

Cutbacks: our only growth industry

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Funding bind may subtract Math Centre

By Hugh Westrup

York's Mathematics Learning Centre may soon be extinct if it is unable to find new sources of financial support.

In the past, the centre has been supported by donations from organizations outside of the university. But those funds have dried up.

Now the centre is turning to the administration for money, a doubtful prospect in a time of fiscal restraint.

"The Math Centre is in danger," said its founder, math professor Jim Mayland. "Without new assistance we may have to reduce our hours, begin charging students for our services, or close down completely."

Mayland established the centre three years ago with the aid of "seed" money from IBM of Canada. During the first year of operation the centre was staffed by four faculty members each of whom donated two hours a week to advising students with math problems.

In its second year, a grant from the Counselling Foundation of Canada enabled Mayland to hire a full-time professional, a secretary and two part-time counsellors.

This year the Counselling Foundation withdrew its support but the centre was still able to operate on the IBM grant, a few small donations and money leftover from last year's budget.

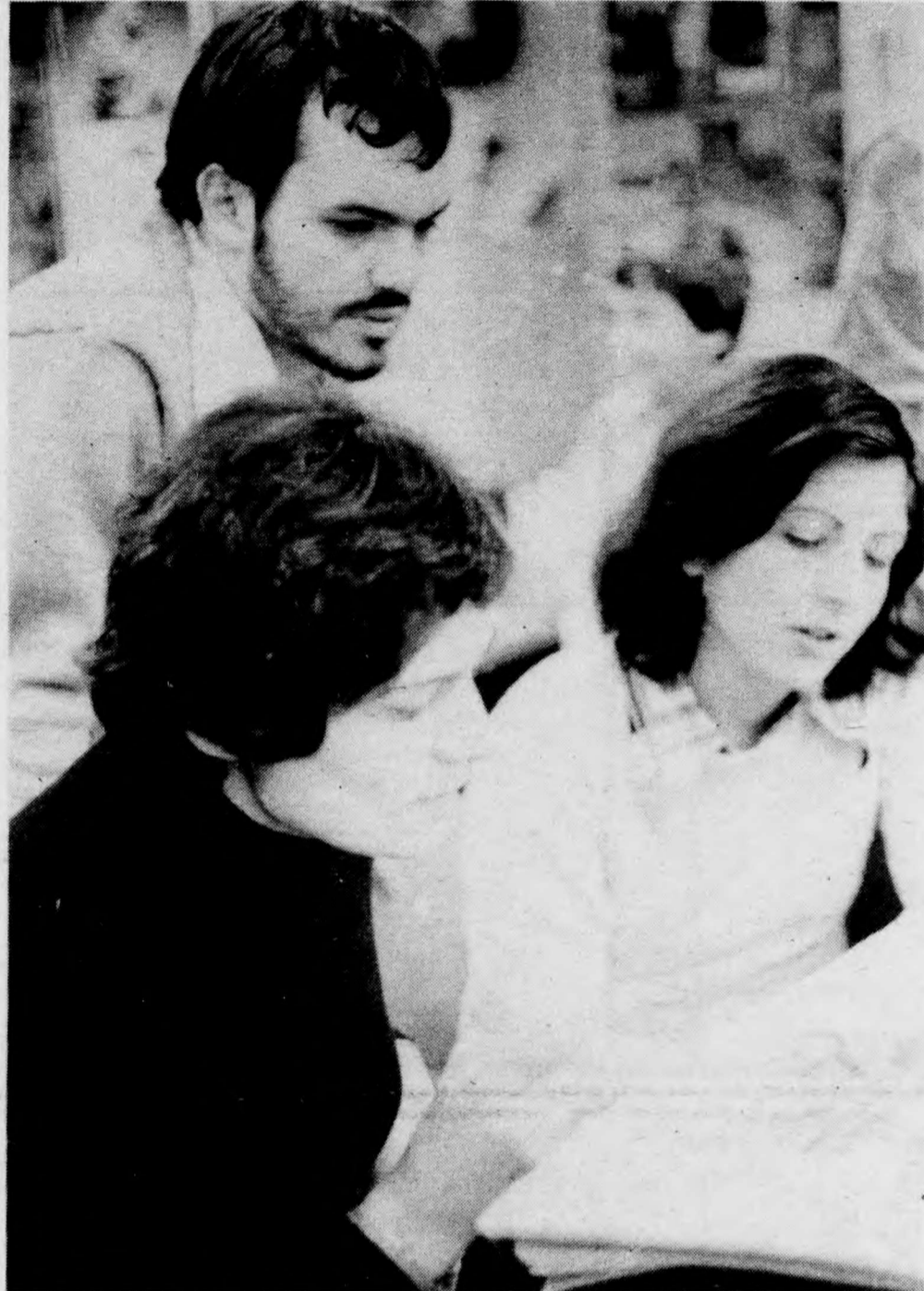
At the end of this term the IBM money runs out. If this loss is not compensated for, next year's students could be without a number of valuable services.

