

YSF calls for 'open assembly' to make CYSF accountable

By LAURA LUSH

The York Student Front (YSF) is demanding the CYSF executive set up an "open assembly" at which they "have to declare all future plans and programs in writing to the York community," reads an open YSF letter to the York community released last week. YSF also hopes to embody these political plans in a contract and they would "maintain all legal power to prosecute CYSF executive members, if the contract is not executed after signing," reads the letter.

The YSF letter has been forwarded to all campus clubs and organizations said YSF executive member Alex Riha. The letter urges these groups to respond by "actively participat(ing) in formulating and organizing, both, the binding contract and assembly meeting; . . . through YSF."

YSF argues that since CYSF is a legal corporation York students have shares in this corporation and therefore the right to demand a binding legal contract with its members.

Such a contract would have no legal basis said outgoing CYSF President Chris Summerhayes, because CYSF is a nonprofit corporation. CYSF President-Elect Reya Ali said he already has been given a mandate by the student body to carry out the promises he made when he was elected. Ali said he also plans to hold monthly grill sessions in the bear pits beginning in the 1985-86 academic year to create a forum for student feedback. "CYSF in the last couple of years has managed to keep most of its promises," Summerhayes said, adding that if YSF is so concerned that CYSF's political promises will not be kept, they should work with their elected representatives or run for election themselves.

The YSF withdrew its entire slate from the CYSF elections when they decided not to submit their nominations by the March 1 deadline as expected. Riha, a second place finisher in last year's presidential race, said in a March 14 Excalibur article that he withdrew from the race because he was disillusioned with the efforts of CYSF.

Calling themselves the "political voice at York," YSF organized a boycott of the CYSF elections during election week. YSF secured 500 signatures, while stipulating that those signing had to agree with at least one point on their nine-point petition.

One of the petition's major contentions was that CYSF does not have "the popular support of the student body." Riha argued CYSF elections brought in only 1,500 votes or five percent of York's total student population. Other points of grievance were that the structure of CYSF could not "sustain a plausible democratic forum," nor could it "effectively represent the interests of the students."

Riha said they have not received any response from the CYSF at this time, but hopes that they will consider their requests in their next council debate. He added that the YSF's objectives will be an ongoing process that will be carried out through the summer.

Both Ali and Summerhayes said it was difficult to attempt to respond to YSF's demands, because the letter was unsigned and they didn't know who to address.

"If they (YSF) are willing to come and talk about these issues," then we can deal with them in a fair manner, Ali said. Riha said he had already talked to Summerhayes, and was told the council would work on these demands during the summer.

CYSF

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