

Students deserve same rights as faculty

The Joint Nominating Committee of the Senate and Board of Governors whose task it is to find a suitable candidate for the position of President of UNB, will hopefully finish its quest in the very near future.

Their job is to seek nominations for the post and whittle down the suggestions to a workable number. The procedures the committee adopt to get these names is left pretty well up to them.

After the present committee has made its choice, or choices, they present these to a joint meeting of the Board of Governors and the UNB Senate. These two bodies then vote, presumably by secret ballot, on whether they want any of the candidates to fill the position.

However, the faculty would now like to get into the act also. A good many faculty members would like the chance to meet the final candidates. They can then inform their representatives on the Senate who they would like to see as the President. At this week's Senate meeting the Senate passed a motion supporting this move. Now all that remains is to see if the faculty will get their chance to see the committee's short list and meet the finalists.

This is not the proper action to take.

First, the Senate gave the nominating committee a job to do. To renege on the terms of reference given the committee is grossly unfair, and, as we will soon point out, impractical.

Second, it will be difficult for those candidates involved to meet at one time and in one place in order for our illustrious faculty members to get in on some of the action.

Already two or three candidates have been introduced to members of the Senate.

For the committee to take this

one step further and introduce them to the faculty, however, is improper. Why? Because if the faculty can circulate petitions and gain access to what is now supposedly privileged information, then there is every reason why students - all students - should

gain the same right.

For the faculty is not here because of the president, nor are they the ones which will substantially benefit or suffer under the new president's administration. It is the students who will ultimately lose or gain, and who

knows our needs better than ourselves?

If the faculty must insist on some type of blanket review of candidates for the president, the students should do the same. Our rights in this institution can be no less than anyone else's.

Committee against Westmoreland

should re-direct energy

For some time now, the people on this campus have known that US General William Westmoreland will be visiting UNB this week. He is to lecture to a class in military history twice and later today, he will be participating in the Bridges House Forum. That encounter will be broadcast over CHSR.

In the past week or two, a mystical Committee Against Westmoreland's Visit has appeared, apparently for the purpose of preventing the General from making an appearance. The committee sent letters to the Telegraph Journal in Saint John and The Gleaner in Fredericton to explain their stand. No letter was sent to The Brunswickan - perhaps we're too conservative for the committee's liking. But it seems logical to us, anyway, that if the committee proposes to stop Westmoreland's visit, then he'll need student support to do so. Deliberately avoiding this paper as its medium, the

committee instead chose to use the commercial press, a practise that in this case is impractical if not outright foolish.

The committee, like so many others in this world, has apparently decided what we should and should not see. One glance at Westmoreland, we are led to believe, and we'll all become warmongering university students. That approach is about as sensible as one which would have us censor films, newspapers and books. Frankly, from a man such as Pat Callaghan, we expected greater things.

Apparently we were wrong.

While we in no way agree with what the General stands for, he, like the rest of us, does have a right to free speech. Childish politicians like Mr. Callaghan and Co. should not be allowed to infringe upon that right.

It is, however, our desire that as many people as possible confront the General with the atroci-

ties that the US Army - for a long time under his direction - committed upon the people of Vietnam. We strongly disagree with America's imperialist efforts in that country.

Let's ask the General:
 - was the war worth the 900,000 Vietnamese killed since 1965?
 - was it worth the 55,000 Americans killed since that same date?
 - was it worth wounding and maiming 900,000 Vietnamese?
 - was it worth the \$400,000,000,000 that it has or will eventually cost the United States for waging war?

- and finally, what really is the prospect for peace in Vietnam?

Those, Mr. Callaghan, are questions worth debating. To shut our minds to the problem of war is naive. Perhaps by bringing it out in the open the concept of war will have less chance of survival.

As we see it, anyway, that's a more commendable goal than curbing the right to free speech.

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