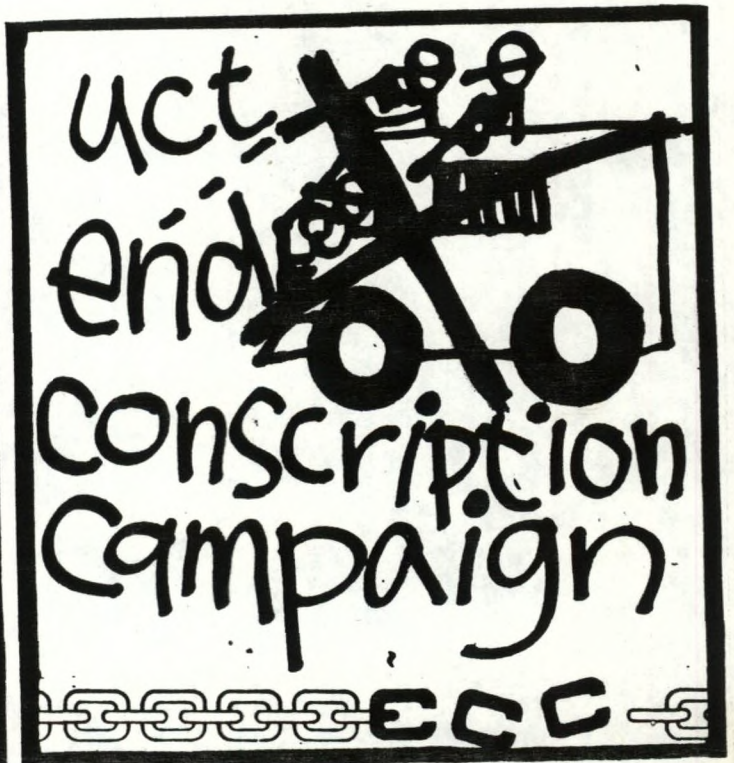
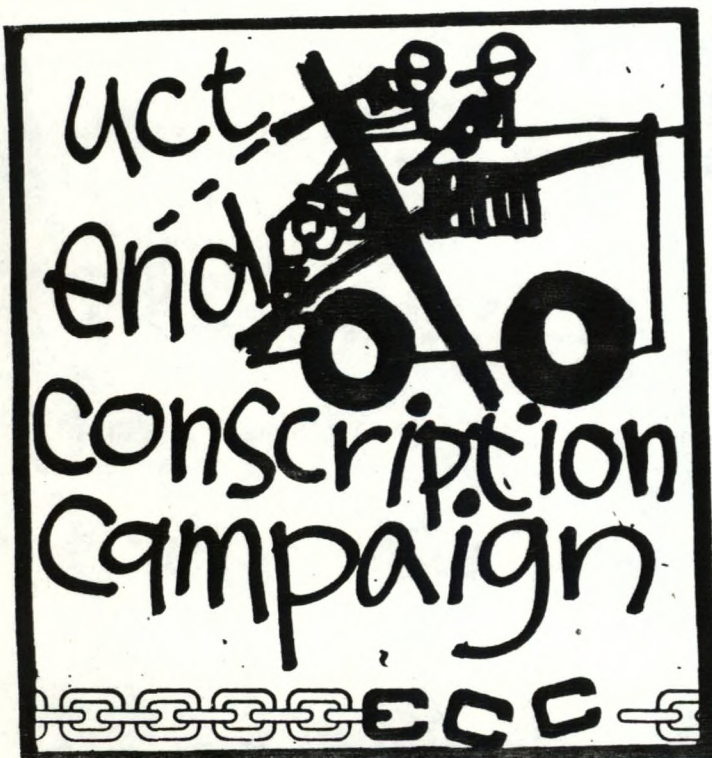


U.C.T. REPORT TO N.C. → MARCH '88

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UCT ECC REPORT TO NC

Number of active members : there are approximately 28 people working in sub-committees.

Morale : the year started off well for us with an impressive stall during Orientation Week, but the procedure for incorporating new members failed. Our first GB was a slight disaster which resulted in old members (particularly those in leadership positions) feeling very low and un-inspired. With Gary's assistance we held an 'old members' meeting to plan our term more thoroughly as well as to boost morale. Our spirits were up again after our participation in the Rag procession and a very successful second GB. The highlight of the term (internally) was our weekend away to plan the national campaign. It resulted in all members feeling excited and enthusiastic about our potential to be an effective, cohesive campaign on campus.

