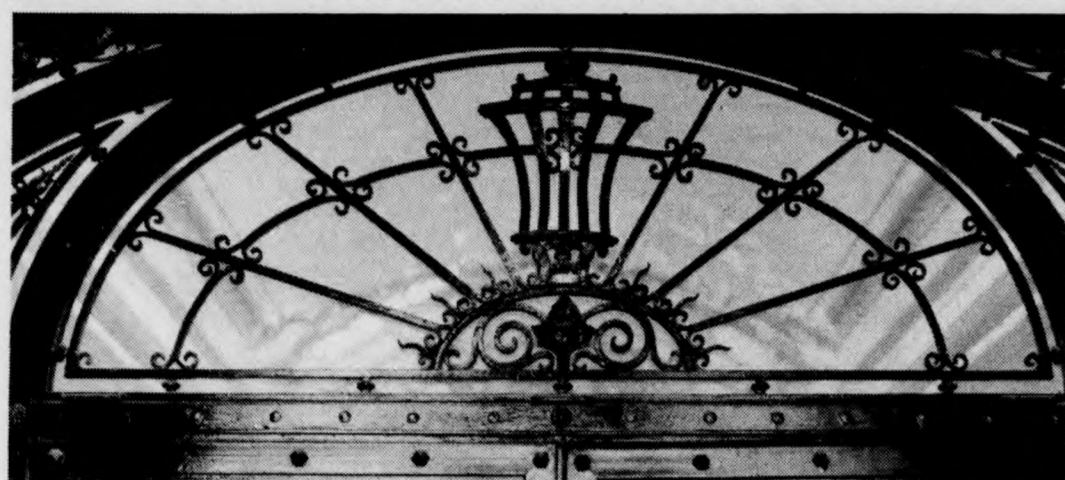


Glendon: York's bilingual Satellite



Story By Mark Monfette, Photos By Richard Spiegelman

The scene is Curtis Lecture Hall 1. The room is filled with several hundred York students who have come to show their support for the striking YUSA workers. They clap their hands, yell obscenities and join in chants demanding the appearance of President MacDonald. Near the front, and most vocal of all, are a group of students holding placards written in French and yelling such slogans as, "Nous voulons les services, finissez la greve".

people screaming things in French - a language I don't even understand."

And why were some students of York University speaking (God forbid) in French? Aside from the fact that there are many French students who come to the main campus, there exists, apparently unknown to many Yorkites, a satellite campus, with a heavy emphasis on bilingualism. This is, of course, Glendon College.

The obscurity of the college is, perhaps understandable. An undergraduate, liberal arts college happily hidden amongst the trees of its Bayview and Lawrence site, it is not likely to attract much attention. The attention it does receive, such as the recent report suggesting it be closed or modified, is largely unwelcome. And this is ironic, for Glendon is, in many ways, a model post-secondary institution, one of the few that are economically viable and whose enrollment is not decreasing. It is not only financially sound

but, according to its faculty and students, academically successful as well.

PRINCETON OF NORTH

In fact, during the twelve years of its existence, it has attempted to maintain and encourage the spirit and the objectives with which York was initially founded. York was originally located at the present Glendon site and intended to remain a small, high quality, multi-disciplined university. It aspired to be thought of as "the Princeton of the North". The enrollment boom of the sixties and some pressure from the provincial government forced York to expand and, when it moved to the Keele campus in 1966, Glendon came into existence. It inherited not only the buildings, but a vision of university education.

It has remained true to this vision in many ways. Enrollment is still low: in 1977-78 there were, approximately, 1276 full time day students. Although there are no faculties of science, fine arts, or administrative studies, its eight disciplines (English, French, philosophy, history, sociology, political science and economics) encompass the core or the liberal arts.

The college's research and its special programmes reflect this emphasis. Professor Bard Bakker of the French department is currently leading a multi - university probe into the life and letters of Emile Zola. The English, French and psychology departments work together in investigating various aspects of language and linguistics. The two dramatic arts programmes, the English D.A.P. and the French P.A.D., are also the result of combined departmental efforts. And both have been highly successful. Besides staging several Canadian premières, they



The Glendon Mansion

have produced such actors as Kate Nelligan and Jack Wetherall.

