

# Rob Centa Vice-President External Affairs

**Platform:**

- 1. Freeze Tuition Fees.** Rob helped organize a big OFS rally at Queen's park and started a student letter-writing campaign to try to stop the government from raising tuition fees. We will see this week if he had any success.
- 2. End discriminatory differential fees for foreign students.** Rob says he's in the process of organizing for international students' day. He also says he's been to some meetings.
- 3. OSAP reform** Rob sat on an Ontario government committee on student aid this summer, and by all accounts he was one of the more active and outspoken members. His lobbying efforts were impressive — especially over the federal government's three per cent tax on student loans. He was able to convince some local banks not to bother with the tax.

**Grade: Comments:**  
**B+** Pretty darn good considering what Rob was up against—a recession, a backsliding government and little student support.

**D** Rob has not done anything substantial to address this important issue.

**A** Very good work.

**Office Attendance** **D**

### Special Achievements:

Heavily involved in internal politics of Ontario and Canadian federation of students. Avid protest organizer. Plays a leading role in YFS policy planning.

### Comments:

Rob seems to have bitten off more than he can chew this year. Perhaps he would do better to select a few projects and try to get results. His constant fraternizing with people from other student governments has left Rob little time to devote to the concerns of York students. Sometimes too much of his attention appears to be occupied with OFS and CFS bureaucracy — and this has affected his attendance. Also, Rob should expand his interpretation of the word 'external' beyond the narrow realm of student politics. There were many Metro and North York issues this term — including a major election — which could have used Rob's attention.

# YFS REPORT CARDS:

Separating the slackers from the brown-nosers in York's central student government. Since their election in March, we've been watching them in action (or inaction) — and, oh my, what a class we've got. Now if only we gave grades for haircuts...

# Ziad Hafez Vice-President Finance

**Platform:**

- 1. Maintain Increase in Funding for Clubs and Services.**
- 2. Mobilize Clubs Coalition and Ensure Self-Determination.**
- 3. YFS should grant club status.**
- 4. Allocate More Funding for Anti-Racism Campaign.**
- 5. Allocate More Funding for an All-Encompassing Course Evaluation.**
- 6. Freeze Fees**
- 7. Fully Support York Athletics.**

**Grade: Comments:**  
**C** The funding increased, but Ziad appeared to take a relatively minor role in this.

**F** Whatever Ziad meant to do obviously hasn't worked. The Clubs Coalition has fallen apart, and the club world is about as far from 'mobilized' or 'self-determined' as it could get.

**F** York's Office of Student Affairs still has control over the important power of granting club status to student organizations. Ziad has done little to rally clubs behind this issue, and even support from the clubs themselves appears to be dwindling.

**B** Equality Account is \$18 000, up from \$8 500 last year. Ziad's role in this appears to have been more supportive, however.

**C** See above (there was a funding increase of \$4 500).

**C** There was a budgetary allocation of \$7 600 for campaigning and lobbying toward freezing fees, but Ziad had little to do with it.

**D** York Athletics received \$5 500 this year — hardly full support.

**Office Attendance** **C**

### Special Achievements:

Increase in revenue from VISA affinity credit cards.

### Comments:

Ziad has been successful in allocating money to clubs but seems to lack either the organizational skills of the initiative to go beyond the basic requirements of his job — which mainly entail balancing the books. The Finance portfolio could include more duties in the future (perhaps it should include the Social Affairs half of the Equality and Social Affairs portfolio).

# Nikki Gershbain Vice-President Internal Affairs

**Platform:**

- 1. Challenge administration on student issues.** Nikki fought the administration hard over serious issues, including Security's plan to eliminate the \$3 per cent fee charged on student use of the York emblem, York's security forces.
- 2. Greater Student Input**
- 3. Security**
- 4. Course Evaluation**
- 5. Environment** Nikki lobbied against York's high-impact development plans. She was active on the committee which caused Marriott to return to using china plates.

**Grade: Comments:**  
**A** Outspoken and aggressive lobbying.

**B** Nikki attempted to get more student representation on the Board of Governors and on administration committees. She was actively involved in the health care referendum.

**A** Nikki lobbied extensively for reinstatement of the Security Service. She was active on the 800 OOO campus safety project. She produced the women's safety pamphlet with Elissa Horscroft.

**D** Nikki says she is currently working on course evaluations, but she appears to be even farther behind schedule than in previous years.

**E** Achieved some success, but by no means explored all avenues to make York an environmentally friendly campus.

**Office Attendance** **B**

### Special Achievements:

Comments:

# Michelle Hughes President

**Platform:**

- 1. Start Ball Rolling on Eliminating Systemic Discrimination.** Michelle sits on an anti-discriminatory advisory group at the Faculty of Education and on the administration's race policy committee, but little else.
- 2. Make the YFS more accessible and accountable to the student body.**
- 3. Impose a direct tuition levy for student services.**
- 4. To fundraise through advertising.**

**Grade: Comments:**  
**F** Michelle has initiated no plan of her own to fight racism on campus — she has simply joined already existing committees.

**F** One forum was held November to a dismayingly small crowd. The word in the student centre is that people don't know what the YFS is, what they do or who they are.

**C** This would be a very difficult operation. Right now the YFS funds the services, to get tuition levies for each of them would take some heavy politicking. Thus, this issue seems to have disappeared from Michelle's agenda. However, the YFS did manage to increase funding for services substantially this year.

**F** Michelle has done nothing to increase revenue for the student federation.

**Office Attendance** **F**

### Special Achievements:

Community outreach, goes to high schools and public schools in the Jane/Finch area to encourage post-secondary education.

### Comments:

Michelle seems unsure about her duties as president. She rides on the coattails of the other executive members and lacks leadership qualities. Although her work outside the university is commendable, her poor office attendance and lack of public relations skills keep her out of sight and out of mind to most of the student body. Michelle seems to have no plan as to how to carry out any of her agenda.

# Elissa Horscroft Vice-President of Equality and Social Affairs

**Platform:**

- 1. Ensure accessibility (to university) on a non-discriminatory basis.**
- 2. To establish course evaluation for race and gender bias.**

**Grade: Comments:**  
**C** Elissa has been active on the York, provincial and national levels in a variety of equality campaigns. She does not appear to have a coherent plan, though.

**C+** The whole course evaluation plan seems to have bogged down. However, Elissa has worked hard to ensure that race and gender bias will be gauged in the evaluations.

**Office Attendance** **C**

### Special Achievements:

- Organized campus-wide and province-wide anti-date rape campaigns.
- Designed comprehensive women's safety pamphlet with Nikki Gershbain.

### Comments:

Too much of Elissa's time seems to have been tied up with orientation plans (in the summer and September) and with event programming for the Student Centre. The Equality and Social Affairs portfolio is much too broad and vaguely defined to be completely filled. Elissa should have done more to define her role within the position. However, her work on anti-date rape campaigns and women's safety was excellent.