

Student sues prof for plagiarized work

In a possibly precedent setting case, a former Carleton University student many sue a professor for plagiarism.

Bobby Sui, a former graduate student at Carleton, has accused a professor of publishing material that he had prepared for a conference while employed as a research assistant by that professor.

Sui took a reading course in Canadian management ideologies at Carleton with a professor visiting from Montreal's Concordia University. The professor grew interested in Sui's work and hired him as a research assistant so they might jointly continue the work.

They jointly prepared a brief for a conference. Sui then left Canada for a year. When he returned he found that an article allegedly bearing marked similarities to the brief had been published naming the professor as sole author and giving him one footnote as credit to his research.

The Ontario Graduate Association, a group within the Ontario Federation of Students, is supporting Sui's case and pursuing legal proceedings on his behalf.

Gord Howe, OFS executive officer, said the article was a rewrite of an editorial nature since all data and conclusions were the same. Whole paragraphs had been lifted from the brief, according to Howe.

Howe said Sui approached the Canadian Association of Sociologists and Anthropologists and filed a complaint. He also contacted the Professional Ethics Committee (PEC) which, after reviewing the evidence, found the case to be in Sui's favour.

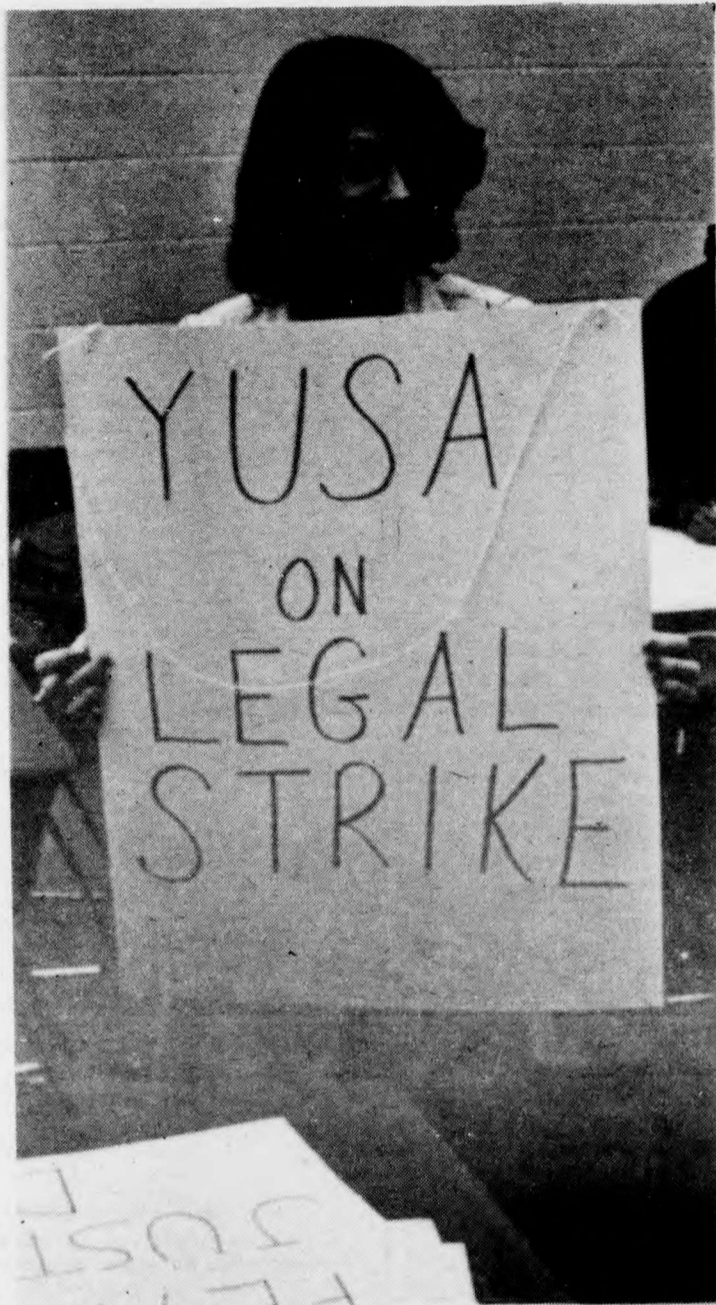
The professor took this decision to the executive of the association and appealed it. The case was reopened and he was exonerated on procedural and technical grounds. Howe added that the technical grounds were that no stated contract existed that Sui and the professor would co-write a paper for publication.

Howe said the PEC hearings lasted two years, during which time the professor published a book containing marked similarities to the brief. Sui then approached the OGA.

Karen Dubinsky, OFS chairperson, said that organization recently sent out letters to universities and colleges asking for \$50 from each student council to cover legal fees for Sui's case and other cases in which OGS is involved.

Howe said Sui's case could make a big difference to students because plagiarism by professors is not as infrequent as one would think.

A lawyer will determine shortly if there are grounds to take the case to court, says Howe. He added the informal opinion is that there is a fair possibility to build a good case.



A proud YUSA member displaying something no one wants to see

Staff strike close

**John Molendyk
Jonathan Mann**

There is reason for both optimism and pessimism as contract talks between the university administration and the York University Staff Association and the Canadian Union of Educational Workers continue.

