

# Is leftist prof really Ayn Rand in disguise?

By Gerry Tomany

As a result of the efforts of various education lobbies, government, business and others, we all know that with a higher education we will be able to make lots of money. But thanks to Mr. David McNally's letter in the Jan. 29 issue of *Excalibur* informing the York community how not to deal with York's financial crisis, I have learned how a university education can help you save money too.

You see, before Mr. McNally's lecture on resisting the Tory agenda,

**bearpit**

criticism • condemnations • diatribes • manifestos  
 • rants • discoveries • speeches • essays • dialogues  
 • polemics • dissertations • epistles • monologues •  
 proclamations • accusations • declamations  
 • declarations • defences • defenestrations • blatherings

I had this habit of either buying a meal for or handing over loose change to some shivering soul who approached me on my sojourns in downtown Toronto. Silly me.

But thanks to the astute political analysis provided by Mr. McNally whose impeccable credentials as Director of the Graduate Program in Social and Political Thought put him in a position to know, I will no longer do this and I'll still feel good about myself.

No guilt for refusing a person in need. No more reflection on why he or she is asking and why I am in the privileged position to give.

Mr. McNally has The Answer and it is a simple one. The Tories caused the misery many Canadians are now experiencing—notable exceptions include Tory politicians, members of the Senate and tenured faculty—so for faculty who earn \$80,000 or more to give up three to five percent of their salaries in an effort to save teaching jobs as Professors Jack Saywell and Jerry Ginzburg recommend, would be seriously wrong-minded. None of the short gain now, more pain later, to paraphrase Mr. Mulroney, scenario for him. It is necessary for the most highly paid faculty to resist the Tory agenda by not giving up any of their salary.

Mr. McNally has created the best of all possible worlds, albeit neither a brave nor a new one. Indeed it is fashionable for many of the well paid members of the intellectual classes to write such a world so as to perpetuate their fantasy that they are rebels with a clause.

The faculty gives up nothing, and it doesn't do so for high-minded political reasons. Sounds a lot like how capitalism is supposed to work. In looking after your own interests, in this case your salary, you can save lots of money as well as do good to everyone else. Shades of Adam Smith and Ayn Rand. Adam Smith of course did not hide the self-interest inherent in his theory. Mr. McNally in his clever lecture nicely does. Smith doubtless would be proud of the resourcefulness of his academic heir who is so socially and politically thoughtful.

So now I can go downtown and tell those in need that it would be politically irresponsible for me to give them money and I'll tell them why. No, better yet, I'll tell them to go see Mr. McNally. As for the barricades that we must throw up against the

Tory assault, I daresay there will be many unemployed teachers around who will have plenty of time on their hands to do just that.

No such luck I'm afraid for the tenured faculty. They will be busy "servicing"—I surely cannot call it teaching—the increased number of

students who will be sitting in their classes; they will barely have time to shout "Make the rich pay", let alone "contribute to a process of political debate and mobilization around the issues of education and social services" as Mr. McNally urges. Oh well, the non-tenured faculty is used to

being left to go it alone by their tenured colleagues, with of course some exceptions such as Professors Ginzburg and Saywell.

Gerry Tomany is a non-tenured faculty with the Faculty of Arts, Bethune College.

## Eight mile (12.8km) high pile of trash

by Beth Lawrence

From 10:00 am until 4:00 pm this Wednesday, March 19 — Litterless Wednesday—you can witness a pile of garbage grow. How? During this time, the Bachelor of Environmental Studies Together (B.E.S.T.) will be staffing the Student Centre food court and taking out the garbage.

The garbage will be on display in the "pit" between the Student Centre and Steadman Lecture Hall. Drop by and see how much trash students create in one days' lunching.

One of the many objectives of this display is to bring Metro Toronto's garbage crisis to the attention of York students. This garbage display not only acts as an aid to explain the increasing accumulation of garbage — and the decreasing amount of space to put it in — but it also allows people to visualize the concept that their one styrofoam cup contributes to everyone else's one styrofoam cup, dish, plate etc. This creates a lot of waste!

Those who are involved in the environmental movement often feel that people lazily think their small load of garbage really won't make too much difference. If everyone thinks their garbage won't make a difference (and most of you do), we will soon run out

of places to store it all.

I feel that we have forgotten the simple meanings of those three little R's that have become synonymous with not only the garbage crisis, but also with a variety of environmental problems around the world.

Reduce, Reuse and Recycle are about starting to *rethink!* Ask yourself if you really need it *before* you buy it. Ask yourself if it can be reused for something else before you throw it away. And if it can be recycled Just Do It! If we all change our ways of doing things and rethink our present consuming habits, in the end there will be much less to throw away.



# ENVIRONMENTAL Awareness & Action Week

**Litterless Wednesday**  
 Wednesday, March 18th

5:00 pm Karen Campbell from the Canadian Environmental Law Association.  
 224 Lumbers

4-6 pm Envision York: forum on the use and dangers of pesticides.  
 Council Chambers (SC)

all-day Come and see the garbage "display" outside of the Student Centre.

All are welcome!

**Native Canadian Awareness Day**  
 Thursday, March 19th

5:00 pm Crafts with Nimke! Learn traditional Ojibway Crafts. Register early—space is limited. Cost: \$5.00.  
 Contact Nimke at 650-6436

all-day Envision York: display on alternatives to pesticides.  
 Collonade (SC)

**ECO-Feminism Day**  
 Friday, March 20th

6:00 am There will be a sunrise ceremony for ♀ on campus. Meet at the Stong Pond at 6 am—just before sunrise.

all-day Envision York: information on *The Whitewash Movement*  
 Collonade (SC)

For more information contact  
 Sasha Courville  
 at 650-5979  
 or Beth Lawrence  
 at 449-4913.

These events are sponsored by  
 The Bachelor of Environmental Studies (B.E.S.), Envision York and YFS/FEY

Throughout the week in the Student Centre there will be information available on how YOU can get involved