

"I'm only a very good teacher"

Student union launches petition for Benvenuto

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said that he was not aware that students were attempting to gather support for Benvenuto.

"We (the department) have one

of the best procedures at York for testing teaching ability of professors," he said. "Both students and faculty are involved, and they agree far more often than they disagree."

Hockin said that while forming its recommendation of Benvenuto, his committee tried to be consistent with the criteria for tenure laid down by senate.

He was reluctant to comment in any detail on the Benvenuto case. "That sort of communication should come from the department chairman," he said.

Questioned this week by telephone, political science chairman Edgar Dosman explained that Benvenuto's case had been "discussed thoroughly" at the department level by both students and faculty. (There are two students on the committee.)

"This is never an easy decision. But we had an absolutely full input from both undergraduate and graduate students."

Commenting on the political science student union position that Benvenuto's teaching ability had

been misjudged by the department committee, Dosman said, "Given the evidence, there can be no controversy about Benvenuto's teaching ability."

When interviewed this week, Benvenuto was fatalistic about the dispute gathering around him.

"I've never encouraged nor discouraged support," he said. "I've tried to maintain a hands-off stance."

Benvenuto admitted that, according to the surveys, he could not be called an "excellent" teacher, but only a "very good" one. He said he did not consider himself eligible for promotion, but felt he should be granted tenure because of his teaching ability.

While Benvenuto has not published, he has appeared five times on radio and television programmes over the past few

years, particularly as an expert on the Middle East.

Members of the student union feel that such activity is a form of scholarship and should weigh in Benvenuto's favour.

But Benvenuto is not hopeful.

"If the faculty tenure committee reverses the department decision, I'll have a fighting chance," he said, but added that the hope of that happening was "slim".

Although he has taught at York for six years, Benvenuto is still an American citizen.

"My wife and I would both prefer to stay in Canada," he said. "But if I lose my job here, we'll probably have to go back to the States."

Anyone interested in learning more about Benvenuto's case should contact the political science undergraduate secretary at 667-3739.

University approves food group request

By JULIAN BELTRAME

York's food service committee proved last week that perseverance pays off, as the university administration approved the committee's third consecutive request for an extension of its working schedule, after turning down the previous two.

The extension, which will give the committee an extra 10 working days before it has to submit its final recommendations on tendering models for next year's food service, was granted last Thursday, the very day the committee was supposed to hand in its recommendations and hang up its thinking caps for another year.

The committee, an advisory body to York's assistant vice-president of business operations, consists of 12 students and eight members from the university at large, and is charged to review university food service operations.

Committee chairman Peter Jarvis, who last week called the extension essential, said he thought that in granting the extension, the university responded to the logical arguments presented to it by the committee.

Norman Crandles of ancillary services said the extension was granted because of the growing viability of the Atkinson special dining hall concept put forward by the food committee at last week's meeting, and "so there could be absolutely no chance of the university being accused of pushing the process through".

"We discarded the Atkinson fine dining idea earlier because Atkinson had in the past resisted changes from its present facilities, and because of the room's inadequate facilities," explained Crandles.

He added that Atkinson dean Margaret Knittl had expressed interest in the idea, and that the expansion of present facilities is being explored.

Although no official decision has been made, the university is planning an extension of Versafood's and Beaver's (Glendon) contract until at least June 1, from the present May 1 date.

Crandles added that both caterers were asked if they would object to an extension of their present contract, and both were glad to oblige.

Watt forms new booking agency to co-ordinate campus activities

By TED MUMFORD

In a memorandum to college councils dated January 17, CYSF social affairs vice-president Angus Watt announced the preparation of a central booking agency to co-ordinate campus social and cultural activities.

According to Watt, the agency was

created to clear up the disorganized planning of current activities. He cited as an example of awkward planning the current week, during which four large pubs or dances are being held in a period of three days: Bethune's weekly Tap'n'Keg pub, two dances on campus — one at Winters college and the other jointly held by Bethune and Stong colleges — and McLaughlin's formal at the Inn on the Park.

Watt told Excalibur that such events would be more successful for both the organizers and the patrons if they were spread out over a longer period of time.

Aside from co-ordinating future activities, Watt said the agency will act as an information service as well as assisting in the booking of entertainment, for any group wishing assistance.

He stressed that for this year the number one priority of the agency, which will operate under the auspices of the CYSF from its Central Square offices, will be to act as a co-ordinating service.

