

Time is now to say "Nuts to NUS"

By SHEENAGH MURPHY

NUS is taking a lot of credit for things which are being done says Jim Murray, SRC president. Murray said he personally has seen nothing constructive from them. Their total accomplishments in certain matters consist of merely playing a part according to Murray, citing Canada Works Projects as an example. They were not totally responsible for its instigation, he said. Murray felt that the average student was not getting enough for his dollar. The financial

situation of the Student Union is not very strong presently, and he feels that UNB cannot afford an organization which may do something in the next ten years. "Immediate results are needed" said Murray. He was vocal concerning what he terms NUS "philosophies". He said that NUS pushes their philosophies on the students. "You can preach philosophies up and down and that's fine, but when it comes to making ideals into reality its another thing," said Murray. He compared NUS to an advertising agency which sells the

product then collects the money, letting the matter drop there.

Murray said he is certain UNB will not suffer by losing NUS membership. There are, apparently several universities around the nation which do not belong and do not seem to be suffering. "The federal government is hardly going to come swinging at us with an axe if we're not in NUS" said Murray.

The financial demands of NUS do not end at the 5 or 6 thousand dollar membership fees. There are other factors to be considered.

One relevant factor Murray brought to light was the travel pool, he said if UNB had sent 2 representatives to the Charlotte-town conference, the cost would have been \$800.00, or the equivalent of 25 students, student union fees.

Then there are telephone costs, telex and other expenses of that nature. All these, Murray said are above and beyond the \$1 per student membership fees.

Murray is thinking also in terms of long range investments. He said in the next few years, what with

inflationary increases, there will be student union fees increases also. "We don't need NUS to bolster it" said Murray.

He remarked cryptically on the "timely appearance" of NUS representatives. Murray said that referendum time is the only time that they're seen.

Murray terminated the interview by saying "if I thought for one moment that I was leading the students of UNB in the wrong direction, I would leave this position I feel I am advising students to take the right action. The time is now to say Nuts to NUS."

SRC positions-as it now stands

Fall Election Oct. 19, 1977.

A. POSITIONS TO BE CONTESTED:

1. Vice-President Internal
- i) Albert King - V year, Forestry
- ii) Lynn Wentworth - III year, Arts
2. Vice-President External:-
- i) Susan Shalala - IV year, Education
- ii) Andrew Wawer - III year, Science
3. Representative - at - large (Two, half-term):
- i) Michael Dreton - II year, Science
- ii) Michael Hughson - III year, Science
- iii) Mark Lulham - Special, Forestry
- iv) Paul W. Meyer - IV year, Forestry
- v) Beverley Doherty - II year, Phed Ree
- vi) Sam Davis - III year, Forestry

B CANDIDATES ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION

1. Arts Rep (full-term) - Claire Fripp
2. Arts Rep (half-term) - Deana Ketcheson
3. Computer Sc. (full-term) - Andrew Jones
4. Engineering Rep (half-term) - Timothy L. Colwell
5. Engineering Rep (full-term) - Daniel B. Davis
6. BBA Rept (full-term) - Nancy Gallant
7. Nursing Rept (full-term) - Paula Lancaster
8. Forestry Rep (full-term) - Judy Loo
9. Rep-at-large (full-term) - Andrew L. Steeves

C. POSITIONS STILL VACANT

1. Education Reps (three) — (one) full-term; (two) half-term
2. Graduate Studies Rept — (one) half-term

Signed
Alex, Kibaki Muriithi
(Chief Returning Officer)

Editor's Note - The views expressed below are not necessarily those of the Brunswickan or SRC.

By MICHAEL HUGHSON

Sighting the years first robin means spring is on its way, the first sign of red tinge in New Brunswick's maples heralds the arrival of autumn and the appearance of Dan O'Connor on campus can mean only one thing, its NUS referendum time at UNB.

It seems coincidental that NUS reps only crawl out of the woodwork to tell us what a great job they're doing when a member campus tries to withdraw from the union. This year, in conjunction with the regular SRC elections and thereby at marginal cost to the student body. James Murray has called a referendum giving UNB a chance to wash its hands of NUS.

In our increasingly pluralist society NUS would have us believe that Canadian University students would be left out in the cold without a national level lobbyist. Only the naive will swallow a line like that, saying that any of our problems could be solved by another ineffectual level of bureaucracy, this one of our own device. The need for a lobby of the type NUS suggests seems even more absurd when one realizes that the BNA act (an integral part of our constitution) clearly gives jurisdiction over education to the provinces.

NUS would also have us believe that without them we would have never had a myriad of programs of the federal government was our federal government? planning anyway such as OFY, Company of Young Canadians

(CYC), LIP and Young Canada Works. Of these programs, none of which were specifically for students, OFY was terminated, CYC was disbanded in shame and none succeeded in doing more than generating "Mickey Mouse" employment for an insignificant number of Canadians.

NUS is trying very hard to take credit for the building of the SUB and the Co-op. (now McLeod and Magee Houses). Once again an example of NUS's own brand of hyperbole. Even the totally internal matter of getting student representation on the UNB Senate and Board of Governors is being used by NUS supporters as a "success" of their union.

Over all NUS seems to be resting on their rather defoliated laurels. What have they allegedly done for us lately? Well, we get our international student card through them and cheaper travel rates, don't we? No! UNB students are eligible for the card because our own union is a member of AOSC (Association of Student Councils) whose travel office CUTS in conjunction with equivalent worldwide organizations arranges the international student card and its benefits.

Another claim to fame of NUS is that on October 19 last, students stuck out against Wage Controls. How many students really want to be linked to the dinosaur that organized labour has become and honestly protest the first rational Galbraithian economic policy of our federal government? One of the few tangible products of the NUS is a paper

NUS Reps - coincidence?

called "the Student Advocate" which is to journalism everything the Washington Capitols are to Hockey.

While on the topic of journalism, have you noticed that the "Brunswickan" is a vastly improved newspaper over the past few weeks? This writer wonders if this has anything to do with our newspaper withdrawing from CUP (Canadian University Press).

In a story (myth) in the *Brunswickan* of Oct. 7 p.18 Aileen Armstrong states, "to withdraw from NUS would leave this place a backwater, out of touch with what's happening on other campuses across the country". I take this fallacious and arrogant pronouncement as a personal insult as should every UNB student. The presumption that our sum total of knowledge of the world outside our campus is a result of the rather racuous presence, of NUS fieldworkers is indeed ludicrous.

NUS gives the impression that it is little more than a group of "joiners", rebels without a cause, slayers of imaginary dragons, in short a grandfalloon (Definition: a proud but meaningless association of human beings). In trying to determine the real substance of NUS I am reminded of the verse by Kurt Vonnegut Jr..

"To see what makes a grandfalloon, Peel the skin from a toy balloon."

On the referendum, Vote NO for NUS.

Green Seals?

A new organization dedicated to saving endangered species from extinction was formed last week.

Called Earthforce Environmental Society, the organization plans to make expeditions to the plains of East Africa and the ice fields of Labrador to save the elephants and harp seals. The group was organized by former Greenpeace Director Paul Watson and Veterinarian Bruce Bunting, who felt the parent group had become too involved in politics and publicity rather than direct action. One of Earthforce's first actions will be coating baby harp seals with green dye to make their skins almost worthless to the furring industry. They also hope to document ivory smuggling and the bribery of game officials in Kenya for a film to be presented to the United Nations and the American Congress. (Earth News)

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