

administration by the student government to change that.

EXCALIBUR: How would you raise the profile of CYSF in order to upgrade communication between the student body and student government?

NITSIS: There has to be better communication between CYSF and the students. Well anybody can say "better communication" but what does that mean. It means things like setting up a 24-hour phone line where people can phone up from anywhere in Toronto and hear a tape recorded message about CYSF and club events or what is happening in the university. It means having a table in Central Square, with various CYSF staff manning it on certain days; the President on Mondays the Vice President on Tuesday etc. That would be publicized and people who wanted to discuss certain issues with a member of the executive could walk up and discuss it, that would be the ultimate in accessibility. At the table they would have minutes from the last CYSF meeting and the agenda for the next meeting. That would end the intimidation of walking into the CYSF office and seeking information. A third way of improving communication would be creating a journal, where clubs and other student groups could advertise free of charge. The journal will be paid by the CYSF and would be bi-monthly or something.

EXCALIBUR: What role do you see the regular CYSF representatives playing under the new structure of CYSF, and how will this role change from the old system?

NITSIS: They play the role of administering CYSF. The CYSF is supposed to represent the students. It has not

done that in the past. Hopefully with this new system of college representatives being elected directly from the student population of the college, instead of being appointed by the college councils, more representation will exist. Hopefully, the college representatives will keep regular office hours and have regular communication with their respective college and therefore their voice will speak for students. Referring to the council executive, it should also be a voice at large. There should be communication between the clubs and CYSF, maybe bi-monthly (that is really important) including the student health groups, student services groups. The whole thing is a communication issue.

EXCALIBUR: How would you handle Calumet Colleges' opposition to the plan to include them in CYSF?

NITSIS: It is ridiculous and totally absurd that Calumet was annexed by CYSF without any sort of referendum or public opinion polls. A referendum should occur. Calumet students should be able to voice their opinions and they are trying to do that with protests. The results of the referendum will speak for themselves.

EXCALIBUR: How would you deal with Osgoode's opposition to the proposed changes?

NITSIS: Osgoode hall has a history as a prestigious entity, and because of this and because of it being a graduate entity it has different needs than the regular undergraduate colleges. Therefore some people feel that CYSF cannot meet their needs and I agree with that. If Osgoode believes they can operate better as an autonomous or semi-autonomous law school, then they should be able to do so.



ADRIAN SHAIKH

EXCALIBUR: What qualities and experiences do you think you can bring to the job?

SHAIKH: Presently, I am a member of the York debating society; I am a second year Political Science major; and what I'd like to do above all else in this campaign is to get the students angry about the issues. I believe that constructive change can be brought about by getting the students angry. Anger is sort of like the catalyst; it's the stimulus; it's the call to action which says that there's something wrong with the way the present system is being run, and something has to be done to rectify the situation. If one isn't moved, one'll never get moving . . .

EXCALIBUR: What exactly are the

issues that you want people to get angry about? More specifically, what is wrong with either the CYSF or campus life in general?

SHAIKH: What I'd like to introduce is a direct line to the CYSF that would allow students to obtain information about activities that are happening each week and to express any grievances or qualms they may have against the present system.

To answer the latter part of your question, I am for more funding for the clubs. Currently, organizations at York usually receive funding based on membership; in other words, a mere head count. I favour a system in which the amount of funding would be a reflection of the number of important and worthwhile functions put on by a club. By the word 'functions,' I mean getting the students to participate in forums and debates in order to raise awareness about social, political, economic, and legal issues, as expressed in the open letter to the York community on February 9; and on a lighter side, movies, socials and excursions.

I insist that the motions for funding to the clubs should be based on a decision by the whole Council rather than simply the executive branch in the CYSF. What they usually do is table a motion, and then talk about it in private, and take a vote amongst themselves rather than having the whole council give approval.

EXCALIBUR: Do you mean for funding issues?

