

NEWS

THE BRUNS ONLINE: <http://www.unb.ca/web/bruns>

Senate seat opens up for part-time students Two declare for part-time seat

Two students have put their names in the running for the newly created position of Part-time Student Representative on the UNB Fredericton Academic Senate.

For the first time in at least thirty years, the number of undergraduate students on the Senate will increase by one. As early as 1969, the current number of 6 seats for full-time undergraduate students have existed. But until now,

there have been no part-time student representation on the Academic Senate, though there are upwards of 2,400 part-time students.

The Academic Senate decides all manner of academic policy including curriculum, courses, and the assessment of quality of teaching. The voting will take place on April 8 and 9 from 10AM-7PM in Tilley Hall in front of Alfred G. Bailey auditorium.

Lynn Coté-Hansen - candidate submission

I have worked for NB Power Corporation for 12 years. My work is now in the Human Resources Division in the field of Employment. In this capacity, I have the opportunity to deal with increasing numbers of employees who are attempting to balance the demands of university education with careers and family life. My appreciation for this juggling act has only increased since I enrolled as a part-time student at UNB in the Faculty of Business Administration in 1991.

Many part-time and mature students feel excluded from the beneficial aspects of the university community and there is a great need for the part-

time and mature student program to be represented on the UNB Senate. The number of part-time and mature students increases each year and it is important to realize that we bring to the university an earned knowledge by virtue of age and work experience. It is vital that we have an active role in the decisions that will have an impact on our academic career.

I believe I can bring a strong voice to the Senate on behalf of part-time and mature students. I have been involved with organizing committees for many conferences held on behalf of NB Power, the Canadian Electrical Association. In addition, my support for volunteer agencies has improved my

groups and communication skills. These activities include acting as an advisor for Junior Achievement and Co-ordinator for the Snowarama Campaign for the Canadian Rehabilitation Council for the Disabled.

There are real and meaningful challenges facing part-time and mature students. I would be honored to act as a forceful, reasonable advocate. Should I be nominated for the part-time and mature student member of the UNB-Fredericton Senate, I will do everything I can to make sure the voice of the part-time and mature student is heard. Thank-you for your consideration.

Saundra Mazarolle - candidate submission

I have been a part-time student at UNB since 1987. I completed my Certificate of Public Administration level 1 in 1994 and am presently working on my Bachelor of Office Management. I am married and my four children range in age from 13 to 24. In addition to working full-time at UNB in Electrical Engineering as the Administrative Secretary, I am active in my church and have been a team captain in the Labat Relay since its inception. Last year, to my honor and delight, I won the Inspirational Award.

My courses have included both evening classes with mature students and day classes filled mainly with full-

time undergraduate students. Both types of classes have been fulfilling and enjoyable. I enjoy the university setting, the students, faculty and staff. I believe that it is important that CAMPUS be represented on the Senate as our views of student life are different from the average student. The majority of us have a life apart from university studies containing children, spouses or significant others, jobs and many other responsibilities.

As a mature student I believe that we have an important role to fulfill at UNB. We represent future education trends and act as an inspiration to society. Our outlook on life has been moulded by

our work, our family and our past.

After 13 years as a member of staff and 10 years as a part-time student I believe my perspective of student life is well-rounded and I look forward to working as a Senate representative for CAMPUS. It is important that the concerns of CAMPUS students be well-represented on Senate and I believe that I will make a worthy contribution. Because my place of employment is on campus, I would be readily available for Senate meetings and would be accessible to discuss various Senate issues with CAMPUS members. Thank you for your support.



JOSEPH FITZPATRICK
THE BRUNSWICKIAN

A short meeting with lots of business. Council awarded over \$24,000 in honouaria, accepted an operating report, heard about the Cellar's finances, heard two grant applications and debated the practice of awarding gold and silver rings at the SU Awards Banquet.

Trish Davidson, Vice-President (Student Services), has been swamped with the preparations for the annual Student Union Awards Banquet. With 130 confirmations, Davidson is adamant that the event will happen even if there is a snow storm. She noted with some regret, however, that the gold and silver rings would not be ready for the event.

Vice-President (Finance & Administration) Monique Scholten presented Council with an Operating Report on the SU finances. According to Scholten, the financial picture for the SU seems bright.

"If anything," she said, "We're showing too much of a surplus." Highlights of the report include Orientation '97 showing a \$17,000 surplus. This was due to two factors: higher prices for the frosh packs (which increased \$15 to \$65) and not being charged for the Moist concert.

