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Governors are passing the hat for York

By Paul Stuart

With the spectre of ruthless financial slashing haunting Ontario universities, York's Board of Governors is gradually cranking up its fund raising campaign.

The Board received an outline of a regenerated York Fund campaign from its executive committee at a rare main campus meeting held Monday afternoon. The fund drive is expected to be under way in two to three months.

The York fund proposal came at a meeting where the university's most senior executives expressed foreboding about the future of York in unprecedentedly gloomy terms.

President Macdonald wondered aloud about the future of York a few years from now and "if it would be worthy of the name university." Bertrand Gerstein, Chairman of the Board of Governors, said that if financial restraint continued at the level of the past several years "it could basically destroy the university."

Even a successful fund raising drive will not, however, solve the problems of the cutbacks era.

Board chairman Bertrand Gerstein emphasized that potential corporate donors would be unlikely to support the campaign if it "is used to offset government policy," but may respond favorably given the opportunity to "make a contribution to a particular program they want to support."

Asked by student Governor Shawn Brayman how much the administration hopes to raise with a renewed drive, executive vice-president George Bell replied that if the university is short \$3-million a year over a period of five years, one-third of this amount might be offset by the campaign.

\$100 TUITION HIKE

According to Bell's executive assistant, David Atkinson, a further tuition hike of \$100 may make up another \$1 million of this deficit, the remaining million to be reduced through cutbacks.

Bell's projection—and it is just a projection — of a million a year reduction in the university's operating deficit, apparently contradicts Gerstein's assertion that York fund revenues will not pay for operating expenditures. Atkinson conceded,

when contacted by Excalibur Tuesday night that the views of the two executives "take some reconciling." This reconciliation may be possible if donations to the York fund indirectly help the administration meet its base expenses by providing fresh financing in the academic area, thus permitting York to deploy its present revenue elsewhere.

Atkinson said a successful fund raising campaign "...would probably take some pressure off the operating grants." He warned however that there is a risk involved in the campaign in that the university might have to put money into a project that a donor agreed to fund, in order to get the project off the ground. The alternative

might be to risk losing a donation. Atkinson did say that the risk involved in the campaign is "marginal."

As to how soon the university would be "seeing the fruits" of the campaign, Bell said that "money would come in significant amounts after a year" and that pledges from donors would be budgeted "over three to five years."

President Macdonald, the vice-presidents and deans have concluded, according to the outline, that "an internal and external campaign should be conducted concurrently." Present and potential contributors to the Founders Fund, and the present campaign, will be on the new

campaign hit list.

Note: the Founders Fund is York's original endowment fund, which has been bringing in \$300,000 a year, since year one, to cover the university's capital debt. The fund runs out in 79-80 leaving the university with a \$1.8 million capital debt.

The Board's executive committee has examined the fund raising drives of U of T, Queens, McGill, and UBC and has contacted professional fundraising consultants.

Who would benefit from the drive? The executive committee mentioned ten areas, among them:

- **LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT:** This includes collection development, maintenance and growth, new acquisitions and periodicals, and new specialized collections.

- **EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS:** A chair in Religious Studies, a Small Business Program and a Chair in Sports and Recreation are among eight projects in this area.

- **STUDENT ASSISTANCE:** The fund could beef up bursaries, scholarships and foreign student exchange.

- **CAPITAL GROWTH NEEDS:** Projects which might be helped off the ground include a main campus bus terminal, completion of the track and field project and accommodation for the Faculty of Environmental Studies, plus completion of phys-ed facilities and Fine Arts Phase III and IV.

The very scope of the outline presented at the Board meeting drew criticism from Board member Anthony Hampson, president of the Canadian Development Corporation. He called it "a real salad of all the causes within the university" and said the fund raising campaign would have to be "focussed" if it is to succeed.

Thelma McCormack, a faculty representative on the Board, expressed concern that an area "which a lot of people would find exciting" (like sports and recreation) might thrive, whereas Religious Studies might not receive many donations. George Bell said that if one area were prospering more than the rest, "we would try to persuade donors to put money into other projects."

(See LITTLE AID PG. 2)



Gazing off into the happy social democratic future of Canada, NDP Leader Ed Broadbent mesmerizes himself at Osgoode on Monday afternoon. Photogenic he ain't, but he's sticking to his policies — see story, pg. 3

Is deficit financing the answer for Y.U.?

By Mark Monfette

One month ago, on January 15, Dean Harold Kaplan presented a brief to President Macdonald suggesting that the university cannot absorb a projected budget cut of \$2.5 million and should pursue a policy of deficit financing.

How do York's other deans and administrators feel? To find out,

Excalibur visited various university decision makers this week and discussed the pros and cons of deficit financing and the various fiscal options open to York.

The basic proposal of Kaplan is that the university reduce its cut from \$2.5 million to approximately \$1.8 million. The deficit would eventually be eliminated through increased enrolments, fund-raising campaigns, and by aggressively seeking out government assistance and by utilizing York's vast tracks of land.

"We will obviously have to get smaller," he stated in his brief. "The key question is how fast or slow we should contract."

"Deficit financing," he claimed, "would not obviate the need for cuts, only cushion their impact in any given year and spread the impact across a longer time frame."

Support for his proposal has not, on the whole, been very enthusiastic. "I find it difficult to understand that some people feel reconciled to a \$2.5 million cut," he said in an interview.

"Some of my alarm is not shared by my colleagues," he added.

Bill Small (Vice-President — University Services), when asked

to respond to Kaplan's proposal, stated: "The university is in deep difficulties right now but we have to ask ourselves: 'How do you not give away the future?'"

"Deficit financing only makes sense," he said, "if you can see your way to working off your debt."

With regard to using York's land for income generating purposes Small pointed out that it is up to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities and that York itself, cannot use it for other than educational purposes.

Most of York's deans agree with Small's basic position on deficit

financing. Dean Robert Lundell, of Science, felt that deficit financing would be good—if it could be proven to work.

"I would like to see the model that tells us that in the mid-1980's we will be better off," he said. "I have not seen this."

(See DEFICIT, page 2)

Bertolt Brecht on stage at Burton

By Mark Monfette

In a note on his play, *The Threepenny Opera*, Bertolt Brecht wrote: "If learning could be delightful, then the theatre, by its very nature, would not be in a position to instruct."

"Theatre remains theatre, even when it is didactic theatre, and if it is good theatre it will entertain."

Achieving a balance between didacticism and entertainment is something every director of Brecht must attempt. It is a very delicate balance indeed. Too much of the former and the audience could grow hostile or bored. An emphasis on the latter threatens to undermine the playwright's intentions.

During this week we have the

opportunity of witnessing director Neil Dainard's attempt to come to grips with Brecht. In *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, running

at Burton Auditorium till this Saturday night, Dainard has clearly taken the didactic approach. (See CHALK pg. 3)



Kathy Kinchen (left) and comrades in the Caucasian Chalk Circle.

Trudeau, McMurtry & Stephenson at York

York will host several powerful political figures in the coming month. Highlighting the agenda is Prime Minister Trudeau, next Thursday at 3:15 pm in Moot Court, Osgoode Hall.

The young Progressive Conservatives on campus have scheduled Attorney-General Roy McMurtry to speak tomorrow from 12-2 pm in CLH-M.

On Friday March 23 Bette Stephenson will top off the list with an appearance in CLH-I from 12-2 pm.