Security : the constant flow of activists through ECC made it fairly difficult to develop a security consciousness. After a session on security at the weekend away, members understood the need to practise security measures and are taking it seriously; there was even a request for a guidelines/tasks list to be written up in the event of activists being detained.

Repression : harassment - we had a conference planning meeting and the member whose house it was at was phoned and questioned about what time it was starting. (No one except the chair knew where the venue was).

Smears : the Vets for Victory produced a glossy booklet slandering ECC. They also distribute a questionnaire with questions like : "What campaigns would you like to see launched to ban the ECC?"

ORIENTATION WEEK REPORT

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES DURING ORIENTATION WEEK

- to raise ECC's profile on campus
- to recruit broadly as well as at various levels
- to publicise Ivan Toms' stand and demonstrate its relevance to everyone
- to explore the re-focus on conscription
- to raise important and topical issues
- to present a slick and approachable image

Our activities during OW were divided into 3 areas: IVAN TOMS MEETING

ECC STALL ON THE PLAZA

OTHER ACTIVITIES ON CAMPUS

IVAN TOMS MEETING

The Ivan Toms meeting was very successful. Despite windy and slightly wet weather, we decided to go ahead with the meeting outside on the Plaza. A few hundred students filled Jammie steps and appeared to be very interested in what Ivan had to say.

ECC STALL

The ECC stall was certainly the brightest, most varied and most original stall on the Plaza. Our media included a "what is UCT ECC" pamphlet, the ECC comic, Ivan Toms pamphlet, OSG statement re. Ivan, Phil, Wil. pamphlet, invitation to our cocktail party. Other items included ECC diaries, T-shirts, Forces Favourites tapes, handmade ECC shorts, sling-bags and mini-skirts, and homemade ECC fortune cookies. We signed up about 100 people, many of whom were interested mainly in being on our mailing list.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

There was a definite lack of other ECC activities on campus during OW. We distributed our media at the opening address for freshers, and collected signatures on 600 postcards to the Minister of Defence, calling for a change in the law regarding objection.

Our introductory meeting was held in the form of a COCKTAIL PARTY. Here we introduced the different areas of our work and attempted to get a feel for interest in those areas which we had identified as possible areas of expansion - CONSCRIPTS
CHURCHES

There was not sufficient interest in either area to warrant setting up structures, but we are keeping these and other new areas in mind for the future.

Follow-up of new recruits was to take place through the SUBCOMMITTEES. This has not been as successful as we had hoped, but there is a feeling that once the National Campaign begins we will have the space to adequately incorporate many more new members.

ASSESSMENT IN TERMS OF AIMS

- ECC's profile on campus during OW was fairly good, but we have not really been very visible since then.
- our recruitment for the mailing list was broad and subcomms. feel that they have as many new members as they can incorporate at present. However it was felt that we needed to pay more attention to different levels of membership and involvement.
- Ivan's stand was well publicised during OW as well as during the week of his trial.
- we have not paid enough attention to the re-focus on conscription, but it is hoped that the National Campaign will help to remedy this.

- ECC has presented a well-organised and quite approachable image, judging from the range of new people who have joined the organisation.

ECC'S PARTICIPATION IN RAG

- The strategy behind ECC'S participation, as a political organisation, in UCT'S RAG procession:
- INTERNALLY: we felt it was important to have an organised event in which our members, both old and new could participate, and building a float was an answer to that; helping to develop and foster internal cohesion.
- EXTERNALLY: we also felt that if ECC is meant to be an organisation which represents its constituency, it must move away from its "trendy, lefty" image, and start participating in events which most average students can relate to. Participating in RAG also seemed to be an answer to this.
We also felt that an ECC float in RAG procession would be good exposure for us.

- THE FLOAT

- Theme: The theme of RAG was: The wonderful world of Walt Disney. The theme of ECC'S float was: Snow White and the seven unwilling conscripts - thereby fitting to both RAG'S theme, and ECC'S message.
- Appearance: We converted one of our member's bakkies into a "ratel", using cardboard. 7 dwarves rode on the float, carrying black wooden guns with colourful flowers attached to the ends. A Snow White with a large papier maché head sat on the float (one of our members 'in disguise'!) The float was small and colourful.
We then had "walking dwarves" around the float, with placards saying "Grumpy doesn't want to go", "Let Dopy choose", "Doc is an objector" etc.
- Planning and organisation: Culture comm. was responsible for coming up with the theme, from then on tasks were delegated very effectively to the rest of the organisation.
- Participation: It was very inspiring to see how everyone carried out their tasks quickly, responsibly and effectively. Participation at the float building was also very encouraging.
However, participation in the actual procession could have been better, although this is understandable - the nature of RAG being a problem for many members of ECC.

