

Rae Review of Post Secondary Education

What's at stake?

What is the Rae Review?

- Rae Review

- Commission appointed by government to review Post Secondary Education (PSE)
- Report to Provincial government with recommendations after consultations
- Provincial government to review and implement changes in January 2005

What has the Review said so far?

- Discussion paper: outlines problems facing PSE and suggests some solutions
 - No mention of reduced **tuition fees** as solution to increase accessibility
 - Panel members support higher fees
 - Focuses on **Income Contingent Loan Repayment schemes** (ICLRPS) as a solution (Go now, pay later)

What is the U of T Administration's position?

- U of T released **Context Paper** in October
- Forms basis for University's submission to the Rae commission
- Calls for **full deregulation of tuition fees**, to be set by Governing Council

What is the GSU position?

- More funding to Ontario Universities to at least the National Average
- Reduction of tuition fees for all students
- Increased accessibility to all students
- Needs-based grants system
- No ICLRPs
- Funding to both basic and applied research programs

What are ICLRPs and why are they so bad?

- Design:
 - Unlimited access to loans
 - Debt repaid as a % of income after graduation for as long as it takes
- Not a student aid plan but rather a **funding model** for PSE
- Assumes students are the primary beneficiaries of PSE and **should therefore bear the full cost**
- Aim is to **replace** governmental funding of PSE by student fees

What are ICLRPs and why are they so bad?

- Problems:
 - Tuition fees soar: students have access to more loans
 - Australia: 500% increase in fees
 - NZ: student debt (\$5 B) > national debt
 - Inequitable program: those who earn less take longer to pay and pay more
 - NZEI: women take twice as long to pay debt
 - Teacher with \$30 000 loan will take 16 years to pay it back and pay **\$23 538** in interest
 - Actual loan: ~ \$53 000

What can students do?

- Fill out GSU survey on tuition fees and funding (link on GSU website), will be used as part of the GSU submission
- Sign petitions and postcards available at the GSU that call on more governmental funding and less tuition fees
- Register to take part in the **town hall discussions** with the Rae commission

Town Hall Meetings

GTA West

November 15th
6-8pm

GTA North/East

December 3rd
1-3pm

GTA Central

December 8th
7:30pm-9:30pm

You must register 10 days in advance at
www.raereview.on.ca