

Blood and Thunder

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No doubt there are inadequacies in the University administration and the services provided - be it the bookstore, housing, food services and the like, but is it really possible for the students to remedy these by taking the responsibility on their own shoulders? My own impression is that a serious university student has hardly enough time to keep up with his studies and intellectual pursuits, let alone worry about reforming the administration. I compare this to the problem of reforming one's own parents - a natural impossibility. It is not possible to either choose or make sure that the parents will do the right things from the point of view of the child. The same applies to a great extent to the students as long as they are dependent on the older generation for their physical well being and mental growth. It may be worth remembering that most of the cost of university education (80%?) is borne by those who are not university students. But for this dependence, some student leaders might be tempted to establish their own university, presided by a student, administered by students and possibly taught by students. I am afraid that a perfect university will still not be achieved.

I believe that many students are at the University to absorb knowledge accumulated by their ancestors - a formidable task, because of the new knowledge that has been added in recent times - and then either add to it or use it to improve the world for those whose ancestors they will become. May I suggest that the students whose main interest is in the political arena, should not drag the others with them, and let them study. As for the apartheid problem, the degree of student involvement, must of necessity be of a limited nature. Otherwise, as very well said by Mr. James Dickinson in the Brunswickan of March 14, 1986, much needs to be done in our own backyard.

Sincerely,
Matin Yaqzan
Assistant Professor
Dept. of Mathematics

Resignation Timely

Dear Editor,

Re: Resignation of Al Macdonald

Mr. Macdonald's resignation was timely and necessary for several reasons. Macdonald not only did not fulfill the requirements of his office, but his conduct and attitude while in office both detrimental to the Student Union but were also non-representative of the students who made the unfortunate mistake of electing him into office.

Mr. Macdonald was not available during office hours and was extremely difficult to reach.

Mr. Macdonald did not and seemed incapable of conducting himself in a professional manner when dealing with other members of the executive.

Mr. Macdonald ignored motions passed in the executive concerning meetings with the university administration, preparation and publication of Student Union by-laws and regulations and discussion of business in the executive.

Mr. Macdonald violated several sections of the regulations governing publication of regulations and by-laws. He also violated the election act by not posting a list of candidates for the March elections.

I deeply regret that Mr. Macdonald was unable to put the election behind him and learn to cooperate with the rest of the Executive.

Sincerely,
Tony English

C.A.M.P.U.S. Concerns

Dear Editor,

The enclosed letter has been sent to President Downey representing the concerns of C.A.M.P.U.S., the mature students organization of UNB and ST. Thomas. Could you kindly insert it in your letters to the editor?

Dear President Downey,

On March 17, 1986, at our monthly C.A.M.P.U.S. (Continuing, Adult, Mature, and Part-Time University Students) meeting, the members in attendance discussed the issue of student fees for part-time students. On behalf of the executive and members of C.A.M.P.U.S., I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of our position on this matter, as it directly affects many members of our organization.

The general consensus of our group was that the implementation of student fees for part-time students would be both an undemocratic and unwarranted decision.

First, part-time students are ineligible to vote in this referendum. Obviously then, whatever decision might be reached will have been the result of a voting body consisting of full-time students. I feel strongly that a referendum cannot be held on the issue of fees for part-time students when the student population concerned does not have the opportunity to input or in anyway affect the final outcome.

Clearly, I am protesting on a matter of principle. It seems a somewhat absurd distortion of the democratic process when decisions can be made about a significant community within the student body whose members are disenfranchised. Secondly, and perhaps more pragmatically, I am opposed to student fees for part-time learners from a utilitarian stand-point. It is my understanding that the use of money extracted for student fees goes towards expenditures involved in various extracurricular and social functions. Most of these events are geared towards the younger and full-time university community. Part-time students, therefore, will have no tangible benefits through the payment of student fees. It will be a case of a smaller population of students subsidizing activities and events which they will seldom, if ever, be able to take advantage of.

