

Initially this sub-comm was seen to have a dual role - namely individual recruitment and building a front on campus - and was called Recruitment. As a new branch, UCT ECC attracted large numbers of interested people, and active recruitment was unnecessary. A table outside our functions proved sufficient. At our launch meeting, for example, about 40 students were recruited. This role fell away after the initial rush.

The name was changed to Contact, and for the first  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the year the process of building the front and reaching specific campus groups did not get off the ground for a number of reasons:

- + lack of leadership direction or general direction
- + lack of conceptual skills and understanding of a front structure, owing to a general lack of experience
- + lack of confidence as a result of above
- and + diversion of attention towards campaigns and other activities, which detracted from the sub-comm's work

Progress was made, however, particularly with the drawing up of an "Introduction to ECC" package (provisional copy enclosed) intended to both educate members about issues around ECC generally and the front in particular, and to distribute as a reference package to our affiliates and interested groups. While the final draft is still incomplete the idea has proved extremely effective. Morale was high at the end of the 2nd term, but momentum was lost over the vac, and many of the frustrations of the previous semester returned. By this time the size of the sub-comm had stabilized at 8 regular and committed members. Interestingly, Contact is the UCT ECC sub-comm with the highest proportion of men.

The focus of the branch as a whole in the third term was on internal consolidation. This should have been ideal for the starting of the front-building process, but this did not occur, due to some of the reasons outlined above as well as the general disruption on campus, during which one of our members was arrested.

Towards the end of the term things began to look more positive. A new co-ordinating group was elected (which now began to function effectively), members were more familiar with the concept of a front structure, and our previous mistakes and weaknesses were assessed. The lack of direction was addressed with the help of the National Organiser. The subcomm drew up a clear plan of action which will be placed on a chart, and pairs were designated potential member organisations to deal with. Following this, a simulation game involving the presentation of the package to the other members of the subcomm was held to boost confidence, formulate clear responses to possible problem questions and pool ideas and holding of front workshops.

In the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  weeks since this process was begun:

- + A highly successful workshop has been presented to Engineers Against Apartheid, who chose to affiliate. EAA are a dynamic group, and promise to be a strong affiliate
- + A short workshop has been presented to the Architectural Student Society who have begun plans for a referendum this term
- + Contact has been made with: Progsoc, Medical Students Council, Law Students Council, AIESEC, Baptist Students Union, Social Science Students Council and SA Union of Jewish Students UCT, with varying responses. Follow-up processes are underway.
- + A further 21 groups have been prioritised, and it is intended to establish contact with them by the end of the year.

In order to maintain contact with these groups over the vac, a list of contacts is being drawn up.

Morale and confidence at this point, as in the whole branch, are high and the real gains of the past short period have highlighted the possibilities for an ECC front at UCT.

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