

## McCreadie must develop more conciliatory attitude

"If you continue to act like an island in a sea of others, you will soon find that you will be ignored."

Recently *Excalibur* obtained some correspondence between CYSF President Drew McCreadie and Social and Cultural Affairs Director Meyin Yap. Within one of McCreadie's letters, the above quote was found. The correspondence seems to indicate the divisions which are brewing within the CYSF executive, and it is McCreadie's responsibility as President to see that these are resolved. Unfortunately this is not taking place.

Further reading of the Yap-McCreadie correspondence demonstrates why: "you seem uninterested in the direction that I and the executive as a whole and as individuals seem to be taking, and therefore I do not feel an overwhelming desire to enquire about the direction you wish to take. We must have a give and take relationship. I'll be interested in your work if you are interested in mine."

McCreadie may have good reason for being displeased with Yap's performance, but he undermines his effectiveness in being a leader by taking such a confrontational stance. First, the Social and Cultural portfolio is probably the largest, including the maintenance of relations with campus clubs, and organizing the multicultural festival as well as orientation. There has been a lot of discussion about dividing the portfolio, and surely the present workload demonstrates that this should be done. More importantly, McCreadie has a responsibility to determine what Yap's complaints are all about, especially because of the importance of the portfolio. When one is President, it really doesn't matter who is right or wrong. As McCreadie himself indicated, he is most interested in the "smooth running of the corporation." While CYSF may not be a profit-seeking organization, he is definitely right about being responsible for ensuring that a productive environment exists within the executive, encouraging the Directors to co-operate with one another.

What McCreadie needs to achieve this is a more conciliatory attitude, and McCreadie spells it out himself when he replied to Yap that the executive should be a "close working group of friends." Friends, however, do not write each other formal memos when they work in the same office. Even those who attempt to be friends confront each other face to face when they have a problem. It's time for both Yap and McCreadie to settle their differences face to face and end their ridiculous form of communication.

McCreadie also fails to consult with the appropriate parties before completing a project. *Manus*, for example, was essentially completed without groups being consulted as to what description they wanted put into the student handbook beside their name. Similarly, executive directors and student representatives were poorly informed on the details of the orientation-day schedule, so they could not help conduct events.

In all fairness, McCreadie probably has valid reasons for all these mishaps and conflicts. Yet in response to a glaring need for greater coordination and communication McCreadie has instead pursued a confrontational and isolationist policy. McCreadie himself often seems to be acting like the "island in the sea" as he solely attempts to implement his goals. The President must be aware of the channels through which these goals must be implemented. Until McCreadie comes to this realization his objectives will drown in a sea of political pettiness.

## CHRY worth supporting

Radio York used to be like any other social club on campus—most who belonged would simply contribute at their own convenience while a committed few ensured its survival. Amazingly enough, over the past few years that handful of people has transformed Radio York into an efficient organization capable of receiving approval from the CRTC for an FM licence.

York University is in dire need of an identity. Radio York's new FM licence may not unify the student body, but it does give something tangible for York students to identify with. It's difficult to be proud of a slogan like "Up York." On the other hand it's easy to appreciate and identify with a station on campus which broadcasts to over a million people.

And for those who cringe at the thought of university spirit, the measly \$2.50 hike in the student levy asked by Radio York's referendum October 6 is worth at least the decent reggae, blues, jazz and rap programs which are sorely needed on Toronto's FM dial.

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## LETTERS

We will publish, space permitting, letters under 250 words. They must be typed, triple-spaced, accompanied by writer's name and phone number. We may edit for length. Libellous material will be rejected. Deliver to 111 Central Square during business hours.

### Negotiators point out *Excal* errors

Editor,

While we can appreciate the difficulties created by deadlines associated with producing a newspaper, the quantity and quality of errors in your article on the current round of negotiations between York and CUEW are so great that, in the interest of accurately informing the York community of what is taking place, a detailed response is necessary. Among the inaccuracies and misperceptions printed in your article, "Negotiations between York and TA union break down" by Tim O'Riordan, are the following:

1. The title, Negotiations have not broken down. There was a hiatus of one week that was simply a result of scheduling.
2. You quote Peter Kulchyski as referring to an 'informal '84 agreement' and as saying "there can't be more than 15 students." There is no informal '84 Agreement and the current class size language stipulates a range of numbers from 25 for a one hour tutorial group to 50 for a course directorship.
3. You quote Peter Kulchyski as referring to an 'agreement in principle' arrived at in the '84-'85 strike. There was no such agreement in principle.
4. Peter Kulchyski also did not say "I wouldn't rule out a strike in mid-October." CUEW will not be in a legal strike position until much later than that and does not envisage the possibility of an illegal strike.
5. Paula O'Reilly did not say that "the University is attempting to reduce the number of full-time faculty hired through CLAS in the wake of under funding."
6. Paula O'Reilly also did not say "we have over 150 part-time Faculty now." As you report earlier in the article, CUEW represents somewhat over 1500 part-time faculty and graduate student teaching assistants.

7. You close the article with the statement that "York students and professors could find themselves without supporting TAs as early as October 13." In fact, there is no strike date currently set by CUEW.

In general, the tone of your article is more alarmist than either of the two parties at the present would like to convey. There are serious issues—including class size—that we are a long way from settling. We have also made important progress on other issues and negotiations continue to be fruitful. CUEW does not rule out the possibility of a strike and is preparing for that possibility, but we will not take an illegal strike and are not the first and undoubtedly won't be the last people to cry "misquote." We think, though, that it is in the interest of your readers that the serious misperceptions created by your article be corrected. Taking a philosophical view, we might say that if it has done nothing else, in the sometimes stressful process of negotiations your article has brought us together on at least one thing: this letter.

Sincerely,  
Peter Kulchyski  
Chief Negotiator, CUEW  
Paula O'Reilly  
Legal and Employee Relations  
Officer, York University

### Liberty coalition means freedom

Editor,

This letter concerns the disturbance that occurred in Central Square as a result of the presence of the Liberty Coalition at the CYSF Clubs Fair. If the CYSF guidelines prohibit clubs that practice or advocate "activities including violence, racism, hatred or sexism," then just what the heck are groups like the International Socialists or the "Third World Forum" doing on campus? These clubs advocate, as a crucial tenet of their ideology, the seizure of the individual's private property by force. There was a group

last week in Central Square taking donations for the ANC (African National Congress), a *terrorist* organization. And what tactics did the anti-capitalists of that mob use against the Liberty Coalition? Violence, bullying, threats and slander.

Meiyin Yap's hypocritical attitude in response to this situation absolutely astounded me. She bowed to pressure from a violent mob to shut down an organization which advocates a system of voluntary exchange between people, *not* "violence, racism, hatred or sexism." She obviously evaded the fact that it is the socialists who consistently advocate violence and, as the events in Central Square have shown, practice it.

I read with interest that one of the mob's leaders was affronted by the Coalition's use of an American flag in their display. I've seen a lot of different flags displayed in Central Square by international student clubs and such over the years, and I was wondering if any of those flags offended that fellow's citizenship, too. No? You mean only *certain* flags and *certain* cultures affronted you? Sounds like a kind of racist attitude to me.

Come to think of it, the International Socialists always display a big red flag over their table. This flag and the ideology it represents is an affront to my individuality, but I don't go tipping over their table and threatening them with violence.

The more I see my fundamental freedoms being eroded, the more I see the need for groups like the Liberty Coalition. And the crying need for people in CYSF with the brains to apply their own club guidelines properly.

Marc Venema

### Third World Forum responds

Some, under the banner of free speech, attempt to disinform and misrepresent. Some disseminate

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