

Poli Sci agrees to student reps

by Gale Campbell

The political science department has agreed to student representation at its monthly meetings and on its meetings as a result of pressure from students and faculty members.

Last November, about thirty political science members initiated an exploratory committee to investigate the decision-making process within the department. This committee decided that each polisci course should have a class representative to establish communication between the students and the faculty regarding such things as course content, counter-courses and examinations. The committee also asked for a student voice in the decision-making process.

As a result, the untenured faculty submitted a brief to the department faculty at large, recommending that students sit in on department meetings and that committees be set up.

The faculty had suggested that two undergraduates and two graduates should have a voice in the faculty meetings. The class representatives and their executives have said that this vote should be split three undergraduates and one graduate.

But according to department chairman Professor R.V. Prethus, the vote aspect is not really important since, "we usually do things by consensus, and no formal vote is needed."

Before the action of the students and the untenured faculty, the department had no committees. People just drifted together to make decisions under the auspices of Prof. Prethus.

Now five committees have been established: Departmental, Recruitment; Promotion, Tenure and Salary; Graduate Studies; and Undergraduate Studies. On all committees except the Departmental, which is composed of four students and the faculty

at large, there are two tenure faculty, two untenured faculty, one or two students, and a chairman appointed by Prof. Prethus. The class reps expect these committees to be meeting at least once a month.

Paul Harris (WS), chairman of the class reps, indicated that among the issues foremost in the students' mind were "establishment of communication lines; course content, structure and grading; and the ratio of American to Canadian faculty in the department."

Psyched out

by J. Lecander

Exams are a farce. Psych 201A's exam last Tuesday was a farce.

Only two profs were there to preside and the cheating that went on was phenomenal.

Two students directly in front of me chattered throughout — "I can't even answer one!" So her friend turned and asked for help from a student five seats down. A scrap of paper passed along the aisle saved the day.

Another student artistically decorated his examination paper with various profanities and then left early. Three seats down from me another person sat with his book open on the floor.

The questions were fair but were the lectures? The majority of students felt unprepared — the lectures had seemed uncoordinated, sometimes incomprehensible. Of course there were a few brilliant ones who somehow anticipated and spotted the questions correctly but a high percentage were totally confused.

A large number will probably fail but of course there is always the bell curve to redeem some of them and anyhow "it wasn't worth that much"

Ross company picketed by York students

Several York students have joined a picket line of striking engineers at the Continental Can Company on Commissioners Street. York president Murray G. Ross is a director of the company, which has hired a detective agency to break the strike.

The 20 members of Local 101 of the Canadian Union of Operating Engineers have been on strike for better wages and working conditions at the Commissioners St. plant since Jan. 5, one day before the company-dictated contract proposals were to be withdrawn.

The students joined the lines Monday, Feb. 3.

The union has stated that it will continue to strike until a satisfactory agreement is reached. The company, however, insists on dictating all the terms for collective bargaining.

Bob Sauliero, agent for the striking union, said the agency has a reputation for offering strikebreaking services and is using hired truckdrivers to cross the picket line at Continental Caan.

A York picketer, David Fairey (VI) said, "The fact that Continental Can is hiring strikebreakers should arouse the members of this liberal education institution to look twice at this particular dispute. What is the president of a liberal university like York doing, getting involved in these Strikebreaking and hard-handed tactics?"

Also, according to Fairey, the detective agency clothes its men in uniforms "suspiciously" like those worn by the Metropolitan Toronto Police.

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Noon forum grape hassle

There will be a forum today at noon to discuss the issue of California grapes, which Versafood has continued to buy despite a York Student Council motion calling for a boycott.

The Food Services Committee decided last week that grapes grown in California would not be removed from the serving tables.

This action was taken in the face of severe criticism of the committee by Marshall Green, communications commissioner for YSC. "We cannot let an appointed committee over-rule the decisions made by elected councils. We cannot deny our support of the grape workers," Green said.

