

Summer student conferences

Councils make bid for co-operation

By Paul Stuart
After years of isolationism, York's numerous student councils made a stab at working together

this summer in a series of three conferences held in May, June and August.
The host was the Council of the

York Student Federation. Other participants were representatives from the undergraduate college councils and general meetings,

including Glendon, plus the Atkinson College Student Association, and the Osgoode Hall Legal and Literary Society. The conferences were conceived last year by this year's CYSF president, David Chodikoff and last year's, Paul Hayden.

editorial control rests in the hands of working staff members. In order to make the system work, the colleges must ensure that their representative report back to their constituencies. On the other hand, Excalibur's editors must strive to create an open, democratic environment in the newsroom, and actively recruit contributors from every area of the community.

It is too early to tell if the conferences will spark a regeneration of the student movement at York. But for the first time in anyone's memory, the elected officers who, between them, administer hundreds of thousands of your dollars, were trying to co-ordinate their actions.

In what will probably be one of the more popular moves of the summer, the May conference voted to financially support a CYSF arts festival in late October or early November.

The first conference, held May 5 to 7, voted to:

- Study the feasibility of a student operated food service in Central Square.
- Approach the administration to find a solution to overcrowding in Central Square.
- Study a possible CYSF takeover of Oasis.

In an effort to see if some re-organizing of the central council might improve a situation where student politicians have only come together to bicker, the June conference was devoted to CYSF's constitution.

Other motions from the conference were aimed at communications and social services. Delegates voted in favour of attempting to improve Radio York's service and reviewing the station in April '79.

The first motion proposed a new system of representation to CYSF. Presently, three representatives are elected to the council from each college constituency in a general election held in March (although the CYSF elections are held separately from those of the college councils). As a result of the June discussions, David Chodikoff placed a motion before the council on September 7, which proposed that the president or chairperson of each college co automatically have a seat on the council. Individual colleges would each have the option of choosing another delegate representative to sit on the council, with two reps to be elected at large. Another motion, would have CYSF and its member constituencies co-ordinate their elections, Feb. 1 - Mar. 15.

The conference voted for a review of Excalibur's Board of Publications, to determine the legal control the community has over the newspaper and support a revamping of the Board "to facilitate greater college participation.

In this regard, Excalibur made a presentation at the August Update conference. The basic themes of the presentation were that the community has complete financial control over the paper, while

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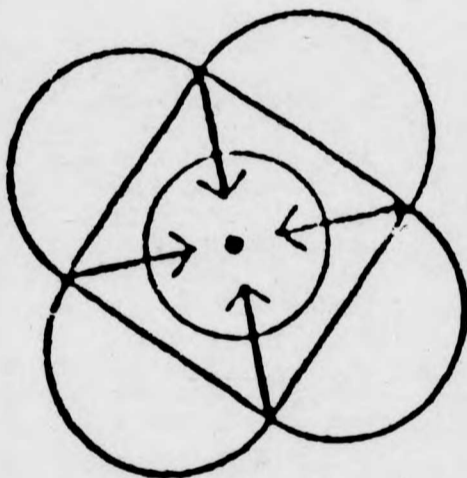
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What is PHIACS?

PHIACS represents the Physically Handicapped Independent Advancement Community Services. Incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1976, PHIACS is primarily concerned with providing transportation services for the physically handicapped and elderly residents of Metropolitan Toronto. Its founder and President is Benny Graf, a cerebral palsy victim.

provincial governments has helped ease some frustrations of the physically handicapped, but this service is limited.

Our Objective:

PHIACS hopes to overcome the lack of affordable and reliable transportation services encountered day-in, day-out by Toronto's handicapped and elderly citizens.

Our Concern

Today, Toronto's physically handicapped and elderly citizens experience an acute restriction in their daily activities. Think about your daily activities for a minute. At least once a day most people do one or more of the following, shop, dine at their favourite restaurant, see a movie, visit a friend, go to the theatre, attend a sporting event, or go to the library. Everyday dreams for Toronto's physically handicapped.

True, there is something being done to bring handicapped individuals closer to the mainstream of normal life. Metro's "Wheel-Trans Project" that was initiated in 1976 through the combined goodwill of the municipal and

How You Can Help

There are a number of ways in which you and your organization can contribute to our cause. Obviously, we need money. Between \$20,000 and \$30,000 a year is needed to hire and train drivers and operate the service for which passengers will be charged a nominal fee. But besides tax-deductible donations, we need people. People to help operate our transportation service. People to help us raise the necessary funds and gain municipal, corporate and public recognition of our objectives.

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