

Special task force intends to discuss student aid

A special task force will be meeting in Ottawa on February 13 to discuss the question of student aid in Canada.

The committee is a by-product of the Council of the Education Ministers (CEM) and was arranged through an agreement with its Chairman and Secretary of State Hugh Faulkner. It is to present its report and make recommendations to CEM in August.

Documents from the committee show that the purpose of this

special task force is to "give immediate consideration to those changes necessary in existing federal plans for student assistance in order to bring them into line with existing needs and educational patterns."

Bob Buckingham of the National Union of Students (NUS) learnt in December 1974 that the CEM was considering proposing changes in the existing financial aid plans and requested that students be represented in the deliberations.

The reply from CEM Secretary

General Maurice Richer acknowledged ongoing studies regarding possible changes but gave no indication as to the formation of the special task force which was initially set up last August. He rejected the possibility of student representation on the council because of CEM "policy."

The task force consists of representatives of the federal government and all of the provinces except Quebec. The total cost of the task force which will meet for five full days through the

year is estimated at \$9,000 and is shared by the CEM and the federal government.

New Brunswick will be represented at these closed meetings by Mrs. E. Briggs, the Director of Student Aid for the province.

When asked whether or not students should be represented on deliberations for changes in the financial program she commented that it was "still under study" in her department.

Briggs added that student input into implementing the Student Aid

program in New Brunswick has been attempted in the past, but little success was achieved. She personally is hesitant as to the question of having student representation at the talks. Mrs. Briggs added that on a provincial level she would like to see the department work more closely with students.

Warren McKenzie of UNB, Chairman of the Atlantic Federation of Students has indicated the Federation's support of the NUS proposal of having student representation at the deliberations.

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Mount Allison students boycott classes

By DAVE SIMMS

SACKVILLE—Class boycotts by Mount Allison University students and faculty here have resulted in "pretty well a complete shut-down," a student spokesperson said Wednesday night.

Cathy Boyd, editor of Mount Allison's student publication Argosy Weekly, said in a telephone interview that between 100 and 200 students from all faculties had picketed and marched for about an hour Wednesday morning near the administration headquarters at

Centennial Hall.

Some professors boycotted their classes.

Some classes with enrolments of 30 had only three students attend.

The actions are in support of a professor, Carey Grobe, who was refused tenure by the university's

board of regents. The demonstrators have been asking the board of regents' tenure committee to make a re-assessment or give reasons for their refusal.

Demonstrations began Monday when approximately 30 education students and faculty carrying placards marched at the university library during a regents' meeting.

The Argosy reported Tuesday a 1½-hour meeting staged by the original boycotters to explain their actions received "overwhelming support" from approximately 500 fellow students.

There were unconfirmed reports the meeting of the tenure committee Wednesday was cancelled due to the noise of the demonstration. Boycotts continued into the afternoon but picketing ceased.

A meeting between education students and the tenure committee apparently met with no results, the newspaper reported.

University public relations officer Charles Moffat said the tenure committee agreed to reconsider their decision not to re-open the

case but reasons for the original refusal would not be released.

Grobe is Jewish, an American citizen and has been on staff for four years. He has a philosophy doctorate and refusal of tenure would result in the loss of his position.

Another unconfirmed report said Grobe had been given the reasons for the refusal, among them the observation his university sophomore grade-point average had been too low for the committee's standards.

Boyd said Grobe had had "good rapport" with his students and the basis for the refusal was "not clear."

The tenure committee includes university president L.H. Cragg, two associate deans, the vice-president academic and the applicant's departmental head.

An administrative official, reported the Argosy, said no decision would be made until probably two or three meetings had been held. The official said it would be a long, drawn out process and "no snap decisions" would be made.



Between 40 and 50 Mount Allison University education faculty and students staged a classes boycott Monday in support of a professor, Carey Grobe, who had been denied tenure by the university's board of regents. The demonstration pictured staged in front of the Ralph Pickard Bell Library where the regents' board tenure committee was meeting.

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McLeod Residence to receive cable TV services

University of New Brunswick student president Peter Galoska announced Tuesday the McLeod women's residence can receive cable television services.

The service was made available when the McLeod House committee and City Cablevision Ltd. signed an agreement which includes self-policing by the residents to avoid illegal hook-ups.

The firm had expressed unwillingness to offer the service, said Galoska, since there had been several illegal taps off the cable when the building was a singles co-operative. Potential for cable hook-ups already exist in each room.

The committee will collect from those who buy private hook-ups and be directly responsible for payment of all services to the firm. This places responsibility on the girls to report illegal hook-ups.

In addition to service to private rooms, two televisions in common rooms will have cable.

The same policing system will be used when on-campus residences acquire the service. An agreement was made for these hook-ups in December and sponsored by the UNB Associated Alumni, the Student Union Building and UNB's audio-visual services.