

Colleges should unite campus, community

By IOAN DAVIES

One of the ghosts that York has to lay to rest is the notion that the colleges should be academic centres concerned with fostering interdisciplinary humanism. The ideal is not unimportant, but the conventional wisdom on how to realize it may be totally inappropriate in a multiversity situated in the boondocks of Downsview.

In his article "Last fragments of Whole Man uncovered" (Excalibur November 28, 1974), Oakland Ross discloses the intentions and frustrations of some of the original members of the university, and also roasts anew Joe Green's hoary old chestnut of a fine arts college. (McLaughlin? after George Tatham has given it a particular identity? He must be kidding.)

The problem as Murray Ross points out, is that York moved from an Oxford-Cambridge conception to

a supermarket one. Thus the colleges (like the divisions of humanities and social science) apparently stand as Oxbridge or Ivy League oases in a Dominion Store desert. This is clearly nonsense. If York is "an intellectual shopping centre", then we should view the colleges as other than Oxbridge humanities centres. But how do we manage this?

York is now a large corporation with over 20,000 students, most of whom commute from other parts of the city. The problem of a humanities education is not so much internal but external. Internally we have disciplines and interdisciplinary divisions and faculties who must do what they can to ensure that education is more than a training for occupations. Externally the task is much more difficult. Politicians, businessmen and newspapers are constantly attacking universities for not doing their job.

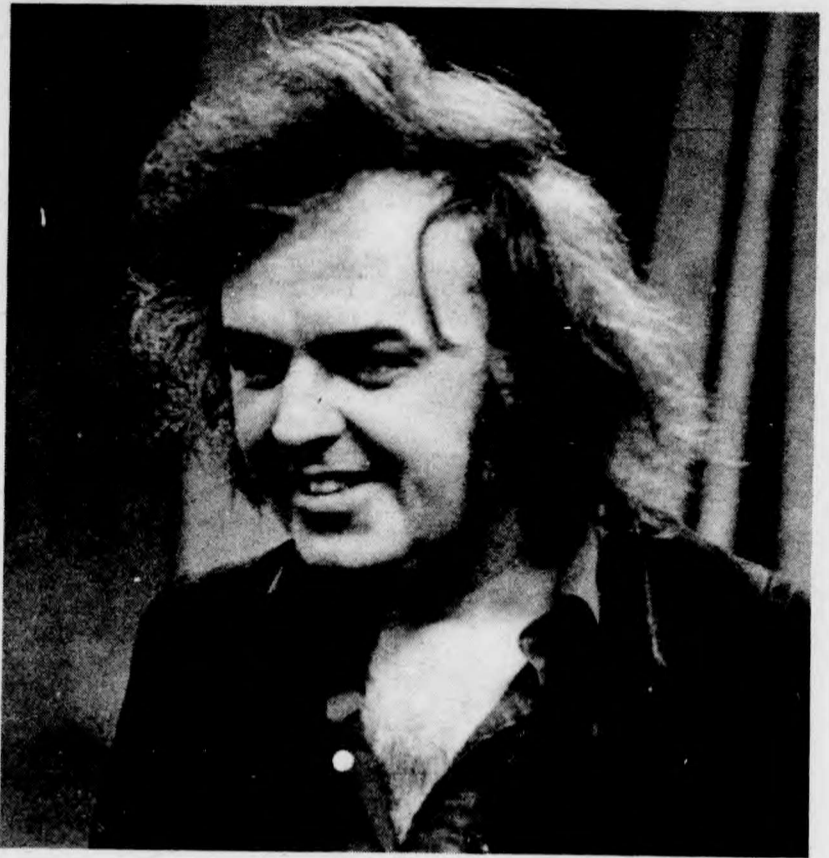
The reason is that universities seem to do very little for the communities at large and are particularly bad at explaining to the world what they are about. And in many respects, because there is little contact with the local communities, many students are alienated as well. The task of a humanities education involves all of us, students, faculty, workers and businessmen.

By dedicating themselves to being centres (only for students) for the "Whole Man" or by postulating colleges devoted to one faculty, the university does itself and the nation a disservice. As with the abolition of the monasteries at the end of the middle ages, the colleges must take the ideals of a humanistic education out of the university to the immediate local community. Within a radius of eight miles of York there are 100,000 Jews, 150,000 Italians, 5000 Spaniards, and large numbers of Chinese, Irish, Germans, Ukrainians, Scots, English and other ethnic Canadians. There are truck drivers, bank managers, CN workers, storekeepers, restaurateurs, and secretaries. If we are to believe that education is more than grades or degrees, and that humanities is worth more than being confined to the academic elect, then we have to establish contact with the surrounding community and talk to them and get them to talk to us. A university as new as York can establish for itself a reputation as radical contributor to the life of a community.