For students in need of help with their math studies, the centre currently makes available self-instruction programs. At least 400 students have taken advantage of these programs this year.

The centre also attempts to provide a non-threatening atmosphere for students with "math phobias" acquired in formal classroom settings. The one-to-one counselling and self-paced learning programs allow many students to discover that their difficulties with math are caused by fear.

Maryland points out that the self-instruction programs also benefit

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Natalia Scharansky, wife of imprisoned Soviet dissident Anatoly Scharansky, was at York last Thursday. Here Mrs. Scharansky (foreground) peruses a hunger strike scrapbook with strikers David Gottfried and Susan Gould. Maxine Kopel photo; more on page 2.

It could be more than \$4 million cut

By Harvey Pinder

York may be faced with a further \$2.7 million deficit next September if the financial assumptions of York's administration turn out to be unduly optimistic. This would be in addition to the anticipated \$4 million deficit which is being offset by equivalent cutbacks in university spending.

When asked what effect an additional \$2.7 million cut would have on the University, President H. Ian Macdonald said, "we'll cross that bridge when we come to it." and reminded *Excalibur* that, "I reported to Senate that a \$5 or \$5.5 million reduction is too much at one time, but \$4 million is possible."

When asked if he would recommend deficit financing if the shortfall was more than \$4-million, Macdonald replied, "the \$4-million figure is dependent on deliberations of the Senate, the Board of Governors, and salary negotiations...there are too many variables, therefore I can't say at this time."

The general consensus of Deans and Chairmen in past interviews has been that they could not cut further, especially at the last minute next September, without affecting the academic integrity of their respective faculties and departments.

Tony Woolfson, head of the Graduate Assistants Association, which will be most heavily hit by the \$4-million reductions, said, "further cuts whether they occur this year or next, will decimate the GAA and place even tenured YUFA members' necks on the chopping block. The avoidance of this disaster is dependent on our political opposition to these cuts, forced on York by the provincial government. By 'our opposition' I mean every student, staff, and faculty member of York."

The figure of \$4-million which is the basis of budget-cutting in the academic and non-academic areas of the university is based on certain assumptions. Alternate assumptions contained in the university documents, provide another estimate of York's position. These alternate assumptions result in an estimated deficit for the 1978-79 year of \$6,732,000. This figure is over 60% greater than the administration's working estimate.

• see \$4-MILLION page 9

No-cutbacks rally today, 12 noon
Curtis B

Budget blues for York women

By Rhonda Salsberg

Women will be hard hit by the York administration's budget-balancing act, and according to Barb Brumitt, co-ordinator of the Women's Workshop, "one of the most frustrating things is that we don't know how hard yet."

This uncertainty leaves most women's services in a quandary over how to plan next year's programs. Most will be making a decision by next week as to which programs and courses will go and which will stay.

Three-quarters of York's part-time faculty could be fired, according to the Graduate Assistants' Association (GAA) and many women faculty members (as many as 50 per cent) are part-timers.

What this means for women's studies is that many courses have to be cut. Since there are few full-time faculty women, part-time instructors have been frequently brought in to share the workload of women's studies.