Glendon is the home of many other non-college activities, including several courses offered there through Atkinson. The high utilization rate of the campus is one of the major reasons for its financial success. Principal David McQueen pointed out other factors as well. "Our professors", he said, "have more hours of classroom appearance than in most faculties. We try to keep our overheads pared right to the bone, and our percentage of administrative overhead is very low indeed."



Student council prez Garth Brownscomb

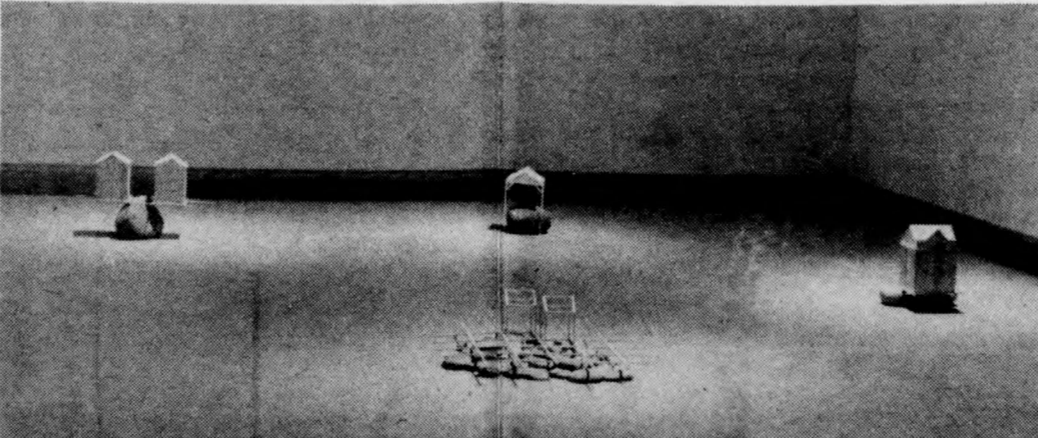
MAKES PROFIT

The result is that Glendon College and Glendon campus are not only economically viable, they actually make a profit. According to the MacKenzie - Spina report, Glendon Campus made a gross profit, in 1975-76, in excess of \$2,000,000. The College made a gross profit of \$1,113,121 and a net profit of \$869,830. This is a profit per faculty/staff member in the neighbourhood of \$2,000. A small college, it seems, is much easier to efficiently administer.

But its size creates problems as well. There are, naturally, only a limited number of courses. A Glendon student has the choice of only three full courses in second year philosophy while his counterpart at the main campus has the choice of four full courses and twelve part time ones. The reduction of faculty, and therefore of courses, is much more noticeable and far more detrimental in a small college than in a larger university.

But most of the faculty and students seem pleased with the present programme of the college. Professor and playwright Bob Wallace pointed out that its size was both a disadvantage and an asset. He stated that the students were "forced to spread themselves over quite a bit here. They tend to learn a little about a lot." "Glendon", he said, "fosters a belief in the human scale of education."

One of the drawbacks to the college, Professor Wallace observed, is that most of the students are from the same background. "I miss the diversity of age, religion, race and



The Glendon Art Gallery

economic background which you don't get here," he stated. "Students tend to agree about everything or disagree about everything. This makes for a certain paucity of discussion."

Professor Bob Simmons, of the English department, stated that "at Glendon we take a more exploratory approach to education, rather than just presenting the student with a body of knowledge. Our students are less disciplined but more flexible."

He pointed out that the atmosphere of the college, its ambience, is much different from that of the Keele campus. "You can't help but be reminded of the two cultures here", he said. "You can't help but notice this."

ENGLISH DOMINATES

But to an outsider this would not seem quite so obvious. One is not apt to hear much French spoken in the halls or in the cafe: it seems to remain contained in the classrooms and only used during the appropriate occasions. Although 75% of the students are in the bilingual stream only 12% of the college, approximately, is francophone. The French element, therefore, tends to become lost in the dominant English one.

