

THE VARSITY

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"In brief, I can find no evidence that the Towards 2030 Synthesis Report takes any adverse view of multi-disciplinary units or programs." — David Naylor **p8**

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DALAI LAMA MAKES SECRET APPEARANCE AT U OF T



On Friday morning the Dalai Lama spoke at a closed symposium: Cognitive Science, Mindfulness and Consciousness at the University of Toronto. The event occurred at the Multifaith Centre and featured a four person panel discussion before the Dalai Lama addressed the 70 person group. The Varsity was the only member of the media allowed in the event. For more photos, see **p7** ANDREW RUSK/THE VARSITY

ARBITRATION

U of T profs receive 4.5 per cent over two years

Arbitrator denies Queen's Park requests for wage freeze

Samya Kullab
VARSITY STAFF

"Students will suffer, one way or another," said fourth-year English student Jennifer Fraser in response to a decision by a labour arbitrator to approve a 4.5 per cent raise in the next two years to professors and librarians at the University of Toronto. The decision comes after calls from Queen's Park for a public sector wage freeze.

The arbitrator also ruled that professors and librarians would not have to pay more towards pension plans, denying a university request to increase faculty contributions by 2.25–3 per cent. The pension plan, as it stands, is currently in deficit.

"It will only further strain the university's budget, and at the end of the day, students will be at the receiving end of the adverse consequences," said Fraser.

At the moment, it is hard to determine how the award, effective from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2011, will affect

students. Angela Hildyard, vice-president of Human Resources and Equity, said in a memo sent to faculty and staff, "[the decision] has a significant impact on the university's finances."

The UFTA Arbitration Award — the wage increase itself — was made by Martin Teplitsky, a prominent arbitrator and civil litigation lawyer. Hired to act first as mediator during discussions between the university and the Faculty Association in January 2009, Teplitsky became an arbitrator when the two parties were unable to reach a mutual agreement.

Discussions focused on salary and benefits, a professorial appointment stream, tenure, and changes to the workload policy.

Teplitsky made the award when it was clear discussions were at a standstill. His decision comes after the release of a provincial Compensation Act, which called for a pay freeze for non-unionized public sector employees, such as the U of T Faculty Association. The university also claimed that it

could not afford to pay a raise.

In a 15-page ruling last Tuesday, he stated that he "would appear a minion of government" if the provincial factors had been considered.

Hildyard expressed disappointment that the arbitration process did result in a raise for one of the two years at issue. The university already supplies merit pay at a 1.9 per cent increase per year.

"The continuing merit pay and the new [across-the-board] increases will have immediate and very significant financial implications for departments and divisions," she writes.

In discussions, the Faculty Association bargained for a wage increase of 3–4 per cent per year on top of the merit payment, as well as 15 extra benefits, costing about \$10 million per year. Faculty have lauded the decision.

Students, on the other hand, are left speculating the ways in which the award will affect them.

SEE 'ARBITRATION' — PG 6

CAMPUS RADIO

CIUT manager axed

Replacement offered position three weeks in advance

Dylan C. Robertson
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

CIUT, U of T's community radio station at St. George campus, has fired its manager over an unspecified issue.

The station's Board of Directors voted to cancel then-station manager Brian Burchell's contract last Monday. Ken Stowar is now the station manager in addition to his previous role as program director.

"We've asked Ken Stowar to serve at least until the annual general membership meeting in March," said Gage Averill, chair of CIUT's Board of Directors.

Stowar said Averill asked him about accepting the position on September 27.

"[Averill] asked if I would consider stepping in as the acting station manager, and I said yes."

Stowar added that Burchell was dropped because of an audit issue.

"[Burchell was] requested to work in cooperation with internal audits of

the University of Toronto and as to what that is about specifically, I really have no idea," said Stowar. "I was just asked to step in and here's why."

U of T's spokesperson said the university is unable to give any additional information. Averill said he could not specify what exactly led to the change, but explained it had to do with another company managed by Burchell.

"We had a process of review over the last few months and decided to terminate the contract with a company that Brian Burchell runs that had management contracts for CIUT," said Averill.

Burchell is publisher of Gleaner Community Press. Averill said he wasn't sure if this is the company in question, and that it was registered as a set of digits followed by "Ontario Inc."

Burchell did not respond to requests for comment. CIUT completed its week-long fall membership drive yesterday.

WEATHER

MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
14°C to 17°C	13°C to 17°C	11°C to 15°C	8°C to 13°C	6°C to 10°C

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