

Senate exists to debate academic matters

By MARV GREENBLATT

Editor's Note - Student Senator Marv Greenblatt offered THE BRUNSWICKAN the following explanation of his job and the role of the University Senate.

What is the Senate? It is the highest academic body here at the University.

What this body actually does is contemplate all matter of on the academic importance. For instance, the decisions of individual faculty councils are referred to Senate for approval. Also, it is here that new courses are endorsed. The establishment of new faculties, chairs or departments all must be ratified by Senate. Examination schedules and timetabling are also within the scope of this body. This is the forum to which our Dean of Students reports.

Most Senate work is done in committees, of which there are many. They number twenty and thirty, and run the complete range of activities; from admissions to campus planning, to student standings and honorary degrees. Topics are proposed and formulated in committee and then referred to Senate for further deliberation. Many faculty members are involved in this work. As well, three or four students serve on almost every committee.

Members of the Senate include: The Vice-President (Academic), Vice-President (finance and administration), the Principal of UNBSJ, the President of Saint Thomas University, Ten faculty Deans, the Director of Summer

Schools, the Librarian, Dean of Students, several faculty representatives, three members from the Board of Governors, the University Secretary, and last but not least, seven students; five from UNB Fredericton, one from UNBSJ, and one post graduate representative. The University President presides over the whole body.

Voting members total about 54 persons, of which seven are students. Not exactly overwhelming as a lobbying group, are we? But this, then, defines our role in

most situations; we advise and suggest, rather than demand or decree.

Student representatives have full powers of Senate membership except for the following areas: we cannot participate in matters determining examination results, or the awarding of degrees or prizes. In addition, no student sits on the committee on appointments, which determines faculty promotions and granting of tenure.

It is important, I think, to realize the differences between Senate and the Board of Governors. Together,

these two groups constitute the topmost authority at UNB. One concerns itself with matters academic, the other supervises our financial interests. There is considerable overlap between the two bodies, in that a lot of Senate decisions require Board of Governor's ratification.

About fifteen times a year this academic group meets, on average about once a month. Usually of the dozen or so items on the agenda, only two or three are of immediate, direct concern to students. It's here that we play our part, by suggestion and advice. Some new degree requirement may present itself on the agenda. Faculty members might ask: "How will students receive this change; how will this affect them?" Voila! There you have seven students standing by, counselling, recommending, and urging an appropriate course of action.

Stuentry has had representation here since the fall of 1969. In that first election, by the way, I'm

informed that for the five positions there were twenty-three candidates. Over the years, some of the issues student representatives have become closely identified with have included the establishment of mid-term break, the adoption of the Grade Point Average system of marking, student participation on an increasing number of Senate committees, etc. More recently we have lobbied for course evaluation and students on faculty councils.

Some issues still to be resolved are a better timetabling system, universal course evaluation, and the appointment of students on every faculty council. This, then, is the Senate. Its activities are quite broad. Its decisions affect most of us, in one way or another, at some point in time. That is why it is so important to have students involved in this decision making process. Most meetings are open; if you're interested, they're usually held in T303. Drop in any time.

Students face crisis

REGINA (CUP) — Barely three months after pushing through a \$5.90 fee hike, the University of Regina Student's Union is facing bankruptcy.

The situation is so serious that council shut down the entire Student Service Centre for June, and closed the Cafeteria until September.

An emergency council meeting August 3 was told that the union is now facing debts of \$17,000 in addition to legal debts incurred in a 1968 housing dispute.

Council secretary treasurer Elspeth Guild placed the blame for the debts on several factors:

-The 1974-75 budget made allowance for a \$3,000 cafeteria loss, but rising costs of food and other supplies drove this up to \$10,000.

-A loss of about \$7,000 in the printshop, where several publications have provided much less business than expected.

-A communications gap between the students union and the University Registrar's office led to an undercalculation of fees amounting \$4,000 which had to be absorbed by the students' union.

Guild said a previous habit of council, paying debts with advances from the following semester's student activity fees, has meant a large portion of a year's budget is being spent before the fall semester begins.

SU Vice-president Don Maclean reported that all SU employees had agreed to take June off without pay.

NUS staging conference

Changes in the federal administration of student aid will be among major topics discussed at the four day National Union of Students conference to begin Oct. 16.

The sessions—to be hosted by the UNB students union—will be held in the Student Union Building.

UNB union president Warren McKenzie said last week he felt much discussion would centre on lobbying efforts by NUS to have student input on policy decision-making about students aid at the federal level.

Student aid legislation in Canada is jointly administered by the federal and provincial governments.