Given the amount of experience we had regarding float building, and the short time for it, it was felt that the appearance of our float was great. We also felt that we achieved our aim of building internal cohesion. Our presence in RAG was noticed and appreciated by the organizers, our float was on the whole well received, and we also got some good press coverage, although at times we found it all rather difficult, as we were harassed quite a bit, particularly at float building.

We will assess at RAG time next year, to see if it is feasible and strategic for us to participate again - perhaps by then we will have set a trend, and RAG may become more political in nature - almost as a legitimate option for a protest march!

INTERNAL EDUCATION and TRAINING REPORT.

In the first term of 1988, we ran two workshops introducing ECC. The emphasis was on participation and letting people reach the age-old conclusions (about why we work in white community, as a front, single-issue campaign etc etc!!!) through their own discussion. They were very succesful, though attendance was quite dissappointing. We are waiting for new members to settle into ECC before introducing formal organisational skills training - of course the informal training of activists goes on all the time. ECC members are motivated and excited about next term's education which will be broader than this term's, and will include focusing on campaign related issues (like conscription counselling etc). The branch responded very positively to the Education and Training workshop proposal and request that they take place on a regional level to be able to include more activists, and to happen as soon as possible !

CONTACT SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

"Contact" began the year by questioning its function within the UCT ECC and came to the conclusion that its defined role - viz "building the front" - was one that was both limited and limiting. Consequently, the subcommittee, with support from N.O. Gary, decided to extend its portfolio to encompass the "public relations" side of the ECC on campus. Specifically, we see as our added responsibility the maintenance of the ECC's image as a dynamic and exciting organisation at UCT. This we plan to do through regular cheese and wines, residence forums and debates, by means of which we will also be able to keep in contact with the affiliates and supporters of the ECC as well as make contact with non-ECC students on campus.

Within this framework, "Contact" this term was invited to the executive meeting of the UCT SAUJS organisation where it contributed input concerning the ECC and conscription in South Africa. It has also planned to hold a cake sale on medical campus, previously excluded from upper campus politics by its remoteness, to promote the ECC; Contact will also be conducting a survey on campus to gauge the university body's attitudes around such issues as conscription, the SADF and the ECC.

With an influx of new members this year, Contact looks forward to a successful 1988 on campus.

CULTURE COMM REPORT

15 March 1988

Culture comm. like all other UCT ECC sub-comms has not been operating for long this year. The sub - comm has met a couple of times, one of these meetings being a social supper.

The rag float has been culture comm's main focus so far. Now that it is behind us and went off well, we are starting to look at new areas:

1. establishing a cultural group which will be similar to the ECC cabaret. The group will be involved in things like writing and producing plays, poetry and musical items etc.
2. formalise our participation in the new national campaign.
3. be educating our members as to the role of culture as a political tool; viz equating (ECC) cultural events with their political significance.

The problem we recognise is the failure to incorporate our new members sufficiently. Hopefully at our branch weekend away we will come up with new ideas for activities which will incorporate full - active and less - active members.

In the next 2 weeks we will elect our new culture comm. co - ordinator and exec. rep.

MEDIA SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT.

The response to ECC during orientation week was very good, and many people signed up. Lots of them indicated that they were interested in joining media. The cheese-and-wine was well attended, and despite the fact that our meeting time was advertised verbally, and on a hand out, very few people came to the first sub com meeting. To remedy this we phoned around for the other meetings, but the response has not been dramatic.

The co-ordinators placed special emphasis on welcoming new people (the few that came) and on integrating them into the sub com. I hope this has happened, but cannot really express an opinion.

The Ivan Toms trial took place during this time, and automatically became the focus of our work. The aims of our meetings in the first term was to give people more media skills, and we have been running a kind of workshop programme. At the first meeting we already involved people in actions and pickets were painted. Our aim was to be all over campus with pickets during the Toms trial. At the same meeting a pamphlet was laid out. It contained a statement in support of Ivan, and it had been endorsed by the Principal of the university, other notable academics and a wide variety of student bodies. These pamphlets were distributed over campus during the week of the trial, and sporadic pickets were held. The pickets, saying: IVAN TOMS ON TRIAL TODAY; IVAN TOMS SADF OBJECTOR; and ECC SUPPORTS JUST ALTERNATIVES. did get shown on campus, but not as organised as we had hoped. Our planning was adequate, rather than good, and a bigger impact could have been made. However, from the response of fellow students and staff, we gathered that an impact had been made. Copies of the glossy IVAN TOMS pamphlet were also distributed on campus.

