

Batanyita clarifies matter of UNB loan to NUS

Dear Editor;

It is true that the UNB Student Union Inc., rendered financial support to the tune of \$800 to the National Union of Students (NUS) last summer. Out of that amount, \$100 was in form of grant and the remainder (\$700) is not an interest free loan to be repaid by July, 1976

as reported in the last issue of the Brunswickan.

The money loaned to NUS was subject to certain terms and conditions. The loan agreement was effective July 5, 1975 when "condition A" and "conditions B" were fulfilled. "Condition A" meant that a total of at least thirty

thousand dollars (\$30,000) in grants and loans were promised to NUS by different Universities and Colleges (members and non-members of NUS). "Condition B" meant that at least twenty-four thousand dollars of the monies promised were received by July 5, 1975.

Regarding payment of such loans to NUS the participating unions or associations agreed that upon notification from NUS that "Condition A" had been fulfilled, the unions would within seven days forward a cheque or money order for the sum loaned to the National Office of the NUS. Such money was to be held until July 5, 1975 as trustee for the benefit of the participating institutions. It was further agreed that the money

would be placed in an interim account (a separate imprest account) at the Carleton University branch of the Bank of Nova Scotia.

It was again agreed that in case "Condition B" was not fulfilled by July 9, 1975 the sum loaned would be returned immediately by cheque or otherwise to the participant union or association. However upon fulfillment on "Condition B" the trust was to be entered and the sum loaned was to be paid to NUS.

With respect to the terms of the loan the agreement between NUS and the UNB Student Union Inc., included the following:

- a) that the loan would be interest free until July 5, 1976;
- b) that the NUS would pay the participant union or association

(i.e. UNB Student Union Inc.) average Bank of Nova Scotia Savings account interest (calculated and paid semi-annually on the balance owing;

- c) That the sum loaned would be repaid to the participant student union by the NUS during the period from July 5, 1976 to July 5, 1979 at intervals and in amounts determined by the NUS; and
- d) that there would be no penalty for early repayment.

These terms clearly indicate that there is an interest free and grace period of one year. But interest will be paid for the period between July 5, 1976 and July 5, 1979 on the amount owing. Hence the loan is not interest free. Wency Batanyita SRC Comptroller



Mugwump

By TOM BENJAMIN

Journal

With general student apathy reaching new heights at this university the upcoming SRC elections have proved that many students just don't give a damn about their representation.

Twelve seats are open for the Oct. 22 election. Five seats will be filled by acclamation. Four seats have attracted no candidates. The nominations deadline for the office of vice president has been extended because only one person decided to run.

Only three of the 12 seats will be contested. Politics on this campus have degraded to such an extent that the entire electoral process has become a farce.

Council has already had serious problems in reaching a quorum at meetings. It doesn't look like the situation will improve after the fall election.

Doesn't anyone realize what students went through years ago to achieve some autonomy from the administration in running student affairs? Are we going to give up everything those students gained simply because we are too apathetic to run for office on the SRC?

Years ago all student activities were organized by the administration or faculty members. If the students here continue to have no involvement in student government we may be forced to ask the administration to step in and handle things for us. Just like high school, right kiddies?

There's a lot of money disbursed each year from the SRC coffers to finance student activities. We must have qualified people to fill the many responsible positions in our student government.

The only question is - where are we going to get them?

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A motion to increase honoraria across the board by 20 percent was defeated at a recent council meeting.

To my knowledge it has been several years since the amounts presented to deserving students have been increased. Considering the effects of inflation the money being disbursed at present is little more than a slap in the face to most recipients.

A popular activity around The Brunswickan office in the past has been to calculate how much time a student spends in the activity for which he is given an honorarium. The results are amazing - usually a few cents an hour.

Admittedly the original intention behind awarding honoraria was not that they be considered as payment for services rendered, but as a gift in recognition of participation in an area of student services.

However, there seems to be a tendency developing to use the honoraria as a form of coercion - forcing students to follow instructions or not be presented the award.

No matter what the criteria is for the awards it is time they were increased. This is one area where UNB is really falling behind other universities.

You simply cannot attract qualified personnel to a time-consuming position without some sort of reward - and the reward which attracts most students is money.

We have reached a stage in the development of student activities on this campus in which some positions require nearly as much time as a full-time job. It's time for the SRC to reconsider its whole attitude toward honoraria, and make the changes that are obviously necessary.

