

STRONG YEAR DESPITE STRIKE AT YORK



Some of the TOP regulars at our last April 2015 gathering

Labor strikes can cause disruptions and create conflicts and tensions within the community. This was the case this year when the contract faculty, teaching assistants and research assistants at York went on strike for the month of March. Classes were initially cancelled but gradually resumed even in the midst of strikes, causing a divided campus among those who support the strike and those who don't.

The weekly student gatherings and programs at York run by LOGOS' student club LCC naturally faced disruptions and loss of attendance during this time. Although some programs needed to be cancelled, we still kept our weekly **Theology over Pizza** gatherings and

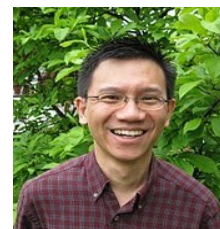
still averaged about 12 people every night. Hence, despite the uncertainties and disruptions near the end of the school year due to the strike, this past 2014-15 academic year has been a strong year for LOGOS Campus Ministry at York. Here, in brief, are some of the highlights:

Greater Attendance at Theology over Pizza (TOP) - Our flagship program, TOP, is a weekly Thursday night gathering and has garnered growing recognition to the point that York's local community radio station interviewed Chaplain Chong about TOP. Weekly average attendance this year has grown to 18 people, with as many as 30 people at one time! And this is a higher average, despite the one month strike, than last year's 15. A sense of belonging and community is evident as people not only share intellectual ideas, but also at times shared personal stories. An ex-Muslim girl, for instance, shared to the group how she finally got the courage to tell her Muslim father of her conversion to Christianity from last year.

More Bible Study Groups —This year we were able to start three weekly bible study groups, which is more than we had before. Small groups of students gather to study Scripture and pray for each other. One of these groups is a women's group that even continued to meet during the strike month of March.

Many Regular Spiritual Conversations, including with Seekers— Chaplain Chong has been busy having regular, almost weekly, conversations with various students and even staff on campus. These includes regular one-on-one bible studies and/or conversations with non-Christians who are still seeking.

Regular Christian Workers Prayer Gathering— Chaplain Chong also organizes a prayer gathering every other week for Christian workers from various Christian groups at York to get to know each other and to pray for each other's ministries.



Chaplain Chong

New Name, New Logo, Same Acronym, Same Mission for Student Club

LOGOS Campus Ministry has incarnated itself at York U as a student Christian club called **Leadership, Culture and Christianity (LCC)** since 2004. York University's administrative structure does not allow for any official religious chaplains. Hence, LOGOS Campus Ministry has established a student club to serve within the university. The club's name—Leadership, Culture and Christianity—was a clear signal of its unique mission and identity: LCC seeks to grow Christian leaders who will engage our culture with a Christian worldview for the common good of all.



LOGOS Christian Community

The student club's new name and logo

We seek to carry out this mission by developing a community where everybody belongs; by helping everybody discern and reflect more deeply on cultural issues from a Christian worldview perspective; and by encouraging everyone to lead in their own ways and areas of strength. And LCC has faithfully done this for the past 11 years, carving out an identity and reputation among the various Christian groups and ministries at York.

The old name has served us well but the new name, **LOGOS Christian Community**, is more inviting, emphasizes community and is hopefully easier to remember and less intimidating for some. It also has the advantage of continuity with the parent ministry LOGOS Campus Ministry, making it more recognizable for supporting churches. And it keeps the old acronym—LCC—for which the student club is easily remembered. Hence, the website, emails are all kept the same without change, making it an easier transition to the new name. Even the new logo builds on the old one, keeping continuity and brand recognition. The transition to the new name will begin in the months of April to June as student clubs begin the process of club status renewal at York.

Although we have a new name and logo, the mission of the student club is still the same. And we will still have the same Christian ethos, a hospitable, safe and inclusive community that welcomes everyone and encourages everyone to mutually learn and discern, and grow our leadership potential for God's glory and for the common good.

Help Christian students grow in faith and non-Christian students find faith at York University!

LOGOS Campus Ministry & its student club, LOGOS Christian Community help Christian students integrate their faith with their learning & help non-Christian students discover Christ.

TO DONATE

Online: Go to www.canadahelps.org and search for "Classis Toronto of the Christian Reformed Church" charity. Click on "View Profile" then "Donate Now" or "Donate Monthly". At the donation page, choose designation for "LOGOS".

By Mail:
Write cheques to "Classis Toronto of the Christian Reformed Church" Earmark it for "LOGOS Campus Ministry"
Mail to: Cor Buikema, Treasurer of Classis Toronto
11 Greystone Cres.
Georgetown, ON L7G 1G8

THANK YOU!