

I n - D e p t h

and Yaqzan is still looking for answers

doctor assisted suicide but the Canadian Medical Association does not. At its annual meeting in Montreal last month the CMA rejected euthanasia and physician assisted suicide.

A third conference speaker will be Bernice Schrank, a member and past chair of the academic freedom and tenure committee of the Canadian Association of University Teachers. An English professor at Memorial University of Newfoundland, Schrank is also active in the MUN faculty association, on whose grievance committee she sits.

Schrank, in a paper presented at the Learned Societies Conference in Ottawa in June 1993, argues it's untrue to suggest that the relationship between academic freedom and the inclusive university is oppositional. "The concept of inclusivity recognizes and seeks to increase diversity, openness and tolerance within the university in relation to the curriculum and to the academic work environment," Schrank continued.

"Such a notion of inclusivity is unimaginable and unrealizable in the absence of a strong commitment to academic freedom. The inclusive university is contingent on academic freedom," Schrank said. "In short, academic freedom and the inclusive university exist in a relationship of reciprocity, interconnected and interdependent. The truth of the matter is you can't have one without the

other," she said.

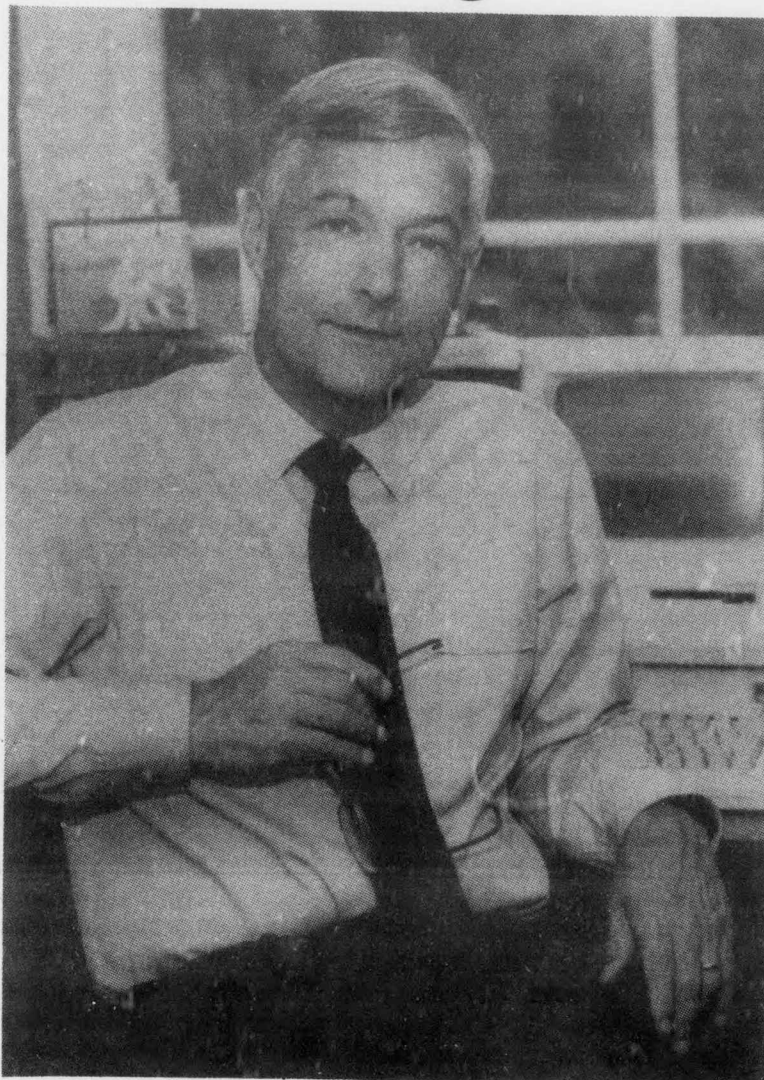
But Schrank asks "Does the university community have to tolerate every speech or act no matter how hateful?" "Of course, no right is absolute," she affirmed. Schrank's paper "Academic Freedom and the Inclusive University" appeared in the May 1994 issue of the Canadian Association of University Teachers Bulletin.

All of which has former UNB Mathematics Professor Yaqzan still looking for answers, - answers he may still be looking for long after this conference is over.

Earlier this month on September 10th, Yaqzan sent a letter to conference organizers addressed to Dr. Peter Kepros. In the letter Yaqzan wonders whether participants in the conference are expected to express their reaction to the opinion article on Date Rape "I have not seen or heard anyone point out a single false statement in the article or any logical flaw in it."

"May I suggest that you provide them in advance with a copy of my article and ask them to point out by direct quotation as to where I have erred," Yaqzan writes. "If they are intellectually honest and cannot find a flaw, then they have a moral obligation to pronounce their judgement no matter how unpleasant it is for their hosts" Yaqzan continues.

"Those responsible for the hate-Yaqzan campaign, the UNB Administration and



U of T Historian Michael Bliss is scheduled to deliver a speech entitled "Rights and the Flowering of Individualism"

the media..., should be asked to make a public apology for the harm they have inflicted upon me and my family," said Yaqzan.

Conference organizer Peter Kepros plans to respond to Yaqzan's letter. "This conference is intended to discuss issues that are more general in nature so we don't expect to deal directly with specific issues, unless they come up" Kepros said. "So, I'm afraid Martin Yaqzan may be a bit disappointed with my response," said Kepros.

As for Yaqzan, he is expected not to be a participant in the conference proceedings. When contacted by the Brunswickan Yaqzan said he did not expect to attend.

He refused all further comment except to say the Brunswickan is free to quote from his September 10th, 1994 letter to UNB conference organizers. But Yaqzan did hint that a book may soon be in the offing.

If Yaqzan is keeping a very low profile, Lara Rooke, Vice-President External Affairs with the UNB Student Union, hopes students will be high profile participants. "The conference should give students better insight into some of the issues that they might otherwise not know about," she said. "The Yaqzan affair was an emotionally charged issue," she continued. "Hopefully the conference will give students insight into why this happened and add some perspective," Rooke concluded.

UNB STUDENT UNION Fall By-Election

The UNB Student Union Council is holding a Fall By-Election for the following positions:

- Two (2) Arts Faculty Representatives
- One (1) Phys. Ed. & Rec. Faculty Representative
- One (1) Nursing Faculty Representative
- One (1) Education Faculty Representative
- One (1) Seat on the University Academic Senate



Nominations are open now and close Friday, 30 September 1994 at 4:30PM. To obtain nomination forms or more information, please contact Graeme Smith (Chief Returning Officer), Marlene Brewer (Union Secretary) or Pat FitzPatrick (V.P. University Affairs) in Rm 126 of the SUB or at 453-4955 or by e-mail at "unbsu@unb.ca".