Governors' meetings should be open

When three staff members of The Brunswickan met with President Anderson two weeks ago, we asked if the Board of Governors' meetings could be opened to faculty and students. The Senate on this and many other universities has seen student representation and participation for many years.

Just last year, students were elected to the Board of Governors for the first time.

The president said, "we'll see", and left it at that.

But can these governors both student and otherwise — be responsible if their actions come behind closed doors, far away from the scrutiny of students, faculty and public? We think not. We can find no reason why these meetings should be closed. Our student governors don't inform us of what's happening inside, and the Board — the most powerful of university bodies - has no real

Arena makes some problems

We have two points to make about our proposed new arena.

First, where will we find parking for 3,000 cars? We might expect that parking will overflow into the SUB parking lot and those at Lady Dunn and Tibbitts. What will the university do then? Restrict all parking on campus to faculty and

Surely they don't expect us to park on Queen Street for an event at UNB

And finally our second point will the women in LDH and Tibbitts be able to get any sleep when late-night pubs and concerts disperse thousands of noisy participants onto the campus? Probably not.

way of knowing what the students are thinking. Their only recourse is to ask the student governors.

But who's to say the student governors are giving the right answers? What's more, are the governors asking the right questions?

Under the present system, there is no method of accountability. If one of the student governors decided to run for re-election, on what possible basis could be campaign? Could he say he's done a good job? Who says so?

And what of the rest of the Board? Should not their hitherto private dealings with the

university be exposed to the light of day? Perhaps they would give many of their ideas second thoughts if they knew they could be reading about it in next week's Brunswickan.

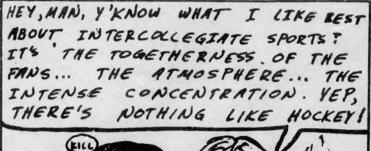
Frankly, the Board has an unnecessary air of stuffiness and secrecy about it. That could be cured quite readily with a bit of

Don't get us wrong. We don't expect that opening Board meetings will cure UNB's every ill. No way for that. Nor do we expect students to swamp the Board, begging for a chance to serve (past and present experience has shown us otherwise).

It could very well be that no one but a Brunswickan reporter will attend (that's the way it seems to be with the Senate, anyway). But that's just as well. People will still have the option of reading about the Board's action

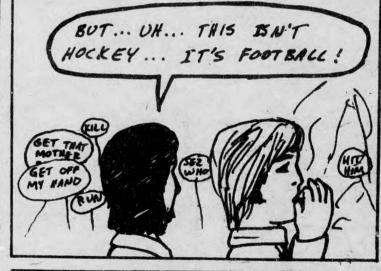
soon after it has been discussed. That's better than nothing at all. Tel

If the Board has nothing to hide and we don't have any evidence that it does - then these meetings should be open to all. From our vantage point, it can do no harm, and may do us all a bit of good.











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