

Confronts Poli. Sci. chairman

Glendon discriminates, Haggar charges

By JOHN KING

Controversial political scientist George Haggar is charging York University with political discrimination again — this time for a job he applied for as a political theorist in Glendon College's political science department.

In a meeting with the Glendon political science union last Friday Haggar said he had applied for a job opening in the department, but that he had been turned down in favor of a personal friend of Glendon political theory professor Ellen Wood.

In a student confrontation with Glendon political science chairman T.K. Olson later, Olson admitted that he had not even updated his dossier on Haggar to include Haggar's dossier from Columbia University, that he had not followed up any of Haggar's letters of recommendations and that the department had not even acknowledged receipt of Haggar's application.

"It's a case of personal conflict and nepotism as far as I'm concerned," Haggar said in an interview Tuesday night.

Haggar filed charges with the Ontario Human Rights Commission in September, 1969, against York and four other provincial universities, saying they refused to hire him because of his socialist political beliefs and anti-Zionist views. He said he was recommended by several professors at York to fill a post created when political science professor Edward Broadbent left to sit in the House of Commons as New Democratic Party member for Oshawa-Whitby, but that he was passed over in favor of a less qualified applicant.

York political science department chairman Harold Kaplan denied Haggar's charges but refused to debate the subject with him.

Haggar first applied to Glendon's political science department Nov. 22, 1966, four days after he

received his doctorate from Columbia University. He was interviewed by then-principal of the college Escott Reid and by York political science professor Neal Wood. Haggar was a student of Wood's at Columbia and in a letter of recommendation from Wood, was described as "clearly my top student ... He should make an excellent teacher." Haggar was told his name was by far the most prominent on the list of applicants.

In January, 1967, Reid wrote Haggar a note to say the appointment had been given to another applicant. Haggar, then at Waterloo-Lutheran University, said Tuesday he was not upset or surprised at the time.

That spring however, Haggar said, York political science professor Fred Schindeler, on a visit to Waterloo, told Haggar his name had ranked first for job until Wood nominated University of California at Los Angeles graduate Ellen Meiksons as a superior candidate.

Shortly after her arrival in Canada, Ellen Meiksons married Neal Wood.

On Dec. 1, 1969, on the recommendation of University of Toronto political economy professor C.B. MacPherson, Haggar answered an advertisement in the Nov. 28 University Affairs Supplement for a political theorist at Glendon College.

According to Haggar, Olson said he had expected to hear from him and that his application would be the most prominent of 85 applications.

The only question Olson raised, Haggar said, was that because Haggar was "a political liability" there might have been some likelihood that York arts dean John Saywell or Kaplan might veto Haggar's appointment.

On Jan. 10, Haggar said he telephoned Olson, who told him his chances of getting the job were not good because he was not a Canadian and not bilingual.

Later in January Gina Bridgeland, a British-born specialist in political theory and comparative government now completing her PhD at UCLA, was appointed to the position Haggar was seeking.

In a recent interview with the Glendon College newspaper Pro Tem, Olson said Miss Bridgeland was hired because of her reputation for brilliance, her interest in French Canada and because of her favorable recommendations from Ellen Wood and York political science professor Robert Albritton, both former classmates of hers. Miss Bir-



— Nigel Ottley

Glendon political science chairman T.K. Olson pokes his head out of his office door when students come up to confront him.

dgeland was also a student of Neal Wood.

Her interests in French Canada will not be used in courses she will teach next year, Olson said Friday. Miss Bridgeland plans to teach a course on political theory of industrial society.

Students at the political science union meeting last Friday confronted Olson outside his office after Olson refused to come to the meeting to answer Haggar's charges.

When Haggar accused Olson of spreading rumors about his intellectual integrity Olson refused to answer.

Haggar said Tuesday he had accepted an offer to speak to the union because third year Glendon political science student Chris Wilson had been told by Ellen Wood that Haggar's Columbia PhD was a fake.

