

## Some progress in Grad talks but still some unsettled issues

By Scott Clayton

The GAA (Graduate Assistants Association), in a press release issued Tuesday, stated that although some progress has been made in negotiations with the university, there has been a breakdown in talks over unresolved issues.

GAA spokesperson Ilene Crawford says there has been no resolution on such issues as job security, parity in wages between teaching assistants (TA's) and part-time faculty, benefits, and an appointments procedure.

The University has offered part-time tutors an increase of 7.3% to bring their wages up to \$11.80 per hour from \$11.00. Course Directors have been offered a 8.1% increase from \$3100 to \$3350. Teaching Assistants will have their stipend increased by 11.1% from \$2700 to \$3000.

### Fee hike affects Ont. visa students

TORONTO (CUP) — Differential fees are the cause of a 32 per cent drop in the number of visa students enrolled in the first year of graduate programs at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, says an institute administrator.

Since the differential fee was implemented in September, Ontario's visa students are paying tuition fees two and a half times those of Canadian and landed immigrant students in the province.

Crawford says that the increase for TA's has a "rider attached". Only \$2360 of their salary will be considered a wage for teaching, and the remainder will be in the form of a "grant-in-aid" (bursary).

The GAA believes this to be unsatisfactory as it gives the university the ability to manipulate the bursary in future years.

The university offer is in response to the demands of the GAA for wage parity between the TA's and part-time faculty who receive \$500 less than the former for the same work.

The press release said that the negotiating team will report the latest offer to the General Membership on December 13, at which time, says Crawford, "the strike mandate may well be exercised".

## Enrolments plunge in NYC

By Harvey Pinder

The future of Ontario universities is unfolding in New York City.

As a result of the near bankruptcy of New York City, grants to the City University of New York were severely restricted in 76-77. The lack of funds necessitated the imposition of tuition fees of approximately \$600, the first time tuition had been charged.

It also resulted in the ending of the Open Admissions program, which had been instituted as a partial solution to discrimination against minority groups.

The impact of both measures was a drastic drop in enrolment. At Brooklyn College, a constituent college of CUNY, enrolment dropped 40 percent, from 37,000 to 22,000. This resulted in the termination of 389 faculty jobs, with another 60-100 being lost this year.

York dropped almost 5 percent in enrolment this year, with freeze on spending of \$1.5 million and the

hiring of faculty. It is projected that next year cuts in the order of four to five million dollars will be necessary.

The provincial government, which provides the majority of the funds for universities, wants to stop provincial deficit financing of \$2 billion a year. While university financing is being increased by about 5 percent inflation at 8-9, it is entirely possible that funds could be frozen (as they were with capital expenditures five years ago) or even reduced.

## Correction

An article on page 9 of the December 1 *Excalibur* bore the headline "Council suggests tuition increase". The word "tuition" should have read "fee", as this is the type of increase suggested by the CYSF.



## Opposition to Vorster discussed at meetings

By Mac Musaby

It is now over a year since student demonstrations in Soweto township drew the struggle of South African blacks for basic rights and equality to the attention of Canadians.

This tragic message of thousands who were either killed, imprisoned or forced to flee from an ever more repressive regime, was brought to the campus last week by the representatives of two black nationalist organizations, PAC (Pan Africanist Congress) and ANC (African National Congress). The

major theme of the two day meetings sponsored by the TWSU (Third World Student Union) dealt with the Vorster regime's latest wave of repression aimed at isolating and intimidating any kind of internal opposition.

Both organizations, which were banned inside South Africa since the 1960's stated the South African rulers had once again brandished their authority for all to see. In order to deal with the growing mass protest against senseless acts of state terrorism, the Vorster regime unleashed the most far-reaching press censorship yet, arresting hundreds, outlawing Black and other anti-apartheid organizations and violently repressing public demonstrations.

PAC representative Trofomo Souo claimed that with Steven Biko's (leader of the Black Consciousness Movement) death the official toll of "suicides" among Black prisoners in the last 18 months, had risen to at least twenty. This provoked an angry reaction from even the staunch supporters of the apartheid regime.

"While mass repression has been a way of life for blacks of South Africa for over a century now; it is also a warning that this latest crackdown knows no bounds or colours. Anyone who speaks out for Black peoples' aspirations no matter how conservative or radical will be victim," said Souo.

The present government's policy of "detente" based on the notion of peaceful co-existence is not supposed to be disturbed under any condition, stated Meny Lesch, a representative of ANC which has a substantial following inside the country. Moreover this "peaceful coexistence" means a society in which the white minority has all of the power, land and most of the money. The Black majority cannot hold a job or choose where to live except under rigid conditions set by whites.

The government actions came, according to Lesch, at a time of growing economic recession which had already begun to bring together many of the previously antagonistic black groups. With unemployment phenomenally high and the official rate of inflation running at 18 per cent, concessions to the black masses were abandoned, in order to salvage a rapidly eroding status quo.

There is little sign of progress from South Africa's rulers said Lesch. In the middle of the terror Vorster called a snap election, hoping to mobilize the white electorate to resist the international pressure for change.

Ironically, the growing internal repression has put South Africa's traditional Nato allies such as France, Britain and America in an embarrassing situation, and has led to the public condemnation a regime built on the repression of human dignity.

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