

CYSF NEWSBEAT



David Dollard, with all the news that gives fits to print, on the *CYSF Newsbeat* for November 23, 1987.

The long awaited Council of York Student Federation (CYSF) audit has come in, and been accepted by Council, just in time for Christmas. The "odd, it" for fiscal 1986 (April 1986-April 1987) as presented by *CYSF* Finance Director Julie Marchant, indicates that last year's Council operated on a nearly \$292,000 university grant. This year's Council will receive slightly more than that, according to *CYSF* President Drew McCreadie, but the exact figures are not yet available. *CYSF*'s 86-87 audit cost \$7,000, up considerably from the \$4,500 projected in Marchant's sans audit budget report of October 26. Marchant explained that the audit cost increase is in part responsible for the reduction of the planned *CYSF* surplus down to \$1,200 from the previously projected \$6,000. This tardy audit (*CYSF* audits have been prepared by July since 1984) was presented at the end of the director's reports, which were the fourth item on a six item agenda, at a *CYSF* Annual General Meeting (AGM) on November 11—the second such meeting this year.

At the AGM, the *CYSF* Executive presented the Council's audit report and financial statement, and sought to gain the acceptance of new members in Council and reaffirm the existing directorships, and confirm next year's auditors. The *CYSF* Executive has experienced a bit of difficulty with AGM's this year. Marchant's *CYSF* budget report was to be presented at an earlier AGM on (ironically) October 19, but since ten days did not pass since the budget's first presentation to Council on October 15, as article 19 of the *CYSF* constitution legislates, the budget presentation was delayed to the 26th.

During the meeting, the *CYSF* Executive, minus a Social and Cultural Affairs Director (the post has been vacant since Maiyin Yap resigned on October 15), was reaffirmed by Council. Despite having received only one application (from Founder's college member Dan Silver) in the time since the position opened, President McCreadie called a motion, which Council passed, to delay the acceptance of a new Social and Cultural Affairs Director until the next *CYSF* meeting on November 25. According to McCreadie, this motion was intended to give club members who were involved in the Multicultural Festival from November 2-6, the opportunity to apply for the position. The Festival's variety show was a success, according to McCreadie, despite having, "(done) it by the seat of our pants."

McCreadie introduced the new-*CYSF* business manager, Jennifer Smith. Jokingly, McCreadie quipped that despite being at York (1985) graduate, "we didn't hold that against her." Smith's selection process was aided by Touche Ross & Co., who prepared this year's audit. Touche Ross was also approved by Council as next year's auditor, despite the fact that they changed accountants on the *CYSF* account three times during the summer without consulting McCreadie and Marchant. But McCreadie explained after the meeting that he will still continue to use Touche Ross because, "they've shown concern and are willing to improve." As well McCreadie said, "They fucked up and their trying to rectify it," citing the example of Touche Ross's aid in the business manager's selection.

Debbie Lace, of Winter's College, beat out Robert Christie, Paul Dutka, and Joshua Paton, to be selected by Council as the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) for the 1988 *CYSF* elections.

Although not on the agenda, McCreadie introduced a motion to accept two new representatives from

McLaughlin College, Robert Cummings (present) and Hil DeFrias (absent). Both were accepted by Council prior to the audit vote. Cummings however was allowed to vote for the CRO position (by *CYSF* Speaker David Gilinsky) even though he had not been officially accepted by Council as a member, and was technically sitting as an observer (a non-voting position) during the CRO vote. McCreadie explained that the acceptance of new members was not on the agenda because he was handed their acceptance letters upon entering the Senate Chamber for the evening's meeting. According to Gilinsky, Cummings was allowed to vote because he was at the meeting when it started. He further stated that the motion, not being on the agenda, was merely an oversight, but "you sometimes have to bend a rule to have an effective council," and, "I was hoping no one would notice."

During her Director's Report, External Affairs Director Tammy Hasselfeldt discussed controversial legislation which threatens to adversely affect the student housing situation in London explaining about students at the University of Western Ontario and Fanshawe College will be forbidden from living with more than four unrelated people in a single dwelling because of a municipal exclusionary by-law. The Western Student's Union (WSU) will be fighting this "blatantly discriminatory" by-law at an Ontario Mortgage Board hearing between November 30-December 4. The *CYSF* voted to allot the WSU \$100 to add to the \$25,000 in Western student money which the WSU will be using to argue its case. Hasselfeldt added that there has been no formal financial support from the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS) for the WSU case. The OFS is a lobbying group, funded by Ontario university students (York students contributed \$30,000 last year and this year), who lobby the provincial government on behalf of university students on such issues as better funding and more affordable housing.

Doug Bies, Services and Communications Director, said that the Insurance Guild of Canada will present a proposal to his health plan committee by December 1st, which he and *CYSF* may bring to a student referendum by year's end. Bies said details are sketchy, but the health plan would probably cover prescription drugs, with provision with or without birth control.

Women's Affairs Director Marcia Cooper presented a report, not on the agenda, in which she said that the Canadian Union of Education Workers (CUEW) has given her childcare grant, and therefore the search is on for a person to do a needs survey in relation to the childcare centre in the proposed Student Centre. Cooper also said that a survey will be conducted, first in campus residences then expanded to commuter students and possibly to faculty and staff, to assess the need for a planned parenthood clinic in the Student Centre.

