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SUB autonomy issue raised

Concern has been expressed about the autonomy of the Student Union Building after revelation this week University of New Brunswick student government members considered disbanding the SUB's directors' board.

UNB Students' Representative Council president Peter Galoska said Wednesday the idea of disbanding was dropped "for now" and the SRC supported SUB autonomy.

He said greater co-operation should characterize relations between the UNB SRC and the SUB.

Saint Thomas University also has input on the board and STU SRC president Brian Chisholm said they would not support any move which would threaten SUB autonomy.

SUB director Kevin McKinney said he didn't understand the motive behind the UNB SRC consolidation move nor did he like the "clandestine aspects" but desired whatever was best for the students who use the SUB.

UNB president John Anderson said the administration could see no reason to intervene in a management shift of the university-owned building.

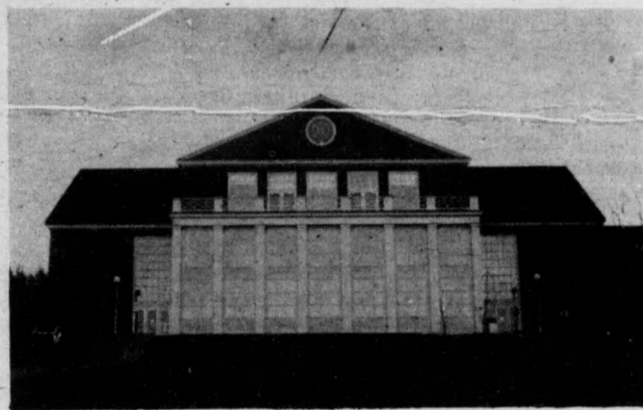
A board spokesman told The Brunswickan the idea of reorganizing SUB management and bringing it under the auspices of the STU and UNB student governments started when the job criteria of the UNB SRC business consultant was being framed.

The expected resignation of the consultant, Wayne Charters, at the end of this term prompted concern that terms of reference be established for the position.

Charters' proposal for the criteria included disbanding the board and substituting the posts of building director and general manager under the management of the two SRCs.

The proposal was studied by Galoska, Chisholm, UNB SRC comptroller Chris Gilliss, his assistant Rod Doherty and student senator Warren McKenzie in a series of "secret little meetings," said the informant.

It was then taken to Anderson, who



revealed there were technical problems including the fact the SUB is owned by UNB and any change in management would have to have the approval of the university governors' board.

The six UNB representatives on the SUB board were to be replaced by members of the UNB SRC and its executive according

STORIES BY SUSAN MANZER, TOM BENJAMIN AND DAVE SIMMS

to one proposal said both the informant and Chisholm.

About the same time as the consultation with Anderson, Chisholm backed out of the study and the STU SRC Tuesday night passed a motion opposing any move to threaten SRC autonomy.

The SUB spokesman said student government-owned student buildings have worked at Halifax's Dalhousie University but there was strong parity there.

The spokesman said the SUB now serves as a neutral meeting ground for the students' unions and university administrations.

He said UNB SRC participation in SUB management might be well-advised considering STU faces an uncertain future and that the student governments could contribute experienced people. However, the present system of open membership attracts people who have a real interest in the SUB, he said, rather than just fulfilling a councillor's duty.

Sub board members include UNB representatives Margo Brewer, David Miller, Roy Neale, Chris Naigle, Shelagh MacDonald and Eric Hicks while STU members include Barry Burgess, John McEvoy and Moe Latouche. The UNB administration is represented by mechanical engineering professor Tony Short and comptroller Sam Mullin.

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