He questioned the committee's legitimacy to deal with issues concerning students, since its members are not elected.

J.R. Allen, York's business manager, answered that "eight of the 11 Committee members who voted on the grape issue at the last meeting were students appointed by colleges, presumably with the knowledge and support of College Councils."

Speaking at the forum will be William Archer, an ex-member of Toronto city council, and chairman of the city's fact-finding commission on California grapes.

Archer has stated that the basic issue involved is whether people should continue to buy these grapes, and thus support the oppression of those who control grape production.

Allen will be there to defend the Food Services Committee's action.

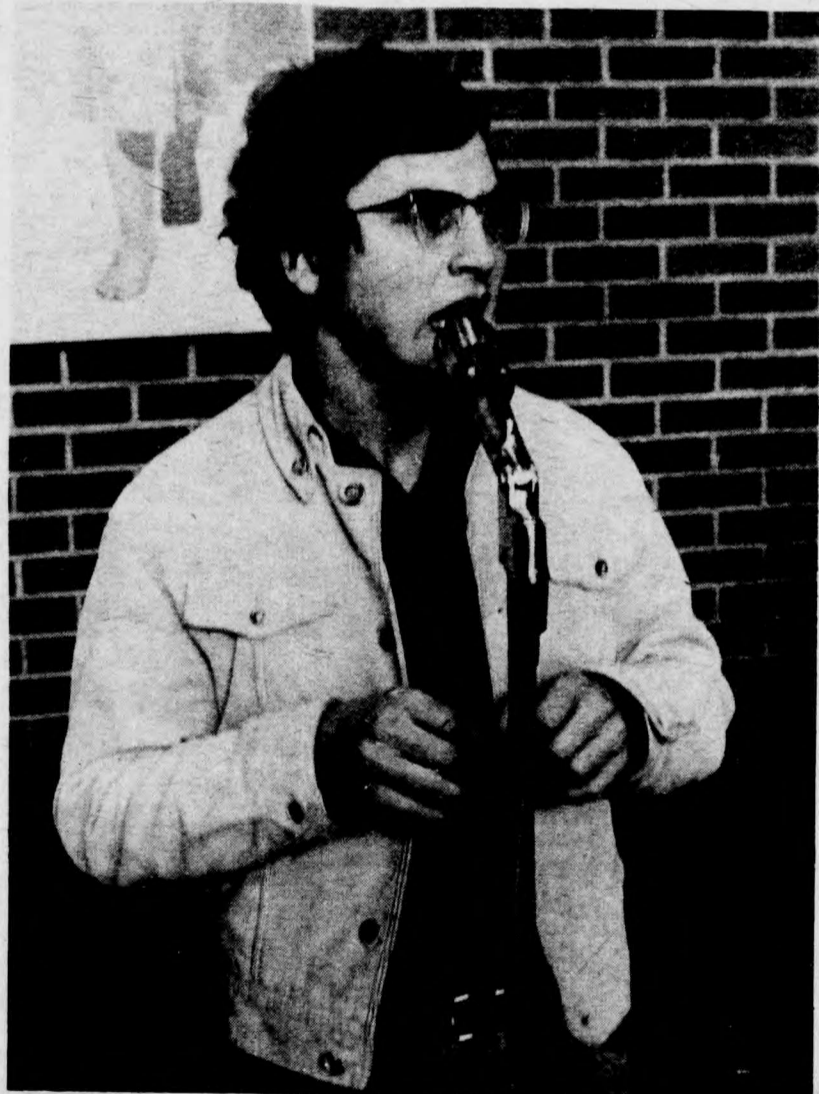


Photo: Dave Cooper

Karl-Dietrich Wolff, national chairman of the German SDS, spoke to about 200 students in Winters Junior Common Room Monday. Wolff defended the attack his group made on the Springer press last spring. He said there were over 2000 German students arrested in demonstrations. He was arrested on seven charges.

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