As there is no women's studies department, instructors have no voice or control over what courses will remain.

According to Judy Posner, a professor involved in women's studies, the whole range of specialized interest courses, including women's studies, will be cut. However, women's studies courses remain very popular, and "if the demand is high, seeing as enrolments are down elsewhere, it would be foolish to discourage it" by cutting women's studies further, she said.

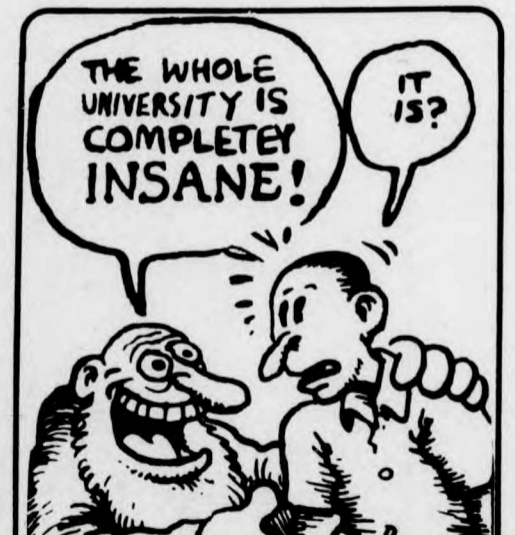
One example is Social Science 161, *Men and Women*. 200 students enrolled in it, and 25 were turned away. Despite its high enrolment, it has been cancelled for next year.

Programs servicing women will also suffer. Harbinger will receive nothing next year from the administration, and how much they will get of their already slashed CYSF grant is unclear. Harbinger relies heavily upon the college councils for funding, since college budgets will be less - unless their request for an increased per-student grant is granted by the administration - many colleges could well reduce their support to Harbinger.

The Women's Workshop of the Counselling and Development Centre may not exist next year. The CDC is facing a 23 percent reduction in its budget, and the Women's

Workshop and all of CDC's group programs may have to go, once the CDC policy committee makes its decision next week.

Activities have been planned at York around International Women's Day, and in many ways their goals are similar to No-Cutbacks Week. One idea for IWD has been a "York women against cutbacks" rally on March 8, and a planning meeting is being held today after the anti-cutbacks rally.



We didn't have room for a lot of articles this week. Financial problems you know. But if you survive reading week, you can read them Feb. 23, our next issue. Among others, what it's like to be blind at York, feature on recent NDP convention, coverage of Middle East symposium, many great humorous things like cartoons, and columns, and editorials...

Cutbacks

- Ryerson responds p.2
- Editorial p.4
- "What Crisis?" p.8
- Blow by blow p.9

Glendon feels crunch

By Ian Kellogg

"The government has got to hear from the students about the quality of education and the state of the economy."

So said principal David McQueen of Glendon College speaking about ways to avert the budget crisis.

Glendon's share of the projected \$4 million shortfall for York next year is about \$200,000 a 7 per cent cut.

McQueen said he felt the government's policy of university restraint was short-sighted because of Ontario's obvious continuing need for a more educated populace.

When asked about the possibility of several more years of continued cutbacks he said "I would hardly dare to think about it... the whole Ontario system is at stake."

He also said it was "vital necessary" to start a campaign to reverse the provincial government's decision to cut back.

Glendon's cutbacks are not being evenly spread out. Only those teachers who are part-

time or are contractually limited full-timers are vulnerable to being cut. Two departments with a disproportionate share of these types of teachers will be especially damaged: Political Science and Sociology.

Norman Penner, chairman of Glendon Political Science, said his department is projecting a breath-taking 20 per cent budget cut for next year. He called the situation "catastrophic".

Penner believes enrolment will be down about 125 students out of a total of 690. Both he and McQueen stressed that cuts will severely affect the ability of Glendon to recruit new students.

But Penner said the successful fight two years ago to keep several Ontario hospitals open should serve as an example for all people affected in building a campaign against the \$4 million cutbacks.

Glendon's branch of YUFA, YUSA and GAA and the student union will hold an anti-cutbacks meeting today at 1 in the Old Dining Hall.