

## Students present brief to Board of Governors

By GORDON LOANE

UNB student representatives from both the Fredericton and Saint John campuses presented briefs on tuition and differential fees to the Board of Governors when it met in Saint John last Friday.

A delegation of three students from the Fredericton campus of UNB presented briefs calling for a freeze in tuition fees and outlined their objections to differential fees for foreign students. S.R.C. President Dave Bartlett, SRC Rep-at-Large Peter Archibald and President of the Overseas Chinese Students Association Norman Lee presented their objections to the Board of Governors. Bartlett presented a two page document to the Board of Governors outlining some of the reasons why tuition fees should not be increased from the student point of view. One reason stated was "the minimum wage in N.B. has remained the same for the past couple of years and has not increased with the cost of living". Other reasons stated include the rapid rise in the cost of textbooks, high unemployment for students during the summer, cutbacks in Bill C-14 which means students are not able to receive U.I.C., inflexible student aid and tuition fees that are already the highest in Canada. The brief, in summary, asked the Board of Governors to hold the line on tuition fees for another year.

SRC Rep-at-Large Peter Archibald presented a lengthy brief on differential fees and asked the Board of Governors to "delay the

implementation of a differential fee structure for one year." This period would allow the matter to be further studied. Differential fees would have a detrimental effect on foreign students according to Norman Lee president of O.C.S.A. in his brief statement to the Board of Governors. The cost of education would be high for foreign students many of whom face financial hardships as it is. Lee reminded the Board of Governors that there are no differential fees to foreign students who study in his home country of Hong Kong. Hong Kong has a population of 4,000,000 people and there are only 2 universities, and many students must go abroad to get an education. Many Hong Kong students come to Canada because their degree is not recognized at home if their studies are not taken at a Commonwealth university. Most Hong Kong students have little choice but to come to Canada according to Lee.

In addition to the briefs, a petition circulated in the last two weeks on the Fredericton campus was presented by SRC President Dave Bartlett. The petition carried the signatures of between 900 to 1000 students according to Bartlett.

SRC President at U.N.B.S.J. Mike Crawford presented a brief to the Board as well. It called for no tuition increases mainly because of the special problems faced by students in Saint John. Transportation costs to and from campus, the lack of residence facilities and the lack of many on campus facilities were some of the reasons

advanced; in addition, Crawford cited an inflexible student aid program which has placed a greater financial burden on the student as another reason to keep tuition fees down. Crawford presented a petition circulated in a three hour period signed by one third of the student population including several professors.

UNB President Dr. John Anderson seemed to be generally pleased with the student presentations. He reminded the student delegation that tuition fees "were some 14 per cent of the total UNB Budget now in comparison to some 31 per cent of the budget some years ago. in general Anderson seemed quite receptive to the student delegations comments and suggestions.

Professor Edward Maher complimented the student delegation on

their documentation in support of their arguments. Professor Maher felt that if the university is to compete for faculty and to offer competitive salaries, then revenue must come from some source.

Board of Governors member Eric Teed felt that if there is a need for revenue then it is proper that tuition should go up. Teed was totally in favour of attracting as many foreign students to UNB as possible but felt they should pay their way. He felt they should pay a higher fee to go to university than Canadian students.

Board of Governors student representative Chris Nagle reiterated the position taken by the student delegations. "All the students are asking for concerning differential fees is that there be a one year delay in their implementation. The cost would

approximately \$100,000 to the university" according to Nagle. This would give everyone a chance to study the differential fees situation and to lobby government according to Nagle.

The student delegation was thanked by Board of Governors Chairman Robert Shaw for their presentation and the Board proceeded with other business. The decision on tuition and differential fees was thus left to the closed session of the Board, where all financial decisions are made.

SRC President Dave Bartlett stated after the meeting that the Board was very receptive and seemed to be impressed with the reports presented. He felt that they were fighting an "uphill battle" on both fronts that is tuition and differential fees.

## Students-welfare cases?

"Students are just like welfare cases, they want something for nothing". That's the opinion of N.B. Deputy Minister of Education J.H. Malmberg expressed at the UNB Board of Governors meeting held in Saint John last Friday. Malmberg's comments were in reply to student briefs on tuition and differential fees presented to the Board of Governors. Mr. Malmberg professes to have no sympathy for student concerns especially when extra costs involving tuition hikes are concerned.

Students were protesting hikes in tuition and this appeared to offend Malmberg who in his brief comments to the Board said, "I am a part of that government bureaucracy and I hear these special interest groups all the time. They want to keep their expenses down, yet any revenues which might be generated in their area, they want kept down as well. They're just like welfare cases,

they want something for nothing and I have no sympathy for them".

Malmberg's comments were in sharp contrast to replies received from other Board members who seemed to be generally receptive to the views of UNB students from both the Saint John and

Fredericton campus. Most members of the Board promised to consider the views of students during the closed session of the Board meeting to be held later on in the day which would ultimately decide the tuition fee schedule for the upcoming academic year.

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**Bob MacMillam is**  
 really an  
**ARTS STUDENT**

cont'd from p. 3

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university facilities are here to accommodate domestic students already it does not cost any more to educate foreign students on the same premises.

In regards to the residence increase Bartlett said that as far as he knew the greater part of the increase was due to increased food costs.

Bartlett did not know whether this would seriously affect those who would enter residence but pointed out that there is a possibility that a contract would have to be signed on entering residence in which case the resident would forfeit, should he or she decide to leave halfway through the year. Bartlett sees this as beneficial in that students who are unsure as to whether or not they wish to live in residence will leave spaces open for freshmen and those who do decide in the affirmative will stay.

### \*\*ATTENTION\*\*

UNB students, faculty and alumni from both the Fredericton and Saint John campuses are urged to make nominations for the annual excellence in teaching awards which will be presented at Graduation exercises in May.

The awards are named the Dr. Allan P. Stuart Memorial Awards in honour of the late chemistry professor who was a 1973 recipient of the award.

Nominations must bear the names and addresses of at least two nominators and include some supporting statement. Deadline for nominations is April 6, 1979.

Teachers of first term courses as well as second term or full year courses are eligible. Nominations should be based on the following criteria:

- comprehensive knowledge of subject;
- preparation for class;
- enthusiasm for subject and ability to arouse interest;
- encouraging student participation;
- setting high standards and motivating students to attain them;
- communicating effectively at appropriate levels;
- evaluating students on their understanding of the subject rather than on ability to memorize;
- being accessible to students outside of class.

Nominations should be sent c/o the University Secretary, Old Arts Building, UNB Fredericton.