

Letters to the Editor

All letters should be addressed to the Editor and sent to Excalibur, Central Square, Ross Building, York University, Downsview, Ontario. Excalibur reserves the right to edit all letters more than 500 words long. Unsigned letters are the responsibility of the editors. All letters will be published however due to space limitations letters may not be published the week they are received.

York war research information denied says student

Several weeks ago, I approached the graduate dean's assistant for information on campus research. I had asked for the titles and names of the researchers. The reason for this was to determine what kind of research was being sponsored by military sources and to determine its practicality to the American war effort.

I had learned that all research on this campus was unclassified and could therefore be made available to the public. Bowman instructed me to submit a letter stating my reasons and that the information would be made available to me within two weeks.

Last week, I went to get the information but somehow the situation had changed. I was told that graduate dean Richard Storr would not release the information and that it must be referred to the senate research committee.

In other words, cooperation had become non-cooperation. I can only assume that York realizes that war research is being conducted on this campus. Is the senate research committee to select certain material for publication and hide controversial information? It seems the university does admit to funded war research.

Since then, I have read the "Report on Sources of Research Funds" submitted by professor Kurt Danziger, the research committee chairman. He has pointed out that research is an "integral function of the university" with the freedom of researchers to publish their results based on an ethical criterion set by the university. Yet this same report also states that the acceptability of grants be left to the conscience of the individual and that "controversial" research proposals may be referred to the senate committee.

Can we really be expected to believe that researchers pass up lucrative military grants on a matter of conscience? Would not these researchers claim that their work is based on pure science? Danziger's final statement suggests that "there should be no blanket rejection of fund sources or project areas either for institutional or individual research."

I question which institution Danziger refers to, perhaps the U.S. military complex. This report to the senate suggests to me that the York administration which knows of its military research and which refuses to quickly release this information, suggests that they have neglected their ethical duty of all peace-loving people.

As coordinator for the York Committee to End the War in Asia, we believe that Danziger's report is designed to accept all funds regardless of the projects' use. We

students have the right to determine the nature of research on this campus. We students as competent and responsible people, have also the right to determine the ethics of the proposed research.

Therefore, our committee demands the release of all research information. Furthermore, our committee demands that all research funded by the Defence Research Board and the U.S. military be removed from this campus and that these researchers be removed from the campus.

Jack Klieb,
York Committee to End the War in Asia

(The committee meets today at 2 pm in Ross N-109 to discuss York's military research. — ed.)



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For further information, phone H. Radecki at 282-8804.

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