

President's conference draws wide range of York objectives

Berel Wetstein

The participants suggested everything from quotas on visa students to the abolition of the college system, during a conference held under the auspices of the President's offices.

The conference, entitled York—Understanding Our Objectives, took place Monday in the Faculty Lounge and was a trial run for a similar project to be held this fall.

Divided into four panels consisting of one faculty member, one student member and either an administration or a second faculty member, the conference addressed the questions of accessibility, individuality, and career vs. interdisciplinary curricula. There was also an ambiguous final session on whether York is a "good corporate citizen".

The morning session saw the participants agree that

academic integrity must be maintained during these hard economic times. It also revealed that a surprising thirty-eight per cent of York's full-time students do not come with the traditional grade thirteen background. All three panelists said this bodes well for York's future enrollment as, "York does not have to depend on continued high school enrollment to feed the university."

This statistic led the afternoon group to remark, "York must recognize that many people have returned to York with specific career goals and that the move from interdisciplinary education has started already."

Professor S. Kanya-Forstner stated in the afternoon that it is impossible to do interdisciplinary work if you have not first specialized in one discipline. During the final discussion Dean Harold Kaplan chose to ignore the question at hand and decided that he would also speak about interdisciplinarianism.

At the end of the conference four observers, who had not participated in the panels, gave their conclusions to the President. One stated, "The rhetoric and the realities don't jibe and York must look to institutional changes that will bring these two perspectives together."

Quiet Hour gets the nod

Norman Nod

On the prowl for a decent place to relax and unwind after a long and heavy week, then try The Quiet Hour with host Ameen Keshavjee.

The Quiet Hour was begun as an attempt to provide an oasis of peace and relaxation.

Located in the Argh coffee Shoppe in Mac, the concept runs on Fridays from 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m. The reaction from the public has been good. "After speaking with people I discerned a very positive attitude towards this concept," says Keshavjee. "It has become popular in three sessions."

With provisions such as sofas, subdued lighting and state of the Argh cups of tea, melted cheese bagels, and reasonable prices, The Quiet Hour is an idea, whose time has come.



Ameen Keshavjee welcomes guests to the Quiet Hour.

Pro—Tem closes under dire financial stress

The Glendon College Student Union has called for the shut down of *Pro-Tem*, York's oldest student newspaper, for the remainder of this academic year.

The GCSU, which is financially responsible for *Pro-Tem*, passed a motion last Monday in which it was stated that the newspaper's current financial situation makes it unfeasible to continue publishing this year.

Nicol Simard, *Pro-Tem*'s editor-in-chief, was angered by the GCSU's move and feels the decision short changes the students of Glendon College.

"Glendon students are getting ripped off. They have a right to their own paper. They paid for it."

Perry Mallinos, GCSU President, defended the decision to cease publication by saying that since the Union is itself in dire financial straits, it can no longer assume responsibility for any debts which *Pro-Tem* might incur in the future.

"We feel that the cost of the next two issues should go toward the debt, to offset some of the money *Pro-Tem* owes right now." Some of that money includes \$400.00 for outstanding phone bills and a \$1,200.00 debt incurred when last year's *Pro-Tem* editor-in-chief Joe Holmes, allegedly misappropriated funds.

In an effort to save the newspaper, Simard said that *Pro-Tem* will hold a referendum March 17 and 18 to ask the students for more money. The newspaper is presently independently funded, receiving six dollars per full time Glendon student from the University.

"Since we've not had an increase in funding in twelve years, we're going to ask for double what we're now getting. But we can't do it without getting the support from the students first," said Simard.

Rose Crawford

The winners in The Craven "A" College Trivia Contest were announced this week. Bryan Takuta picked up the first prize of a Sony Walkman, while second prize winner Randy Kalpin received a Tape recorder. The winners were able to answer 20 trivia questions perfectly and are now eligible for a grand draw for a colour television. Craven representative Mike O'Bright said, "We received 100 entrants from York, the most in the province." One might ask if this makes York the most trivial university in Canada.