Life in Downsview is fragmented, lonely and selfish. Most of us expect more from it than that, just as we expect more from a university than tickets to a job. The colleges, with their informal atmosphere, social amenities and "fragments of the whole man" are ideally suited to be the bridges to the world that lies beyond the CN tracks and the 401. If we continue to bemoan what we might have been, we will never realize what we might be.

Here are just a few ideas on how we might do otherwise.

a) In conjunction with local ethnic groups, colleges could have "at home" days in which they would



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host discussions, films, parties related to local community issues.

b) Pubs, films, concerts might be more widely advertised in the local community.

c) University student associations might be encouraged to stop navel-gazing and consider their responsibility to the wider community.

d) The university might encourage students and faculty to help set up service-centres to cater for a wide range of needs in the local community for those who cannot afford such things as psychiatric/psychology services, legal help, or family clinics.

e) University speakers might make their services more easily available to local groups.

f) The colleges might encourage the establishment of experimental farms and communities, manned by students, to work out programmes relevant to student and community interests.

None of these things would detract

from the normal life of the college. They would positively enhance the idea of colleges as places which have more than grades to offer. And in the absence of any other York tradition, they would offer communities in Downsview, Willowdale, and North York generally a reason for seeing this as *their* University.

A community university need not fail to be an international one. Indeed the practical concerns of the community would be enhanced by exposure to internationalist issues.

Ideas on how this could be developed are welcome. Please phone me at 667-3959, Denys Brown, university Community Officer (667-3441) or the International Student Centre (667-6262).

To realize the ideals of York in Downsview instead of in a monastery at Bayview and Lawrence requires constructive thought and action. The time is late. Please help. Ioan Davies is master of Bethune College.

Letters To The Editor

York's Canadian politics professors are not in danger, says Simmons

In last week's article by Doug Tindall on the budget crisis, there is a sentence implying that the department of political science does not have any Canadian citizens teaching Canadian politics.

After some of my Canadian colleagues who are currently teaching Canadian politics approached me with tears in their eyes asking if I knew something about their future that they did not, I felt it best to allay their fears by pointing out that the article was simply in error.

My point was that due to the current budget crisis, we would be hard pressed to fill even one of the three positions now open because of the recent departure of three of our senior Canadian teachers of Cana-

dian Politics.

Harvey G. Simmons
YUFA Chairman

Manus unmasked

Some days ago I saw the most recent issue of Manus and I remember being pleased once again with the title. This year's issue made my joy short-lived, however, for page 34 told me that the title had come from the Latin word for "hand".

I can't believe it. He or she who thought up the title, for what was originally a student handbook, was much more subtle than that. To coin a phrase - It is a wise child that knows his own father.

Thomas F. O'Connell
Director of Libraries

On Campus

Events for On Campus should be sent to Department of Information and Publications, S802 Ross. Deadline is Monday, 12 noon.

SPECIAL LECTURES

Thursday, 2 p.m. - Colloquium (Sociology and Anthropology) Professors Gordon Darroch and Michael Onstein will report on their research into the "Social History of 19th Century Canada" - Faculty Lounge (S869), Ross

4 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - Symposium (Faculty Women's Caucus) "Equal Pay for Equal Work: Procedures for Rectifying Women's Anomalies", with guest speakers D.C. Radford, of the Employment Standards Bureau, and Rosalie Abella, a lawyer - Senior Common Room, Stong

7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. - E.G.O. - Innovative Approaches to the Helping Relationship (Centre for Continuing Education) "Introduction to Individual Psychology" by Stan Shapiro - admission \$6.00; \$4.00 for students - 107, Stedman

Friday, 1 p.m. - Guest Speaker (Natural Science Division) Mr. Eli Martel, MPP for Sudbury East, will give a talk on "Pollution Problems in Sudbury" - L, Curtis

4 p.m. - 6 p.m. - Lecture (Chinese Students Association) Professor Jordan Paper will talk about "Today's China and Religion" - 104, Founders

Wednesday, 3 p.m. - University of Toronto-York University Joint Program in Transportation - "The International Seaborne Trade and Canada: The Role of Water Carriers", with Raymond R. Cope, Vice-President (Research), Canadian Transport Commission - Faculty Lounge (S869), Ross

4:30 p.m. - Chemistry Seminar Series - "Polarised Crystal Spectroscopy of Transition Metal Complexes" by Professor P.J. McCarthy, Canisius College - 320, Farquharson

