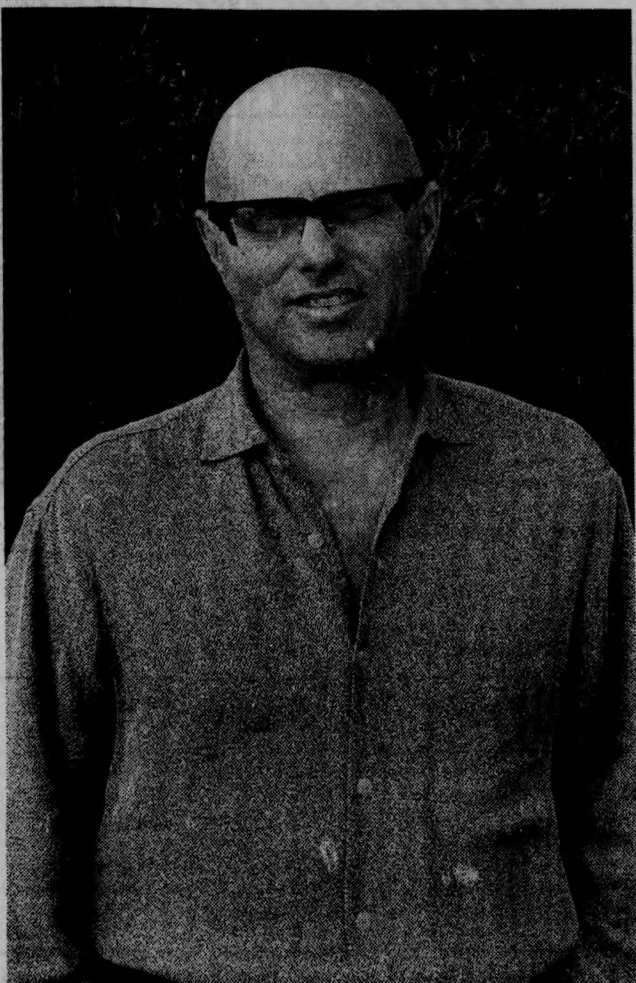


## Controversial Native Rights Activist and Lawyer Speaks at UNB and STU



Native rights activist and lawyer Bruce Clark spoke at Saint Thomas and UNB this month. Clark, who was invited by Andrea Bear-Nicholas to speak at a STU native studies class spoke eloquently and passionately about the legal issues which he claims are at the heart of many native land claims in Canada.

## UNB a partner in cross cultural health project

The University of New Brunswick faculty of nursing and the New Brunswick Multicultural Health Council are currently carrying out an innovative research project. It is designed to promote cultural sensitivity in hospital health care as well as bridge barriers that may exist between health-care providers and non-mainstream health-care recipients.

Headed by UNB Moncton nursing professor Cynthia Baker, the Cross Cultural Health Project is underway in Fredericton, Bathurst, and Miramichi City. It has already resulted in action at Georges Dumont and Moncton City hospitals where the project was completed in 1995. Multicultural health

committees have since been formed and maintained at those hospitals.

"I initiated the project because of my involvement with immigrant communities in the Moncton area and their experiences with hospitalization," explained Dr. Baker. "The hospital cultural committees in Moncton are still active, adding projects and working with the local multicultural association to provide interpreters when they are needed."

Another undertaking of the Moncton committees is to invite members of First Nations communities to give workshops on Native spirituality and health beliefs.

In each location, the Cross Cultural Health Project started with an

assessment of the experience of hospitalization for members of refugee, new immigrant, and First Nations population groups. Workshops and other activities have formed the basis for the educative phase of the project, designed to assist hospital health-care professionals to explore their own views on working with clients from diverse cultural groups and the impact these views may have on client care.

"Nurses and other health-care workers don't get a lot of experience working with patients from other cultures, so when they do, they often feel at a loss," noted Dr. Baker. Permanent resource kits are left in the hospitals for workers to consult.

Dr. Baker hoped that the project, which is unique to New Brunswick, helps to educate people to cultural sensitivity. "There are many cultures in the province, but no large concentrations of any one group," she said. "Health-care workers have welcomed this initiative as something that helps them do their jobs."

Ultimately Dr. Baker hopes that a network of committees will be set up throughout the province. In the meantime, she integrates her research into her course curriculum. "Students have been able to attend some of the workshops," she said. "And we are teaching them cross-cultural nursing concepts."

## Acclamation, not bi-election, for Aquinian Editor-in-Chief

CYNTHIA KIRKEY  
THE BRUNSWICKAN

For the first time ever, St. Thomas students will not have any say in who runs their newspaper.

The bi-election, which was scheduled for December 2 to decide who would become *The Aquinian's* Editor-in-Chief, was cancelled because only one candidate stepped forward.

"The bi-election has been cancelled because Adam Jarvis [who was Managing Editor until he was acclaimed Editor-in-Chief] was the only person to submit a nomination form by the deadline," said Tanya Clark, Finance Manager for *The Aquinian's* Board of Directors.