Deep Ears heard an unconfirmed rumour that a couple of members of SCTV will be special guests at the David Steinberg concert next Tuesday. Sounds like a lot of fun for a fin.

Also on the entertainment front, the Multiple Sclerosis benefit dance to be held today has been cancelled. Election results, slated for the dance, will now be posted in front of the CYSF offices.

Wiseman reads at Glendon

Paul O'Donnell

Concluding this year's Atkinson Canadian Women Writers Series at Glendon was Toronto-based novelist Adele Wiseman.

Reading from her novel *Crackpot* Wiseman described the plight of a young woman who was forced into prostitution to survive. Wiseman had to put her mind in a primitive state to get the feelings of a woman going through the rigors of child-bearing without modern medicine or midwives.

Like some of Margaret Laurence's work, Wiseman's books explore the quest for identity and questions what makes people strong. Wiseman, born and raised in Winnipeg, attended the University of Manitoba, graduating with an English and Psychology degree.

She has spent time as a professor at McGill, teaching grade five at the overseas school in Rome and trying to get into China.

Despite the fact that Wiseman has two acclaimed novels, and a considerable reputation, she was turned down by forty-seven publishers for her book, *Old Women at Play*. The dilemma was only resolved when Margaret Laurence stepped in and encouraged a publisher to accept the manuscript.

The struggle to find a publisher has not deterred Wiseman, who is currently at work on a new novel.



Jules Xavier

Faculty Focus:

A new dean for Atkinson

Michael Monastyrskyj

When the Board of Governors unanimously accepted the selection of Ron Bordessa as Dean of Atkinson College last week, they did little more than give formal approval to a situation that has existed since the death of Dean Harry Crowe.

Asked to take the position of acting dean last year, Bordessa did so "on the condition that I wouldn't be a paper shuffler. I was only prepared to take the job if I could do the things that I thought were important to do."

Bordessa, born in Wales and educated at the University of Wales and Liverpool University, has taught at Atkinson College since 1969. His position as dean is only the last of a long number of posts that he has held at the college. The thirty-eight-year-old professor has previously served as Associate Dean, Chairperson of the Department of Geography and co-ordinator for the college's Urban Studies Program. He has written extensively on urban issues.

At a forum for all the candidates for dean, Bordessa expressed definite opinions on what the dean's role should be and what policies Atkinson should pursue. "The dean has to be in the office everyday, he has to be accessible. Students really need to feel that yes, there is a dean at Atkinson who you can get hold of when you need to," said Bordessa. "You also need someone who can say no and who can take the flak that comes with saying no."

Bordessa believes "we should pay a lot more attention to recruitment; to attracting the kind of students we want and we should pay more attention to targetting them to liberal arts areas."

He would like to see "an increase in the number of working adults; the kind of students for whom Atkinson was originally set up." He also thinks ethnic students need to be better served.

Conciliator to confront tough benefits dispute

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The various benefits over which the two sides are negotiating and which the conciliator must confront, include cost of living increases, career progress increments, and sabbatical wages.

The two sides are divided over the University's current fiscal position and the Administration's ability to grant wage increases. Although Farr and Buchbinder agree that increased enrollment and operating grants have resulted in additional revenues of 14.5 million, they disagree over what this means in terms of the University's financial health. Buchbinder paints a rosy picture and argues that the administration is in a position to improve its offer. The Faculty

Association Newsletter argues, "Since their offer is a percentage increase which is smaller than the announced system grant, the negotiations committee finds it difficult to treat this as a serious offer."

Farr, on the other hand, states, "We're currently running at a deficit of 1.6 million. Board of Governors policy, which is stimulated by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities' guidelines, calls for us to come out of deficit this year as a part of a three year plan."

Farr added, "It's a question of priorities over expenditures." union's contract will expire, allowing the faculty to take job action to increase their bargaining strength. Job action strategy might include delaying the release of final examination results and term grade reports.

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