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Axelrod, Hood win polls

By ROSS HOWARD

A reform-oriented, more 'active' student council was voted into office Tuesday, led by former Winters rep Paul Axelrod, W II.

Axelrod picked up almost 46 per cent of the votes cast for a new president, to beat his nearest rival, George Orr, F III, by 130 votes.

Elected vice-president was Karen Hood, F II, former Founders Rep and ex-communications commissioner of the Council of the York Student Federation.

Axelrod's running mate, Alan Morinis, lost to Hood by 23 votes.

Also elected as college reps were six of the seven candidates who actively supported the Axelrod-Morinis platform of an issue-oriented, more active council.

Axelrod polled almost an equal number of votes in each of the four colleges in college complex one, and only trailed Orr in college E and the graduate and MBA polls.

"I'm really pleased with the results — particularly since six of our seven people got in," he said. "I hope to see positive results."

"The potential of the council looks very good," said Miss Hood, who had been closely allied with Orr in her campaigning of the residences.

A total of 1165 votes were cast — slightly less than 20 per cent of the total electorate on campus.

Good combination

The combination of Axelrod, who considers his new council the first "reform-minded council we've really had at York," and Miss Hood, who has an excellent record of carrying out her election promises, appears to have created a stable but active council.

College representatives elected to the new council were:

— McLaughlin: Mike Fletcher, Tim Delany, and Elliot Strom;
— Winters: Joe Polonsky, Howie Vernon, and Carolyn Fowler;

— Vanier: (by acclamation) A. R. Gouge, John Laskin, Doug Owens;

— Founders: (by acclamation) Ken Hundert, Robert Lowes, Janice McCall;

— College E: Liz Mitchell, Neil Sinclair, Peter Short;

— MBA (by acclamation) Denis Charbonneau, Greg Hurd, Dan Sterling.

The race between Axelrod and Orr for the president was settled by the time the results of the four college ballots had been counted.

Axelrod led Orr by just under 100 votes before the ballots of College E and the grads were counted.

It had been expected Axelrod would win Winters and



THE SMILES OF VICTORY

CYSF vice-president Karen Hood and president Paul Axelrod seemed happy enough Tuesday night after the counts came in. 19.5 per cent of York's eligible students turned out to vote.

Queen contest picketed



Judy Darcy

WATERLOO (CUP) — A disqualified candidate and a Women's Liberation Movement member from York who reached the semi-finals in the Miss Canadian University Pageant here Friday joined 200 singing demonstrators in the first major protest in the short history of Canada's university beauty contest.

The protest, which took place during the final stages of the queen contest, was sparked by the efforts of Janiel Jolley, a contestant sponsored by the women's caucus and the student society at Simon Fraser University, who made the trek to Waterloo-Lutheran University to raise the issue of female oppression at the pageant, but who was quickly barred from the competition by the pageant committee.

Her efforts climaxed Friday when Judy Darcy, York's can-

didate and a semi-finalist in the contest, left the platform and joined Miss Jolley and supporters from at least five Ontario universities, including York, in their low-key protest against the pageant.

The picketers carried signs reading: "Women are not commodities", "Welcome to the beef auction", and "Women's liberation is human liberation".

Miss Darcy said she was "disappointed" she was not allowed to speak when leaving the pageant stage, because she was certain at least two other candidates would have joined the walkout.

After the protestors left judges announced that Anne Sapieja, a 19-year-old blonde from the University of Guelph, was Miss Canadian University, 1970.

McLaughlin colleges, where he campaigned hardest, but was likely to face stiff competition in Founders and Vanier, where Orr conducted a personal door to door campaign of the residences.

Orr had no comment on his defeat.

It was only the inclusion of the College E and grads-MBA ballots which assured Karen Hood of the vice-presidency.

She led Morinis by only one vote, before the last ballot boxes were opened. She picked up 52 votes, compared to 30 for Morinis, in the College E-Grads-MBA box.

New issues this time

Axelrod's campaign platform included several issues not raised in previous elections, although several candidates in this election also took stands generally similar.

Axelrod called for CYSF attention on the following issues: Americanization of York; increased involvement in student academic problems, particularly course unions; pollution; the university-run bookstore; campus parking; a day care centre to be continued and expanded on campus; and wasted funds on social-cultural blunders.

Orr's platform appeared less issue-oriented, more intent on requesting voters to elect a candidate with proven experience who could advance students' needs. Orr was also running on the need for a full-time president of CYSF.

Following his election, Axelrod, who will take over from outgoing president Paul Koster on Feb. 10, told EXCALIBUR he was disappointed though not surprised at the small 19 per cent turnout.

"A 19 per cent turnout proves students are pretty remote from this council," he said. "We need to make an impact on the student body, show students we're here."

He said he hoped the council would take action immediately on several important issues, as a beginning of a year of action and reform in student government.

"This university is designed carefully to restrict student demands into small colleges — there's been no strong central student voice," he said. "We've been played off against each other — the CYSF and the college councils — for too long."

He urged more student forums, combined with social activities, in order to attract students. Axelrod also wants his council to immediately consider and investigate the withdrawal of all student representatives from administration-faculty committees.

"We know the committees students sit on aren't working. Students have no power, the committees are unrepresentative, and we're getting nothing done," he said.

Miss Hood, who agrees with Axelrod's theory of a strong central student voice, said colleges spend three quarters of their time complaining to CYSF about issues arising from the college system.

To be a strong voice

"Students don't look to their colleges in general, only for social events largely," Axelrod said. "The colleges have not been in-

volved in the students' academic affairs. We're going to provide a strong voice for all students."

Axelrod said he planned immediate action on the issues of Canadianization of York, a new meal plan for residents, parking, pollution, and the bookstore.

"Parking — we can act on that mess almost today," added Miss Hood.

Axelrod said he hoped the new council would take the problem of immediately tackling issues seriously, as part of the process of building a strong central student government.

"On the Americanization issue, relevance to the Canadian fact and Canadian course content should be crucial criteria of hiring new academics here," he said.

Miss Hood, who last term of office established a birth control centre, a better student handbook and a central communications board, said she wants to establish a student emergency centre this term, for legal and financial hassles.

She is also advocating a suicide centre, no increase in student tuition fees, a senate policy on Americanization and improved student-council communication.

"I'm not just going to serve as an administrator, a service-orientated vice-president. I think we've got to take stands on the critical issues, as Axelrod has pointed out, and take action to correct these problems," she said.

"I don't know exactly what steps we'll have to take on the problem of a tuition increase, but we've got a potential to influence people making the decision, all the way up the line," she said.

Long active history

Axelrod is considered a seasoned politician, having served on CYSF last year as one of the minority "reform" group, and as a former member of the now-defunct York Student Movement.

He withdrew from YSM early in the fall, and has been involved in classroom organizing and the council since then.

He was one of the students involved in the Political Science 311 dispute, in which students won the right to set up their own seminars and determine their final grading procedure.

His analysis of the need for a strong council which will act on a series of important issues is a stronger stand than the present council.

The combination of Axelrod, as an activist with policies for reform, and Hood as a pragmatic administrator appears to be an excellent mix to lead a stronger CYSF.

The new CYSF representatives appear to be interested, in the majority, in action and policies for a stronger, more effective student council.

The new council has over a month and a half to prove it can get things done for students, before the end of the school year.