The major task that media took on for the year, was to bring out our own publication. After discussions in the group we agreed on a regular quarterly 'newsletter' (still to be named). Although we felt it would be nice to bring out something more often, it would be better to produce fewer, but higher quality publications. The workshops that have been held so far, focussed specifically on the publication cycle, and the lay out of articles, and the next few would concentrate on darkroom skills and organising the printing itself. At this point, most of the articles have been written, and after sub-editing should be going to be type set in the immediate future. Lay out, and printing should be in the next week, or on the weekend, and we hope to distribute the finished product during the last week of term.

Media has also taken on the UCT; ECC T-shirt, but we must still finalise a design, and the T-Shirt, plus a poster for the CAS are projects that will follow as soon as the publication has been done.

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF IVAN TOMS

who goes on trial on Monday 28 February for refusing to serve in the SADF.

We support Dr Ivan Toms' right to refuse to participate in the SADF.

We believe that as a doctor working in impoverished communities in Cape Town, he has demonstrated his commitment to working for a better South Africa. As a result of his experiences as a conscript and his experiences of SADF involvement in Crossroads, Ivan has decided he cannot in conscience report for his camp.

We support ECC's demands that the authorities should offer alternative national service for people like Ivan. This alternative national service should be:

- available to all who in good conscience cannot serve in the SADF
- the same length as military service
- offered not just in state institutions, but also welfare and religious bodies.



ENDORSED BY:

Dr S Saunders, Vice-Chancellor
Prof. P Horn, Dean, Faculty of Arts
Prof Mike Savage, Head of Dept of Sociology
J R Green, Chair of UCT Academic Staff Association
Prof Colin Bundy
Cameron Dugmore, UCT SRC President
Steve Kromberg, NUSAS National President
Ian J Koenigsfest, Director UCT Radio
Kate Savage and Lise Bosman, Editors of "VARSITY"
Prof. I Bunting, Dean of Social Science Faculty
Islamic Society
Architectural Students Society
Law Students Council
South African Union of Jewish Students
SHAWCO

Students Engineering Council
Engineers Against Apartheid
Medical Students Council
UCT branch of UAWU
Arts Students Council
Progressive Society
UCT Radio
Progressive Education Group
Young Christian Students
Social Science Students Council
Mike Kwenaita, SATISCO Chair UCT
Bev Wrighton, SHAWCO President
Esther Miller, Head Student Fuller Hall
Philip Struckman, Head Student Smuts Hall
NUSAS UCT

ECC

END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN

Green Level
Students' Union
University of Cape Town
1 March 1988

Dear

1988 looks like it is going to be a busy and exciting year for the End Conscription Campaign! The enclosed minutes from our first general body meeting give some indication of our activities ahead.

Our major action for the year is a national campaign culminating with alternative service projects around the time of the August call-up. The ACTION FOR ALTERNATIVE NATIONAL SERVICE CAMPAIGN has strong practical demands: that alternative non-military national service be available to ALL national servicemen, in church and welfare organisations as well as government departments.

By the time this letter reaches you, it is possible that Dr. Ivan Toms will have spent his first night in prison. Ivan has been on trial for refusing to do camps in the SADF. In the enclosed pamphlet he explains why he made this decision. There will be a vigil in Christ Church, Kenilworth on the night of his sentence - his first night in prison. This will probably be Friday 4 March.

UCT ECC events in the next few weeks include:

- Conscription Advice Service workshop Thursday 3 March 4.30p.m. ECC room, Green level
- Culture subcommittee supper Thursday 3 March 5.30p.m. Sports Centre parking lot
- Media subcommittee publication workshop Wednesday 2 March 6.30p.m. SRC subcommittee room Green level

Please feel welcome to attend any of these. Also UCT ECC may like to build a float for this year's Rag procession on Sat. 12 March (details will be available later.) We are also planning a weekend-away during March.

We especially urge you to come to our first education workshop of the year on Monday 7 March at 5.00p.m. in the subcommittee room on Green level of the Students' Union. We will look at where the End Conscription Campaign came from, and explore the potential an anti-conscription movement has in Apartheid South Africa today. It promises to be an interesting and thought-provoking evening for all of us wanting to know more about the ECC. See you there!!

