# NomCom less intimidating for applicants

#### by Carolyn Routledge

Thanks to recent bylaw changes, the Nominating Committee (Nom-Com) should present a more effective and less threatening face to students seeking greater involvement on university boards and committees.

NomCom recommends to Council its appointments to the various university boards, committees, and commissionerships. Appearing before NomCom involves a process of being selected and put on a short list after applying for what is called a Student At Large (SAL) position on a university board. This process has been best known for the intimidating interview expected by all applicants on the short list. Other NomCom problems included a political bias in the interviewing committees, as well as unreasonable expectations made on the time commitments of NomCom members, required so that interviewing responsibilities could be met.

Bylaw changes provide for three

areas of improvement. Firstly, the NomCom has been broken up into three autonomous sections, each responsible for the interviews pertaining to a particular segment of the NomCom jurisdiction. As a result of this division, Students' Union president David Tupper predicts that applicants will face about eight people in the interviews, whereas "there used to be thirteen people for a given interview. It was an intimidating experience for people who simply wanted to get involved." Tupper said NomCom members will also benefit from the division because "each will be responsible for only one third of the interviews."

The second main area of improvement involves the increase in Student At Large representation on the NomCom itself. NomCom used to have two SAL representatives, but under the improved system there are three representatives in each of the three sections, for a total of nine SAL members, This should improve public perception which suspected a political bias. As Tupper said, "It has been the perception at times that NomCom was not always choosing the best person, but rather making the political choice. The change has been made to alleviate fears so as not to discourage those qualified to apply."

The third major improvement has been made in the communication between NomCom and hopeful board applicants. Those applicants successful in being chosen for the short list were previously only notified through phone calls from the SU executive offices, to inform them of interview times. Now the SU also posts the listings one week prior to the interview dates. As Tupper explained, "It is the nature of students never to be home, or sometimes their phones are disconnected. Now the SU will also post listings so students can still find out about interviews if the SU executive can't reach them.'

Other changes to NomCom have also been made. An ethics section

has been added to the bylaw, essentially "codifying what was in practice," said Tupper. "It requires committee members to absent themselves from NomCom decisions in which they may be biased, and so on." Also, a logical transferral of power has been made, such that NomCom now has its actions approved by the incoming Council, to ensure that "the Council that must work with the people is the Council that ratifies them." Training is also supplied for NomCom members in the processes of shortlisting and interviewing.

Tupper said that these changes were the result of "longstanding concern" with the efficiency and "overwhelming political bias of the committee." Tupper said, "the potential for abuse was there, so changes have been made to prevent problems before they occur."

### STUDENTS!!! RETURN YOUR POSTCARD TODAY!!!

Don't forget that we need your signed postcards by Friday. November 10. The cards will be presented at City Hall on November 14, so ... this is your last chance to send a strong message of support. Cards can be returned to any SU Info Booth or **Faculty Association** Office.

## SUMMER EMPLOYMENT **OPPORTUNITY APRIL 30 - AUGUST 24, 1990**

#### **POSITION:**

Director of summer residence, St. Joseph's College, University of Alberta Campus

#### JOB DESCRIPTION

Day to day management and operation of 50 room co-ed residence, including:

- all room reservations
- maintaining daily financial records
- preparing monthly income statements and tax returns
- all necessary marketing and advertising
- final preparation for return of 1990/91 school term residents

#### SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE SHOULD

- have experience in management, accounting and marketing have a high level of communication and interpersonal skills
- have ability to work independently
- have general knowledge of U of A campus
- be prepared to live in residence (optional)

#### IF INTERESTED, PLEASE SUBMIT RESUME TO

Phil Stack, St. Joseph's College, U of A Campus, Corner of 114 St. & 89 Ave., Edmonton, Alberta, 492-7681

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS

4:00 p.m. Friday, November 24, 1989

# Students were subject to many forms of intimidation when they went before NomCom.

# Armed forces wants you

#### by Nick Beaumont

The Canadian Armed Forces Reserve is looking to fill 25 to 40 officers positions for employment beginning in the summer of 1990.

Lieutenant Brian Denness, Assistant District Recruitment Officer. said he is looking for full-time students who are "aged 17 and over and who are available for training every summer for three years."

After the first summer, which is three months of basic military training at CFB Gagetown in New Brunswick, the student will be commissioned as a Second Lieutenant, said Denness. The officer would then take up a junior command position or administrative role on a part-time basis from September to

There are a variety of occupations that have vacancies. These include anything from infantry and armour officers to accounting, nursing, and engineer officers. The minimum requirements are that the student be medically and physically fit, have above average marks, and be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant. Denness added that there is no upper age limit for the program.

Military intelligence officer Lieutenant Arnold Neumann, also a graduate student in Political Science, had several positive things to say about the program.

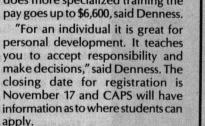
"Personally, it helped my confidence level and it helps develop your leadership qualities."

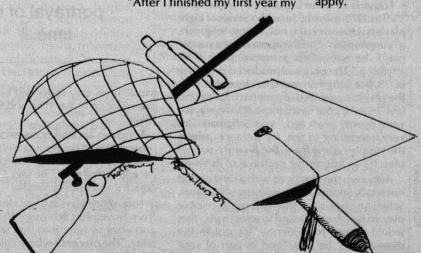
"After I finished my first year my

marks went way up. I credit a lot of that with my organizational skills. However, Neumann cautioned that the program can be quite difficult.
"When it's five in the morning, raining, and cold you ask yourself what am I really doing here? It can be really miserable."

The pay for the first summer is \$5,100 with free travel, meals, accomodation, and clothing. Over the next two years, when the officer does more specialized training the

closing date for registration is





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