

# SRC endorses graduates' request for two senators

By SUSAN MANZER

The UNB Student Representative Council voted to endorse a request to be made to the Senate to create two new seats in the body specifically for graduate students.

At Council's regular meeting Monday night, Student Senator John Reid and Graduate Student Council Representative Dan Fenety discussed the advantages of the new positions stressing increased student representation and the special problems of the graduate students at UNB.

SRC President Roy Neale said that Council's approval was not mandatory but it was almost certain the proposal would be rejected without it.

Reid, outlining the approach he will present to the Senate, said graduate students are a "discreet entity within the university" holding an intermediate position between student and faculty.

He stressed that it is not the intention of the GSA to minimize student representation on the Senate but to enhance it. He mentioned graduate students are older, 40 percent being married; their primary interest is in education. These traits, he feels, will not only benefit graduate students but all students on campus.

Reid explained that the 356 full time and the 200 part time grad students at UNB are trainees of the university in research and teaching and most depend on their positions for their livelihood. Their main concern is "constructive development".

Reid justified the request for two new seats because we "need to include all faculties of graduate study". One senator would represent the sciences while the other, humanities, but would be elected by all the grad students. Stating percentages of graduate representation on high governmental bodies at other universities in Canada, Reid felt that the number of seats suggested was not unrealistic.

Stepping down from the chair, Peter Forbes asked Reid if he could assure Council that the GSA would take the interest of students as a whole and not be in any way partial.

Reid answered that he thought so. "The two senators would be elected by the grad student body so of course their primary concern are their own problems but I expect they will certainly work in close co-operation with the other student senators. Their interest is also the university as a whole; I don't think they would be neglectful and lose sight of that fact."

Neale also questioned the viability of the two positions. He said that the GSA is a very new organization on campus and has not proved itself yet. He felt they

have failed to function to be a significant debris in the past adding that various committees have neglected their duties. On the whole, Neale expressed concern over "the basic lack of performance."

GSA would receive support from the Student Senators on their proposal, considering a request by the student union for direct representation was turned down.

Councillor Kathy Pomeroy said that graduate students possess a valuable view working with the professors. She explained that coming in contact with students in this position helps them to appreciate the Students' problems. She concluded that she was all in favour of increasing student representation.

SRC vice-president Valerie Jaeger added that she thought the GSA was being considered as guilty before proven innocent and that she too supported the contention.

Fenety said that the GSA is now encouraging student initiative and improving the structure of the organization. "We were really screwed in the ear before. We used to require 15 percent of the GSA for a whole evening for elections, which really is not feasible, but at the last meeting we got a quorum. What have you got to lose giving us

a crack. We've got some good ideas."

Reid said that the student senators would strengthen each other. "If worse comes to worse, and the GSA folds and I don't think it will, there is still no reason grad students could not elect senators."

"We used to have it fairly easy but in the last two or three years it's all turned around. The way availability of jobs is going, it's an uphill battle just to hold a position. Grad students feel threatened like never before. That is why there has been a renewed interest in representation."

Neale questioned another aspect of the proposal. He said that it has been the trend in the last ten years for total autonomy for graduate students with their own buildings and finances. At some universities graduate associations have taken undergraduate societies to court. "We're sure it is not the intention of these people to acquire total autonomy but it is a major factor."

Reid said the senators would not be responsible to the GSA but would be representatives of the students.

When the motion went to the floor, the requested count was tallied at eight in favour, four against and no abstentions. Those opposing the proposal were Alex

Mersereau, Chris Gilliss, Gary Cameron and Warren McKenzie.

During the discussion of other business, Comptroller Fud Steeves reluctantly announced the resignation of Glen Edison from the Administrative Board. He praised Edison for the fine job he has done in the past few years and expressed concern about getting undergraduates to fill the positions to carry on next year.

Neale mentioned the success of the annual student leadership conference held last weekend for executives of all student organizations at UNB. He also expressed his thanks to the Alumni Student Liaison Committee who sponsors the event. The second meeting is tentatively set for January 20, 1974.

Council discussed problems arising in the first Christmas break scheduled December 11 and 12 before examinations this year.

The registrar's office found they did not have enough to fit in all the exams, and suggested testing be set back so students could go home on or before December 20. The SRC carried a motion making December 13 available for examination provided it is not used as a full day of testing.

Neale also informed Council that the printers of the 1973 Yearbook

have received 95 mats and would keep in touch about further developments. He added that with any luck the '73 and the '74 edition will come in at the same time...maybe.

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## Business booming at our infirmary

By LILLIAN RIOUX

Despite the lack of a doctor, business is booming at the infirmary. Nurse Copp states that the infirmary, located at the back of Tibbits women's residence, serves up to 70 or more people daily.

The infirmary is open twenty-four hours and there are five registered nurses on duty in shift work. There are eight part time doctors who come in for clinics five days a week.

The two most common illnesses they treat are upper respiratory infections and anteritis. They also treat colds, minor cuts, and change dressings on wounds.

Copp feels that when the permanent doctor does arrive it will be both a good and bad thing for the students. When the doctor comes, he will be able to do minor surgery (stitches etc.) at the infirmary whereas now they send the student down to the Fredericton hospital. There may be a problem of overworking the doctor since he will be doing the job that eight men formerly did.

If you want to be treated at the infirmary, make sure you have your medicare card with you because unless you are seriously ill you can't be treated without it.

Your student insurance covers the cost of drugs over one dollar, and rental fees of crutches and wheel chairs.

The infirmary is constantly expanding, when the infirmary first opened nine years ago it only had one nurse, no beds or examining rooms and it only treated students in residence in UNB. It now has a staff of five nurses, and one secretary. It has fourteen beds and it treats both resident and non-resident students of UNB and STU as well as the faculty.

The infirmary now has a full time secretary which decreases the paper work load of the nurses, as well as a staff of five nurses.

Copp states that it will be nice when they have a permanent doctor so they won't be constantly shipping students down to the Fredericton hospital for minor surgery and diagnosis.

The infirmary does have one very annoying and expensive problem right now. It seems that their crutches, hot water bottles,

electric heating pads and elastic bandages are disappearing. These items are lent out and either the student forgets or doesn't bother to return them.



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