

David Bartlett's final report

A PERSPECTIVE ON THE
1979 U.N.B. STUDENT
UNION

The council and executive are now well installed and starting to develop goals and priorities. The intent of this report, if it is to be successful, is to offer some insights through the use of hindsight.

The theme of last year, if one can be singled-out, was that of fine-tuning and tidying-up. The minutes of S.R.C. meetings will show how much time was spent up dating and correcting the By-Laws and Regulations because of incompetence and ineptitude. This is a Vice-Presidential duty. I expect the job will be more competently handled this year.

Another area of revision has centered on the Student Disciplinary Committee, although not completed during my period in office. Simply said, the S.D.C. Constitution presently, is lengthy, unnecessarily complicated document without enough priority on continuity. Thus in past, the S.D.C. has ranged from a quasi-court with reasonable adjudication of cases (as in this year) to a sad state where legal procedures and aspiring "Perry Mason's" neglect the intent of the while exercise, ie justice.

A campus Discipline Code covering the student court, the place of the Campus Police and also defining a standard set of rules applicable to campus is being developed by the S.R.C. and the Dean of Student's Office. The proposed U.N.B. Code is based on the pattern used by the University of Western Ontario and should be ready in a rough-draft form soon. Councilors in particular should study this document in detail when it becomes available. When an accep-

table document is finally agreed upon, there are plans to have the Universities Board of Governors ratify it and thus give it their show of support. The final document should be as free of inherent problems as humanly possible. As the University of Western Ontario, the Code was published as a supplement in their student newspaper.

The executive of the Student Union is now composed of a President, Comptroller, one Vice President, and an Assistant Comptroller (without an executive or council vote). This is the model which was appropriate for years before 1976 and again now. I fully expect (perhaps naively, because I did not really ever have a Vice-President(s)) that the system will work better with only one. I note here that this was a recommendation from Steve Berube's final report. However I will also note that we did not rush into this decision, but rather reached the same conclusion and acted on it.

The staff of the Student Union is composed of three: (1) President's Secretary for 32 weeks/yr. (2) Bookkeeper for 42 weeks/yr. (3) Administrator for 52 weeks/yr. The Union is very lucky to employee personnel who accepts less than year-round employment. This alone contributes to a significant saving compared with other possible arrangements. The Student Union Office is a service operation of the U.N.B. Student Union Inc. It provides the needed services to clubs, organizations and students. However the peaks and troughs of student service demand found in this type of operation are unavoidable. Suffice to say that seeds are now being euphemistically planted which should produce tangible results for students within the next

year.

A large portion of the President's time is spent attending meetings inside and outside of the University community. This is a valuable and essential to students if coherent objectives and goals are to be achieved. The university is after-all, there for the students. The university needs intelligent student input. They cannot guess our needs. But this is only one side of the Presidents job. The other side is external visibility. In whatever manner my job is judged, my external visibility was not a strong point.

Relations between the SRC executive and the student campus media were often strained. The most controversial subject centered on the performance of Scott Cronshaw as Comptroller. The year-end statement showed that despite political pressure, he managed and completed the Geoff Worrell Budget in a responsible manner. As promised, in the creation of this year's budget, monies were set aside for the CHSR-FM capital expenditures. The Comptroller has responsibilities to the budget in place when he/she arrives. The job is in itself a large commitment but last year it was made unnecessarily more difficult by the press.

Happily, the U.N.B. Student Union is on its way to having a student FM stereo radio station. Since the original application of August 24, 1979, correspondence between the

CRTC (Canadian Radio Television Commission) and Doug Varty, Station Director in consultation with the S.R.C. President has taken place. The major change in application will be the applicant. Because of an Order in Council of the federal cabinet in 1969 which prohibits any member of a Canadian owned radio station's Board of Directors from being anything other than Canadian, the U.N.B. Student Union Inc. has made application to incorporate an entity called 'CHSR-FM Inc.'. The executive of the station was formerly the S.R.C. executive which has no provision for disallowing any U.N.B. student from becoming S.R.C. politically active. The Board of Directors of the proposed company will be the S.R.C. executive except in the case of a non-Canadian(s) holding S.R.C. executive positions, in which case, Council shall appoint a Canadian(s) as an alternate(s).

The next C.R.T.C. hearings in the Maritimes are scheduled for February. If everything goes as scheduled, CHSR-FM stereo should be a reality by next September. Over the air, the station will be available to all the students who now pay for it. The chances for community involvement will be markedly increased. The promise of performance is intended to serve the university community. Because of U.N.B.'s physical position on a hill and the university's permission


to place the transmitter on the roof of Magee House, we as students will get a service which should reach virtually every student without the associated costs of a radio tower. This great value is enhanced further when the free labour of committed students is included.

The other major student service organization is the Brunswickan. This year they have appeared to have even less regular staff in years previous. I will not use the work apathy to describe the lack of participation because I do not believe it is true. The task of writing and producing a weekly newspaper is no small job. The people who are involved often find themselves doubling or tripling the jobs they do. Without slighting any individual, the end result is that something gives and this is quality. Ideally, a given writer should not produce more than one article per week. One researched, well written article per week is a lot of work. Most students take their academics seriously and also allow themselves leisure time. There are only a few willing to give all of their leisure time.

The Brunswickan needs a larger active staff but not a staff of people who do everything. If someone new comes in the door, he/she should be given one assignment to do. What is needed, is a large number

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