The reality of attending university for the part-time student is that their time on campus is very limited, often confined to the classroom and library. Summer students and off-campus students would have no benefits, whatsoever. It is a more educational focused process for the part-time student; for their time at university is often wedged between work and additional commitments, such as family. Part-time students do pay more per course than full-time students. This we accept as necessary for additional administrative and salary costs which ultimately enhances the quality of education we receive. In the case of student fees, however, we do not receive an educational return on our dollar.

Many part-time students find themselves in a financial position which is tenuous at best. They rely heavily on bursaries and/or scholarships and have costs such as day-care to contend with. Any additional expense is burdensome and demoralizing.

In stating my opposition to the implementation of student fees, I am representing not only the members and executive of C.A.M.P.U.S., but feel as well I am expressing the sentiments of the majority of part-time students on this campus. I hope you will take our position on this matter into consideration.

Sincerely,
Sheree Fitch
President, C.A.M.P.U.S.

Rules?... What Rules?

Dear Editor:

I must admit that in the Student Union elections of November, 1984 my vote for the office of president did not go to Ms. Kaye MacPhee or to Larry Fox. Instead, I made sure that my 'X' was placed beside the name of Mr. John Bosnitch. At that time, I sincerely believed that because John was hard working, sincere, and had the best interests of we students at heart, there was no other person for the job. I felt that those people who opposed him only did so as a result of their own inadequacies. The administration disliked him because he challenged its authority; and students spoke up against him because he challenged them to do their part for other students.

During the Fox administration, I made a point of attending as many council meetings as possible and to get a feel for what went on in our student government. Consequently, I became aware of Mr. Bosnitch's incessant campaign to make life difficult for the Student Union executive. Outside of Council meetings it seemed as if he never stopped harassing Messrs. Fox, Burgess, and Spurles. Inside these meetings, his constant abuse of parliamentary procedure made it impossible for Council to get anything constructive done.

I soon realized that in November 1984 I was labouring under an illusion.

Two weeks ago Mr. English, V.P. Finance, asked Council to approve the Brunswickan honoraria. The name of Ms. Brenda Paul, co-editor for last semester, was not on his list. When questioned about the omission he stated that because Ms. Paul was negligent in regards to a van crash in November, she would not be receiving her money. However, after it became evident that a number of councillors wished that the issue be addressed during the meeting, Messrs. Bosnitch and English changed their excuse; now Ms. Paul was ineligible because she had not completed the required 1/2 term of office. In response, Mr. Koncz, our unbiased chairman, ruled that a motion to grant the honorarium was out of order. Council had no choice but to recommit the matter to the financial commission.

Subsequent to the meeting I discovered that Ms. Paul had completed her 1/2 term. The masthead in last semester's Christmas edition of the Brunswickan proves the fact. In addition, the present editor, Mr. Quigley, has circulated a letter to councillors maintaining that Ms. Paul did remain co-editor until the end of the term.

It seems that council was not told the truth.

Mr. Bennett, like Mr. Bosnitch, does not have a pristine record. In discussion regarding the upcoming referendum, he responded to inquiries about the question calling for an independent Graduate Student Association, by stating clearly and unequivocally that the executive of the association agreed with the wording which was presented to council. The letters in the Brunswickan last week show conclusively that the referendum question was formulated without G.S.A. participation.

Again Council did not receive the truth.

My real gripe with the present executive is that for the most part it has purposely misled Council on the issues I have stated and on who knows what else. On top of that, I have seen Mr. Bosnitch, not only during the Fox era, but also during his own term of office, effectively abuse the rules of procedure. He seems to refuse to act in a reasonable and responsible manner.

My complaints are not made on the

basis of personal dislike; nor are they the product of a disposition that likes to be in opposition for the sake of opposition. On the contrary, they are the result of close observation and empirical fact. I have seen how the present executive operates and I believe it to be unfair and undemocratic.

As the Student Union elections approach and the concomitant referendum questions are up for consideration, it is important that we ask ourselves an important question. Given the fact that the present executive cannot be trusted, what are the implications of a yes vote on anyone of the proposed questions?

