

SRC election tomorrow, 2 in presidential race



Dave Johnson



Geoff Green

David Johnson, business 4, says the internal reorganization of the SRC is the basic platform in his bid for the presidency of the SRC.

"I'll try to make the council more efficient internally before turning outward. I'd like to simplify the procedure and the structure of the SRC.

"Sunday night meetings usually end in confusion, so I think the real work should be done by the most interested people through the office of the president. The Sunday meeting could be restricted to discussion of one or two important issues.

"I'm going to review how efficient general discussion has been in the past years and what relevance it actually has served. I think topics such as the Vietnam war should be discussed also.

"I don't think students can be truly represented and have a direct say in their government anymore than the public can have a direct say in their government.

On general student affairs, Johnson has much to say. "If elected I plan to set up committees to look into the high cost of books. A study should be made into the sit-in at the Carleton bookstore by the students protesting the high cost of books. I understand the prices were lowered considerably.

"Students haven't been given fair warning when tuition costs have been raised. With direct representation in policies concerning students, my council will interact with the administration to ensure student consideration. "UNB's residences have increased their fees each year while in other parts of Canada, universities haven't increased their fees on the same scale.

"An example of how residences could be run more economically is the residence co-ops in Fredericton.

"Another important point is immediate student representation on the board of governors and all other aspect which have to do with student affairs. "There have been committees set up to look into student representation on most administrative functions and either the studies have been stopped or the results have been ignored. Its just been put off for no reason and if I'm elected I'll work for a student voice in everything that concerns the student."

Geoff Green, psychology 4, has four major planks in his campaign platform for the presidency of the student representative council.

"The first thing I want to do is rewrite the constitution and by-laws of the UNB student union," he said.

"The most important things I want to add are provisions for re-opening nominations if not enough are made to fill the seats in any one constituency and for having bye-elections when a seat becomes vacant."

Green is also interested in restructuring council to have more representation.

"Right now the representation is one SRC member for every 200 students. I would like to have one rep per 100 students."

He didn't think this would create an unwieldy council. He said that the administrative board was capable of handling a lot of thing council worries about now. By putting more faith in the admin board, there would be less bickering on council and more room for better discussion of major issues with a larger council.

In the academic field Green said that past course evaluation programs left a little to be desired. He wants to begin a comprehensive course evaluation.

"I want to set up student committees in every department to invite recommendations and suggestions from the students. The committees would make comprehensive reports to the SRC and the reports would be compiled.

"Copies of the complete report would be sent to president MacKay, members of the board of governors, deans and department heads and faculty members.

"Instead of being an objective evaluation, it would be very subjective," he said.

On student participation Green says the goal is to get representation on all committees and boards where students are presently excluded. He says he wants to include more interested students outside the SRC on these committees.

"The goal is student involvement. We're paying 35% of the shot, it's not much to ask that we be involved in the decision making," he said.

"Students should have equality in representation on any committee or boards."

On other issues:

"Universal accessibility to post-secondary education is at best an ideal in New Brunswick. So many people never get through high school."

"The high school relations committee will be putting an emphasis on people attending university rather than specifically pushing the University of New Brunswick."

"I'd like to see a mass general meeting of the students but it won't happen this year."

"There should be more communication between SRC and the

students either through co-operation with the Brunswickian or through an SRC publication."

"The bookstore is making too much money. We're paying tuition plus just so the store can make a profit."