SHAIKH: Well, for instance, at the last meeting, the Baha'i Faith presented a statement with all their expenses, and the CYSF tabled a motion, and they were going to discuss it on their own.

EXCALIBUR: They can't pass any funding without a full-council approval.

SHAIKH: That is correct. If elected, I would recommend clarification of the CYSF regulations—especially clause 512, and (its) ambiguity about the word 'political' in regard to club recognition. This I feel is imperative, because although there is mass student support for humanitarian causes like the Third World Forum, and the York Students Against Apartheid, theoretically, due to the present wording of the clause, funding may cease.

EXCALIBUR: What do you think about the new wording they just adopted on Wednesday night?

SHAIKH: As of yet, I haven't got a hold of that information; it's still under consideration, and I can get back to you at a later date . . .

EXCALIBUR: What do you think about President Arthurs' plans for the college system?

SHAIKH: I lived first year in residence at Stong, and from what I could gather from fellow students, most of them are opposed to it. For instance, if you are a Science student, you would be living in a residence—Bethune, I believe was the proposed one—with Science students. And although it's supposedly to break up the different cliques and get students involved and so on, I think it'll end up defeating its purpose; because, if you're going to class, you're (already) with Science students all day . . .

EXCALIBUR: What do you do with students who feel the colleges aren't serving their needs (for example, commuter students)? How do you intend to bring all those students into the college system and get them more involved here (currently, voter turnout in CYSF elections is six percent)?

SHAIKH: I'm all in favour of having, as (Arthurs) proposed, a central system whereby the student activity fee, rather than go solely to (your) College—especially if you are a commuter—would be divided, so they can take some of that money, and set up a central system for commuters and get them involved in socials, (and) movie nights. I don't promise that we can eradicate the whole problem of student apathy, and eliminate all the present problems within eight months, but I do promise action.

EXCALIBUR: What do you think about the activity funds that you're basically alluding to—the Master's activity fund and the Dean's activity fund?

SHAIKH: I think the new proposals brought about are quite good, and I'm all in favour of them.

EXCALIBUR: The CYSF just put out a report assessing how the OFS performed this year, and how useful it was. What is your reaction to the report's findings? Would you hold a referendum next year to withdraw from OFS, or do you think it's a valuable body?

SHAIKH: I think when it comes to an issue that most students should be informed about, where decisions should not be made by just a small group of people, it's imperative that they know. A referendum, I think, would in a sense reduce—not totally eradicate—student apathy on campus. That would be another way to get more students involved. A lot of students don't believe in the idea of a council, and why logically should they co-operate if they don't think it's important? There's a lot to be said about what an effective council can do. It coordinates the entire activities on campus—(it) recognizes clubs (and) allocates funds to the organizations.



BERNIE POLSTER

EXCALIBUR: What qualities and experiences do you have that will make you an effective CYSF president?

POLSTER: I will bring to the CYSF a level of commitment that I don't think has existed before, or if it has, it hasn't been used to its full potential. I am a student and I claim to be nothing more than that. At Calumet, I have been representing smaller functions. I was a boot strap rep. I am also an active member in the general meetings here. I have also been paying attention to what's going on in politics around the University. I think that I am a person aware of the issues. I want to get involved and I want to get involved in a big way.

EXCALIBUR: Could you briefly highlight the proposals for your platform?

POLSTER: One of the biggest things in my platform is a rotating CYSF meeting in which once a month, or every now and then, a meeting is held away from the Senate Chamber and in a college dining room. This is to establish some student awareness of what CYSF is all about. Other than that, I am also backing Drew McCreadie's referendum for a student levy. Basically, I want to keep tabs on what is going on from an administrative

point of view. I want to know how the students feel, and voice these concerns.

EXCALIBUR: What role do you see the CYSF representatives playing under the new constitution?

POLSTER: I would hope that these reps will allow for more informative CYSF meetings, more interaction between the CYSF executive and the student body. I think that this is another issue that I would like to raise. I want to raise student awareness about the CYSF and the functions it performs. Assuming we have a unified student body, it's not what we do, but what we would do, in terms of attaining goals and whatnot.