Yours sincerely

Jane
Jane van der Riet (Education and Training Officer)



It depends
whose side of
the story
you hear...



Join UCT ECC!

ECC consists of three subcommittees:

- * Culture sub-committee plans concerts, guerilla theatre, film festivals, art exhibitions, cabaret and other cultural events.
- * Media sub-committee is responsible for ECC's media profile through posters, pamphlets and other exciting media ideas.
- * Contact sub-committee aims to expand ECC's alliance of campus organisations and provides liaison between ECC and other groups.



In 1988 ECC's major exciting events will be

- * National launch of a "Know Your Rights" booklet
- * Know Your Rights meetings before the August call-up
- * Alternative service projects in communities all over the country to demonstrate what we believe true national service should be.

Join UCT ECC by coming to an introductory Cheese and Wine Evening

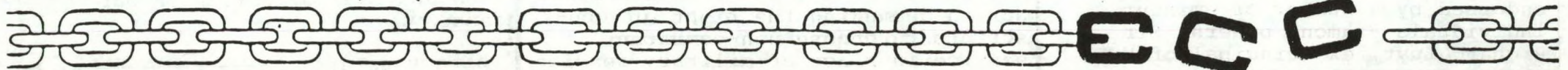
on : TUESDAY 23 FEBRUARY, 6.00 pm

at : Red Level, Students' Union

or phone Judy Rogers at 650-3538.

We have an office on Green Level in Students' Union - come and visit us anytime!

So what
is the End
Conscription
Campaign
anyway?



What ECC isn't

So you don't like ECC?
You think it is



no

ECC is a campaign focussing on the issue of conscription into the SADF. It has never been illegal, although State of Emergency regulations have restricted its activities.

ECC is not aligned to any political grouping and has the support of many people with a wide range of political beliefs.

ECC is an alliance of legal organisations working for peace in South Africa; including church groups like the Anglican Board for Social Responsibility, Civil Rights groups like the Black Sash and youth groups like Nusas and the Young Progressives. ECC has also had its aims endorsed by a number of eminent individuals - among others, Sir Richard Luyt, ex-Principal of UCT.

What? Isn't ECC...?

So you feel unsure about ECC?
You think it might be



no

ECC poses constructive alternatives to the National Party's version of "national service". ECC believes that military solutions cannot solve South Africa's problems.

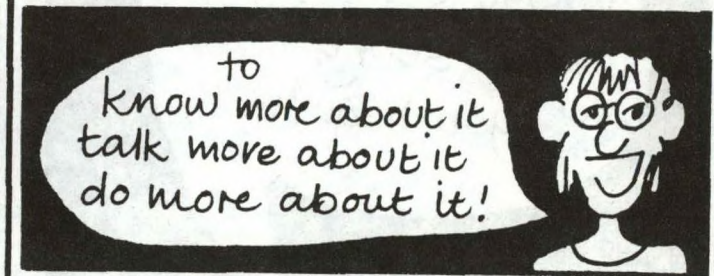
ECC is relevant to all South Africans. Either it is us who are called-up into the SADF, or it is our friends and family. All of us are concerned about our young men, whether in Angola or in the townships, and about the people they are forced to fight to protect apartheid.

ECC is not anti-conscripts. We represent conscripts' right
* to choose not to serve in the SADF
* or to do non-military national service.

ECC is neither naive nor cranky in striving to lessen the waste of time, money, talents and above all, lives in the war the government has forced on all South Africans. Nor in demanding the right of conscripts to choose non-combatant service in place of military service.

What ECC is

So you do like ECC?
Then perhaps you want



yes

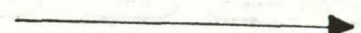
ECC's main aim is to bring about a change in the law regarding compulsory military service in South Africa. It believes that people should be given the right to choose how they are to serve their country.

ECC has 15 branches spread throughout South Africa and 58 affiliate organisations nationally.

ECC offers positive alternatives to the present form of military service. Through community-based projects in its 'Working for a Just Peace' campaign, ECC demonstrated that national service can benefit all the people of South Africa.

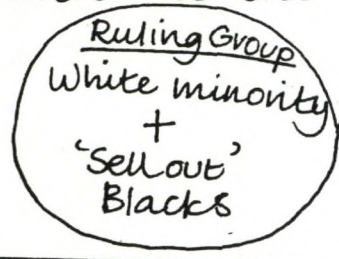
Decisions within ECC are made democratically by members of its sub-committees and affiliate organisations.

