

NEWS

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Sexual harrassment

by Shelly Nelson
NEWS EDITOR



YOU DO IT! HE LOOKS
LIKE A TOAD TO ME

Grad Class gets it

By HEATHER SCOTT

What started as a subdued meeting quickly changed pace as approximately seventy-five members of the graduating class entered the gallery. The students were there to give support to the class budget which was to be presented that evening.

The president of the graduating class, Wayne Jared, spoke on behalf of the grad. students. Along with the budget itself, Mr. Jared had 360 signatures of grad. students supporting a graduating class budget. Jared spoke of the grad. class's desire for financial assistance now and previously. Events of past years, such as a limousine service, had to be abandoned due to lack of financing. Jared told the SRC that basic needs for the grad class, such as photocopying, has been paid for out of the pockets of the students themselves.

Doug Burgess, VP Finance, has stated that the graduating class executive brought on their financial problems "by pushing for more than council was intending to give, they lost more than they intended to give up."

The grad. class has revised their budget three times due to inaccuracies in expenditures. On the proposed budgets bands were listed for \$6000. During the February 7 Finance Committee meeting, Mr. Jared told the committee that he had no lists of bands or their costs

and that the \$6000 figures was at least what the grad. class needed for bands. A few days after the meeting, contracts arrived addressed to the UNB Student Union Inc.. The figures in these contracts, which were dated February 4, made it obvious that the grad. class budget was created with over-estimated figures. The contracts also brought forth the fact that the grad. class had knowledge of accurate, already negotiated, band costs during the Finance Committee meeting on February 7.

The costs for the prom in the grad. class budgets were also checked into by Burgess and it was soon discovered that their figure again was inaccurate. The prom costs, as established by the Fredericton Motor Inn, would be \$5000 maximum. The room and electrician costs would be free and the class would pay for food and decorations. Burgess also noted that the buffet would be served around midnight and that it was unlikely the full grad class would be present for this. An estimate of 600-700 people was used to determine food costs, which was established to \$10-\$12 per dozen people per bite, 100 people would be \$900 per bite.

With these budget problems now overcome the grad class has been given a budget and a loan which will make the grad class events possible and memorable.

Sexual harrassment... it is something that is heard about often, but until it happens to someone close, or perhaps even to yourself, they are just words.

This article will not, nor should it attempt to exploit isolated incidences of sexual harrassment. Instead it will bring to light the fact that it *does* occur, and the steps that can be taken if one is confronted with it.

The procedures that are followed when a sexual harrassment complaint is followed upon are as follows:

1. Initial Contact - The victim may either talk or write to the person who is perceived as the harasser, "to make him/her aware that his/her behaviour is offensive." If this is not advisable or convenient, the victim should contact the Personnel Services, Room 102, Physics Building. There are two Personnel Officers, male and female, who are willing to handle complaints.
2. Appointment - An appointment will then be set up at the earliest possible time, and shall be kept strictly confidential.
3. Role of the Personnel Officer - The Personnel Officer "shall be a neutral point of contact who can neither act without the complainant's consent nor refuse to aid the complainant." The victim will be informed of the steps involved in pursuing a formal complaint.
4. If a formal complaint is to be filed, the Personnel Officer notifies the University Administration about such a matter.
5. The University Administration then informs the individual accused of harassment that a formal complaint is being lodged against him, providing the name(s) of the complainant(s).
6. The Administrator investigates the allegations and may set his/her own procedures. These include; a) interviews with both the alleged harasser and the complainant; b) interviews with any witnesses; c) documentation of the situation; d) maintenance of confidentiality; e)

recommendations for action.

Although this is the policy in compressed form, it should give the public a general outline of the procedures involved.

The Dean of Students, Dean Eagle, stated that as far as he knew, the policy was being well implemented. This feeling was echoed by various other administrators, including the V.P. Academic, Personnel Officers Mr. Horn and Mrs. Shipley, and Dean Kidd, although the latter stated that "it is not as good as it could be."

According to the UNB Policy and Procedure, sexual harassment is defined as "unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favours, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature." This is an issue that is taken very seriously by the university, and all parties that were interviewed expressed concern over such a pressing matter.

Dr. Burrige, University VP Academic, stated in an interview with the *Brunswickan* that he received no more than two or three complaints a year. However, an informed source revealed that although in a technical sense Burrige is right, "he is personally aware that the existence of more than one or two sexual harassment cases per year." The source went on to state that even more are "swept under the carpet," "deferred," or "settled."

When new faculty are hired, any previous sexual harass-

ment charges are not even looked into. Only references and the quality of their academic achievement are considered. Burrige feels that this disregard, does not, in any way, add to the number of harassment cases.

It is interesting to note that in the years previous to 1983, no guidelines or policies were available for cases involving sexual harassment. Before this, the complaints had been included in other academic matters. In 1982, Burrige developed a one-page set of guidelines and from this the present policy and procedures evolved.

Poverty

By BARRY PARKINSON
Brun/CHSR Hybrid

Please note that this is an adaptation of a documentary which I prepared for CHSR. When/if it is broadcast is/was up to the powers that BE.)

Poverty is something one hears of in this city, but does not always encounter. There are news reports about unemployment in the Miramichi region or in Newfoundland, but the media rarely focuses on the jobless in this area. We hear of starving people in other countries, but not of the malnourished of Fredericton.

Senate meeting

By CHRIS WARD

The University Senate met on Thursday night, and many of the agenda items were directly relevant to students.

In response to a question President Downey stated that 58.9% of students received 3CF rebates. And, to date, the students have contributed \$68,120 towards the 3CF.

A motion approved by Senate was that no student should be required to write 3 exams in any 24 hour period. And that, if no other arrangement is acceptable, that the Registrar will permit the students to write at another time.

The Senate also called for a University wide system of pre-registration to be adopted as soon as possible.

In addition, the Senate approved the establishment of a certificate in Atlantic Regional Studies. This is an enrichment programme to enable students to broaden their understanding of the Atlantic Region. This certificate is offered to students with an undergraduate degree or to mature students.

However, all items approved by the Senate must also be approved by the Board of Governors. The Board does not normally disagree with a Senate decision on Academic matters.

The Senate meets again on April 9th, but any enquiries about Senate can be presented to the VP Academic, Mike Bennett, or his Academic Commission.