EXCALIBUR: How do you rate this year's CYSF performance?

POLSTER: I think that the CYSF this year, other than the constitutional reforms and the student levy, were as noticeable as they should have been. I think that they had a few good ideas at the beginning of the year that didn't go over well such as the baseball game day and the concert over at Glendon.

I thought that was a nice idea but the weather didn't help much. The Winter Carnival, again a good idea with a lot of input from students and other colleges, but it didn't have the organization it needed. It needed much more advertising. The advertising that was done came much too late. If I were to become President I would make sure that the student body was well aware of such events.

EXCALIBUR: How do you feel about Calumet's opposition to Arthurs' plan of including that college in the CYSF?

POLSTER: I agree with the plan. I feel strongly that all undergraduate students should be a part of the CYSF. As I stated earlier, one of my goals is to unify the student body. If you don't become part of the CYSF then you are missing key input that is needed. I feel that the more students that are involved, the better off everyone will be. Knowing that Calumet is a part of the CYSF, I think that we (members of Calumet) should take

advantage of the opportunity to get involved.

EXCALIBUR: What are your specific plans in terms of unifying the colleges?

POLSTER: Awareness. Get them involved. Posters everywhere. I have seen *The Water Buffalo*, the CYSF newspaper, only in the CYSF offices. I haven't seen it anywhere else on campus. I think it is an important method of getting information to the public. As well, the college reps will aid in unifying the student body. Also the meetings I propose to have outside the Senate Chamber will get the CYSF off the ninth floor pedestal and make us into a "human" government.

EXCALIBUR: Do you think that the CYSF should pull out of the OFS (Ontario Federation of Students) next year?

POLSTER: For us to pull out of the OFS would be to cut off our nose despite our face. I don't think that a lot of our money goes to the OFS such as lobbying for TTC student pass. We wouldn't be able to do this effectively without the help of the OFS. Together with all the other post-secondary institutions the OFS becomes a big bargaining unit.

EXCALIBUR: This year the CYSF executive was marred by failure to communicate. How do you plan to rectify this situation?

POLSTER: I am not totally aware of what went on, but I don't think the lack of communication was such a bad thing. I think when you have four people working together contradictions are going to exist. Sure, these things should be cleared up behind closed doors perhaps in a private executive meeting and then bring to the meetings a consensus with respect to certain issues. I am a personable fellow, I can get along with just about anybody and that is why I don't think that this is such a bad thing. I think I am willing to listen to all sides of an issue. I think that if it is an idea that is going to benefit all students I don't know why that should be a problem anyways. That is what the CYSF is for, goals that benefit all students.

Osgoode to decide on membership in CYSF

By JAMES FLAGAL

Osgoode's student council, the Legal and Literary Society, has decided to conduct a referendum today to see if law students are in favour of joining a central student government.

Legal and Lit President Dave Thomas believes that referring to the Osgoode student body as the Legal and Literary Society is misleading. "You ask people in the hallway what Legal and Lit means, and they'll tell you student government. These reforms will in no way tie our Council to a central student government. They only request that Osgoode elect a student representative to these bodies."

He also believes that many members of Legal and Lit, who have launched a campaign against the reforms, are acting irrationally. "This fear about being associated with York University is stupid . . . If

people hide this affiliation, then they're saying that this has adversely affected the reputation of this law school. That's simply not true," Thomas says.

Thomas points out that Osgoode students already pay \$5 to CYSF and that Legal and Lit falsely believes the school had been completely autonomous for some years. It is unclear how this referendum will change current policy since the President's discussion paper makes no provision for such procedure.

ERRATUM:

In last week's article, "Osgoode rejects Arthurs plan," resolutions were not passed to declare Legal and Lit's independence. According to Vice-President Stacey Maclean, they were merely drafted, but could not be passed because it was not a full Council meeting.