

If you had an extra \$50,000 in your budget how would you spend it?

I'd increase the Federation staff.

Why is the sky blue?

Ask the president these hard questions.

Ziad Hafez

Vice-President of Finance

How did you become a student politician?

It all started last year, when I ran for Winters College Representative [on the YFS] and was acclaimed.

After I got acclaimed to Winters I applied for Clubs Commissioner and I got hired. Then I got more and more active with the student government. The year after that I ran for V.P. Finance and I won.

I always wanted to get involved in student politics, even when I was back in Syria. Being a student is a boring thing without getting involved in student government or activities on campus.

How would you describe your politics?

Student Government should not be in office to promote any political ideology. We have to promote students' rights in general. The main focus should be student rights.

Where is the best place on campus to have sex?

I have no idea.

What are your weaknesses?

As someone who came from a different country, I must adjust to a new culture and way of life. I'm working on this.

What is your worst political nightmare?

It's racism to me. To judge a person based on his ethnic background — that's what happened to me when I ran for V.P. Finance. I had been attacked and my posters were filled with racist statements.

What do you think you will be doing in ten years?

Hopefully if everything goes right I will get my Ph.D. and become a professor.

Describe your job in one sentence.

I control the expenditures of the York Federation of Students and make sure we make good purchases.

York President Harry Arthurs is resigning in 1992. Who should replace him?

Well, that's not up to me to answer. It should be decided democratically and the York Federation of students should have a voice.

Tell us three concrete things you plan to accomplish this year.

One: work with the clubs commissioner to [allow him to] give club status to clubs.

Two: increase revenue for the YFS.

Three: As you may know we came into office with a huge deficit from last year. By controlling expenditures I'll try to reduce the deficit from last year, even eliminate it if possible without hindering the activities for this year.

Do you think the YFS has any power at York?

Yes we do have some power but in my opinion we don't have enough.

If you had an extra \$50,000 in your budget how would you spend it?

I would increase funding for services. I would try to sponsor more programs, especially in the area of anti-racism. A huge amount of this money would go towards clubs and services because I believe that student money should go directly back to students and that is one way to do it.

Why is the sky blue?

Because that's how I like it.

Nikki Gershbain

Vice-President • Internal

How did you become a student politician?

I got involved with the OFS [Ontario Federation of Students] and CFS [Canadian Federation of Students] referendum last year. I joined the 'yes' coalition and I got really into it.

How would you describe your politics?

Very left. I guess I would be called a democratic socialist.

Where is the best place on campus to have sex?

In Michelle Hughes' office, apparently.

What are your weaknesses?

I'm very sensitive and I get very emotional and very worked up about things personal or professional, and that detracts from what I'm able to accomplish.

What is your worst political nightmare?

The Federal Reform Party.

What do you think you'll be doing in ten years?

I hope to be teaching post secondary education.

Describe your job in one sentence.

I'm here to advocate on behalf of students academically and make sure that students don't get fucked around by the administration.

York President Harry Arthurs is resigning in 1992. Who should replace him?

Anybody who is willing to put students ahead of profit. I don't know if that person exists right now, at least on this campus.

Tell me three concrete things you plan to accomplish this year.

One: I hope to implement — perhaps on a small scale because it's the first year — course evaluations. Probably just in the Faculty of Arts for the first year. Evaluations that will address issues of eurocentrism, sexism, racism in the class and the curriculum.

Two: I hope to resolve the issue of parking rates at York. That's something I've been working on a lot. I would like to see an equitable parking rate structure for this year and something that the university is bound to for the future that is fair and reasonable.

Three: I'd like to think that at the end of this year I was involved in building a strong, cohesive student movement at York, at least locally.

Do you think the YFS has any power at York?

I think the power of the YFS lies in the ambition and energy of the students who are

involved. Yes, if people get out there and unite and act. No, if everybody continues to remain relatively apathetic. I think there is definitely the potential for a lot of power and a lot of positive progressive energy.

If you had an extra \$50,000 in your budget, how would you spend it?

I would like to somehow get it dispersed to clubs and services and other grassroots organizations on campus that are serving students and working toward affecting change for students.

Why is the sky blue?

I'm an Arts student. I don't know. That's too philosophic for me.

Michelle Hughes

YFS President

How did you become a student politician?

I became involved in school activities and started to meet a lot of people and I got tired of the way things were running and wanted to get involved.

How would you describe your politics?

I'm an activist. I like to see change and things are at a point now where there's a lot of room for change.

Where is the best place on campus to have sex?

In my office... ha ha. Really, in a classroom. One of the carpeted classrooms on the upper floors of the Ross Building.

What are your weaknesses?

I like to solve everything and I have to realize that I can't. I want to see everything fixed and you can't in a year. That's frustrating.

What is your worst political nightmare?

To have an apathetic student population this year. The time is right to make some real changes; if that happened, we couldn't get anything done.

What do you think you will be doing in ten years?

I will either be a child psychologist working in the Black community or I'll be some sort of community activist.

Describe your job in one sentence.

Hell, but I love it.

York President Harry Arthurs is retiring in 1992. Who should replace him?

Well, if Malcolm X were alive... Actually, I hope that it's somebody who wants to see changes and wants to change the systemic discrimination that's going on, but won't become a puppet of the Board of Governors.

Tell us three concrete things you plan to accomplish this year.

One: I hope to see an active race policy on campus.

Two: I hope to start the ball rolling on having mandatory course evaluations that promote critical thinking.

Three: I hope to promote more student activism.

Do you think the YFS has any power at York?

I guess it depends on how you define power. The only way we can be powerful is if the student population stands behind us.

If you had an extra \$50,000 in your budget how would you spend it?

I would go for the course evaluations and make them campus-wide. As well, I'd try to get more outreach programs with the community outside and try to involve kids in the area.

Why is the sky blue?

Well, it's not *always* blue.



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