked.

"I have a feeling that anti-Americanism is growing," Jornada says, "but I don't know how severe it is." While saying the US has taken the Philippines for granted, Jornada stresses that Filipinos don't intend their criticism to be personal. "It's sort of like 'I don't like your methods, but that doesn't mean I don't like you as a person,'" Jornada said.

US-Philippine relations have been like those of a family, explains Jornada, and now the Philippines is ready to strike out on its own. It is a natural change, not a result of failures by either party, Jornada said.

FSAY members are now preparing for the annual Multicultural Festival that many of York's clubs will be participating in later this term.

WINTERS COLLEGE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER 1987

MONDAY, 2nd
FELLOWS LUNCHEON*
12:00 noon-2:00 p.m.,
Master's Dining Room

TUESDAY, 3rd
POETRY READING—Eddie Linden
5:00 p.m.,
Winters Senior Common Room

WEDNESDAY, 4th
OLIVER BRADDICK,
"Matchmaking in Time & Space"
4:30 p.m.,
Winters Senior Common Room

SATURDAY, 7th
CONVOCAION
3:00 p.m.,
Tait McKenzie Building

NOVEMBER, 10th-13th
ART EXHIBITION
5:00-8:00 p.m.,
Art Gallery

WEDNESDAY, 11th
VIOLIN & PIANO RECITAL
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.,
Senior Common Room

FRIDAY, 13th
STUDENTS' CHAMBER MUSIC
11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.,
Senior Common Room

SATURDAY, 14th
PARENTS' DAY**

MONDAY, 16th
COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA
McLaughlin

FELLOWS LUNCHEON*
12:00 noon-2:00 p.m.,
Master's Dining Room

TUESDAY, 17th
MARKO CARYNNYK,
Slavic & East European Studies
"Soviet Politics in the 1930s"
(On the Basis of British Foreign Office Documents)
4:00 p.m.,
Senior Common Room

WEDNESDAY, 18th
BORIS KRANJA, CJRT
10:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.,
Senior Common Room

WEDNESDAY, 25th
LOUIS ANDRIESEN,
Lecturer/Demonstration
12:30-2:30 p.m.

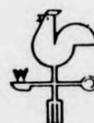
NOVEMBER, 27th-29th
MARYLAKE
(Reading Weekend)

*Students with parents visiting welcome to attend.

**Information—Master's Office, Winters College (736-5142).

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Dr. Stan Read
Dr. Diane Riley
Edith Springer

Faculty of Law, University of Western Ontario
Epidemiologist, Hospital for Sick Children
Addiction Research Foundation
Association for Drug Abuse Prevention
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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1987 — 7:30 to 9:30 pm

Auditorium, Addiction Research Foundation
33 Russell Street, Toronto

For more information, call 595-6102