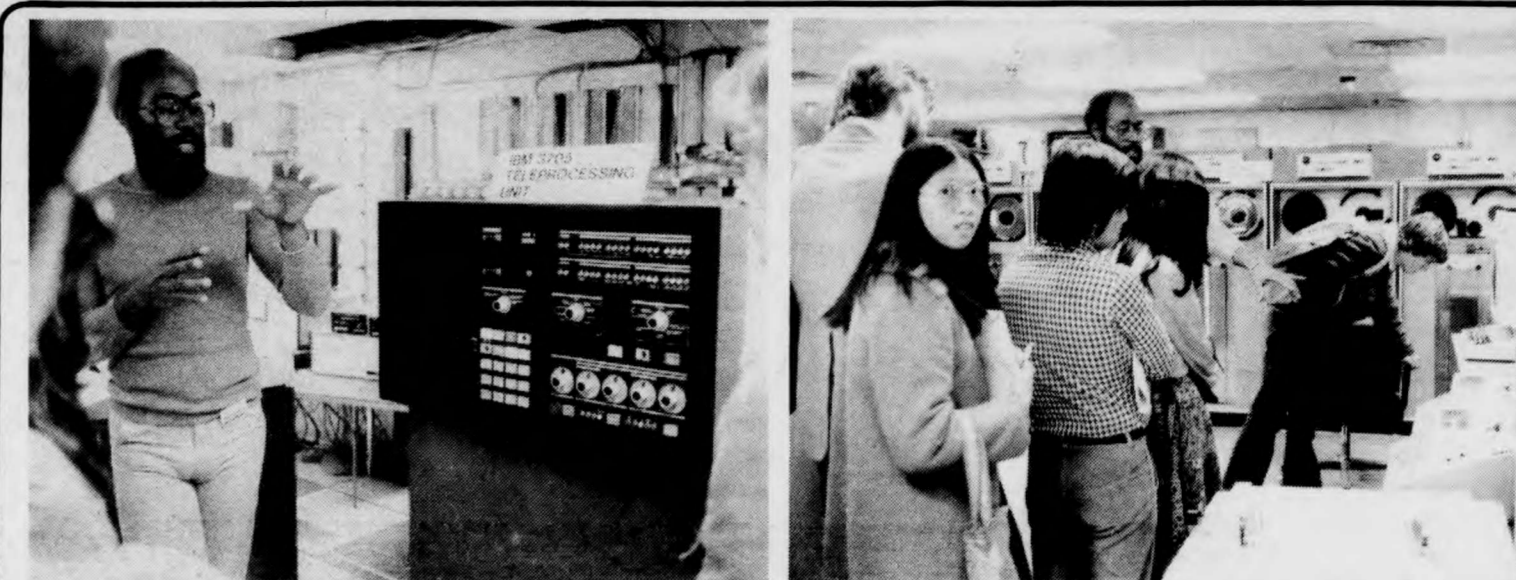
According to Yves Donye, a third year french student from Switzerland, the French "have to be much stronger in order to create a balance with all the English activities. Each student has to join more clubs and do much more in order to make up for the big difference."

The difference, it seems, is not primarily between the French and the English, but between the students in the bilingual stream and the ones in the unilingual. Garth Brownscomb, the student council president, stated that "when the unilingual stream came in (in 1971) it caused a split. It is not very perceptible - but it is there." Many students in the unilingual stream, he pointed out, merely regard the college as a place to come to school and tend not to get involved."

"I think it's a great pity", said Joseph Abergal, a third year French student of economics, "that the English students don't make better use of this opportunity. The thing is that some of them don't make the effort."

INTIMATE ENVIRONMENT

Glendon, because of the intimacy of its environment, its special interests and the integration of its few disciplines does provide a student with the opportunity to receive a high quality, liberal arts education. And it will for many years to come. Every other year a different commission will recommend some modifications or propose the college's abolition. And every other year Glendon will defeat the proposals. As Principal McQueen states in the attached interview: "We are fed up with being investigated and having to justify ourselves... We feel we've been looked into enough.... We would like to simply get on with our job."