One of the documents in his confidential dossier which Haggar showed to students at the union meeting was a statement from the chairman of his oral examination committee for his doctorate at Columbia, Herbert A. Deane, describing him as "a thoroughly honest and open person ... He will be an energetic and highly stimulating teacher ... I recommend him without hesitation."

When students pressed Olson with questions, he produced the file on Haggar prepared by Reid after his interview in 1966. It had not

been updated.

When pressed further Olson admitted that Miss Bridgeland's application had been the only one followed up when the job was offered.

Olson said that "perhaps I've been derelict in my duties."

Haggar's and Miss Bridgeland's qualifications for the Glendon position overlap in most areas. Both are experts in political theory and comparative government. Haggar has also had experience teaching courses on Canadian government and he has devised a course in Canadian social and political theory.

The political science union two weeks ago agreed nothing could be done for Haggar, but demanded that the political science department give the union a summary of the qualifications of the applicants they hired and refused and demanded that present loose structures of faculty hiring be formalized to include equal student and faculty representation on the hiring committee of the department. In an attempt at a compromise last week the students said they might be prepared to accept their demands leaving the hiring committee as an advisory committee to the department chairman.

The union was to meet with Olson again yesterday afternoon to negotiate the demands.



— Nigel Ottley

Political theorist George Haggar came to Glendon to defend charges that his doctoral degree from Columbia University was a fake.

Ross defends discipline

University president Murray G. Ross says he implemented "the spirit of the recommended procedures" of the Laskin report on discipline "not to inhibit discussion of the Laskin Report but to state frankly that we have moved and are moving away from some of the restrictive sections of the York University Act."

In a letter to York students Monday Ross apologized for the ambiguity of a statement in York calendars, which refers members of the university to the discipline report "which sets forth the basic concepts which should prevail at the University with respect to the behaviour of students."

"By accepting membership in

the University," the calendar statement says, "a person acknowledges his willingness to abide by these concepts."

In his letter, Ross says "the Laskin Report has not been approved, accepted or adopted in whole or in part by the University. The Report is now under discussion and judgment on its adequacy will come later."

Ross claims that by adopting the disciplinary sections of the report "I am ... using the spirit of the recommended procedures to attempt to provide a greater degree of self-government in disciplinary matters in the University."

Ross says that by adopting the sections as university policy "I have limited the authority given the President in the Act in accordance with the procedures recommended in the Laskin Report." He says this is a first step toward modifying the York Act to take away some of the exclusive legal authority over student conduct the president is given under Article 13 (2) (c) of the act.

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Admin. readies for exam bomb threats

Administrators at York are worried that students uptight about their exams might try to get them cancelled by phoning in a bomb threat to the building their exam is going to be held in. But they've figured out an answer — alternate examination halls.

At a meeting of the presidential advisory committee last Thursday safety and security director C.G. Dunn asked what action should be taken if the university should receive a bomb threat.

Two phony bomb threats were called in warning that bombs were to go off in the Central Square and the Steacie Science Library last month. After the first call, the Central Square and part of the Ministry of Love was evacuated — five minutes after the bomb was supposed to go off. The second threat, called in to the computer centre in the basement of Steacie, was ignored after Dunn consulted with T.F. O'Connell, the director of library services.

The committee recommended that each call received should be treated seriously and that buildings should be evacuated.

Glendon councillors threaten to resign

Sixteen of 18 student members of the Glendon College Faculty Council have threatened to resign from that body today if the council does not adopt a motion stating that "the election of students to committees of the council be the responsibility of the student members of the council."

Should the motion be defeated, the students will resign because they feel that they "will no longer be able to guarantee effective student representation on the committees of the council."

At present, the nominating committee advises the council as to who shall sit on the various committees.

The students argue that for students to be represented adequately they, as student members, "must be elected to the committees either by the student body or by those responsible to it."

The student faculty councillors claim that they are the only ones in council who are "responsible to the students' point of view."

Any student member of faculty council can be impeached by one-eighth of the student body or three-quarters of the student faculty councillors.

Three student faculty councillors-elect have indicated that they back the motion.