

York joins colleges to provide new media programmes

"It will require a fair amount of commitment and energy"

by Salman A. Nensi

The faculty of arts has implemented a new joint programme of study in communication arts with three community colleges.

Tom Traves, dean of the faculty of arts, said that the new joint programme is an important initiative, combining academics with career opportunities. The programme will balance a liberal education, gained at York, with specialized programmes of study at the community colleges that will provide vocational possibilities.

The new venture will be similar to the concurrent early childhood education and rehabilitation services programmes now in place between York and Seneca College.

The communication arts joint venture will offer seven areas for York students to specialize in. Magazine and book publishing and corporate communication will be offered at Centennial College. Journalism and public relations will be offered at Humber College and radio and television broadcasting, audio-visual techniques and creative advertising

will be available at Seneca College.

Traves believes that students who enrol in this new programme will enjoy considerable success in their chosen fields upon graduation. Traves would like to implement more of these types of programmes in the future.

He warns that this is not a "bird course." There will be a heavy course load and the programme is demanding. "It will require a fair amount of commitment and energy," said Traves.

Generally, community colleges have two aspects to their programmes: general education and the vocational component. York students will be exempt from the general education component which will allow York students to finish a two or three year diploma course in what amounts to one year within the joint programme. Also, York students will be granted an advance standing credit. This means that a York student will have to complete one less credit when enrolled in the joint venture programme. Traves added that the advance standing credit will only apply if the York student successfully completes

the community college portion of the programme.

Students will be expected to take two to three courses at York while taking two to three classes at the college, resulting in a full course load.

There may be complications in the scheduling of classes and in fulfilling degree and diploma requirements. Because of this, the university and colleges have arranged for student advising. There are plans to create block periods of study at each institution, which will alleviate many of the transportation and scheduling problems. The plan is for students to spend one or two full days at the college and then two or three days at the university. "Students will not have to go from York to a college and back to York in one afternoon," said Traves.

On the York side of the programme, there will be no restrictions on the courses a student can take. "Students will be able to participate in any of the approximately 40 degree programmes currently available," promised Traves. "The only change for a York student is the advance

standing credit."

The programme is open to all arts students, but is being tailored to those who have completed their first year of study. Because of the nature of the programme, students who are well into their degree may find it more advantageous to complete it first and then attend one of the colleges afterwards. There is no restriction on the number of years the programme can take, but Traves expects average students will add one year to their studies.

There is limited enrolment for the programme and, even though students are not required to take York's general education courses, they will get no special treatment during the selection process. Traves emphasised that the colleges will have the same standards for York students as they do for regular applicants.

The cost of the joint programme will not differ significantly from doing both programmes separately. York's fees are on a credit basis, so will not differ at all. Community colleges work on a programme basis. These fees will be spread out over

the three years of the programme.

Some students may find they experience difficulties obtaining various services that help them deal with a full course load. Nancy Accinelli, coordinator of York's faculty of arts advising centre, said that each student's case is different and the university will help anyone who experiences difficulties.

Various representatives from the community colleges stress that the communication industry wants people who are both educated and trained. College representatives are very enthusiastic about this new joint venture. Everyone feels that it will provide students with the best possible background before they attempt to enter the communication industry job market.

For more information contact Nancy Accinelli at the advising centre (736-5022), Diane Baird at Centennial College (694-3241, ext. 3422), Carl Erickson at Humber College (675-3111, ext. 4310), Maureen Callahan at Seneca College (491-5050, ext. 4864).

Able: for students with disabilities

by David Tompkins

York University's disabled students are forming a student organization called Able. Able will be meeting April 6 from 12-2 p.m. in Vanier College's council office, room 120, in order to present and discuss its ambition. All are welcome to attend, both disabled people (in any capacity) and able bodied people.

Pat Kellerman, co-founder of Able, said, "We want to lay the groundwork now, so that we will be able to assist in orientation next fall, for disabled students."

Ron Pethick, another co-founder, said the organization "will be a part of the National Education Association for Disabled Students (NEADS)." This is an organization based in Ottawa that provides information to universities regarding disabled students and their needs.

"We are not trying to replace The Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD)," said Pethick. "We want to operate as a student body and advocate on behalf of the disabled students with the administration."

"The organization is being set up to operate at arms length with OSD," said Kellerman.

Ilanna Yuditsky, co-ordinator of OSD, said there are "115 individuals registered with the centre." She said this number will increase by 10 per cent to 15 per cent next year; this has been a trend in past years. This number does not include any students with learning disabilities, added Yuditsky.

Currently, the group has over 20 members and is growing rapidly. Pethick said anyone interested in joining Able should call him at 739-1948.

Universities everywhere

compiled by Donna Mason

CHEATING MAY BE RECORDED ON TRANSCRIPTS

The political science department at the University of Western Ontario wants to make the penalty for scholastic offenses harsher by recording academic violations on students' official transcripts. York University already does this.

"At present, cheating shows up as an F, but we want to show a difference between cheating and failing," said Richard Vernon, chairman of Western's political science department. This change would affect every

student guilty of academic violations who wants to apply to a graduate or professional programme.

The proposal was submitted to the Educational Policy Committee of the faculty of social science. If the proposal clears the committee, it will be introduced to the university senate.

from *The Gazette*, University of Western Ontario

NEW WOMEN'S CENTRE

A Women's Centre will be opening up at the University of Calgary. The control will be in

the hands of the women who run it. The centre will be open to all students and faculty, both men and women.

The centre is interested in providing support to women and increasing awareness of the problems created by social attitudes towards women. It will also provide programmes, seminars, services and literature.

There has been positive feedback about the centre on campus. Many students feel the university will strongly benefit from a Women's Centre.

from *The Gauntlet*, University of Calgary

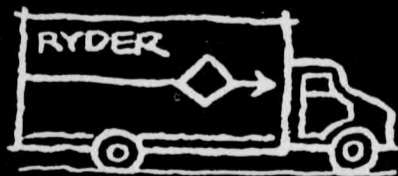
TUITION PROTEST

Students at the University of Quebec occupied Montreal's Radio-Canada offices for an hour to protest an over 100 per cent tuition increase. The students participated in a three day strike by occupying the TV newsroom. The anchorman refused to broadcast the students' statements, but later delivered a bulletin about the protest.

For the last 20 years, tuition was frozen at \$540. It will rise to \$890 for the 1990-91 academic year and to \$1,240 the following year.

from *The Gazette*, University of Western Ontario

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