Clubs and Societies, at the time of the report, had spent only \$60,861 of their \$100,134 in allocations from the SU, or about 60%.

Scholten did not mention one particularly encouraging aspect of the Operating Report: the SU Office budget. In stark contrast to the reign of the past two Vice-Presidents Finance, Scholten's office budget has still not been fully expended. In 1994-95 and 1994-96, over \$80,000 extra was spent in this line item according to the SU audits from those years. Scholten has managed to prevent it from going over.

The Beaverbook, the SU's student handbook, showed a \$5,000 surplus. Scholten attributed this to the efforts of publications manager and (last year's editor-in-chief of *The Brunswickian*) Mark Morgan who exceeded the budgeted revenues for advertising.

Computer problems precluded Shona Bertrand, Chair of the Board of Directors of Student Union Beverage Services (SUBS Inc) the company which oversees the operations of the Cellar, from presenting a quarterly report on the company.

Apparently, because the \$300,000 company relies upon the personal computer resources of the bar manager, Darryl Kent, an accident involving a well-known soft drink has put any

financial reports on hold. "The lesson," Bertrand told Council, "is 'don't drink Coke next to your laptop'."

Although she presented no figures to Council, Bertrand distanced herself from figures published in *The Brunswickian* last week, citing a \$15,000 anticipated shortfall.

"I hesitate to comment on the figures which appeared in *The Brunswickian*," she said. "I was careful not to give any specific numbers."

"However, the \$15,000 [figure] may not be accurate," she warned. "The loss on paper may be a bit more than that."

Although this is the last opportunity Council will have to discuss the Cellar with Bertrand, only a few questions ensued.

Engineering representative Jonathan Penney asked if Campus Entertainment could expect the same level of activity next year, and inquired about the effects of tobacco legislation on future events. Cellar Bar Manager and acting Campus Activities Director Darryl Kent said it's more a factor of which bands are touring and when. Kent went on to say that events sponsored by tobacco companies, such as Belvedere Rocks, only rarely come through the Maritimes.

Shona Bertrand reiterated the results of the SU Plebiscite which found the Cellar to be the most popular of the SU services.

President-elect Anthony Knight congratulated Darryl Kent on his success with campus entertainment. "Darryl did a hell of a job," he said. "We should entertain a proposal to have SUBS Inc take over Campus Entertainment, and we should look at it seriously."

The Vice-President (Finance & Administration) Monique Scholten was quick to distance herself from Knight's comments. "Although Darryl did a good job, Anthony is not speaking for the Executive."

Matt Hanrahan, Business representative, responded to comments of College Hill Social Club Bar Manager Matt Harris made in *The Brunswickian* last week. "If Mr. Harris wants to contribute to the university, why not support more sports teams or lower alcohol prices?"

Vice-President (External) Anthony Knight told Council the Minister of Advanced Education and Labour, Roly McIntyre has approached him to sit as the student representative on the Maritimes Provinces Higher Education Commission next year. Knight has subsequently told *The Brunswickian* that he has been appointed for a two year

term to the MPHEC. Anoushka Courage, Vice-President (University Affairs) has been tied up with academic appeals on the Students Standings and Promotions Committee. She indicated that the Senate Nominating Committee was considering changes to the Graduate Student Representative on Senate.

Courage presented Council with the results of the SU Plebiscite. She passed around the results, and highlighted several of the written comments. Although Courage went into some length about negative comments made about *The Brunswickian*, much to the lurid pleasure of Council who applauded as she read them out, she glossed over the fact that of the 616 respondents, 486 were either somewhat or very satisfied (79%), with 55 very unsatisfied and 75 somewhat unsatisfied. By contrast, overall satisfaction with the Student Union was 41%, with a whopping 37% saying they were neutral, and 19% saying they were somewhat or very unsatisfied.

President Joie Hellmeister has saved the SU from an increase in phone costs. By "begging and pleading" Hellmeister convinced NBTel to allow the Union to be included with every other department on campus into the government rate. The change will mean that instead of internal extensions, every phone will become a standard phone line. This will increase the cost of a phone on campus from \$20.50 for an extension to \$21.75. Phones which currently can be direct-dialed from off-campus will go down in price, from \$24.75 to \$21.75. Had NBTel not allowed the Union to go along with the rest of the University, the SU could have faced a 30% increase in phone costs.