Pessimists need look no further than the current state of negotiations with YUSA.

YUSA's membership has voted 86 per cent in favour of a strike if negotiations fail by today.

The union may begin legal strike action Friday, October 17, and is planning a membership meeting that day to decide whether to accept the university's proposals or plan such action.

YUSA President Karen Herrell told *Excalibur* earlier this week that YUSA members were "quietly preparing" for a strike.

Wednesday afternoon the union held a "picket-sign making session" in Scott Library.

Those involved with negotiations with CUEW were more optimistic.

Administration negotiator Kay McDonald feels that a CUEW strike, which could legally come as early as October 19, can be averted.

Although CUEW's executive felt that the two sides were far

apart earlier this week, Chairperson Michael Michie said that a late night mediation session on Wednesday has brought the two sides closer together.

Even as the results of a three day strike vote were being tallied, new progress was being made at the bargaining table.

Michie, contacted late Wednesday night, said that mediation will continue. "We expect a full day Saturday," he ventured.

According to Michie, the strike vote results show that about 75 per cent of the membership of CUEW support strike action if mediation talks with the university administration are not successful.

Support for the Council of the York Student Federation's Student Strike Support Committee is growing, according to Peter Brickwood, student representative on York's Board of Governors.

The Committee hopes to avert a strike on campus, and to minimize its duration should it occur.

In the event of strikes by YUSA and CUEW, the committee will act as a liaison between students and strikers, aiding the unions' cause with supportive picketing.

OFS seeks fee hike

Lydia Pawlenko

In addition to casting ballots for their favourite CYSF candidates on October 23, York students will also be voting on whether or not to support an increase of dues for the Ontario Federation of Students.

The OFS has been operating on a deficit of \$14,872 and are now seeking support for an increase of student fees from \$1.50 to \$3.00 per year. Each of the 26 post-secondary institutions belonging to the Federation will be holding referendums throughout this academic year in order to decide on whether or not to support the fee hike.

"We haven't had a fee increase since 1974," explained Diane Wintermute, an OFS fieldworker currently working on York's OFS "yes" campaign. "The OFS needs a fee increase in order to maintain existing services at the present level. And we're looking into expanding into a couple of areas."

Some of the new services that are expected to be offered by the OFS include: up to \$10,000 of funding for three newly founded undergraduate, graduate, and community college commissions, the hiring of a third researcher and business manager to its staff, the creation of a systemized "Info-Bank", a larger office, and an increase of \$100 in honourarium for OFS Executive members.

The CYSF has allocated \$300 towards the creation of "yes" and "no" campaigns here at York, although so far, no one has

claimed money for the "no" campaign.

"Basically, it is up to student councils to implement and prepare their own referendum materials," Wintermute said. It is up to the CYSF to call the referendum and prepare the guidelines for it."

Under the OFS by-laws, two-thirds of the Federation's membership must vote to support the fee increase if it is to be implemented. If the increase

is passed, then the memberships of schools that opposed the fee hike will lapse.

Last week, University of Toronto students voted to oppose the fee hike by 2,256 to 1,113. The OFS feels that U of T students were "not sufficiently informed" of what the OFS actually did and that "the campaign started too late." *The Newspaper*, one of the campus's largest two largest newspapers, was accused of printing

misconceptions that proved to harm the OFS campaign. "We were called 'ruthless thugs' in one of the articles, in the context of last year's demonstration at Queen's Park," complained Wintermute. "They also printed the question, 'have you ever seen an OFS fieldworker?' which was ridiculous, because I cannot possibly personally meet the thousands of students I work for."

Candidacy questioned

Jonathan Mann

With York students set to go to the polls on October 23, controversy has again clouded the Council of the York Student Federation's elections.

Chris Savvas, a candidate for the position of Vice-President (External) is fighting to be included on the ballot, after having been ruled ineligible by Chief Returning Officer Robert Steadman.

An Election Tribunal to be held Friday, October 17, at noon, will decide the matter.

Savvas, a third year psychology major, has not yet paid his fees to the university. As a result, his name does not appear on the Registrar's list of registered York students.

According to CYSF President Keith Smockum, all candidates for CYSF positions must be York students. The university Senate defines a student as someone whose name appears on that list

and the CYSF's constitution follows the senate in this regard.

Thus Savvas must furnish a letter from the registrar which indicates that he has registered, Smockum said.

Until Savvas pays his fees, it is doubtful however that he will receive such a letter. According to Hannah Zasada of the registrar's office, "registered means paid, and he's not paid."

The only letter the registrar's office has given Savvas declares that he has "enrolled". A student



Chris Savvas

who is enrolled need only have grades which meet their faculty's requirements and pay their fees, to be registered.

Savvas, who will meet with the Tribunal Friday, has told *Excalibur* that he thinks that there is more at stake than just his candidacy. "This concerns every student who is not able, because of financial difficulties, to pay their fees on time."

Balloting is scheduled for October 23, with advance polls being set up on October 22. Students may vote in any of the following locations:

- Central Square
- Stong College
- The top of the Winters MacLaughlin ramp
- The top of the Founders Vanier ramp.

Advance polling will be held in Central Square.

Students must bring their sessional validation cards to the polling place in order to cast their votes.