

NEWS

Deadline: Wednesdays at 12:00 Noon. Newsdesk: 453-4983

New position intended to raise awareness of issues



Campus Safety Coordinator Tammy Yates, and Jason Morton, the Campaigns Coordinator

by Jason Morton

In an effort to better co-ordinate awareness campaigns, educate students on a variety of issues, and to assure that education issues are being addressed in the upcoming federal election, the position of campaigns co-ordinator was created for this summer.

The campaigns consist of setting up booths, putting articles in newspapers, handing out pamphlets, putting up posters, having speakers and various other events. While it is possible to run a campaign on just about any subject, we limited ours to these issues which we felt needed to be addressed here at UNB Fredericton campus.

Sexual Assault is Against the Law—In a recent report done on the UNB/STU campus by Counselling Services it was discovered that over 28 % of the respondents reported one or more unwanted sexual experiences. In conjunction with the safety co-ordinator, during frosh week we are going to run a "sexual assault is against the law campaign." The main aim of this campaign is to make students aware of what sexual harassment is, and to also make them realize that they are responsible for their actions.

Anti-Racism and Awareness of Cultural diversity—In an attempt to lessen attacks (both verbal and physical) and to also expose people to different cultures, there will be several awareness campaigns geared toward educating the UNB/STU population on different ethnic groups and minorities. This includes an Anti-Racism campaign where in addition to handing out pamphlets and putting up posters, we will be setting up workshops and have speakers go into classrooms. Other campaigns which will reduce

racial tension by way of introducing them to new cultures will be an International Students Day and Native awareness campaigns.

Gay and Lesbian Awareness—It came to our attention that several incidents of violence, including one resulting in death last year, have occurred specifically towards gays and lesbians. In an attempt to create a greater acceptance of these groups, a gay and lesbian awareness campaign will take place in February. The aim of this campaign will be to lessen homophobic attitudes on campus and to assert every student's right to make their own sexual choices, free of discrimination or fear of physical threat.

Violence Towards Women—This has been an on going problem on campuses across Canada. This problem gained spotlight attention in December 1991 when 14 university women were shot. This incident, which came to be known as the Montreal massacre, will be remembered during the week of reflection from December 6-9. During this week, we will also educate students about the consequences and meaning of violence that still exist towards women.

In addition, we will be running several other social issue campaigns such as Aids Awareness, Physical Accessibility and Alcohol Awareness.

Referendums—This coming school year two referendums of great importance will be taking place—the SUB expansion and the CFS Health Care plan. As counsellors you will be asked to help in educating the students on the complex matters surrounding these issues.

Education Campaigns—There will also be several campaigns

aimed at educating the public at large of the importance of accessibility to a quality education. On October 13, National Students day, we will invite the local MP candidates over for lunch (KD with MPs), after which we will have a debate on education issues (students vs. the MP's) and we will end the afternoon with a press conference. In February we will be holding another press conference on Valentines Day which is also "If You Love Education Day." Hugh MacNeil and Roxane McCarthy will be presenting a report on student cost of living, which they are presently working on. We are also currently putting together a plan to ensure that candidates in the upcoming federal election are addressing education issues. This includes doing such things as sending students to follow local candidates at public meetings to ask them their stances on education and letting the public know whether or not we agree with the candidates stances.

CFS and Student Union Awareness campaign—In an attempt to improve the student apathy towards student politics, we will run campaigns directed towards educating students on what exactly we do as UNB Student Union members. As well, there will be a campaign which shows students specifically how their eight dollars to CFS benefits them.

These campaigns can only be a success if enough people get involved with them and, as counsellors, you will be asked to help. If there are some campaigns of particular interest to you do not hesitate to call me so that the persons who are in charge of carrying out the campaigns can put you on the committees necessary to run an effective campaign.

Gain Valuable Work Experience

Student Volunteer Bureau Created

by Jonathan Stone

New for fall 1993 is the creation of a Student Volunteer Bureau by the Student Union, which is itself a volunteer organization.

The Bureau has published a booklet containing brief descriptions of duties and contact names for organizations from Alcoholics Anonymous to the YM-YWCA.

According to the projects Coordinator, Hiep Vu, the Bureau was established to "build an alliance between students and the community."

At Thursday's official launching of the handbook, UNB President Robin Armstrong was enthusiastic.

"I was amazed when I looked at the little booklet and counted approximately 70 volunteer organizations," he said, "I am pleased to see the students take this initiative."

The president emphasized that volunteer experience helps students find jobs.

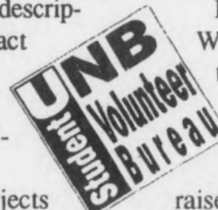
Vu agreed: "Students are coming into this with very little experience. We need any kind of edge that we can get."

Fredericton Mayor Brad Woodside was also on hand to lend his support. As an example, he noted that the recent Labatt's 24-Hour Relay in the city raised the most money in the Maritimes—money which went to the Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital.

"Now when I go to the hospital, I'll know I'll be getting good service and good equipment."

He said that besides the experience gained from volunteering, it "feels good" to help others. Student Union President Jamie van Raalte designated room 118 in the SUB as the bureau's office.

A phone number will be available in the near future.



News Notes

Self Defence Course for Women

The UNB Student union is offering a one-day self defence course for women.

The course, scheduled for 6 p.m., Tuesday, September 14, will be held in the Ballroom of the Student Union Building.

The instructor for the self defence training session will be Randy Breaux, and there is an unlimited enrollment.

A registration fee of \$2 per person will be collected, and anyone interested should sign up at the Help Centre in the SUB Lobby.

Crisis Communication

Spokespeople who deal with the media as part of their position will want to note a crisis communication workshop offered at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton.

Entitled *Media Relations in Times of Crisis*, the two-day course will provide participants with the background and knowledge to deal confidently with the media in a crisis situation. Sept. 17 is the pre registration deadline for the course.

Before this date, the fee will be \$250 per person; afterwards it will be \$275 for the workshop, which is scheduled for Oct. 18 and 19.

Interested persons can register by faxing UNB's department of extension and summer session at 453-3572, by phoning 453-4646 or by visiting the Continuing Education Centre on campus, just inside the Montgomery Street gate.

Training Session

An Alzheimer Volunteer Companion Training Session is being hosted by the Canadian Red Cross Society and the Alzheimer

Society of New Brunswick on October 2, 1993.

Anyone interested in receiving this training and becoming a volunteer should register no later than September 24, 1993.

For details contact Kit Emms at 458-8445.

Public Reading

The new writer-in-residence at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton will be the first reader in UNB's 1993-94 series of public readings sponsored by the department of English.

Karen Connelly will give a public reading on Monday, Sept. 20, at 4:30 P.M. in the East Gallery of UNB's Memorial Hall.

The Calgary native will read poetry from her latest publication entitled *This Brighter Prison*, as well as new work that yet to be published. There is no admission charge, and everyone is welcome to attend.

For more information, call Mary Rimmer in UNB's department of English at 453-4676.