

Fees

At a clandestine meeting last week with a high ranking official of our SRC and the Co-op last week, the subject of fee increases reared its ugly head.

The gentlemen stated that something had to be done. They said, that at their appropriate meetings that they would put forth motions 'asking' the Administration to let them know what was happening.

However, due to the foul weather and other poor planning nothing was accomplished.

Too bad. We should have the right to know how much we are expected to pay for the privilege of attending this institution of higher learning next year, as soon as possible.

The original rumour had it that Residence fees were on the increase. Now there is talk that tuition fees will be raised. This SHOULD concern everyone, not just on campus people.

The Board of Governors meeting is to be held around the middle of March. A great time for students to get upset and complain about something, just a couple of weeks before exams. Everyone will be running scared about passing this year, let alone

wanting to do anything about next year. If fees do go up, all the complaining will be done in September when it's too late to do anything. Smart move on their part don't you think?

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By the way what are we going to get in return? Parity on committees dealing with the employment of professors? A heeded voice in the arrangement of curriculum? Better health care, better transportation?

Who knows?

One excuse that might be used to pacify us could be that 'it's because the professorial staff wants a raise'. To quote one professor "That's a great way to keep the students and staff at each other's throats".

Now could be a good chance for our new Council and Executive to take some "concrete steps" in going to bat for the student body where it really affects them. In the pocket book.

Editorial responsibility

During election week, we caused a bit of fuss with our Special Edition - some people, especially the candidates, vehemently condemned us for what we did - We were told that we were "irresponsible." Others said we were playing with politics and power when we shouldn't have done so, and that the articles on the candidate's were one person's opinion.

We felt (and still feel) that what we did was necessary. To do otherwise, to ignore the election, would have been truly irresponsible. This we chose not to do. Many of you have not and will not have much of an opportunity to find out what the candidates are really like. So we told you.

And what we said wasn't just one person's opinion. It had the backing of the Bruns executive, and said something that had to be said.

To those of you who would condemn or chastise us for speaking the way we did about the candidates, we would say that people running for office are in the public eye and must expect to have articles written about them. If we wrote articles just to please Presidential candidates we wouldn't be fulfilling our responsibility to you the student, who will have a new President to guide your Council and manage your money through the next year.

We believe that any candidate wanting to spend your money should be closely scrutinized, we did just that and will continue to do so.

Most newspapers back candidates in elections. For example: the University of Western Ontario Gazette had a few comments along that line, as did other newspapers across the country. The Gleaner is traditionally Conservative, and just as traditionally the Toronto Star is Liberal. The Brunswickan has had comments on the elections before - we felt that this election also warranted the comments we gave.

That leaves us with freedom of the press and responsibility. If you think we are irresponsible, let us know. Write us, phone us or come in to see us, but for God sake let us know. You might get a reply that displeases you. We are defending our right, just as you are defending yours.

We felt that we were right about the special Issue, so right, in fact that if the need arises, we will do it again next year.

Some people might say that the SRC should legislate against the paper taking this type of stand. Warning. Council can legislate anything, but enforcing it is another. The BRUNSWICKAN staff can ignore any attempt by Council to legislate editorial policy.

And we will.

To those who have received "Editor's notes" after their letters. Please do not take the remarks too personally. They are not meant as insults, but merely replies to what we felt were unjust criticisms, or as an explanation. What we are saying is don't be afraid to let us know your opinions. After all you must have opinions about something, whether it be about an article we have printed, or something that is bothering you.

Dear Sir:

In your special edition of Feb. 14, Don Allen put on a fine display of character assassination. Ridicule, sarcasm and contempt ooze from his critique of the four presidential candidates.

I can only sympathize with Kelsey, Fisher, Kingston and Neale, who at least have guts enough to run for SRC president. I can just imagine how the interviews took place - the candidates trying to impress Allen but only providing him with the ammunition to destroy them.

I couldn't help but get the feeling that Allen considers himself superior to these peo-

ple. I note that wherever a candidate had a policy or opinion opposed to that of Allen it was quickly made clear to the reader whose opinion was the better!

In conclusion, I would say that Allen expects too much of an SRC president. One of his main beefs is that none of the candidates really has any of the answers needed to solve various problems as housing, rising fees, course evaluation, etc. Well, who has? If someone does have the answers, Mr. Allen perhaps, let's have them now.

I'm sure Roy Neale will be

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