"We opened the nominations for a week and gave the student body the chance to drop the nomination forms off, but he was the only person to do so," she said. "We didn't want to leave the paper in a state of flux. We wanted to get the situation resolved as quickly as possible and we had to have an election within three weeks, so extending the nomination period wasn't really an option."

When asked why there was no yes/no vote held in place of an election, Clark explained that it is not part of *The Aquinian's* constitution. "The Aquinian uses the St. Thomas Student Union election procedures, [in which] if there's only one candidate they get acclaimed." This is an unusual situation, according to Clark. "To the best of my knowledge, there's always been an election for *The Aquinian's* Editor-in-Chief, as there was last year when Tracy [Carr, who resigned following an attempt by the Editorial Board to have her impeached] was elected. Because of her resignation, we had to hold a bi-election, but then Adam was the only one to run so he was acclaimed."

Clark is not worried, however, about Jarvis' Editor-in-Chief to be negligent vis-à-vis his capabilities. "I think the Board [of Directors] feels confident in Adam's ability to be Editor-in-Chief, and he has the support of his staff."

Jarvis says he's up to the challenge. "I'm confident that I'll do a great job because I've got the best team in the world."

Just because he was the only one to run for the position does not mean he intends to take the job any less seriously, he said. "There were a few people who considered running but we talked about it and we didn't want to split any votes up. We're all for the same thing: what's best for the paper." "The Editorial Board's going to keep the Editor-in-Chief in check," he added. "I'm accountable to them and to the students at large and they're not going to allow the Editor-in-Chief to be negligent."

## Askanas appointed to head centre for entrepreneurial leadership at UNB

Wiktor Askanas has been named director of the Centre for Entrepreneurial Leadership at the UNB.

Established last March in partnership with Bank of Montreal, the centre is located in UNB's faculty of administration. Its mission is to develop and support entrepreneurial leadership among students, faculty and growth-oriented businesses in New Brunswick.

"The centre's activities - teaching, research and outreach - support several objectives," said Dr. Askanas. "These include developing expertise in the field of entrepreneurial leadership at UNB and providing students with experiential learning in entrepreneurship."

"The faculty of administration has positioned itself as a key supplier of university educated entrepreneurs. Through new courses, programs and activities, the centre will further student and faculty exposure to entrepreneurial thinking."

Other objectives of the centre are to foster partnerships between UNB and the business community, increase the

knowledge base about New Brunswick growth-oriented entrepreneurs and to strengthen these entrepreneurs through research and training.

"Growth-oriented businesses are the leaders in job creation among small businesses," said Dr. Askanas. "We want them to know that they can come to the centre for support."

A professor at UNB since 1983, Dr. Askanas holds an MBA and a PhD from the Polish Academy of Science. In 1994 he was recognized by his undergraduate institution, the Poznan School of Management and Economics, for his contribution to the development and promotion of entrepreneurship in Poland.

Dr. Askanas has received a national 3M Teaching Fellowship as well as UNB's Allan P. Stuart Award for Excellence in Teaching. As the faculty of administration's assistant dean of graduate studies, he spearheaded the successful international internship program for MBA students on UNB's Fredericton campus.

## UNB forestry executive-in-residence developing business plan for faculty

It's already recognized as the leading forestry school in the country, but the faculty of forestry and environmental management at UNB isn't resting on its laurels.

A forestry executive-in-residence has been engaged to prepare a business plan for the future development of the faculty. Businessman Fred J. Bearisto of Fredericton is even now rolling up his sleeves for the plan that will address

all aspects of the faculty's activities, especially its primary teaching and research functions.

"He will give particular attention to the quality of training and education necessary to maintain UNB graduates as leaders in the forestry and environmental sectors," said J.W. Bud Bird, who chairs the faculty's Advisory Board. "He will also explore future potential employment horizons for these UNB students in Canada and around the world."

While Bearisto looks forward to the challenge of developing the business plan, he notes the great responsibility it entails. "The future of this great institution is a heavy responsibility for all of us as we move into the twenty-first century," he said. "It will bring many challenges in funding and in competing in a world where long-distance teaching is likely to explode, allowing the strongest to excel and leaving the weak behind."

Bearisto will be looking at the financial viability of the faculty in terms of student population, staff complement, research opportunities and activities, prospective sources of funding, and its overall administrative organization. In conducting the study, he will call upon his years of extensive experience as a self-employed businessman in New Brunswick. Bearisto is recognized for his public service in numerous organizations and has served two terms as a member of UNB's Board of Governors. He holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from UNB and a master's degree in business administration from the University of Western Ontario.

The final report, scheduled for completion within this academic year, will attempt to identify areas for innovation and change that will help to sustain UNB's faculty of forestry and environmental management in a pre-eminent position among the top forestry schools in the world.

Bird noted the recent lead rating of UNB's faculty of forestry and environmental management in the October issue of the *Globe and Mail's Report on Business*. In a comprehensive survey of various individual faculties across Canada, the UNB faculty ranked first in terms of job readiness of its students and was the only faculty to have an employment record of 100 percent in the past year. The article emphasized the demand for UNB forestry graduates among both private and public sector employers across the country.

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