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It seems that there are different rules being enforced for different people on this campus. An alleged attempted theft from a photography exhibit occurred here this week, but campus security was not even informed. I wonder if the fact that the incident occurred in the faculty club influenced the handling of the matter?

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It looks like we're going to lose a student who has been very involved in student affairs on this campus. SRC vice president will be leaving this campus soon to work as a public relations officer at the Point Lepreau nuclear power plant. His career here has been marked by controversy, and it looks like his new job won't be any easier. Selling the concept of nuclear power to the residents of Dipper Harbour could be tricky.

He will present council with a brief on housing before he leaves.

Miller disgusted with council and registrar

Dear Editor:

When the smoke has cleared from the events of this week's council meeting, the final impression left to history will be an embarrassing degree of immaturity.

In an era of increasing student involvement in the forums of government and public debate, how 'our' credibility suffers in the light of such actions. I say 'our' because it is students as a group who will lose. Our society places an, in my opinion, inordinant amount of trust and respect in legislators. The result of this is legislators who are openly more concerned with the short term effects of "looking bad", rather than the longer term effects of what subject or person concerned.

I, for one feel quite cheated. Many of us have consistently defended the institution of the 'student union' with its associated council. Is it possible or even desirable to do so when this legislative body as a whole has failed to recognize even the simplest principles of honour, justice, and common law, let alone common sense?

Someone, in a recent issue of the Brunswickan, made the statement that it was unfortunate that the students didn't know what sort of "games" the union was playing with their money. At the time I took exception to such a statement, now it has gained a certain amount of credibility.

I have heard councillors indicate that the opinion of council was more important to an issue than

the opinion of the students, even individuals. It appears that 'divine right' has appeared from out of the Dark Ages in the council chambers of the University of New Brunswick. Even worse, council suddenly has gained the infinite wisdom to ignore the opinion of its advisors and lawyer. Perhaps most astonishing, council has gained the authority to blatantly violate the laws of this Country, when it tacitly expresses the opinion that any decision should be made, and can be made even if it is likely, or possible, to result in the violation of Canadian laws.

I have heard councillors use such terms as 'power', and 'control'. What absolute nonsense. Have we not a right to expect more out of the people who have been elected to represent us, and is not a part of this expectation for council to exhibit less of a tendency to think of itself, and more of a tendency to make rational decisions?

Yours truly,

J. David Miller

Editor's note: The following letter to UNB's registrar was enclosed with Miller's letter.

Mr. Brian Ingram
Registrar

Dear Sir:

As you will become aware, Mr. Warren McKenzie, SRC President was asked to resign his position based on information released by your office.

Totally disregarding the relative merits of the McKenzie situation, it absolutely shocks me that information to the academic position of a student can be obtained so freely.

It is obvious that this type of information is the property of the university to release to responsible individuals concerned with the academic situation of the student.

I would like to state quite clearly that this practice is unacceptable from any standpoint, and you can be assured that if information is unjustly released about my course work, without my permission, that I will take the strongest possible action. I would think that my feeling expressed here accurately reflects the opinion of the majority of students on this campus.

Yours truly,
J. David Miller
Post Graduate

Doherty criticized

Dear Sir:

Last week I attended a meeting of the Administration Board to present the budget of the Education Society.

The India Association of Students presented their budget before us. Copies of their budget were given to each member of the A.B. Mr. Rod Doherty, assistant comptroller of the SRC, glanced at the budget, turned to the representative of the society and asked him "Where are the tomahawks in your budget?"

I thought this to be of very poor taste especially from a man in the position of Mr. Doherty, who is supposed to be fairly representing all students on campus regardless of ethnic origin.

I ask Mr. Doherty to apologize for this statement as we have enough dog eat dog actions and prejudice in this world without bringing it on to this campus as well.

David Porter
Vice-president
Education Society UNB

Breau's position questioned

Dear Editor:

After reading the two letters to the editor last week about the practices of Cine Campus, a few questions came to my mind.

First, how is a person allowed to operate for his own financial gain against organizations such as STU Cinema and EUS? also how can a graduate student such as Gerald Breau, be allowed to hold a full time job (at Audio-Visual), run a lucrative film series and still get a \$3500.00 fellowship?

One last question, when one runs

a film series, twice a week, with two showings, and gets a full house almost every time, how does one get minimal profits, as Gerald Breau claims?

Any comments Mr. Breau?

Concerned Student.

More letters to the editor on pages 10 and 15