

Senate candidates interviewed

By GORDON LOANE
Brunswickan Staff

Eleven students are vying for three seats on the UNB senate in student elections that take place Wednesday.

Gregg Taylor

First year Business student Gregg Taylor emphasizes that he is not a member of the Student Party. But he says, "they have the right idea and that it was good that they are pulling together all the views and needs of the students in one package and are presenting a consolidated front."

Taylor says that he really doesn't see any major issues right now, other than tuition increases, which he expects will be large this year. The provincial government should be questioned about this - not the universities.

Taylor says he would try to attain positive results from Senate committees. He says he feels he can "represent more viewpoints from the campus collage of students and not just the ideas of a few."

A strong desire to represent the student population on the senate and a strong interest in the well being of UNB and maintaining the lifestyle we enjoy here is what prompted Taylor to run for Senate.

Taylor, a Montreal native, says he hopes that despite his lack of experience people will support him as he feels that input on the first year level is essential to the Senate. Taylor has been actively involved in the Business Society having served on the Business Week committee. Taylor is a resident of Neill House.

Timothy Lethbridge

Bathurst native Tim Lethbridge lists experience in the student media as a major asset in his election efforts. A first year computer science student, Lethbridge is a member of the CHSR-FM news department and is presently News Editor of the Brunswickan.

"I have had the opportunity to attend all but one senate meeting and most SRC meetings, this year," said Lethbridge. "My job in the media has required that I attend, although he's genuinely interested," he added. As a result Lethbridge believes he knows the issues and is directly involved with student concerns on a day to day basis.

Most students I talk to do not know much about senate. As a result I plan to write a regular column in the Brunswickan to inform students just what is taking place.

Lethbridge says he is interested in serving on the Bookstore and Computing Centre committees if elected. Lethbridge says he is not a member of the student party, but he feels he wants to accomplish several things if elected.

One issue as I see it is that of student apathy. Communication with students is important to reduce this.

"There are problems at the Computing Centre - the centre is overcrowded and there are frequent breakdowns. Faculty evaluations at the end of each course are filled with ridiculous, redundant questions. The faculty evaluation questionnaire should be improved, and experimented

with. This would hopefully make it more meaningful."

Allen Applell

Second year science student Allen Applell lists experience at the UNB Yearbook and membership in the chemistry and biology club as previous experience in student organizations.

Applell says he wants "to get involved in student affairs," and this is his main reason for seeking a senate seat.

Applell says he is not a member of the student party, but I have nothing against their platform. My main reason for seeking a seat is that I am concerned about rising tuition and residence fees and I want to see that they are kept to a minimum."

He said he will be pushing for an impartial investigation into affairs at the bookstore. Applell says such an inquiry is important to clear the air, as a result of several problems that have occurred there this year.

Mary Abraham

Third year Arts student Mary Abraham feels students need to be well represented. That's the major reason why she decided to offer. Abraham promised to be a "concerned representative" and stressed she is willing to work hard to do a responsible job.

Abraham listed her previous student experience in the Debating Society and this year is the president of the Political Science Students Association. She is also a past vice president of the PSSA and a member of the Creative Arts Council and the SRC Student Activity Awards committee.

Abraham says she feels that student senators in the past failed to take initiative and do their homework. They tend to vote certain ways because it is convenient to do so.

Abraham feels that senators who are seeking re-election should name their accomplishments. If they can't name any, then perhaps it is time for replacements. Abraham says she is "results oriented" and determined to get things done. She promises to be a new voice on Senate if elected. Senate needs "new blood", perhaps. A student representative should communicate with students to find out what they need and what

their concerns are. Abraham feels student senators should become more politically involved to achieve more positive results.

Charles Diab

Third year business student Charles Diab is seeking re-election to Senate after having been elected last November. He feels that he is just getting used to the job and beginning to feel comfortable in the position. There is a certain period of adjustment required before you get to know what it's all about. Diab says his previous experience as a senator should prove extremely valuable. Diab is also an active member of the UNB Business Society, was a member of the business week executive, a member of the Orientation committee. In addition, Diab is a member of three senate committees. He feels his wide experience stands him in good stead because "experience should be a definite factor."

Diab says the major problem at the moment is to increase the students awareness of what the Senate is and what it decides. He says he is open to suggestions and ideas from all students about this aspect. Diab says the most important aspect of Senate from a student perspective is that students have input in the decision making process. Diab says he sees no real major issues in this campaign, although he says he is pleased to see 11 candidates running for three seats.

Mary Strickland

Third year Arts student Mary Strickland is seeking re-election to the senate. A student senator in Saint John during 1980-81, Strickland is Vice President of the Political Science Students Association and is presently serving on the Academic Policy committee of senate and the student standings and promotions committee.

I'm seeking re-election because I enjoy the job and want to accomplish several objectives," Strickland says. One objective is to seek changes in the timetable. The timetable was passed too quickly without finding out what the students really want. We nearly lost our March break and there are too few study days before exams, said Strickland.

Strickland says she wants to see changes made in the December exam schedule. Exams are scheduled to end just before Christmas and it creates real problems for student travelling long distances for the holidays. Course evaluation problems were cited by Strickland as another important issue. There should be changes to the current system to improve course and faculty evaluations.

Strickland says the most important part of being a student senator is to communicate with students and find out what they want. More involvement is needed on senate committees and it is really up to the student senators to get out there and get students involved.

Michael Grant

Fourth year Engineering student Michael Grant says he is seeking a senate seat because he believes he can provide good representation for the students.

Grant says he wants to communicate with students, find out what the issues are, see what the students want and raise their concerns at Senate. Grant sees no major issues in this campaign, but there are a few items that are concerning him.

Grant says he is concerned about courses being phased out in some departments and he says he wants to delve into the problem.

Grant says he has not major platform in seeking election but says he feels with four years on campus, he has the experience and ability to do a good job, if elected.

John Bosnitch

John Bosnitch, a fourth year Surveying Engineering student, is an active leader and supporter of the Student Party, and its platform. Bosnitch says he is seeking a senate seat so that the party's platform can be implemented at both the University and SRC level.

Bosnitch is the SRC Engineering Representative and is an active member of CAUSE and other student organizations.

Bosnitch says a key measure in the student party platform is to ensure that promises made at election are put into effect. If we don't keep our promises we will resign.

Bosnitch says the student senator is the least known of all our student leaders. As a result members of the student party and I promise to hold constituency meetings at least once a month. I intend to submit a written report of the senate meeting each month and present it. This should go a long way to communicate the happenings of Senate to students.

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Deadline for submitting applications is March 5th 1982.