A minimum of 75 delegates from across Canada are expected, said McKenzie, including representatives from Canadian University Press (the national co-operative of student newspapers) as well as regional students' federations.

Whether there will be any guest speakers had not been confirmed at press time.

McKenzie and union vice-president Gary Stairs volunteered UNB

as conference host at the first 1975 NUS general meeting held in Toronto in May while they were there as observers.

"I think we (UNB students) can benefit from the first-hand experience," he said, "and I think it should give UNB some good exposure."

UNB students will decide by referendum Oct. 22 whether to join NUS.

Expenses for all but "basic support services," said McKenzie, would be provided by NUS. He defined such services as paper, meeting rooms and shuttles between hotel accommodation and the conferences. Each delegate has a fee of \$75 to pay.

NUS was formed in the early 1970's to serve basically as a forum for student discussion, for the dissemination of information about common interests to member universities across Canada and as a lobby to represent students in Ottawa.

The Brunswickan will be publishing a special edition on NUS before the referendum.

Salary increases debated

By DERWIN GOWAN
News Editor

Salary increases were once again a focus for debate as an attempt was made at last Thursday's emergency Student Representative Council meeting to raise the salaries of the student union bookkeeper and secretary.

Secretary Judy MacKay's \$10.00 per week increase passed unanimously but a \$25.00 per month increase in car allowance for bookkeeper Gail Chappel was tabled until next meeting.

Both motions were moved by president Warren McKenzie and seconded by comptroller Wencelaus Batanyita.

According to McKenzie, the raises were a result of policy directives from council when a \$50.00 per week raise was given to The Brunswickan's typesetter.

"We show people that we value them," he said.

He said further that the increases were interim measures until a salary policy could be worked out.

McKenzie said of the secretary's raise, "She's everything anyone could want from a secretary," and "she's made a real effort to learn the university's system."

Chappel's car allowance is presently \$25. per month and she uses her car to go to the bank, buy office supplies, and other union related activities.

Batanyita said, "I think we owe it to her to try to keep her happy." He claimed she could not receive another salary increase this year as she already a \$10.00 per week raise this fall.

However, this was disputed.

Batanyita and arts representative Laine Mulholland maintained that the bookkeepers salary could not be reviewed until January of 1976, while McKenzie and councillor Jim MacLean said it could be,

although the policy must be reviewed at that time.

When it was suggested this increase was because of bitterness over Ingersoll's pay raise, McKenzie said, "It's not just a pacifier." Further, he said the raise was in the form of a car allowance so that Chappel's income would not be pushed into a higher income tax bracket, thus negating any increase. SRC lawyer Peter Forbes disagreed with this saying that unless Chappel could prove the extra money was spent on her car, it would likely be added to taxable income.

Arts Representative Theresa Bone said that giving one employee a raise is not necessarily a good reason to give someone else a raise also, but McKenzie replied, "We have a situation where she isn't being paid fairly." He mentioned that she handles all student union funds and is presently doing a lot of the business administrator's work. Engineering Representative said council should not be comparing employees salaries, but should decide whether or not each employee is being paid fairly.

Student Union Building Board of Directors chairman Dave Miller said Chappel has very lenient employers.

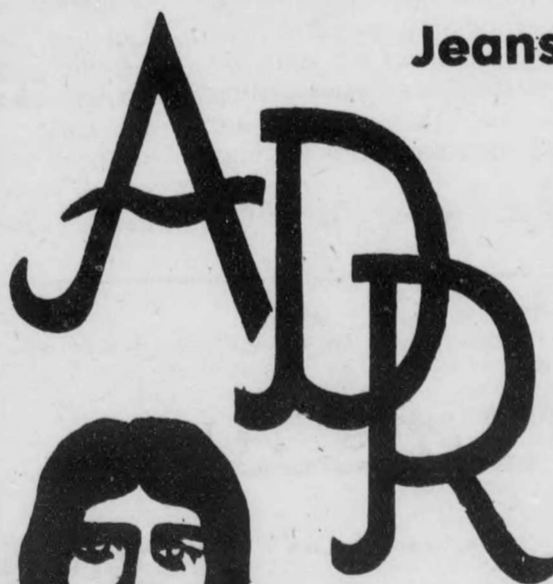
She receives approximately \$55 per month from the College Hill Social Club, another \$65.00 per

month from the SUB Board, and \$45.00 from Saint Thomas student union. She also is paid \$150. per week from the UNB student union plus \$25 per month car allowance.

Arts Representative Laine Mulholland said it did not matter what Chappel did in her spare time. Batanyita concurred, saying she did this extra work early in the morning and during noon hour.

The motion to table, moved by MacKay and Mulholland, passed. The executive was to report back to council with more information.

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