Computer science open house

The annual Computer science Open House was held last Saturday, October 21. From 10 am to 2 pm the York - Ryerson computing centre opened its doors to welcome computer science students and other interested parties.

The morning began with a coffee and donut gathering in the Steacie building, followed by a brief introduction to the systems

and programs of the computer science department.

Highlighting the day were the numerous tours through the machine rooms which house the various types of computers. Discussions and demonstrations of the computers' different functions were carried on during the hour and a half long tours.

With the large turnout, Saturday's open house was a huge success for the computer science department.

Prices high at Super-X

By Celeste Pellicone, Lori Sheridan & Gwen Venema

A sociology assignment prompted a group of students to conduct a survey dealing with price variances among different chains of drug stores. One major concern of this study was to see if the prices in Super X (York's campus drug store) were higher than prices in other major chains. If so, we felt that the York community should be made aware of our findings.

A list of 24 commonly used commodities was composed, including both necessity and luxury items. The Super X (York Campus) prices for these items were compared to the prices of the same items found in three major drug store chains, (over a one week time period): Shoppers Drug Mart, Boots (formerly Tamblin) and I.D.A. The most significant observation was found when comparing Super X (York Campus) prices to prices of another Super X store (Yonge and Cummer).

A total of 15 drug stores from the various chains were surveyed covering a wide cross-section of Toronto and the suburbs.

Sale prices were avoided and only regular prices were recorded for the items.

The original Super X price was substituted for any items that were unavailable in other chain stores, so as not to alter the outcome of the findings.

The procedures of the survey were similar to those used by consumer groups when assessing differences in food chain prices. No consideration was given to outside variables which could cause a price increase such as the amount of rent that the individual store must pay, the number of employees and wages, location of the store (higher class area vs. lower class area) and store hours. These behind the scene facts have little meaning for the average consumer. A consumer is only concerned with the price of the item - the price they are forced to pay.

The results of the study were as follows:

The total cost of the 24 item list for Super X was \$44.01 (tax not included). The total of the other Super X store (Yonge and Cummer) was \$42.59. A difference from the York Campus location of \$1.42.

The total prices of two I.D.A.



Drop in at Synapse centre

By Mike Eisenstein
Synapse may mean "the point of contact between adjacent neurons" to a physician or biologist but to any York University undergraduate student majoring in psychology, it should signify the Psychology Undergraduate Course Union.

Located in Room 249 of the Behavioural Science Building, Synapse attempts to help students choose courses and professors by giving advice and answering questions. It also searches for any academic information that may be of relevance to the psychology student confronted with important decisions. The central aim of Synapse is to "help the psychology student identify with the department".

For the undergraduate psychology student at York, Synapse provides such badly needed services as counselling, advising and assistance in selecting courses, professors and careers in psychology. This student-run organization also makes available student evaluations of courses that were offered during the previous academic year.

Anyone planning on continuing their studies at the graduate level in psychology will find Synapse most useful as it offers information concerning the Graduate Record Exams (GRE's) as well as graduate school programs at York and other universities.

A variety of events planned by Synapse ensure an exciting and fulfilling academic year for

undergraduate psychology students.

According to Judy Hain, president of Synapse, "everything is going smoothly". Judy and her hardworking executive encourage anyone interested to drop in the office and ask questions. Volunteer assistance will be welcomed warmly as it is foreseen that as the academic workload of the Synapse executive gets heavier, "We'll need all the help we can get."

The problem of anonymity is a prevalent one for people studying at York University. Synapse helps fight this problem and deserves praise for offering personal attention to the needs of undergraduates psychology students.

Glendon's principal person

By Mark Monfette

EXCALIBUR: One of the original objectives of Glendon College was to be completely bilingual. Has the college become as bilingual and bicultural as you had hoped?

McQUEEN: No, I don't think so. Not as much as we had hoped. But at least there has been progress. The movement has been in the right direction. In those days, even many members of the faculty community itself had grave doubts about bilingualism. Now those doubts have been laid to rest, because people have begun to see how important it is for us to offer a distinctive programme....