According to Watt, the CYSF is already planning to bring Bob McBride and Mornington Drive to York toward the school year's end, and the March 5 Tap'n'Keg, which starts at 3 p.m., will feature both the Downchild Blues Band and The Greaseball Boogie Band.

A meeting concerning the central booking agency will be held February 25 at 1 p.m. in the CYSF offices.

Subliminal sex

A forum on Sex in Subliminal Advertising will be held Monday night at 8 p.m. at the St. Lawrence Centre, 27 Front Street East, free of charge. Wilson Key, author of Subliminal Seduction, will be the guest lecturer.

Computer threat scares innocents

A computer programming error resulted in between 50 and 100 students being threatened with 'de-registration' by the office of student accounts last week.

The office sent out letters dated January 31, warning all undergraduates who had not paid the second installment of their tuition fees that if they did not pay immediately, they would be "withdrawn without academic penalty" (a polite phrase which means expelled).

But a programme mistake included in the mailing list those students who owed only a \$15 to \$25 late payment fee.

Since the programme was run three or four days before the mailing, and since there is a lag in coding fee payments, the programme produced information which was from one to two weeks out of date.

CYSF president Anne Scotton expressed concern that this mistake might also affect the production of tuition receipts for income tax purposes, which should be done by the end of this month. But university accountant Colin Deschamps said this would not be a problem.

He told Excalibur that another series of letters would be mailed to those persons who shouldn't have received the first letters, informing them that the first mailing was a mistake.

Becker withholds Bethune student fees pending confession from college council

By OAKLAND ROSS

Bethune college has still not received the second installment of its college grant, and has not received any of its student grant at all.

Assistant vice-president John Becker explained this week that the administration is withholding \$11,000 from Bethune, including the \$7,157 balance of Bethune's college grant and Bethune's \$3,843 cut from the CYSF student grant.

Bethune's college council has not yet presented a financial statement for last year. Council president James McMurdo said that since last year's council did not keep systematic books, an audit will be impossible.

Becker explained that "traditionally, we (the administration) have been a little reluctant to forward funds to student governments if they have not presented a financial statement for the previous year. It is not my intention to make a terrible nuisance of myself, but it seems reasonable to ask the Bethune college council to provide its students with a statement confessing that there will be no audited statement."

According to Becker, no response to this request has yet been received from Bethune treasurer John Mariotta.

"But as soon as we get one, that \$11,000 will be winging its way over to them."

McMurdo admitted this week that the financial problem is Bethune's fault. However, CYSF president Anne Scotton was upset about the

withholding of the student grant portion of the \$11,000.

"That money should come to us," she said. "We reached an agreement with Bethune (which does not belong to CYSF) last November. They are to receive 30 per cent of their student grant and CYSF will pick up 70 per cent."

The total student grant for Bethune is \$12,810 (based on \$10 for each Bethune student). According to Scotton, that money should come directly to CYSF from the administration. CYSF will then send Bethune its portion of the grant.

McMurdo, however, did not agree.

"No, Anne is mistaken there," he said. "The entire grant should come to us. We'll keep our 30 per cent and send the rest out to central services (such as Harbinger, Radio York, Excalibur). CYSF doesn't even touch that money."

And vice-president Becker seems to have a third opinion on the matter. The \$11,000 which he is withholding from Bethune includes only \$3,843 (or 30 per cent) of the total Bethune grant.

He wants to split the money up before sending it out.

Meanwhile, the administration is still earning interest on the \$11,000.

Four vie for Glendon post

By AGNES KRUCHIO

The search for Glendon's new principal has entered its final phase, as the principal's search committee has narrowed the number of applicants from 66 to four.

The four candidates announced in Glendon College's last faculty council meeting are:

- Gerard D. Duclos, director-general, staff development branch, Public Service Commission.
- Philippe Garigue, professeur titulaire, departement de science politique, Université de Montréal.
- David L. McQueen, professor, department of economics, Glendon College
- Jack Warwick, professor, division of social science and department of French literature, York University.

The four candidates will be invited to meet the Glendon community and answer questions from the faculty, staff and students.

The names of the three final candidates will then be sent to the president's office with the committee's recommendation, and the successful candidate will be appointed by the president.

The post of the principal of Glendon involves, among other things, being academic dean, spiritual director and supreme administrator (a mini-president, in fact) of the bilingual college of 1,300 students, which boasts both a separate aim and a separate campus from York.

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