

B of G candidates stress unity

by Neal Watson

Two perceptions of what approach the student Board of Governors rep. should take in presenting student issues dominated an interview with two of the three candidates for the position yesterday.

B of G incumbent Jim Shinkaruk, seeking a second term, said the position required someone who was an independent and not tied to a political slate.

Sarah Wright, the B of G candidate for the Progressive Alternative slate, stressed the importance of representing a unified executive.

The third candidate for the B of G seat, SU President Floyd Hodgins, was invited to attend the interview, but failed to show-up.

"I don't believe the SU executive has been unified this year," said Wright. "With the support of the executive members, you can be more effective in representing issues."

But Shinkaruk said he had been effective as an independent and stressed the importance of continuity in representation.

"Students feel I have done a credible job," he said. "My points

are listened to, I am a credible member (of the Board)."

Shinkaruk said he was running again because he had the support and many students had approached him to.

Both candidates emphasized the importance of cooperation with the university in dealing with issues.

"Confrontation is not effective," said Wright.

On the issue of government funding, Wright called for a new funding policy and raised the possibility of making students' incidental fees tax-deductible.

The present government funding policy allows the university to raise tuition fees one and a half times the increase the government gives the university in the base operating grant.

Shinkaruk said the government was trying to fund the university

the best it could under the conditions, but "they are not giving enough."

When questioned if she felt students were aware of the B of G position and its relevance, Wright said after a week of classroom speaking she felt many students were unaware of the position and suggested seminars to improve the profile of the B of G.

Shinkaruk defended his position and said he routinely reported to students' council.

"I talk to students all the time," he said. "They take if for granted I am doing a good job."

Wright criticised Shinkaruk for this and said he should be approaching students for their views.

"They shouldn't have to take it for granted that you are doing a good job."

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Brings made his decision last Friday, after receiving two letters of inquiry about Hodgins' column.

One letter was from David Koch, while the other was from Peter

Sesek, one of the presidential candidates, Rob Lunney, campaign manager of Progressive Alternative and John Cameron, VP External candidate for the Ballas slate.

Repairs

by Mark Olyan

A new comprehensive consultants' report, outlining the cost of all repairs to HUB mall, will be released in April or May, says A.M. Rennie, Associate VP Facilities and Services.

Originally, a consultants' report was commissioned to study the cost of repairs to the leaky dome of the mall, but after reviewing the involved costs, it was decided to order "an all-encompassing report which would report on all aspects of the building," said Rennie.

Rennie declined to reveal any figures from the first report to the Gateway.

According to Rennie, Housing and Food Services already has a plan to refurbish each of the suites in the mall.

"We know what we want to do to the suites," said Rennie. "Last year we had a trial project where eight suites in one stairwell were refurbished. They were open to tenants, and we invited their comments."

From the outset, Rennie warns that "realistically, it will be a slow process, that depends on the availability of funds by the university."

"Presently," he said, "we don't have the funds to do a total refurbishing."

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