

Team starts information campaign on campus



Mark Giberson, President of STU SRC and chairperson of the NB AFS Caucus is confident that students will give their support if a demonstration is held following Monday's referendum.

By PETER KRAUTLE

A 60-person team has begun a massive information campaign on campus to publicize the proposed demonstration in support of changes in the provincial student loan plan.

The campaign began with a joint meeting of the student councils of UNB and STU which was called by the provincial caucus of the Atlantic Federation of Students. Representatives from UNBSJ, St. Louis Maillet in Edmundston and the Université de Moncton also

attended the meeting in MacLaggan Hall Monday.

The campaign was initiated to gain student support for a demonstration — planned for Wednesday, Jan. 21 — on the government's failure to act on student aid changes proposed by AFS.

AFS provincial caucus chairperson and STU SRC president Mark Giberson said the demonstration of "student solidarity" will be held provided that a province-wide referendum on the demonstration passes on Monday, Jan. 19.

The information campaign is already producing results — UNB's Senate passed a motion Tuesday night which will prevent professors on both UNB campuses from penalizing students who support the demonstration. The support is limited to a two-day demonstration.

In an executive meeting Tuesday morning the UNB SRC allocated \$500 to the volunteer student aid demonstration committee to cover costs for posters, pamphlets and other advertisements for the information campaign.

The executive also authorized the SRC comptroller to issue additional funds to the committee for the purpose of disseminating information if necessary student aid. The demonstration committee was formed on Monday night from students who attended the student aid meeting at MacLaggan Hall.

UNB SRC president Jim Smith said the student union is presently attempting to gain the support of as many people as possible in New Brunswick on the Student Aid issue.

Smith said contact is being made with Quebec to receive information on how their demonstration was organized a year ago.

The SRC is also contacting other educational institutions in the province in hopes they will be sending briefs on student aid to the government.

The St. Thomas SRC also voted to approve, in principle, the student demonstration on January 21 in support of the student aid demands as presented by the N.B. caucus of the AFS. The SRC also encouraged their students to vote in favor of the demonstration in the referendum being held on Monday.



Photo by Phantom Photos

UNB SRC President Jim Smith said that there is support for students from outside the province and from various other organizations within the province.

MLA opposes changes

Provincial opposition education critic Gerard Clavette said Tuesday he and some other MLAs were in opposition to recent changes in the student aid plan.

The changes were also opposed by students.

Clavette said he opposed the change in the provincial plan which raised the loan ceiling from \$1,100 to \$1,400 before bursaries can be granted.

"It was quite clear in the last session myself and a few of my colleagues were not in agreement with some of the changes in the student aid program," he said.

The Madawaska South Liberal member said a more appropriate loan ceiling would be \$1,000.

The Atlantic Federation of Students is presently demanding a loan ceiling of \$900.

Clavette said he would like the government to give reasons why

the proposals of students were refused.

He had received no word of the proposed student demonstration before the interview, he said.

The way in which parents' revenue is calculated before the granting of a loan should also be revised, he said.

One of the major changes presently being proposed by students is a change in the interest-free period from six months to one year. Clavette indicated he would support such a change.

The student aid program is funded by a fixed federal grant, said Clavette, and any increased costs arising from revisions of the plan would have to be covered by the provincial treasury.

Opposition Leader Robert Higgins was unavailable for comment at press time.

Kennedy cites 'considerable support'

By BURT FOLKINS

A representative of the UNB student council has indicated that there has been a great deal of support shown for a proposed demonstration on student aid.

SRC vice president Gordon Kennedy said various organizations within the province and outside have already expressed support for the students.

Considerable support has been shown from associations on campus including the entire SRC's of STU and UNB, the campus ministry team, and UNB Senate.

UNB President Dr. John Anderson has publicly come out in support of the students and indicated that there will be no academic penalty for exams and assignments which are not handed in on Wednesday or Thursday of next week if a demonstration is called.

Support from outside the university for the student aid cause has been given by the New Brunswick

Federation of Labour, the Oromocto High School student council and Bishop Nutter, Bishop of the Church of England for New Brunswick.

Various other organizations such as unions particularly the Transport and Water-front union will announce Friday January 16 whether they will support the demonstration, said Kennedy. The Fredericton Chamber of Commerce will also indicate Friday whether they will support the students in their endeavour.

Nation-wide support has been obtained from universities including York, Toronto; Dalhousie, Halifax; Cape Breton, Sydney, N.S.; and the University of Manitoba. Other universities are expected to follow these examples.

Kennedy said an effort to enlist the support of students from Fredericton High school was foiled after the principal and vice-principal requested there be no contact made.

With regard to government

contact Kennedy said Mark Giberson, president of the STU SRC and chairperson of the New Brunswick caucus of AFS was to talk to Youth Minister Jean Pierre Ouellette Wednesday and get his opinion.

Opposition leader Robert Higgins was interviewed but Kennedy would not comment on the Higgins conversation.

Pacey to be honoured

The late Dr. Desmond Pacey will be remembered by the Fredericton Branch of the Humanities Association of Canada at a meeting soon to be held in dedication to his memory.

Pacey was one of the founders of the Humanities Association on a national level in 1951 and the founding chairman of the Fredericton Branch two years later.

Known on campus at one time as chairman of the English Depart-

ment, he then became Acting President of the University and after that Academic Vice-President.

The memorial meeting will consist of poetry reading by three local writers, Dr. Alfred Bailey, Prof. Fred Cogswell, and Prof. Robert Gibbs. An introduction will be made by Prof. David Galloway.

The meeting will be held in the gallery of Memorial Hall at 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 22.

The general public is invited.

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