

THIS WEEK @ YOUR CAMPUS PUB

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 5

Show Your Contiki Pub Nite
One person wins a European vacation on the spot

March 8

Timber
Just off tour with OLP

March 15

Caution Donkeys
Alexander Keith's St. Patrick's Day Event

March 22

Joel Plaskett Emergency

Wednesday March 5

Keith's Trivia with
"Big Daddy Cool"
Roger Jones Live

Thursday 6

8-10pm Wings 25 cents
Members' Specials
10pm-2am Keith's Pub

Friday 7

Open @ noon/ Full Pub Menu
2-4 Movie Pub
4-9 Happy Hour
with Greg Doucette

Saturday 8

4-6pm Duff Day with The Simpsons
On the main stage

Timber

Just of tour with Our Lady Peace



Fund it Yourself: U of T President

By Shaelah PIRIE, Excalibur

TORONTO (CUP) -- University of Toronto (U of T) President Robert Birgeneau has expressed an apathetic view on the issue of under-funded post-secondary education.

"If you can afford to pay [for university], you should. It's that simple," said Birgeneau in a public statement.

"[Schools] are not doing enough, and they should be standing behind students, fully supporting our call and the faculty's as well. University education should be fully funded." -Chris Collins

U of T's Graduate Students' Union (GSU) President Chris Collins refutes the president's comments and says that the GSU wants the government to carry the debt load for higher education, not students.

"[Birgeneau] seems to have this fatalist idea that since we can't get proper funding the only way to continue is by increases in tuition," said Collins. "Tuition deregulation will lead to an environment where only the very rich will be able to afford post-secondary education."

Collins is also quick to point out that "there are many situations where extenuating circumstances necessitate financial assistance". He cites limitations imposed by disability as an example.

York Federation of Students executive member, Pablo Vivanco, has been

working closely with U of T's GSU and the Canadian Federation of Students on this issue.

"Birgeneau's remarks are pretty backwards, especially after we have gained the support of both major opposition parties," said Vivanco. He further explains that both political parties will use the regulation of tuition fees as part of their platforms, but, cautions students against buying into the propaganda.

"[We] can't really rely on party policies," said Vivanco, referring to Gordon Campbell's de-regulation of tuition in B.C. when he said it would be frozen.

"[Schools] are not doing enough, and they should be standing behind students, fully supporting our call and the faculty's as well," he said. "University education should be fully funded."

Collins, with the support of other student unions, proposes to work together with university administrators on a public awareness campaign on the under-funding of post-secondary education in Ontario. The goal is to teach students about de-regulation and what this means

Vivanco does not anticipate support from university administrators.

"They are afraid of being reprimanded or further isolated from public funds by criticizing too much".

He also points out that there are "lots of crossovers between administrators and politicians. Many [administrators] are not unbiased. You just have to look at [York University's] board of governors to see who is being represented".

