

EXCALIBUR



Photo: Mario Scattoloni

As cold winds whip leaves and numb hands, York's outdoor squares and patios are deserted. On this campus, there's one place you don't want to be in the winter: outside.

BOG committee is considering changes to improve York food services

Carol Brunt

The "Weston" report on University Food Services has reached the Student Relations Committee of the Board of Governors for a final decision on its recommendations.

Last year the University Food and Beverage Services Committee was given a mandate "to examine possible modifications to the resident meal Plan, and the final report proposes seventeen changes to food services at York. Food Services presently involves six different caterers and the recommendations include retention of this multicatering system. The report was presented to the UFBS and the Student Relations Committee at its completion in March 1982. Since the beginning of the fall term, UFBS has been considering the recommendations and to date, it has passed six of the seventeen proposals.

These are,

- retention of the multicatering system
- UFBS acquires "a more active role in establishing food services policy"
- development of a subcommittee "to investigate and help improve the efficiency of Rill Food Services" (already implemented)
- administration giving "specially favourable hearing to owner-manager caterers in their competition for food service contracts"
- implementation of a fine system to cover the costs of stolen plates and utensils
- the University maintaining "the policy of increasing the amount of mandatory scrip purchase at a rate which does not exceed annual increases in the cost of living."

At a meeting of the Students Relations Commit-

tee and administrative representatives, there was a formal presentation of the report and subsequent recommendations by the UFBS.

According to John Weston, a student representative on the Board of Governors and chief author of the report, it is the first time since the report was submitted in March that he has been able to address it as a whole.

Those present at Monday's meeting included W. Small, Vice-President of University Services, and Ian Macdonald, President of the University. All six of the UFBS proposals were quickly approved, said Weston.

Recommendations 2, 9, 13, 14 which collectively form a new package meal plan for freshmen, while retaining the scrip plan for upper classmen, is still under consideration by the UFBS. "Consideration of those four proposals will be completed this academic semester and if adopted, they will be ready for implementation by September, 1983," stated Norman Crandles, Manager of Housing and Food Services. A

third recommendation that would make Crandles responsible to both the Vice-President of Student and Employee Relations and the Vice-President of University Services was rejected, as it would "needlessly confuse the lines of responsibility." Weston had to be content with the fact that Mr. Becker, assistant to the Vice-President of Student Relations in "his usual jovial fashion would entertain all concerns by the student committee of behalf of the

Vice President."

The committee approved in principle a fifth recommendation that it consider the effect on students any price increases might have.

According to Weston, this means the "prevention of across the board increases."

Independent audit

The seventh proposal, recommending an independent audit of the accounts of the University food caterers was refused.

The Committee agreed to the eighth recommendation concerning University food service contracts being submitted to tender with the following conditions: "the University can withhold letting the contract to tender in exceptional circumstances, if this is done, Messrs. Small and Crandles will explain the reasons in a public report to the University.

Making scrip redeemable in the pubs was recommended by the UFBS on the grounds that it would increase flexibility, the number of food outlets and competition. This was not won outright, according to Weston, "Rill opposed (it) strongly." Small and Crandles said it would be too complicated to make it worthwhile. The recommendation was rejected, but it will undergo further study. The UFBS is studying the final proposal regarding limited choice of entrees.

The entire Board of Governors is ultimately responsible for the administrative details but "anything agreed to (at the November 15th meeting) will be supported by the Board," said Weston.

Mathematics Professor Lorch's work status to be decided by arbitration

John P. Schmied

The question of whether a prominent York professor is to be offered the teaching position he desires, is going to arbitration after a grievance committee recommendation in the professor's favour was rejected by the Administration as unsatisfactory.

At the centre of controversy is mathematics professor Lee Lorch, who has reached retirement age and has expressed a willingness to continue teaching on a full-time, reduced load basis. The Dean of Arts has, after having

made no offer of employment at all, countered with an offer of a position on a part-time basis. The grievance committee concluded that the difference between the two positions was more than just financial as the administration claims.

Part-time status

The Administration argued that by retiring professor Lorch it could free the resources to make two junior appointments. However, Lorch was offered employment with part-time status which came around the same time that he received a three year research grant from the Natural Sciences and Research Council of Canada.

The grievance committee found that the difference in salary between full-time, reduced load status and that of part-time would "not be significant", and rejected the Administration's argument that by offering the professor a part-time position they would save money.

The Administration further

argued that by giving professor Lorch full-time, reduced load status, he could later demand a full load which would involve a higher salary. The grievance committee also rejected this argument, pointing to the fact that under the terms of the York University Faculty Association's contract, teaching positions for those faculty members of post-retirement age require renewal each year, and the Administration would not be required to grant Lorch a full load.

History of activism

According to the grievance committee report, the only significant difference between the two positions is that with full-time, reduced load status professor Lorch would enjoy the privileges of a full-time faculty member as well as protection of the bargaining unit. With part-time status he would enjoy neither. The committee reported that during its hearings evidence was given which suggested that the reason for offering

professor Lorch only a part time position was to keep him out of the union (YUFA). "To use as a criterion for retirement the potentiality of union membership," wrote the committee, "would, to say the least, not be conducive to good labour relations, nor be within the spirit of the Collective Agreement." (Professor Lorch has a long history of social activism and was himself vice-president of YUFA at one time). An ad hoc committee in support of professor Lorch has expressed its concern that he is possibly being offered a part-time position in order to keep him out of the union and fully backs the grievance committee report which recommended that a full-time, reduced load position be offered to the professor.

When contacted by the *Excalibur*, Dean of Arts Kaplan refused to comment on the Lorch case stating that it would be inappropriate to do so in view of the fact that the question is soon going to arbitration. (In January).



Photo: Mario Scattoloni

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