

## Classes to be cut to protest underfunding

By JEFF SHINDER  
and JAMES FLAGAL

All classes and university operations will be suspended for four hours next Thursday to protest the Ontario government's underfunding of post secondary education.

The cancellation of classes to take place between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. will be accompanied by a rally at Convocation Hall at the University of Toronto. The rally, which has been organized by the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) with assistance from the presidents of York, U of T and Ryerson, will take place on October 16 from 12:30 until 2:00 p.m.

According to Ian Lithgow, director of External Affairs at York, "operations suspended" means that the University will operate on a skeletal staff in an effort to get as many people as possible to the rally at Convocation Hall. Buses will leave from Ross Circle and there will be an additional event on campus for those students unable to attend the downtown rally.

Lithgow described the importance of the underfunding issue which the rally wishes to address. "We need more than the four percent increase in operating funds which the government granted universities last year. Four percent would be inadequate to do the work towards the future of what we expect out of our universities." According to Lithgow, the province of Ontario university system needs \$170 million to raise its funding to the national average.

William Sayers, director of Communications for the COU sees October 16 "as a day of action in culmination of university lobbying efforts to persuade the govern-

ment of the desperate need for more operating dollars just before their pre-budget announcement in early November."

According to Sayers, several Ontario universities have proceeded with their own plans for disruption of classes ranging from Waterloo to McMaster besides the three Metropolitan Toronto universities.

For Gerard Blink, Council of the York Student Federation (CYSF) president, the real problem "lies in the lack of political will to raise funding for post secondary education. We must raise the awareness of the students," Blink said.

Blink also explained how the political will cannot be raised until the image of post secondary education is changed from an elitist one. "There should be no economic barriers for anyone desiring post secondary education," he said.

The keynote speakers at the rally will include York President Harry Arthurs; Geogre Connell, president of the University of Toronto; Brian Segal, president of Ryerson Polytechnical Institute; the minister of colleges and universities Gregory Sorbara; Bob Rae, leader of the Ontario New Democratic Party; Larry Grossman leader of the Ontario Progressive Conservative party, and others.

The suspension of university activities and the rally at U of T are both part of the COU's "Stop the Gap" campaign. The slogan refers to the gap between the current level of post secondary education funding and the needs for the university system. According to Blink, the slogan also stands for Government Apathy over Post secondary education funding.

## Campus lit magazine pulls disappearing act

By PAULETTE PEIROL

Despite a \$4,000 budget from Vanier College to produce four issues of the "literary anthology" *Existere*, editor Peter Alexander published only a single edition last year.

When asked why the spring issue of *Existere* never materialized, Vanier College Council President Tammy Hasselheldt said "the council was under the assumption that *Existere* was at the printers." Deborah Hobson, last year's Vanier College Master, said "I had forgotten about *Existere*," and her administrative assistant, Sherma Mitchell claimed "I know nothing about this; I'll have to check into it."

The second issue of *Existere* did not in fact make it to the printers, and students who submitted work to Alexander were never informed that the magazine would not be published. "It was irresponsible for Peter Alexander to not return the manuscripts," said Matthew Corrigan, director of the Creative Writing department. "Publication is a very serious business and should be taken seriously on campus."

Suspicious of financial mismanagement were aroused when Vanier's *Vandoo* staff moved into *Existere*'s old office last summer and found receipts for pizza and alcohol. The college council was apparently unable to contact Alexander concerning the receipts. Vanier Council treasurer Brad Simms later con-

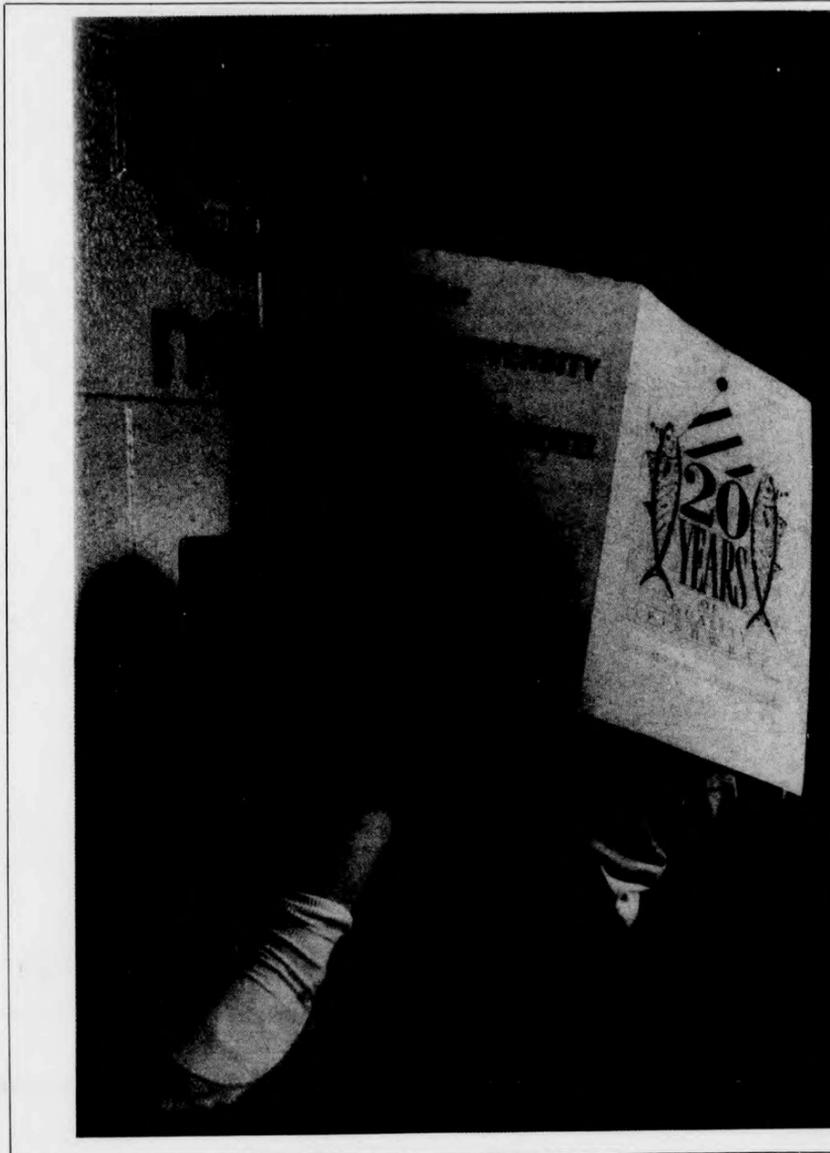
firmed that the council had budgeted funds for an *Existere* party, but realized after their September audit that Alexander was never reimbursed for party expenses.

