

Guelph Student Council dissolved

GUELPH (CUP) — The student council at the University of Guelph has voted itself out of existence and established a steering committee to form a new body.

The move was just the latest in the bizarre series of events which has marked the history of student unionism on the central Ontario campus.

The council really wasn't a council at all, but a collection of college student council representatives who came together to form the "Committee of College Presidents" (CCP) at the central university level. All CCP members were appointed by local college

councils. Only the CCP chairman was directly elected by the students, but he had no vote on the CCP.

Dissolution of the CCP followed elections for the chairmanship, which were marred by irregularities.

Odette Thomas, who won the election, was previously disqualified for spending more than the \$200 permitted by CCP regulations. Tom Skilman, who gathered less than half Thomas' votes, was declared elected. He immediately urged dissolution of the CCP.

Skilman managed to stave off a threatened withdrawal by the Ontario Veterinary College

(part of U of G), but the colleges of physical sciences, biological sciences, and social sciences were also rumored to be ready to withdraw from the CCP.

Under Skilman's direction the CCP voted to dissolve and establish a six-member steering committee to draft a new constitution and administer the CCP's prior commitments.

The CCP was formed about three years ago after the collapse of the University of Guelph Student Union Council. Union Council fell apart when it tried to become an incorporated body. Amid administration pressure against some radicalism on the council, the

provincial government refused to allow compulsory fees collection. With fees voluntary,

Union Council lost its financial bases, and after trying to stay alive, finally collapsed.

carrots ...

- 1) If the carrots are not fresh, 5% of the vitamin K is already lost.
- 2) Another 10% of the nutrients are lost when the skin is peeled off.
- 3) If carrots are sliced before boiling, all the vitamin C is lost, as well as the niacin and 20% of the thiamin.
- 4) If carrots are soaked, all the B vitamins and some of the natural sugar plus all the minerals (except for calcium) are simply "soaked out."
- 5) If sugar has been added to the cooking water, there is another 5% nutrient loss, consisting mostly of calcium.
- 6) When the carrots are cooked, the cooking water is usually poured down the sink, along with the rest of the vitamin K and more of the minerals. If carrots are eaten raw and unpeeled, nothing is lost. 1/2 a cup of carrots contains 10,000 to 12,000 units of vitamin A.

Students March on Legislature

TORONTO (CUP) — About 400 students from across Ontario marched on the Ontario legislature building Tuesday, November 21, to protest the Davis government's hike in tuition fees and decrease in student aid.

Organizers were disappointed with the size of the demonstration, but it succeeded in drawing colleges and universities minister John McNie into open confrontation with ordinary students.

"We must ask how much higher education works," McNie said amid a chorus of catcalls. "This is a question

posed by taxpayers and students alike. It's not only a question of the number of dollars we spend on education but also the amount of time students spend not earning money."

"But there are no jobs," several students shouted.

Undaunted, McNie told the students that lowering tuition fees is not the answer to stem the high drop-out rate.

"The people who dropped out tended to be the best students, and they get jobs," the minister said.

As snow flakes swirled around his head, McNie

smirked and grinned when the student heckling continued.

"Our loan program is better than in any province across the country," he continued. "But we are trying to get the program amended and we hope to do so in the spring... any new scheme will involve repayment on the basis of salary, which is only reasonable," he said.

McNie added that he was impressed by proposals offered by an Ontario Federation of Students (OFS) delegation which met him and premier William Davis last week. He urged students to look to the future, and not the past.

"We are committed to the fee increase for this year, but it's the first one in eight years... But I realize students are concerned the government make a commitment to accessibility and excellence and I make that commitment," McNie then stepped to the rear of the legislature steps to another chorus of boos.

He was followed by New Democratic Party colleges and universities critic Floyd Laughren, who warned students to be prepared to act after the publication of the final commission on post secondary education report (The Wright report) which may recommend a "contingency repayment

plan" for future student aid.

The commission's proposal would require students to pay the entire cost of their education (about \$2,500 a year) and borrow the money from a special bank, repaying by a percentage of future salary.

The march to the legislature followed a brief rally at the University of Toronto, which occasionally degenerated into recriminations over responsibility for the small turnout.

A favourite target was University of Toronto student council president Eric Miglin, whose council refused to help organize the action. Miglin rather sheepishly entered the hall where the rally took place, amid a cluster of people and was challenged by Glendon College student union president Moulton to address the crowd. Miglin ignored the invitation.

In an interview later, Miglin said he was disappointed by the size of the crowd.

"I'm not surprised, but to go around saying 'I told you so, I told you so' would be counter-productive," he said.

Only a small contingent of U of T students showed up for the demonstration. They had been organized by four college student councils and various campus political groups.

Busloads of students from

outside Toronto did not materialize in the expected numbers. Two buses from York University in suburban Toronto and one each from Glendon, Waterloo, Brock, and Carleton did arrive, but few were filled to capacity.

Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL) secretary-treasurer, Terry Meagher, who also addressed the demonstrators, went further than the OFS demands. He said the OFL supports complete abolition of tuition fees to ensure equal accessibility.

Students at the University of Saskatchewan Regina campus sent a telegram to the demonstrators, expressing their solidarity in the fight. They are currently occupying the Dean of Arts and Science's office, demanding the Dean reverse his veto of a motion guaranteeing staff-student parity in all departments of the campus' social science division.

The University of Windsor's Student Administrative Council organized a "student day" to coincide with the OFS demonstration. It was designed to discuss student problems both on and off campus. Workshops were scheduled on such topics as food, parking, tuition, courses, residence isolation, women, unemployment and the role of the student and university in society. U of Windsor president Francis Leddy agreed to cancel classes from 3 p.m. on, although SAC president Gerry Gagnon had requested classes be cancelled for the entire day.

OFS general co-ordinator Craig Heron said he would hold his comment on the demonstration until the OFS general meeting this weekend (Nov. 24-26) in Toronto. The meeting will decide whether to proceed with the second term fees strike already widely approved by students in a referendum last month.

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