OH, BY THE WAY

The *CYSF* Executive still has not presented Council with the figures showing the cost and revenue incurred from the *CYSF* Orientation "Glendon Day," which included the baseball game and "concert" on September 12. President McCreadie cited the failure by the colleges to submit their portion of bus fares (which were higher than proposed by the *CYSF* Executive) and the failure of the Glendon College Student Union (GCSU) to supply their figures. According to Finance Director Marchant, the bus money is roughly \$4,000. In a summer meeting, *CYSF* voted to allot the GCSU \$10,000 to organize York's orientation.

University revises cheating policy

By SANJU VASWANI

Don't cheat. That's the message from the Faculty of Arts, which having revised its policies on all forms of academic dishonesty has clarified its position regarding the identification of what is academically dishonest. The Faculty has also revised its procedures dealing with such cases.

The Senate Appeals Committee (SAC) is currently reviewing University policy on this matter. According to Associate Dean of Arts Mark Webber, the revised policies and procedures are "consistent with current senate legislation but reflect the direction the SAC review is taking."

According to a source within the administration who wishes to remain anonymous, the SAC review and the revisions undertaken by the Faculty do not indicate a rise in cases of alleged academic dishonesty. Rather they are intended to clarify and improve the existing legislation.

New guidelines are in place to prevent cheating on examinations. They provide greater security for examination questions before an exam and more intensive invigilation during examination periods.

The frequent occurrence of imper-

sonation, referring to when a student gets a surrogate to write an exam, test, or quiz, has made it clear that better ID checks are needed. What students fail to realize, according to Webber, is that in doing this they are in fact committing forgery and are punishable not only under university regulations, but the laws of Canada as well.

Plagiarism accounts for the largest number of cases of academic dishonesty uncovered by the faculty and staff. A large part of plagiarism involves the case of essay-writing services and the policy revisions explicitly include such tactics under the definition of cheating.

Procedures determining penalties in cases of academic dishonesty differ in that the faculty member accusing the student is no longer expected to act as prosecutor, judge and jury. Cases which cannot be settled between the student and the faculty member are no longer heard on the departmental level. Such cases are now heard on the faculty level by a panel consisting of two faculty members and a student. This panel is to be derived from a pool of 12 individuals charged with the

responsibility of resolving the cases justly and expeditiously.

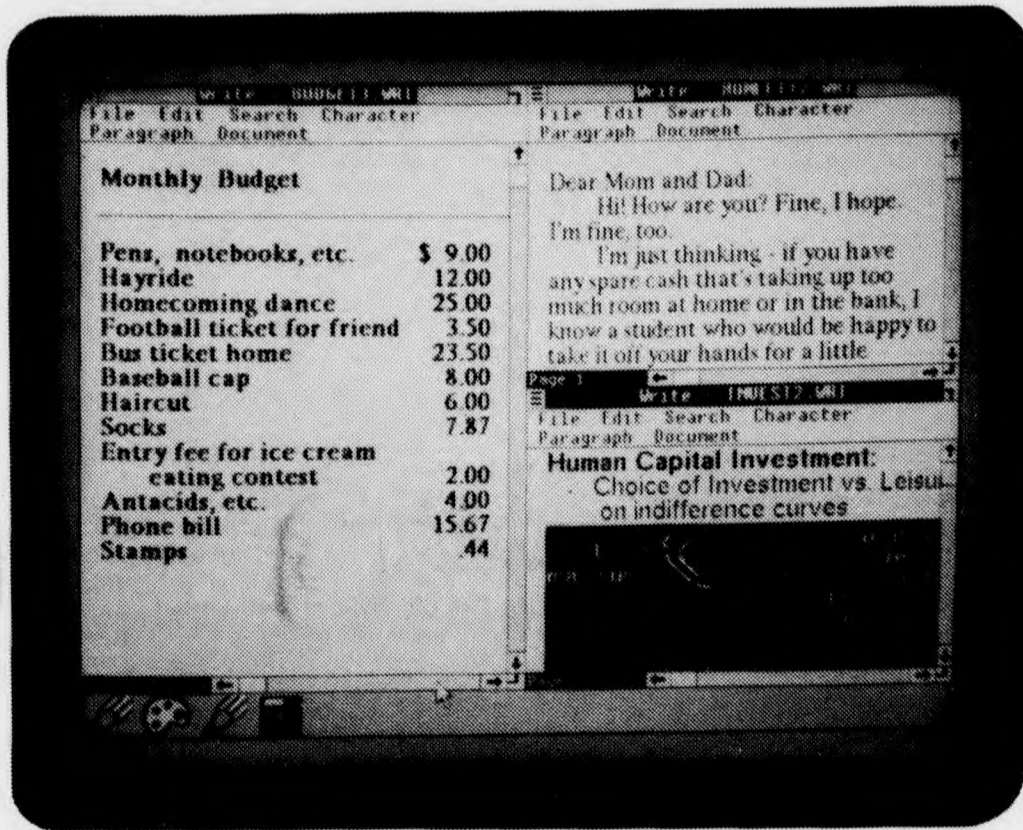
The accusing faculty member plays the role of witness, and presents his version of the facts to the panel. The student may opt for legal counsel, and can contest the accusations both on procedural and substantive grounds.

According to the administration source, such differences often occur with varying interpretations of what constitutes a breach of academic honesty. The revisions in the Faculty policy aim to prevent such variances.

Students who are falsely accused or "set up" by an enraged girl- or boyfriend for example, are given the benefit of the doubt in such a system. They are able to present a case heard by individuals considerably more objective than an accusing faculty member.

Webber describes academic dishonesty to be "not only a punitive matter but a matter for education." A single offense casts doubt on the validity of the degrees which so many students obtain legitimately through their own hard work, realizing that their purpose is not simply to earn a degree, but to sharpen their intellects in the process.

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