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Animosity refueled

Library to cut personnel

By MICHAEL FORMAN

Replying to charges of administrative top-heaviness, William Newman, acting director of York libraries, replied that in fact the contrary is true.

Citing library departments that contain no professional staff at all, Newman predicted that next year's budget rollbacks would even further reduce the number of professional librarians.

Unlike educational faculties, where personnel are divided into faculty or staff, library personnel are distinguished as professionals or non-professionals. The professional distinction is given to library staff holding a Bachelor of Library Sciences degree.

With the library forced to reduce next year's staff by as many as twenty-five, non-professional staff have expressed fear that a disproportionate number of those cuts will be made from their ranks.

This fear is based on the fact that staff cutback decisions will be left in the hands of the professional library staff.

Newman refuted this suspicion, explaining that the library directors would issue personnel cutback procedures to the professionals responsible for the separate library departments.

Animosity between professional and non-professional staff existed, even before the issue of cutbacks became apparent.

Earlier this year, professional library staff refused to join nonstatus staff members in their attempt to organize through YUSA. Preferring to bargain alone with the ad-

ministration, the professional staff, trying to achieve semi-faculty status, broke off with the lower library staff.

When asked to comment on staff complaints that communications in the library were hindered by bureaucratic professionals, Newman described such problem as "mainly psychological. Can you think of any organization where this kind of thing doesn't happen?"

Figures supplied at Excalibur's request show that, at present, professionals compose twenty per cent of the total library staff. Their functions range from original cataloguing of books, ordering of supplies, compiling reference materials to actual supervision of York's satellite libraries.

The most glaring discrepancy indicated by the figures is a highly uneven distribution of professional staff in some departments. Library processing, composed of 53 support staff, has no professional staff at present. In comparison, cataloguing carries ten professional staff and 24 non-professional.

The cataloguing department was the major target of criticism from many regular staff members. One, describing it as "suffering from professional overload and severe director mismanagement," told of a major bureaucratic bottleneck that had developed there. Newman replied that such problems might exist, but said they were not unique to the library.

Cutback decisions will not be made until final budget figures are received from the university. At that time, library department heads will be advised what cuts are necessary.



M. Forman photo

"Library problems not unique"

Atkinson to cut faculty—Dean

By MICHAEL HOLLETT

Atkinson College faces a budget cut of \$116,000 for next year and is releasing faculty to meet its budget.

Dean Harry Crowe said in an interview Tuesday, "We will save \$60,000 by eliminating 24 courses out of the Atkinson total of somewhere between 500 and 600." Five of the dropped courses will be from the autumn/winter session while the other 19 will be from the summer session which Crowe described as a "declining market."

Part-time faculty who have had their autumn/winter courses dropped will be offered summer teaching positions. This will mean that a full-time summer teacher will be asked to drop one course so the part-time person can teach it.

Crowe said it would be impossible to release any support staff because

Atkinson is already working with the bare minimum.

"We've had to give our people an unfair work load because we don't have enough staff. Half of the students that go to York attend Atkinson, but we have a support staff of only 82 people," said the dean. The university administration alone employs a support staff of 190 people.

Atkinson also plans to absorb the budget cut by reducing equipment purchases by \$15,000, mainly in the geography, fine arts, and natural science departments.

Five thousand dollars will be saved by reducing minor research grants while another \$5,000 will be saved by cutting the purchase of records, slides and films from \$30,000 to \$25,000.

College affairs, which includes convocation and staff parties will also be cut \$5,000.

Atkinson had intended to set up a

Canadian Studies department, but will now be unable to do this. They will offer Canadian Studies courses, but the administration will be handled by the history department. This will save an additional \$10,000.

The college will cut back "hospitality" which includes such things as field trips and entertainment, saving \$5,000.

The general education departments (humanities, social science) will have to save \$11,000 between them. This will mean a cutback in guest speakers, and larger tutorials.

Dean Crowe is concerned that the college will be forced to absorb the cost of inflation itself.

He gave paper as an example, saying its cost was expected to rise "by 60 per cent" next year. Crowe said the college administration was considering ways to overcome this problem.

Family law at Osgoode

Judy LaMarsh is as prickly a character as ever

By S. JENNIFER HUNTER

The Osgoode Hall office was bare. The few pamphlets on the bookshelves and the hole in the carpet indicated the presence of a new tenant.

The woman behind the desk wore a strange necklace—the genetic symbol for women with an inlaid equality sign. She displayed an air of well-worn authority as she glanced through the many papers on her desk, but the symbolic necklace belied her tough exterior. Unlike the stereotype of the successful career woman who is unsympathetic and cold towards the struggling members of her sex, Judy LaMarsh shows concern for all women.

LaMarsh is now teaching a course in family law at Osgoode Hall. She is best remembered by Canadians as an outspoken and abrasive member of the House of Commons and Liberal Cabinet member during the Pearson years. But she also achieved national fame with her much denounced expose of the Pearson government, "Memoirs of a Bird in a Gilded Cage."

The book "caused a furor at the time," LaMarsh reminisced in a recent interview. "They were running around like Chicken Little. And although I never spoke to Pearson after that, I think he was pretty mad."

That LaMarsh should have written such a book is no great surprise. Her whole approach is one of honesty and forthrightness. In fact, the

Liberal party is trying to woo her back into the political arena. The Liberals lost LaMarsh's original constituency in Niagara during the last election and "the pressure is on me to go back into politics because they like winners," she said. But "I was frustrated, and tired of it physically and mentally."

Being a woman in government was physically and psychologically difficult, according to LaMarsh. "There were no johns and no facilities for women. People ignored the existence of women and the necessity of appointing more of them."

"I got elected out of my own steam and they respected that," she said. "But because I am a woman it wasn't easy to get funds and it was even harder to get the nomination. Once I got nominated, I ran as a personality."

Although LaMarsh has always confronted her male colleagues head on, she has often faced demeaning situations because of her sex. In her first law articling position, she remembers that "everytime it rained I was asked to take the books back to the library and I was once asked to buy hand lotion for the senior partner's wife. I wasn't supposed to be an errand girl."

After she resigned from politics, LaMarsh remembers that "nobody approached me to join a firm except one in Niagara Falls. I don't think there's anybody who has left government and hasn't been accepted into a law firm or been

asked to direct a company. Nobody tried to take advantage of my experiences as a lawyer or as a member of Parliament. All my colleagues wound up someplace."

LaMarsh shows very little respect for the present Liberal government.

"I don't think it's a very liberal government and there is almost a complete unawareness of women." Recent abortion reform "didn't go far enough. It should be taken out of the criminal code." The Royal Commission Report on the Status of Women which was initiated by LaMarsh "was a pretty modest kind of thing but not enough of it is being put into practice."

The present government needs a "considerable face lift but I don't think you can say that any party is better than another", LaMarsh said.

LaMarsh is excited about teaching law students at Osgoode Hall. "I like young people and I like family law. I like discussing it. The students have been pretty fair with me. I heard that they could be pretty rough. I'm newer at this than they are, but they accept me like anyone else."

Although she no longer represents the Canadian woman on the parliamentary level, LaMarsh is still working to promote equality between the sexes by speaking to groups across the country. "I'm a prickly enough character that I declare what I'm for and I work for it."



Judy LaMarsh: Former talk-show host in Vancouver, member of Parliament from 1960 to 1968 and Toronto Star columnist is teaching family law at Osgoode this year. This is the first in a series of interviews with York's "superstars."