Sure, it creates all sorts of problems too but the problems are well worth it in terms of the distinctive sort of mini-model of Canadian society that you get here.

It's important for the student from Don Mills to really start meeting some French speaking Canadians in the flesh, instead of seeing them as abstractions on the media or Mr. Levesque chain smoking on the tube.

EXCALIBUR: You say that you have not been entirely successful in attaining your aims. Why is this? What obstacles prevent you from doing so?

McQUEEN: Well, I think the obstacles are partly the ideas, the states of mind that come to us from the outside, things in the media.... long standing family prejudices about these matters on both sides. Many think of bilingualism as simply a very expensive trip which Trudeau has laid on the country.... but I do detect some change in these things... A lot of smart, Quebec young people have observed such facts, for example, that most of the leading members of the Parti Quebecois cabinet are extremely fluent in English.... They draw the conclusion that, look, it doesn't matter what the future of the political status of Quebec is, it's going to be an awfully big advantage to know English.

These are among the reasons, I think, which induce some of these students to make this very personal choice - and that's what it should be too. I'm leery about trying to lay a trip on young people that they should learn French or English, as the case may be, to save Canada, because Mr. Trudeau or somebody says that you should. I say, look,... consider it a personal matter for

yourself - what it will do for your life, the new vistas it will open up, the job possibilities. And that's a real factor too.

I've seen graduates of this place who really have made progress with a second language and get damn good jobs they would not otherwise have got if they hadn't got that special skill. So, right down at the material level, I think we're purveying a product which has a market value.

EXCALIBUR: Quite recently the Ontario Council on University Affairs proposed that Glendon and the other satellite campuses in Toronto should be either closed down or modified. How do you feel about this?



Principal David McQueen

McQUEEN: I think that far from being a problem this satellite campus, so called, could become, and in fact already is, a major asset to York, and has tremendous potential to further expand. We are becoming better known and appreciated. In a year when the whole Ontario system is showing quite and appreciable loss of enrolment we are holding ours - and a liberal arts college at that.

I think, how shall I put it, that there's an uninvestigated, unsupported, typically Canadian sort of view that anything that is small and messing around with something exotic like bilingualism and biculturalism must, by definition, be economically and otherwise unsound. It doesn't fit the standard pattern - therefore there must be something wrong with it.

We are fed up with being investigated and having to justify ourselves. We have done it enough times and come out successfully

every damn time. We feel we've been looked into enough.... We would like to simply get on with our job.

EXCALIBUR: Do you really believe that there is a difference between the student who graduates from Glendon and the student who graduates from any other university in the country?

McQUEEN: I do, yes. We are turning out a kind of student that is more adventurous, more self-starting, who is better equipped to live in a world of change, able to take responsibility, used to classes where a great deal of participation is encouraged and, I hope, is better able to express himself. This is a consequence, largely, of the advantages of our small scale operation....

We are perfectly convinced that you can study things Canadian and things from a Canadian angle without any loss, whatsoever, of academic quality. It's not what you study, it's how you study it and how seriously you study it.

EXCALIBUR: Do you think that the decline in university enrolment and the reduction of government grants to universities will have any serious effect on the future of Glendon?

McQUEEN: Universities, in my view, are being blamed for what is the failure of economic policies in this country.... There seems to be a very shallow sort of reasoning which says: "Well, it seems a lot harder for university graduates to get jobs, I guess we don't need as many universities." I think that is enormously shallow. It is thinking on a one year, or on a year to year basis, when the nature of university education, being what it is, you ought to think of it in relation to the future of this country over the next several decades....

Universities, throughout history, have invariably been subversive and I think society has been the benefactor of that sort of intellectual subversion. I think we need universities more than ever but it's just that the public doesn't perceive the matter in those terms.

I think Canadians have a very unfortunate tendency, when they get into some sort of trouble, especially economic trouble, to think very short term. And that's wrong, very wrong... Behind the budget cuts and so forth lies a general undervaluing of what universities are here for and what they're needed for in this country.