

CYSF By-Election

Founders Nominees are:

Jackie Greatbatch

The disintegration of CYSF is the direct result of the elitist and anti-student policies of Mouritsen and company!

Rather than acting in the interests of the student body, Mouritsen's CYSF offers such policies as suspension of publication of Excalibur, withdrawal from involvement in the Ontario Federation of Students and the incorporation of CYSF in order to borrow money and cause a greater council debt. Radio York, Excalibur, the Day Care Centre and Harbinger are forced to operate on such pitifully low budgets they can barely function.

As these student bureaucrats continue to operate in such a fashion, college after college is alienated from the central council. Dissatisfaction with CYSF policies has been expressed by non-membership of various colleges. Others threaten to quit CYSF in the near future.

I am running on a platform of action! Problems must be worked out if the student experience is going to be a meaningful one. I make one promise: if I am elected I will do the most to realize these problems by challenging bureaucracy to struggle.

I advocate: 1) more pressure on CYSF to operate as the voice of York students in university affairs; 2) increased financial support and endorsement of all groups and movements on campus which benefit the student experience; 3) CYSF participation in provincial and national student concerns.

Jackie Greatbatch
Founders

Michael Hennessy

No Statement submitted.

Colan Inglis

I will introduce myself and my views with the following statements. I am a second year political science student and a member of Founders College. I ran unsuccessfully for CYSF last spring as a member of the United Left Slate. The non-council which I have observed since doubles my determination to gain a seat on CYSF. Most council members, when they show up for meetings, are preoccupied with inflating their egos and engaging in sand-box politics. Council should be an organizing centre acting in the student interest. I am particularly interested in the area of student services, i.e. food, book store etc. The student government should be active in investigating these and other areas in response to student complaints. For this reason I favour the concept of parallel structures in the government of the university. That is, each distinct entity in the university, i.e. students, faculty, has a governing body and these bodies in turn collectively govern the university. A much more palatable system than having a Board of Governors composed of fat cat businessmen.

I propose to abide by a policy of Principled Politics if elected. I have no use for unprincipled moves such as the attack on Excalibur or behind-the-scenes decisions to drop out of OFS or NUS. I therefore ask you to vote for myself or my fellow in Stong, Dale Ritch, on the basis of Principled Politics and Student Action.

Colan Inglis
Founders

Stong

Nominees are:

John Koornstra

It may seem somewhat ironic that I seek election as Stong's representative to Council of the York Student Federation, particularly at a time when some Stong leaders are publicly expressing their discontent with the manner in which our college has been shafted by CYSF. It is also interesting to note that I strongly support the sentiments of these fellow Stong members.

Why then, if I am vigorously opposed to CYSF, would I desire to seek a position on it?

It is not so much as I disagree with the principles of a central governing body, but rather that I find fault with this particular one.

The following students have been nominated as candidates for representative of their college on the Council of the York Student Federation in the October 18 by-election.

Nominations opened on October 4, closing at 4:00 p.m. on October 11. Campaigning ended at midnight, October 17. Polls will be open between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Thursday October 18 (today) in three locations: Central Square, Stong College Dining Hall and Founders College Dining Hall. Voters are entitled to vote for two (2) candidates in their college.

All candidates were invited to submit statements briefly describing their position and why they were running for council. All those who submitted their statements are having them published here.

Koornstra continues

As of now and in the past Stong College has been shortchanged by CYSF. They have not proved and show no indication that they will prove that theirs is a necessary and vital function of our college.

Stong College, in my opinion has far surpassed its endurance level in this respect. Whatever the fate, something must be done. We can in fact assume the positions of Atkinson and Bethune Colleges (Stong could withdraw its membership from the Federation), or instead allow the CYSF to redeem itself by vastly improving the situation. This latter viewpoint would seem the more tenable alternative. Someone must show the council that Stong wants actions favourable to Stong and its students, and not only favourable to CYSF as has been their recent practice.

However, I want it fully understood that I will support a movement of withdrawal from CYSF if there is not a remarkable 'clean up' of their 'act' or if there is none in immediate sight.

Because you are financially contributing to CYSF you deserve more than the 'rip off' techniques employed by them, and you also deserve the best possible representation on the council.