ECC welcomes all those who are concerned about the effects of conscription and militarisation in our country.

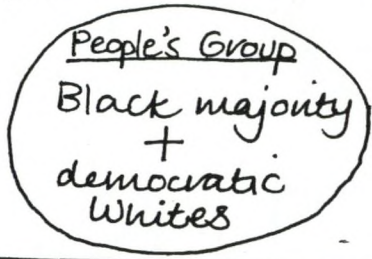
Contact us at : 

Why we organise around **Conscription** or the story of how ECC was born or an introduction to the jargon

1. Characterise the conflict in South Africa



vs.



These are the **OBJECTIVE CONDITIONS**

(what there is in society)

MAJOR CONTRADICTION "What's a contradiction?"
"A difference of interests!"

2. How are whites disadvantaged by Apartheid?
Fear, lack of freedom of speech, moral trauma
..... but these don't really affect right wingers.

THE PRICE ALL WHITES HAVE TO PAY FOR APARTHEID IS... **CONSCRIPTION** (the call-up, the disruption, the potential danger, affect on family relationships etc)

FURTHER CONTRADICTION

The **CONTEXT** of ECC's birth

1. Very sketchy history of struggle in South Africa in the last decade or so.

- silence in the 1960's
- worker's strikes from 1973
- Soweto 1976
- schools' boycotts, growth of trade unionism in early 80's
- mass mobilisation - women's, students', workers', community organisations form → UDF, 1983
- Repression: troops sent into Sebokeng, 1984

2. Very sketchy history of the background to ECC's formation

1973: SACC and other churches pass anti-SADF resolutions

late 70's: individual objectors go to prison

1979 conscientious Objectors Support Groups set up

1982 breakthrough: Christians and lefties work together

1983 Blash Sash calls for an end to conscription

1983 New Law: only religious pacifists allowed to object

CONCLUSIONS

• The Apartheid government needs an army to fight for Apartheid - uses white men for that army. Moral/Political dilemma for many men and women

→ **CONSCRIPTION IS THE ISSUE** to white people around in the white communities



These are the **SUBJECTIVE CONDITIONS** (what we do)

Why we organise around **CONSCRIPTION** etc
part 2!!!

1 WHO IS AFFECTED BY CONSCRIPTION ? HOW ?
WHO IS MOST AFFECTED ?

our constituency

2. 50% HOW DO WE REACH ALL THESE PEOPLE ?

Why is this way of working so powerful ?

3. Whadda we mean by ...

PRINCIPLES

STRATEGY

TACTICS

4. What are we trying to achieve ?

our goals
the end

The UCT END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN was formed in February 1987. It is an exciting and lively organisation with plenty of activities planned for 1988.

Different areas of work to get involved in include Culture (planning concerts, guerilla theatre, Cabaret and film festivals), Media (posters, pamphlets, screening t-shirts) and Liaison/Contact with various groups on campus.

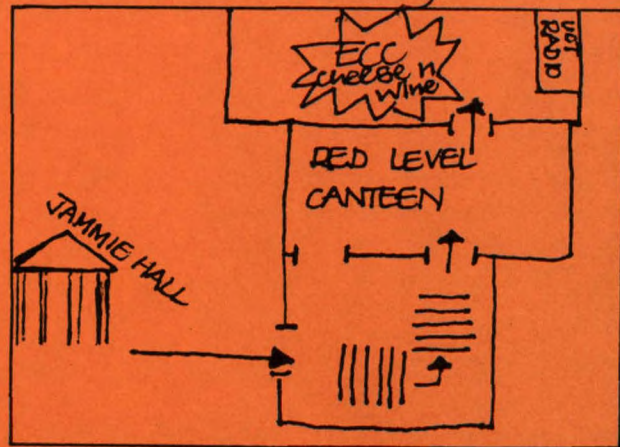
Come along to find out more about ECC, we look forward to meeting you!

VENUE 3rd floor, Students Union Building

Red Level

TIME : 6.00pm

DATE : 23 FEB



For any further details or if transport is required, contact Judy Rogers at 6503538, between 9.00 am and 3.00 pm.

introducing

Uct
ecc

at a
cheese + wine
evening
on tues 23 feb at 6pm
on red level

Collection Number: AG1977

END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN (ECC)

PUBLISHER:

Publisher:- Historical Papers Research Archive

Location:- Johannesburg

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