The Vanier Council spent \$2,200 on *Existere* last year to cover the typesetting, printing, and delivery costs of the January issue. When asked if the council was still trying to contact Alexander to find out why no subsequent issue was published, Simms said, "We're no longer concerned, because no money was spent on the second issue. It's a lesson that's been learned."

Hobson said that "the primary responsibility (for *Existere*) lies with the Master, but nominally with the editor and college council." According to Michael Creal, however, this year's Vanier College Master, "The college Master has no involvement in editorial policy." The college council is responsible for hiring the editors and overseeing the funding of college publications, Creal said, adding that the college's Board of Publications is ultimately responsible for managing *Existere*.

Corrigan, a member of Vanier's Board of Publications, claims that the board held only one meeting last year. "We assumed that the students were acting responsibly," he said.

This year's Board of Publications chairperson is John McKay, and Walter Secord is the new *Existere* editor.



GARY BLAKELEY

## Student Centre initiative revived

By LAURA LUSH

Despite an unsuccessful 1984/85 student centre campaign, this year's Council of the York Student Federation (CYSF) is determined to win a referendum that will approve the reconstruction of a student financed and controlled centre that will serve the entire York student body.

The history of the student centre goes back to York's beginnings. The York master plan of 1963 included a student centre, but it fell through due to the 1972 provincial moratorium on construction of new university buildings.

CYSF President Gerard Blink revived the student centre initiative as a top priority during his campaign for presidency. Immediately after his election he hired Rob Castle, former 1985/86 Academic Affairs director as a researcher to make recommendations for a proposed student centre based on the failed 1984/85 referendum and the analysis of other student centres in Canada.

Castle explained that his analysis showed that there was virtually "no campaign" with the 1984/85 initiative. "There seemed to be more of an emphasis on convincing the Administration of a student centre than the students," he said. "What we're doing this year is balancing the two in the middle between the Administration and the students. This calls for overt consultations with student organizations, students and the Administration."

The 1984/85 campaign failed because of poor marketing, said Chris Costello who led the initiative as chairman of the then Student Centre Steering Committee (SCSC). According to Costello, the referendum received a resounding 62 percent no-

vote, not because students were opposed to the idea of a student centre, but because the entire campaign process was too short. "It only lasted two weeks," he said. Although Costello had been working on the campaign for about eight months prior to the March, 1985 referendum, he said that "no one was interested in the campaign until the time of the referendum. People didn't get involved until it was too late."

Costello also said that he did not have adequate support from student leaders who were supposed to sit on the three sub-committees of the proposed student centre. "All year, I'd be asking leaders to help," Costello said, "but no one wanted to. All the committees flopped because no one wanted to sit on them. There should have been a member from each council affiliated constituency on each of the committees."

Towards the end of the campaign, Costello said there were only a handful of people assisting him. The entire 1984/85 student centre initiative cost about \$30,000 Costello said, with \$13,000 going towards architectural fees, \$8,000 towards the referendum and \$6,000 towards campaign posters.

An anti-student centre campaign led by then president of the Graduate Students Association (GSA) Terry Conlin and Sol Lerner of the Bethune College council criticized the entire campaign as premature because there was not adequate consultation with student leaders. Although council leaders had supported the idea of a student centre in principle at a September 24/84 general council meeting, Conlin and Lerner still thought that students were not given enough specific facts concerning the terms of reference

binding the centre with the Administration.

For example, Conlin was worried that the Administration, who Costello hoped would provide the initial funding and donate the land for the projected \$8-million dollar centre, would later seek control of the building. They also argued that the estimated \$50 levy fee, based on a cost figure \$4 to \$10 per six credit course was too high. It also undermined the credibility of fighting the

cont'd on p. 3

### INSIDE EDITORIAL

**HAS EXISTERE BECOME NON-EXISTENT?** Or is it merely hibernating? Vanier constituents seem neither to know, nor to care about the fate of their lit mag ..... Page 6

### PERSPECTIVE

**THE TRIALS OF LAW SCHOOL:** Columnist Rob Castle offers an inside perspective after four hectic weeks at Osgoode ..... Page 7

### SPORTS

**PERRON SPEAKS OUT:** In an extensive interview Jean Perron, coach of the Stanley Cup champion Montreal Canadiens, talks about his team's success, drugs and violence, and the intense Quebec Nordiques/Canadiens rivalry ..... Page 13