

# CYSF to debate merits of Greek organizations

by Daniel Wolgelerenter

Fraternities and sororities are about to get their day in the CYSF sun.

At the CYSF's October 11 meeting, the council will debate a motion tabled on September 27 by Vanier representative Rob Morais. The motion calls for the CYSF to recognize and support a soon-to-be-formed Intra-Fraternity and Sorority Council (IFSC). The meeting may end in a vote that will determine whether or not council will support the IFSC.

The IFSC, which has yet to elect a chairperson, is the political organization that represents the three fraternities and two sororities that currently exist, or are

forming, on the main York campus.

In July, director of student affairs Cora Dusk asked the CYSF and the Graduate Students Association (GSA) to comment on a presidential draft regulation that would allow fraternities to use university facilities for payment. The draft regulation cites exclusivity, undermining of the college system, and inappropriate conduct as reasons for the university being against fraternities and sororities.

The GSA has already expressed support for the draft regulation, while the CYSF has not yet responded.

In tabling the motion, Morais, a member of the Alpha Epsilon Pi

fraternity, said the IFSC wants support and recognition from the CYSF but not funding. He said what fraternities and sororities mainly want is the free use of university facilities and the ability to set up tables in Central Square, like clubs.

CYSF president Peter Donato said he wants input from as many people as possible in advance of the meeting, including college presidents. He said if the issue comes to a vote, it may be very close because of the large number of people on council who are sympathetic to fraternities.

Donato said he wants to hear the debate before taking a firm position and said he is working on a compromise whereby "fraterni-

ties and sororities will be forced to know that they are part of the college system."

"Fraternities and sororities should in some way be connected to the colleges," he said. "I think that's the biggest concern at the university."

Vice-president (external) Peter Merrick, a pledge for the Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity, supports the resolution.

"People come to this university and they feel the coldness of these walls. They go to their classes and leave as if it were a job," he said. "Fraternities are working to make this a warmer place."

"As long as they don't break any laws they should be allowed," Merrick said. He said a referen-

dum on the issue may be the best way to resolve the whole issue of whether the CYSF should support fraternities and sororities, and said that such a referendum could be held at the same time as the health plan referendum.

Sigma Alpha Mu president Derek Reingold said the CYSF's support would not help the fraternities' position very much since the administration would not change its position.

"The university has told the CYSF to take a stand but I don't even know why they bothered," Reingold said.

He said he would like to see a referendum on whether the university should recognize fraternities and sororities.

## Mandela Law Society unsatisfied with Osgoode's gender equality agreement

by Mark Wright

The Nelson Mandela Law Society (NMLS) has sent out a press release attacking the "top priority" given to gender equality in an agreement between Osgoode Hall and over 100 women who alleged discrimination against Professor Mary Jane Mossman.

It was alleged that the school had discriminated against Mossman on gender grounds when she was passed over for the deanship at Osgoode in 1987.

The "complainants," comprised

of lawyers, law students and legal academics, decided to not actively pursue the complaint they had filed with the Ontario Human Rights Commission, in light of the agreement they reached with the Law School and York University.

The NMLS states in its release that, "We cannot accept that Osgoode Law School will constrain itself to making 'gender equality' the top priority of Osgoode for some undefined period of its development."

The release asks for a "compromise wording that would be

respectful and inclusive of the experiences of other victims of discrimination while safeguarding the breakthrough for gender equality."

Chairperson of the NMLS Mark Warner said, "Attempts were made prior to the release of this agreement to have the language changed to a 'priority' rather than a 'top priority.'"

He added that the "complainants" had rejected all attempts to reach a compromise.

"They are not committed to a broad view of equality and fail to

see the point that all are equal," Warner said.

Dean of Osgoode James Macpherson said, "We agree with what they are saying. But it will take all parties getting together to change things."

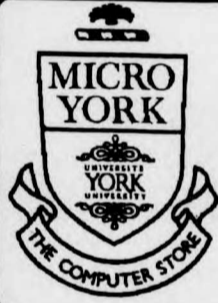
Warner said, "A letter has been issued to each of the parties and we are waiting for a response before we take any further action."

Diana Majury, one of the complainants, said that the group had met on September 29 to discuss the matter and would make a statement at a later date.

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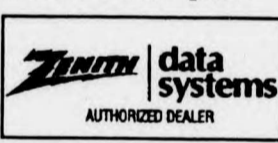
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