

MPHEC proposals criticized

The Federation of New Brunswick Faculty Associations has publically criticized the recommendations of the MPHEC Financial Plan 1982-83 as "based on misleading and erroneous assumptions unsupported by analysis or background research".

In a critique contained in a letter to Premier Hatfield, Chair of the Council of Maritime Premiers, the Federation stated that even if the MPHEC had recommended increased which it considered adequate, it would still be critical of the document for its failure to provide any explanations or meaningful research. Even the little data that is used is dated and erroneous.

Enrollment projections are cited as a case in point. The critique shows that contrary to the MPHEC's contention that university enrollments are

about to decline substantially over the next ten years based on participation rates in the 18-24 age cohort, recent research indicates that the composition of university enrollments is changing significantly, leading to probable enrollment increases through the mid 80s, then probable decrease of manageable proportions before probable increases again in the mid 90s. In fact, current figures for the University of New Brunswick show a 5.6% increase in full-time enrollment; earlier figures from l'Université de Moncton indicate a 7.5% increase in enrollment on the Moncton campus alone. The MPHEC does not recommend additional assistance on account of current enrollment increases, yet the research indicates that more resources, not less will be required if the

universities are to avoid a deterioration of current levels of services.

Another example of the Plan's lack of analysis and background research occurs in the area of its operating assistance recommendation. Essentially a CPI increase, the Plan fails to account for the additional financial burden on the universities created by the shift in enrolment from low cost arts to high cost science, engineering, and business programs, or for the fact that several university administrations have granted increases in faculty and support staff salaries greater than the cost of living in order to catch up to national averages after many years of lagging behind. On the question of capital assistance, the Federation is critical of the MPHEC for failing to provide any maintenance

costs for capital projects as they are completed, and failing to give any reasons for approving or rejecting applications for capital assistance.

Finally, the Federation points out that if the MPHEC believes that its recommendations were sound, as it states in the Plan, even in years when the provincial governments did not accept them, then it only makes sense that previous years' shortfalls should be tacked on to current year recommendations. If so, the MPHEC recommendation to the New Brunswick government for 1982-83 should include an additional \$15.6 million representing the cumulative shortfall in operating assistance under the five year term of the current EPF arrangements. In other words, the MPHEC's recommendation should be for a 34.0% increase in 1982-83, not the 12.5% recommended in the Plan, just to bring the universities of New Brunswick in line with the level of support the MPHEC

itself considers essential.

Unlike previous years, the Council of Maritime Premiers did not officially accept the recommendations of the MPHEC Financial Plan 1982-83 at its 47th meeting in Hartland last week, indicating that it is up to each provincial government to announce whether or not it accepts the recommendation for operating assistance to the universities within its province. In its letter to Premier Hatfield, copies of which were sent to Premier Buchanan of Nova Scotia and Premier Lee of PEI, the Federa-

tion of New Brunswick Faculty Associations urged the New Brunswick Premier to reject the MPHEC Financial Plan by recommending operating assistance increases in line with what the universities of New Brunswick so obviously need (an additional \$15.6 million according to the MPHEC's own arguments), and to call on his fellow Premiers to do the same.

Young supported by the young

By TIMOTHY LETHBRIDGE
Brunswickan Staff

Thousands of Liberals thronged to the Aitken Centre last weekend, as Doug Young was elected leader of the New Brunswick Liberal Party.

1,324 voters cast their ballots for Young, while Joe Day, his nearest rival garnered 811 votes. Other candidates in the running were Ray Frenette and Allan Maher.

One of the major thrusts behind Young's campaign was his support by the New Brunswick Young Liberals Association, whose members had ten per cent of the delegates.

Lenny Hoyt, NBYLA president a fourth year UNB law student, said he supported Young because he, "is in a position to win," and will implement policies favorable to young people.

Young said the Young Liberals are deeply involved, and are taking increasing responsibility in politics. He said he will listen to what they have to say, and would, "prefer to have them tell me what should be done." He said the party must be very practical about the needs of young people, and said realistic programs are needed, "not rhetoric." Young added that students are looking for summer jobs and a more flexible education system, goals he would work for. "Students are basically looking for a fair break."

Glenn White, a Young Liberal who seconded Doug Young's nomination, pointed out hundreds of young people are leaving the province. He said the problems must be solved but it is only the government which can solve them. He said the Liberals under Doug Young would do this and would improve the quality of the educational system.

A gathering of the Young Liberals was planned last Saturday before the voting started. This took place, but

there was only a sparse turnout as many had been partying the night before. The organizer, who wished to remain anonymous, said the NBYLA is the largest such group in Canada with clubs in 30 ridings. They are also

organizing clubs in the universities. One is in operation at Mount Allison and there is a liberal club in the UNB law faculty. Attempts are being made to organize a club in the university at large he said.

UNB Camera Club exposition a great success

The UNB Camera Club is currently hosting its annual exhibition at Memorial Hall. There has been a large turnout

of over 200 entries this year. The entries have been judged and winners determined. The best black and white print was "Summertime" by Alain Sallard

while the top color print went to J. Edward Hurley for "Summer's Gone." Other top prize winners were Judy Kavanagh with "Women and Children" and Roger Smith with "Springhill Sunset." Taking top prizes slides were David Hosking with "BR5" and "Black Cat" by Brenda Bradley.

The Club encourages all members of the public to get out and see the exhibition. It is being held in Memorial Hall until March 10 with the reception being held from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 7.

The Camera Club would also like to take this opportunity to thank the photographers for their entries, the judges for their time, and the staff of the Art Centre for their help. Entrants are reminded that their entries can be picked up at the Memorial Hall Art Centre following the exhibition. Prizes can be collected at the reception on March 7 or when entries are picked up.

Social Club plans move

By TIMOTHY LETHBRIDGE
Brunswickan Staff

The College Hill Social Club has offered to pay for relocation to the ballroom floor. This was one of the proposals presented to the regular SRC meeting Monday by the committee studying SUB renovations (see page 7).

There was much discussion about the merits of each point. The main point of contention was should the Social Club expand laterally by extending the building, or should it move to the second floor. The club would not pay for the first option, but with the second option, the SUB would not have to pay for the renovation of a whole floor and would utilize space which is little used cur-

rently. The space now taken up by the Social Club would be probably converted into a games room.

The SUB Board will formulate space-allocation plans with their architects for next Monday's meeting. At the meeting, the SRC hopes to chose the option they prefer for the Social Club and then send the plans to a referendum late this month.

The haste in forming plans and getting them approved is necessary because any final plan will have to be approved by the board of governors, as a \$15 fee will be levied to pay for the renovations if students approve them.

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Entries slide in

By JEFF IRWIN

Bob Macmillan, student coordinator for the fast approaching snow sculpture contest, to be held in conjunction with the World Junior Curling Championships, said in an interview Wednesday that so far response is good and entries are beginning to role in.

Macmillan hopes that the SRC will also take part and as

sored groups on campus.

First prize is fifteen flats which were donated by Labatts Breweries. Judging will take place on Thursday, March 11th,

and the prize will be awarded on Friday, March 12th. The judges for the contest are Susan Reed, Editor-in-Chief of the Brunswickan, CHSR's Paul Buckley and Jim Haley flunky from the Aquinian.