

EXCALIBUR

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INSIDE
*With clean hands
and pure heart:
Canada and Vietnam*

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York joins Glendon protest

Admissions office occupied



Students in occupied territory vote to spend the night. The group prepared a leaflet outlining its demands and is organizing a mass meeting today at 1 p.m.

By MARILYN SMITH
and PAUL THOMSON

Dual occupations in the admissions offices are now underway at both Glendon and the main campus and students involved say they are settling in for a long-term protest over attempts to force them to pay their second term fees.

The protest is aimed at the provincial government and this year's \$100 hike and \$200 increase in loan ceilings over outright grants. Over 40,000 students across the province voted last fall to protest the new government policies by withholding second-term fees.

But on Monday, the York administration announced it was following a 1969 government directive and not releasing grant cheques unless students paid their outstanding fees to the university.

At the University of Toronto, Carleton, and Laurentian universities, the Ontario Student Award Program cheques are being released outright. U of T solicitors

apparently advised the administration that they were not bound by the directive. Student representatives at both York and U of T have charged that the university has no legal right to hold the cheques.

"The contract for loans is between the student and the government," Glendon student president David Moulton said yesterday. Glendon students have formed a committee to investigate the legality of York's position.

John Becker, student liaison officer told Excalibur Tuesday that

Students in Central Square had various answers when Excalibur asked them what they thought of the fee strike and if they would withhold their second term fees.

Janet Goldring: There hasn't been enough publicity. People aren't aware of all the complications involved. I would like to see what measures the government of the university could take.

the administration had not consulted its lawyers on the matter of releasing OSAP cheques.

"It's quite clear in the directive from the government that the first priority of the cheques is payment of fees to the institution," he said.

The Glendon student union has also set aside \$2,000 for loans to tide students over the strike period. The maximum loan is \$100, interest free.

Becker warned students yesterday at a general meeting that the university would not release the cheques. In a statement of policy dated Dec. 29, Becker said a

maximum fine of \$10 would be imposed for non-payment and that the university will use pressure through the accounting office, a collection agency or small claims court. But he added that no academic penalties can be imposed for non-payment, according to a 1970 senate resolution that forbids academic penalties for non-academic offences.

York president David Slater said yesterday that the university was "the innocent and sympathetic intermediaries in the thing. As far as we're concerned, we're agents in the

OSAP relationship, and it's business as usual unless the government gives us a different set of instructions about releasing OSAP cheques."

Meanwhile, at press time, the two occupations continued peacefully. At Glendon, administrators were giving their full co-operation, although they said the university could not be held responsible for government policy. Glendon principal Albert Tucker bought pizza for the 15 students who spent Tuesday night in the registrar's office.

The decision to occupy at York was made at an emergency general meeting yesterday with York student federation representatives, Becker and about 100 students. The action was one of solidarity with the Glendon occupation.

At York, there was no immediate reaction from the administration, but a delegation of four students from Glendon will meet with Slater this afternoon to demand that York follow U of T's example. They also want fines for late payment lifted and administrative support for the OFS demands.

At its final meeting before the first term ended, the senate endorsed the demands of the OFS pressing for a more equitable loan program, a lower age of independence, and full and public discussion of government policy in post-secondary education.

This week the Cutbacks Committee at York have been sending people to classes, urging students not to pay their fees. Theobald said support has been received from the faculty, by allowing the committee to use class time to make presentations.

A mass meeting is called for today at 1 p.m.

Will you strike?

Teri Donovan: I've wondered what if everyone did withhold their fees?

Bert Fitchett: Good idea, but I don't think it's going to be effective. I'm on a scholarship but I wrote a letter asking them to withhold the rest of my fees. I don't think it'll work, though.

Shirley Browne: I don't know that much about it, like most people. But I'll withhold for a week or so and see what happens.

Shirley Schiller; Dianne Levy: I'm not paying. A lot of kids are paying for their own tuition and that \$100 makes a lot of difference, especially when the loans have gone down.

Don Drutz: I would have withheld them if I wasn't expecting a grant. Bryan Thomlinson: I think fees should be raised along with the loan limit and a lower interest. If they made it easier to get loans, I wouldn't mind paying \$2,000 tuition. Michael Freid: I'm in favour of the fee strike. If we're paying more, we should actually get more, and we're not going to get it.

Dawn Ritchie: I paid all mine in the fall. But if it works, I'll take my \$100 back gladly.

Maureen Donovan: I agree with the strike. I'll withhold my fees but I think it's going to cause a lot of trouble for people trying to collect grants.

Robert Maglione: I'm an American but I'm in favour of it. I'm withholding on principle. It's going to be a failure. Because of the loan-grant system at York, people will be forced to pay.

Statement on the occupation of the student awards office:

Resulting from a mass meeting in central square yesterday we resolved to occupy the student awards office until the following demands are met:

- 1) That the administration support the Ontario Federation of Students fee strike.
- 2) That the administrators release the student grant cheques immediately without any conditions attached.
- 3) That there be no financial penalty for the late payment of fees. Fees must be lowered: fight the cutbacks. Withhold your fees

SUPPORT THE GLENDON OCCUPATION
JOIN THE YORK OCCUPATION

MASS
MEETING
TODAY
1 P.M.

Watch signs for location