

# Ask not what your council can do for you!

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Wenceslaus Batanyita, leaving comptroller has submitted his final recommendations to council. The following is a summary of some of the main points of his brief.

I find it hard to believe that it is more than a year since I assumed office. This is indicative, more probably than not, of the fact that I might have measured up to my challenge and enjoyed what I was doing most of the time. I should not lead you to believe however, that the job was an easy and hurdleless one for far from that, there were good and bad times. But I stably accepted them as ups and downs of a job characterized by heavy responsibility and accountability. But there were more good times than there were bad ones.

I must say I am as happy going out of my office as I was coming in. The only difference is that I have more and better reason for feeling

copier. We also bought a bigger safe which cannot only house cash and other precious items, but also important and invaluable documents such as contracts.

Since I resent blowing ones own trumpet I will leave the evaluation of me as the SRC comptroller to your better judgment. But I must mention that I can sincerely count on the experience I gained in the position. I am very delighted to note that I enjoyed - and I am grateful for - the co-operation and following afforded me by the Administrative Board members and most council members. Also the importance of co-operation and collaboration I got from my fellow executive members need no emphasis.

The biggest asset I have acquired during my term as comptroller is FRIENDSHIP. I have enjoyed this asset and will continue to enjoy it in future. Everyone of you (students, coun-

Besides budgeting more money to enable members of SRC sponsored groups to take part in conferences and the like, some top notch speakers have been budgeted for - more benefit to students.

While on the point of more benefits to SRC fee paying students of UNB I should mention that this is the first fiscal year we (SRC) published the student Telephone Directory to be given to them free of charge. Again, although the subsidization of the 1976 yearbook is premised on other reasons (such as encouraging students to buy more of them) reducing the cost to students was no less than the rest.

**MORE COMMENTS AND ADVICE:**

I think my outgoing speech or valediction would be considered inadequate if it did not include some comments and advice.

(a) It is an unfortunate trend among councillors in particular and students in general to avoid volunteer participation in university life (activities). As an admirer of J.F.K. who said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but ask what you can do for your country", I would analogously advise you not to ask what your SRC can do for you, but to ask what you can do for your SRC. For councillors, if you are going to command the respect and confidence of the students you represent, you will have to make more sacrifice of your time and energies.

(b) Council should remember when to say "thanks" to persons who perform certain services. An attitude of thanklessness does not serve to encourage most people to contribute their best.

(c) Avoid personality clashes amongst yourselves.

(d) Remember that "sorry" never mends but it soothes a broken heart. It is good to sincerely say sorry when you know you have offended somebody either in council meetings or outside. This can enhance good relations among councillors or executives. It does not cost anything except your breath and a spec of your pride.



Newly-elected comptroller Peter Davidson worked as an assistant for Wes Batanyita before taking the position.

(motions) on the basis of what you believe in yourself. You can even owe it to your constituency close your eyes when you are voting just to make sure.

(f) Councillors should remember that differences and antagonism among SRC members arising from conflict between constituencies or between SRC and any constituency should be (among other things) as there should be no reason for council issues should be left in the council chambers.

(g) In most cases you will have to bear in mind the fact that you were elected to serve the interests of all. Except where there is a conflict between constituencies or between SRC and any constituency should be (among other things) as there should be no reason for council issues should be left in the council chambers.

(h) As councillor you are required to keep in touch with your constituencies in order to get feedback from members regarding

(i) There is need in this council to take less time in considering inconsequential matters. More time can be spent on deliberating matters that may have a long-term effect.

(j) For the SRC executive, you are dealing with councillors in particular and students in general. Such an attitude will bear fruits by bettering relations.

(k) The executive should ar-



WENCESLAUS BATANYITA - The biggest asset I have acquired during my term as comptroller is friendship.

joyous and proud now than then. I was happy when I was coming in because I had won an election and was ready to face a new challenge squarely. But now that I am completing my term of office, I feel a sense of accomplishment because reaching the end, let alone achieving success, is not all that easy. As I have already indicated, the SRC comptrollers job is quite difficult. I submit it is next to impossible to please everybody; poetically speaking - 'the comp is subject to blame due to claim'. Which means that it is not easy to meet all the claims (demands) to everyone's satisfaction.

Today I look back with satisfaction for what I have done during my term of office since I ran for this position on the ticket of experience. My experience cam in handy in regards to office management and workers treatment. My immediate concern for the student union workers was that of making sure they were secure, happy and motivated. I felt it imperative for the student union to assure the workers that we care about their well being now and in the future.

Generally the SRC office is in better shape now than when I first came in. But I should point out that I cannot claim all the praise, since most decisions were made by the executive. As you may have noted we now have a xerox machine which replaced the A-B photo

cillors and A.B. members) who consider me a friend, could not have given anything better. I am sure friendship will prevail. Albeit I should leave the assessment of my work to you, I would like to remind you that I attended all regularly constituted SRC meetings except one emergency one. I also called all AB meetings except on three occasions where events could not allow.

As you know one of the comptrollers duties and responsibilities is putting the SRC budget together. My concern in this year's budget has not only been the efficient and effective allocation and application of funds but also to enable the students who pay their fees benefit as much as possible - in one form or another. That is why I placed a big emphasis on the financial support of organizations which are characterized by "publicness" in benefiting the students (the tax payers). Chief among such organizations are included The Brunswickan and College Hill Student Radio (CHSR). I see no reason why our weekly newspaper and radio station should not rank among the best in Canada, in terms of services and facilities. This hope stands as a testimony to this year's increased expenditures respecting the two organizations. I should also mention that most other organizations, clubs and societies have enjoyed an increase in their budgetary allocations this year.

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