FILMS, ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, 4 p.m. - Film (Natural Science Division) "The Starry Messenger" ("The Ascent of Man" series) - L, Curtis
7:30 p.m. - Films (Vanier Film Club and Winters Film Series) - a special Laurel and Hardy night, with "Way Out West", "Babes in Toyland", "Chumps at Oxford" and "Liberty or Brats" - admission 75¢ for Winters/Vanier students; \$1.00 for other - Junior Common Room, Winters

7:30 p.m. - Video Night (Film) an exhibition and demonstration of video colour synthesis - 2nd Floor Lounge, Phase II, Fine Arts

Friday, 11 a.m. - Film (Humanities 181A) "Nisei-Sansei" - I, Curtis

8:30 p.m. - Film (Winters) "O Lucky Man" - admission \$1.25 for Winters students; \$1.50 for others - I, Curtis

9 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. - Cabaret Theatre - "Scrooge Millington", or "God Rest Ye Merry, Melvin" - a musical tribute to the true spirit of Christmas - free admission and licensed - Open End Coffee Shop, Vanier

Saturday, 8:30 p.m. - Film (Bethune) "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid", with Paul Newman and Robert Redford - admission \$1.50 (with university identification) - L, Curtis

Sunday, 8:30 p.m. - Film (Winters) - see Friday, 8:30 p.m.
8:30 p.m. - Film (Bethune) "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" - see Saturday at 8:30.

Monday, 3 p.m. - Film (Natural Science Division) "The Drive for Power" ("The Ascent of Man" series) - L, Curtis

8:30 p.m. - Performing Arts Series (Faculty of Fine Arts) featuring the Murray Louis Dance Company - tickets \$7.00; \$5.50, \$3.50 - Burton Auditorium

Tuesday, 12 noon - 1:30 p.m. - Concert (Music) the jazz students of Bob Witmer and Howard Spring - 120A, Bethune
2 p.m. - 4 p.m. - Japanese Films (Humanities/Social Science 277) "The Human Condition" (pts. I and II) - L, Curtis

4 p.m. - 6:50 p.m. - Films (Humanities 180/174A) "If" and "Tales of Hoffman" - I, Curtis

8 p.m. - Concert (Music) with the early music studio students of Jim McKay - Senior Common Room, Winters

Wednesday, 1:15 p.m. - Ciné Participation - "Richesse des autres" - un film québécois récent de L'ONF et suivi d'une discussion - 129, York Hall, Glendon

2 p.m. - Italian Film (Italian Club) "Un Certo Giorno" - N203, Ross

4:15 p.m. - Film (Humanities 373) "Open City" (1944; R. Rossellini) - 204, York Hall, Glendon

8 p.m. - Concert (Music) a festival of music, including the vocal students of Peggy Sampson, John Higgins and the choir, and Michael Kearns on harpsichord - Main Dining Hall, Vanier

CLUBS, MEETINGS

Thursday, 12 noon - Meeting - an informal meeting for

students who might be interested in taking a course on Italian Renaissance Art, to be taught in Florence during the summer of 1975 - Committee Room (216), Fine Arts

1 p.m. - Ontology Club - "The Art of Living"; series presents "Pressure and Depression... How to Handle It" - a lecture by Manning Glicksohn - S174, Ross

Monday, 7:30 p.m. - York Bridge Club - Vanier Dining Hall
Wednesday, 4 p.m. - Christian Science Organization - S501, Ross

SPORTS, RECREATION

Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. - British Sub Aqua - 110, Curtis

MISCELLANEOUS

Sunday, 7:30 p.m. - Roman Catholic Mass - 107, Stedman
Monday, 2 p.m. - President of the University at Glendon - President Macdonald will be at Glendon College to meet with members of the Glendon community - President's Office, Glendon Hall, Glendon

Tuesday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Christian Counselling & Religious Consultation - for appointment call Chaplain Judt at 661-5157 or 633-2158

5:30 p.m. - Student Served Dinners - each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Winters Dining Hall

Thursday, 5 p.m. - Roman Catholic Mass - 104, 8 Assiniboine Road

COFFEE HOUSES, PUBS

For days and hours open, please call the individual coffee houses:

Absinthe Coffee House - 013, Winters (2439)
Ainger Coffee Shop - Atkinson College (3544)
Argh Coffee Shop - 051, McLaughlin (3606)
Comeback Inn - 2nd floor, Phase II, Atkinson (2489)
Cock & Bull Coffee Shop 023, Founders (3667)
Just Another Coffee Shop - 112, Bethune (3579)
Open End Coffee Shop - 004, Vanier (6586)
Orange Snail Coffee Shop - 107, Stong (3587)
Osgoode Pub - JCR, Osgoode (3019)