

The problem in the SUB

Store," that is a farce. It is a situation where a landlord has set up opposition to its tenants. Let me ask the following questions and some obvious concerns:

1. How can privately owned businesses compete on price against a Crown Corporation which is funded by the students, taxpayers, and the tenants' rent money?
2. Who signs for the line-of-credit at the bank to run the Exchange? Bosnitch personally? or student funding?
3. Does the Exchange pay rent? Bank loans? Sales tax? Income tax? Employee benefits?
4. With respect to renewing leases and calling for public tenders on the concessions, what business could incur major capital expenditures for equipment to run an operation from year to year?

Bosnitch is playing a different set of rules and uses public funds to support these activities. Then he wonders why there is a problem.

We can always be assured Bosnitch will be supported by public funds because he could not possibly survive in a self-sufficient private life. In the 1990's if he graduates, he will be at UNB doing something, or the provincial government with his arm around Hatfield, or the federal government hiding behind the Mulroneys.

David Carling

Congratulations to Bruns

Dear Mr. Mazerolle:

Congratulations on your attractive and effective new format and layout for *The Brunswickan*. It has very successfully enhanced the readability and accessibility of the contents.

Your November 9 Editorial pages are especially good, in my opinion. They present a balanced viewpoint (as your new Editorial policy requires), and the Editorial and Mugwump Journal are very well-written, demonstrating solid communication skills.

I commend you on your formulation of a simple but firm Editorial Policy. I am sure you will find its principles a helpful guide in the months to come.

Please convey my compliments to your editors and staff.

Sincerely yours,

Susan Montague

GSA president resigns

To All Full Time Graduate Students:

I would like to take the opportunity offered by the Graduate Student Association's 1984-85 annual meeting to tender my resignation as President effective February 1, 1985. After two enjoyable terms in this position I feel that it is time to allow someone else with fresh ideas and energy to take over the reigns of power. I feel that I have accomplished most of my goals and have made the GSA a viable social and political organization representing the needs of all graduate students.

From now until my resignation takes effect I would like to commence work on one more task - the formation of a Graduate Student Union. The need for a union, distinct and separate from the undergraduate dominated SRC, is obvious to me because of the fundamental differences between us and other students. The graduate student is the only member of the university community engaged in all aspects of academic life - learning, teaching and original research. Being older and more independent than the average undergraduate it is hard for the SRC to appreciate our particular social needs.

The advantages to the graduate student of a GSU are too numerous to provide a complete list here but include:

(a) The control of all student fees paid by graduate students by graduate students. Instead of negotiating with the SRC for a share of their revenues as we do at present, the SRC would have to negotiate with the GSU for a share of our revenue. This would give graduate students much better bargaining power which should translate into better graduate student facilities and social events.

(b) Collective agreements could be negotiated with the university concerning working conditions, pay, benefits and grievance procedures. When was the last time you heard about someone being abused by their supervisor or DOGS?

(c) In the future, the GSU might be able to provide its own facilities for the exclusive use of graduate students.

In order to accomplish this goal I would like to suggest that the GSA executive form a committee of three members to look into the procedure for separating from the SRC and for holding a referendum in which all graduate students would get a chance to express his opinion on this new scheme. I would ask the graduate students present here

to vote on whether they approve of the formation of this committee. I believe that this is such an important issue that the executive must have some feedback from a wider group of members before proceeding.

Finally I would like to close this letter by saying what a pleasure it has been to be the president of this association, and to assure all of you that I will continue to be an active member for the rest of my term of office.

Yours sincerely,
David Zimmerman

Credibility destroyed

Dear Mr. Lethbridge:

I am appalled by your proposal (Mugwump Journal, November 2, 1984 issue of the *Brunswickan*) to refuse any SRC member or any persons "too closely associated with the SRC" - your judgement, of course - the right to submit articles or have anything to do with the *Brunswickan*. You suggest that in defending his political actions from your vicious attacks, John Bosnitch and his supporters are "intimidating" your right to self-expression. In other words, you feel that your monopoly on a medium through which to defame Mr. Bosnitch is threatened.

You seem to use your influential position as editor of the *Brunswickan* to launch a "smear" campaign against Mr. Bosnitch.

You state in your commentary that "most of the editorial board of the *Brunswickan* have severe criticism for Bosnitch's actions and political tactics". You have the right to express these opinions, just as Bosnitch and his supporters have the right to defend his actions. What does the word "democracy" mean to you, Mr. Lethbridge?

You have accused Mr. Bosnitch of dictatorship, how then would you describe your proposal?

Instead of restoring the credibility of the *Brunswickan*, you're about to destroy it completely.

Sincerely,
Christine Crane

Not-a-member-of-and-in-no-way-associated-with-the-SRC.

CAREER LINE

By Natalie Bull

Once upon a time, anyone with a solid grade seven education under his belt and a little ambition in his heart could take the world by storm. Scores of bankers, entrepreneurs and millionaires were proud of learning school at age 12 to pull themselves up "by the bootstraps." But nowadays - let's face it - bootstraps are no longer in fashion, university graduates are a dime a dozen and the job market is in pretty bad shape. Even fields once thought of as sure bets - engineering, for example - are feeling the crunch. Little wonder, then, that people are becoming concerned about the value of a degree, a hefty investment of time, effort and money that seems as common as a high school diploma. Who can think about taking the world by storm when even a Ph.D is no guarantee of a job when you get out of school?

All things considered, however, even in terms of the job market, a university education is still far from being a pointless endeavor. For one thing, a degree is more and more becoming a basic requirement just to get a foot in the door at any level in many companies. After all, the number of applicants must be narrowed down somehow. And although it may be frustrating to take a job for which you are over-educated, you will always have that degree in your pocket qualifying you for top-of-the-ladder positions (and better paycheques) when they become available.

But it is somewhat nearsighted to think only in terms of a simple return on investment, where several years and thousands of dollars are traded for the skills and credentials to fill neatly one slot in the job market. Yes, a B.Sc in Chemistry entitles the graduate to be called a chemist. But a bachelor's degree represents much more than mere technical knowledge of one subject, for in earning it you cultivate a multiple of functional skills - problem solving, listening effectively, locating data, interpreting and organizing information, for example - that broadens the scope of a degree considerably.

The student of chemistry, then, may choose a profession directly related to the area of study, and work as a chemist, lab technician or pesticide scientist. But the functional skills acquired in the course of earning a degree qualify the student for a number of other fields; the pharmaceutical, computer, and telecommunications industries, Public Utilities, Health Services, like the Addiction Research Foundation, CUSO, and the R.C.M.P. Forensic Laboratories are just a few of the directions in which a chemistry degree can lead.

This long list of possible careers stemming from one degree is certainly reassuring. But with all the competition for jobs nowadays, it is no longer sufficient to go to university, choose a potentially lucrative area of specialization, take the required courses and descend upon the job market four years later. First of all we should not ignore the importance of selecting courses wisely. "Easy" electives are tempting, but even basic exposure to French or word processing, for example, looks great on the resume. In addition, experience or competence in other areas - photography, public speaking, involvement in extracurricular activities like sports, student government, undergraduate societies and clubs - expands your career options and increases your marketability upon graduation. And of course, the "contacts" you make in these activities and in summer jobs and volunteer work certainly will not hinder your rise in the working world.

A university education is still a valuable thing to have for making a living. Getting the facts about where your course of study can take you (the Career Information Library at Counselling Services is a good place to start) and recognizing the skills you have or can cultivate to supplement its worth can make it one of the most profitable investments you ever make.

Counselling Services
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