YORK UNIVERSITY'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



KEEP YOUR LAWS OFF OUR BODIES: Last Sunday, women in favour of the right to an abortion assembled outside the Morgentaler Clinic to rally for the legalization of abortion clinics. The demonstration was part of a cross-country march staged by pro-choicers.

"Marching for Women's Lives"

By BLAIR COSGROVE

A cross-country march, organized locally by the Ontario Coalition for Abortion Clinics (OCAC), brought 300 pro-choicers together to march from 361 University (Supreme Court of Ontario) to the Morgentaler Clinic on Sunday, Oct. 18.

British Columbia, Alberta, Quebec and Newfoundland were also "Marching for Women's Lives."

The march falls on the eve of the Supreme Court's decision on section 251 of the criminal code. The court will decide whether the current committee system that governs abortion decisions interferes with a woman's right to do what she wants with her body. The Court's decision is expected at the end of the month.

Coalitions across the country are striving for full access to free abortions. According to long-time abortion activist Lynn Lathrop, organizer of OCAC, the majority of Canadians are pro-choice. "This is a historical moment in the history of the movement. The repeal of this repressive Federal law is crucial."

The march was initiated by the Quebec Coalition for Free Abortions. In 1976, the Quebec government realized the law didn't work after Morgentaler was acquitted for the third time. Now, Quebec abortion clinics are protected by the government and funded through the Medicare system.

Presently, there are two freestanding clinics in Toronto: the Scott clinic on Gerrard St. and the Morgentaler clinic on Harbord St. Patients at these clinics do not go through a hospital committee. It is a confidential, 5-10 minute procedure using a local anaesthetic. The fee ranges from \$300 to \$500 and is not covered by OHIP.

Following Ontario's lead, the British Columbia coalition also challenged the law by establishing a clinic that does not comply with federal regulations. Reading a letter from the BC coalition, Lathrop said, "They (the coalition) are outraged at the government's unwillingness to act on this obstructive law."

The march was held on Person's Day, the day 58 years ago that the British North America Act was amended making women legally recognized.

Fall term extended to offset strike

By STACEY BEAUCHAMP

The faculties of Arts, Education, Fine Arts, Science and Atkinson College will extend the fall term to Friday December 11, 1987, because of the disruption of classes over the past few weeks caused by the York University Staff Association (YUSA) strike.

According to the Senate Executive, faculties have also decided to schedule final examinations for half-year courses between December 14-18 while full-year course mid-terms will not be scheduled during this time unless it is absolutely necessary.

In the Faculties of Administrative Studies, Environmental Studies and Glendon College, adjustments will be made through the fall-term reading week. Osgoode Hall Law School is devising a way to make up for the lost classes during the term and the Faculty of Graduate Studies have yet to inform the Executive of its intentions.

Students, according to the Executive, will not be penalized for missed classes, tests and assignments that are directly due to the strike. In a document distributed by H.M. Stevenson, the Chair of the Executive, all departments are advised that they must follow the policy on the "Academic Implications of Labour Disputes Resulting in the Disruption or Cessation of University Business."

To comply with these regulations, all assignments must be extended to November 2 for those students

honouring the picket-lines. Due dates that were scheduled after the strike must compensate for lost preparation time.

Also, tests which were given during the disruption of classes should be rescheduled, for those who could not take them, to at least 16 days from the original date.

If there are any changes, new course outlines must be distributed to students by October 26, 1987 and to Dean by November 2, 1987. The Senate then requests that the Deans submit the alterations to the Executive by November 8, 1987. Also to be handed out to students is the appeal procedure for failure to comply with these guidelines.

In addition, the Office of the Registrar has been advised to move the last date to enrol in fall courses with the instructor's written permission for the Faculties of Administrative Studies, Arts, Fine Arts, Education, Science and Glendon College to October 23. This will also be the last day to pay academic fees with a service charge. For full year courses, the enrolment date is October 30, 1987, with written permission. The absolute last day to enrol in fall-term or full courses for faculties other than the Faculty of Administrative Studies, will be November 13, 1987. This is also the final drop date for fall courses without receiving a grade.

For more information, students are advised to contact their respective faculty offices.

TAs continue negotiations

Negotiations between the Canadian Union of Educational Workers (CUEW) and University administration are continuing throughout this week and through the weekend. As yet, a settlement has not been reached.

While most of the main issues have been resolved, class size is still being negotiated. Wages, which are usually tabled towards the end of the negotiations, have not yet been raised. No strike vote has yet been taken, but a date may be set within the next week or so, depending upon how talks progress.

Job re-evaluation ignored in strike-ending settlement

By JEFF SHINDER

The York University Staff Association (YUSA) and the administration reached an agreement last Thursday ending the two week long support staff strike.

The agreement provided the union with a 6.4% increase in each of the next two years. In addition the union membership will receive a \$300 one-time only bonus.

The university has committed itself to spending \$480,000 towards the improvement of the support staff's working conditions and retraining needs. Of this total, \$135,000 has been targetted for the establishment of a micro-computer room that will serve as a technical training centre. YUSA members have been guaranteed access to the room.

A further \$120,000 has been allocated towards staff re-training programmes. The programmes will be developed either by the union or by the union in conjuction with the administration. A training coordinator for the effort will be selected by the union.

The agreement stipulates that \$225,000 will be employed over the next two years to assist the joint union-administration committee on ergonomics. The committee will redesign standards for equipment that will conform to the new guidelines.

While YUSA President Celia Harte expressed satisfaction over the deal and pointed out that 77% of the membership did approve the settlement, she noted that there are certain issues which remain to be addressed.

The agreement, she said, did not deal with job re-evaluation and payequity, both contentious issues during the strike. Harte noted that job-re-evaluation was dropped by the union as a demand because the university will be forced to change its system once the province passes its pay-equity legislation. Administration Vice-President Bill Farr said the university plans to change the current system, but he noted that it is premature to establish how this will be done.

CYSF Director resigns

By DAVID DOLLARD and JAMES FLAGAL

In a move which caught members of the Council of York Student Federation off-guard, Social and Cultural Affairs Director Meiyin Yap announced her resignation at an executive meeting last Thursday. The move came just two weeks before the Multicultural Festival which the Director of Social and Cultural Affairs is responsible for organizing.

Yap blamed her resignation on the problems she experienced with CYSF President Drew McCreadie. "My efforts for a more effective working relationship (with McCreadie) has only resulted in immature retorts and insulting memos from Drew," Yap explained. "All my efforts to carry out my portfolio have been sabotaged one way or the other," she added.

At the meeting, Yap announced her resignation in a formal speech to the executive which outlined seventeen reasons behind her decision. One of the reasons she cited was her misgivings about McCreadie's Progressive Conservative candidacy,

believing that he was running strictly for personal gain. She also accused McCreadie of not consulting executive members when compiling the student handbook, Manus, and said that executive meetings were held on short notice and not at convenient times. The last straw though, said Yap, was the suppression of a memo which she intended to circulate to campus media and administration.

The letter was part of an ongoing correspondence between McCreadie and Yap where both accused the other of misconduct in their respective capacities. At a September 30 meeting which Yap failed to make because she was out of town, the executive passed a motion to stop Yap's letter from being circulated in order to end the bitter dialogue from going outside council and attempt to resolve the divisions from within the executive. At the resignation, Yap persisted that it was McCreadie who stopped the letter, but Marion Stehouwer, Director of Academic Affairs confirmed that the motion was passed during the executive meeting.

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