

# EDITORIAL

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Editor-in-Chief

"At bottom the world isn't a joke. We only joke about it to avoid an issue with someone, to let someone know that we know he's there with his questions; to disarm him by seeming to have heard and done justice to his side of the argument."

—Robert Frost

## More input from University community needed

This week's editorial deals with the "space utilization and masterplanning study" undertaken by Environmental Consulting Services Limited of Toronto. This firm was hired by the University of New Brunswick to deal with "functional problems and deficiencies in existing university buildings." In addition to assessing building utilization, space allocations were reviewed to determine if improvements could be made. The authors of this proposal noted that; "the wide scope of this study necessitated limiting formal discussions to Deans, Directors, Chairpersons and key administrative staff." This point is one I have grave misgivings with. The university community cannot idly sit by and accept the recommendations and proposals made by E.C.S.. Any major changes such as those proposed should be opened to scrutiny and discussion by the entire university community and not merely the higher echelons of decision-making.

The people most affected by the proposed are the students and faculty of UNB. Why did the E.C.S. not hold public hearings to find out the valued opinions of the larger university community? I also find it odd that the administration would hire a consulting firm from Toronto and not use the qualified personnel available in the Maritimes.

It is an irony that this report concentrated on "maximizing the use of space," and not maximizing the quality of educational services available. Education is not designed to be "space efficient" nor can we deal with human development by allocating a square footage to the potential of each individual student.

It is doubtful that the recommendations contained within this draft report are worth the financial cost laid out by the university. Any decisions to move departments and facilities should come from within and not be based on the advice of Toronto consultants.

On April 3rd and 4th a meeting will be held to assess the draft report, omissions, inaccuracies and other considerations that directly relate to it. To my knowledge no students or faculty other than the deans of each department will be present. Why must we operate our institution with closed-door policies and ivory-tower decision making? We have not seen any notices posted pertaining to this report, nor have we the students been asked to take part in the evaluation process. I have outlined some careful considerations the administration should look at.

### Points to consider

Firstly, the administration should advertise for student input on the draft report before it is returned for a final writing.

Considerations such as off-campus housing should be viewed in a different context. Fredericton has a "99 pct occupancy rate and residences such as Maggie Jean and Rosary Hall supply a greater service than the authors of this report believe their cost merits.

Any further developments should be published for public consumption.

The demolition of present facilities such as the Anthropology building for increased parking space is unacceptable to this department and many students. These people obviously want to stay in this facility and their desires should be respected beyond the need of more parking space.

Any changes made during the summer should have the agreement of the departments affected, if not they should wait until the fall when students can voice their important concerns and affect any decision.

As a final point we should all work together for the benefit of our university and its future. This requires a relationship based on consultation not one obviously based on the sole interests of administrative officials



# mugwump journal



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What is Amnesty International? Thousands of people around the world are in prison because of their beliefs. Many are held without charge or trial. Torture and executions are wide spread.

These abuses - taking place in countries of widely differing ideologies - demand an international response, transcending the boundaries of nation, race, and ideology. This is the fundamental belief upon which Amnesty International, an independent world wide organization, is based. We applaud the efforts of this concerned agency of humanitarianism.

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It seems that the Young Liberals are following the old guards standards. On March 18th WORD or World Disarmament held a debate on the issue of nuclear disarmament. All three parties were invited and only the Liberals did not attend. It would seem that such an issue would be a priority for young politically minded Liberals.

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T. S. Elliot once said, "April is the cruelist month". Elliot was a highly educated man, with many degrees. We know what he meant, don't we? With final Exams approaching there is no doubt that April looms on the horizon as a demanding and forboding month.

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This week's feature news story deals with a very important issue, one that will inevitably have some effect on all of us at UNB. If you don't agree with the space re-allocation proposed, speak out and take action along side others in your faculty. This University has proposed drastic alterations to present facilities, alterations that require thorough and careful consideration, more importantly "consultation" with those most affected, the students of UNB.

### A job well done

It is not often that a newspaper such as ours gets the chance to commend an employee for excellence beyond the call of duty. As the only payroll employee working with the paper, Corinne Boone has performed her job admirably. As well as her specified duties Corinne can often be found working overtime for no charge, helping to make deadlines for publishing the Brunswickan.

We, the staff of the Brunswickan are proud to have an employee of Corinne's ability working with our paper. We would like to thank her for the many hours of effort she has given us and to show our appreciation for her interest and dedication to the Brunswickan. It is important to our paper that we have a competent and responsible typesetter. From the staff of the Brunswickan, many thanks Corinne for your performance beyond the call of duty.

The Staff  
Brunswickan '85