I know that on the basis of my observations how I'll vote on a number of issues. I ask that you also take time to weigh the evidence and make your decision.

Yours sincerely,
Laurence Hansen
Councillor, UNB Student Union

Glutton Strike

Dear Editor,

My conscience will not allow me the soothing comforts of sleep anymore. First Senator Jacques Hebert began his hunger strike in support of Katimavik and now you have jumped on the bandwagon. I sincerely believe that you and Senator Hebert should think about getting reservations at Loopy-Land Hotel (adjoining rooms!) or, at the least, sitting down and reevaluating your priorities in your respective lives. Actually I can see Senator Hebert doing something like this, he has been a member of Senate for a while and Senators are around for a long time which is similar to starting CHEM 1040 and knowing you are going to be in the same course for the rest of your natural life, my mind would turn to mush also. Then, it may have been the paralyzing tentacles of senility seizing the mind of Senator Hebert, who knows?

I really expected more from you, Mr. Quigley. If you are really concerned about issues that affect all students why didn't you go on a hunger strike when draft went up 20¢ a glass. I know I went through some mental anguish!

I will bet you people, who are reading this article, are probably thinking that I'm just another smart-ass making fun of some one trying to accomplish something. Well I am but I am going to put my stomach where my mouth is (which I have done on more than one occasion on a Friday night!). I was talking to some of my associates yesterday and we came to the conclusion the only way to fight this stupidity is for myself to go on a Glutton Strike. That is right, I plan on eating continuously until this foolishness stops. I know you people are gasping, "Eat continuously, but how?!" All the details have been worked out and my associates, my roommate, and myself believe we will be able to generate a lot of support. We believe we should be able to get local businesses to donate food and I will be approaching Beaver Foods about catering food to my classes. When I am sleeping at night I will have an IV unit hooked up to my arm feeding my body nutrients through the night.

This is the only way I know how to fight these people, so students of UNB and all campuses, UNITE! Hear my battle cry. "Eat Harvey's! Eat MacDonald's! Eat Burger King! And, yes, Eat Beaver!"

To Ken Quigley and Senator Jacques Hebert I hope you understood what I have been trying to say.

I'll see everyone at 400 lbs.

Sincerely,
Larry Long

Semple Says

TO ALL BUSINESS STUDENTS

My name is Eric Semple (BBA 4) and I am a candidate for Faculty of Administration representative in the upcoming Student Union elections.

My platform is based on two simple concepts:

1. good student government means responsible student government
2. the best possible representation for Business Students

I am motivated to run for this position because of the overwhelming sense of frustration I believe myself and other students are faced with regarding the state of the UNB Student Union and the actions of its executive officers.

The reports that the Student Union has been running with no financial controls with spending occurring unchecked are further complicated by further reports that the Union is broke and may not be able to meet its financial commitments up to the end of this year. Examples of mismanagement and lack of leadership are demonstrated daily.

The actions of John Bosnitch and his associates are not examples of responsible student government. The University regulations clearly state students are expected to conduct themselves at all times in such a manner as will reflect credit on themselves and on the University. Imagine facing a potential employer, who considers not the quality of your degree program but that you are a graduate of the university where the student government ran amok.

I have been active within the Faculty of Administration serving both on the Faculty Council and Business Executive for two terms. I strongly support the ideal that because the Faculty of Administration is one of the largest single faculties (contributes more than 18% of total Student Union fees) it must receive an equitable return. (This year the faculty club allotment by the Student Union to Business was less than 9%)

I urge all Business students to exercise their right to vote and support a candidate that represents you not an individual.

Eric Semple
Faculty of Administration

All letters to the editor must be typed or printed legibly and double spaced, and signed along with a daytime phone number. Names may be withheld under extreme circumstances, include a note with the letter requesting such if you wish. The Brunswickan will refuse publication of letters with libellous, sexist, or racist material. Letters over 250 words may be edited for brevity.