I can only emphasize that whatever I do will be with the best interest of Stong in mind. I will always attempt to be accessible to Stong students by frequenting the general meetings and by discussing relevant issues with them. And most importantly I feel that I will not allow organized political groups to control my reasoning capabilities. A good representative can not represent his college if he must also be responsible to the philosophies of certain political organizations. This would be grossly unfair to the college.

Again I stress that my main objective is to serve Our College.

John Koornstra
Stong College

R. William Osmars

I have strong reservations as to the membership of Stong College in CYSF in its present form. It is probably apparent to all those who have paid attention to recent occurrences that the only ones who are happy with the direction CYSF is taking are the power-trippers who control this body.

Among the current aims of CYSF are the construction of a Student Union building into which a huge amount of money would be put to duplicate the services already available in the colleges; and the incorporation of CYSF, a move of at best questionable virtue. Among the activities of CYSF have been the raising of the president's salary by \$1,000, while cutting back on contributions to far more vital operations, a move typical of the back-door politics of CYSF, since no indication that this would occur was given in last fall's election.

These are but a few specific grievances that students have against CYSF, but there is another issue of far greater importance. This is the question of the college system. Many of those who are in positions of importance in CYSF oppose the college system. The proposed Student Union building, strongly rejected in last year's referendum, is only one of many moves to centralize more and more power under CYSF at the expense of the college governments. Are the powers-that-be in CYSF trying to simply reflect the supposed views of many commuter students or are they trying to consolidate their position into one of omnipotence in all student affairs?

The nature of CYSF must be changed.

Stong is currently considering leaving CYSF, probably destroying the last vestiges of credibility it has. However, before that happens, there are those of us who wish to try to change CYSF before the rumblings of discontent cause actions that would deprive us of any kind of central student organization.

R. William Osmars
Stong

Dale Ritch

My reasons for running for Stong representative on CYSF this year are essentially similar to my motives last year when I ran for the presidency of CYSF. Stong students as well as all other York students need a strong, centralized political organization that will fight for their needs and interests. Whether the issue be the Versafood rip-off, rapidly increasing tuition and residence fees, high summer and post-graduation unemployment or lack of any meaningful student control over any of the decisions that affect the lives of students on the campus; this type of leadership is needed. An effective instrument must be created which can unify all the students on the campus, regardless of sex, age, race, nationality, or college affiliation.

We are living in a period characterized by a growing social crisis which includes massive cutbacks in education and other social services. These cutbacks have led to increased tuition and loan ceilings and rapidly escalating residence and food costs. The food increases have been concealed in a cleverly devised food voucher system which means in simple terms that students pay much more for much less. These cutbacks have made it much more difficult for students from low income families and students relying totally on their own earnings to attend post-secondary institutions.

Another important function of CYSF should be to educate students as to the role that the university plays in our society. The campus is not an ivory tower but an institution which is racist and sexist to the core, a place where war research projects financed by the Pentagon and Canadian military have been carried out. The student union should not abstain from off-campus activities but intervene actively in them, thus enlisting the material and human resources available on the campus in support of the struggles of workers and oppressed people in Canada and elsewhere.

In closing, my association with the York Young Socialists and the United Left Slate, and past experience in helping to organize many political activities in the last three years at York, including last year's fee strike and occupation of the registrar's office, has equipped me with the skills and practice to be an effective organizer for Stong students on CYSF.

Dale Ritch
ULS candidate for
Stong College

Vanier

Acclaimed is:

Bob Foley

Last week, it was rumoured in and around Vanier College that there were no candidates running in the CYSF by-election. So I completed a nomination form and submitted it to the CYSF office before four o'clock Thursday afternoon. I'd like to explain my reasons for doing so.

Vanier College has about one thousand students included in its membership this year, yet nobody ran for CYSF. This indicates a fault in i) the college ii) CYSF.

I've only been here one month and therefore I am highly unqualified to place blame on either camp. So I'm not going to promise better daycare centres, more money for Excalibur or anything of the sort. Instead I'm going to devote my time to seeking out the problem in student government which results in such apathy. If that is rectified, highly capable people, of which there are quite a few, will run for student government and tend intelligently to important matters.

Bob Foley
Vanier