When Engineering Representative Darren Thompson asked what implications this would have for the SU Office budget, which was increased for just this eventuality.

Hellmeister replied that since the budget has already been passed, it would be up to next year's Council to change things around, if they so desired.

Hellmeister went on to report that the Union had a large supply of Coke products available for Clubs and Societies. Interested groups are asked to submit requests to Hellmeister care of the UNB Student Union, SUB Room 126.

The General Administrator, Barb Kirk, is gradually returning to full-time status after a prolonged absence due to illness. Over a period of 6 weeks, Kirk will be increasing from 4 hours

Continued on Page 5

Policy Paper launch next week NBSA makes 78 recommendations

GORDON LOANE
THE BRUNSWICKIAN

With economists predicting a boom in the job market past the year 2000 for those with five or more years of post-secondary education, members of the New Brunswick Student Alliance have begun to think about the necessity of a university education, how it should be delivered, who gets educated and how accessible it is.

The provincial student lobby group is also beginning to believe that education is the key to fighting problems like unemployment, stagnation, overwhelming technology, breakdown of community and intolerance.

The Student Alliance further believes government has a key role to play in all of these issues.

To that end, the Student Alliance will release a policy paper to the public and the media next week entitled "Open Doors, Open Minds."

It contains some seventy-eight recommendations or policy alternatives for governments to ponder on everything from government funding to universities, tuition fees, accessibility, student aid, tax incentives, merit awards, to calls for a new National Graduate Tax and creation of a Community Education Fund.

The NBSA wants to see changes in how universities are governed, curriculum reform and the adoption of measures which ensure quality control.

The policy paper also outlines measures that governments could adopt to stimulate employment and create a national all volunteer Service Corps.

NBSA President Shawn Rouse is clearly worried about recent trends which indicate a move away from accessible post-secondary education.

"We have tuition increases of forty-eight percent or higher in the last ten years, student debt loads more than doubling and reports from the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC) that accessibility to post-secondary education for students from lower and middle income groups is down," Rouse said in an interview this week.

He has decided to place the whole issue of accessibility squarely in the hands of the Chretien government in the run up to a federal election expected in June.

The NBSA is calling for a national study on the effects of tuition fees and debt loads upon accessibility.

The student group also wants governments to declare a moratorium on future tuition increases beyond the rate of inflation until the results of such a study are made public.

"The Chretien government has been downloading transfer funding cuts to the provinces, the provinces are downloading to the universities and nobody is looking and seeing what the effects on accessibility are."



NBSA Vice-President (Policy) Kelly Lamrock, and Shawn Rouse, NBSA President

"We think this is grossly irresponsible," said Rouse.

The Alliance thinks that a New Brunswick government plan called the Income Based Rebate Programme merits support from the federal government.

Under the programme, repayment of student loans would be limited to twelve years and not seemingly forever as other proposed repayment schemes would have it.

"If you are having a problem in the job market, the programme would forgive or reduce your payments for that time based on how much you make, where you live and what you are doing," Rouse said.

"It's a very flexible proposal which has been on the table in Ottawa for two years despite a push from the New Brunswick government," he said.

The NBSA believes a system of merit awards for students is worth a look by government.

The NBSA Policy Paper "Open Doors, Open Minds," is available on their web site, located at <http://www.unb.ca/web/nbsa>

made far less expensive. The NBSA suggests a ceiling of \$2,000 in tuition fees for the first two years of a university education.

University governance needs to change as well, according to proposals outlined in the policy paper.

"The main problem is that universities are run by and large on more than fifty percent of public funding, yet there is no accountability to the public or the students that will be paying the tuition fees," Rouse said.

Universities need to bring other stockholders into the process of governing and let them play an active role.

The NBSA sees a need to require Boards of Governors meetings and minutes to be made public. Universities should also file annual reports to the public, make their annual budgets public, and appear yearly before the New Brunswick Legislature's Public Accounts Committee.

Students also need seats on University finance and budget committees, the policy paper said.

On the subject of creating employment, the NBSA outlined eleven recommendations including part-time work for students on campus, subsidies for employees to hire recent graduates, Venture Capital Loans, job sharing and a national all volunteer Service Corps.

The Service Corps would work as a partnership between government, students and the business/community sector, according to Rouse.

"This would help students who have an education, a huge debt load and no job," he said.

"Students would be paid a small wage for their work and have their student loan progressively forgiven."

"If they work two or three years in the National Service Corps they could have their student loans written off," Rouse emphasized.

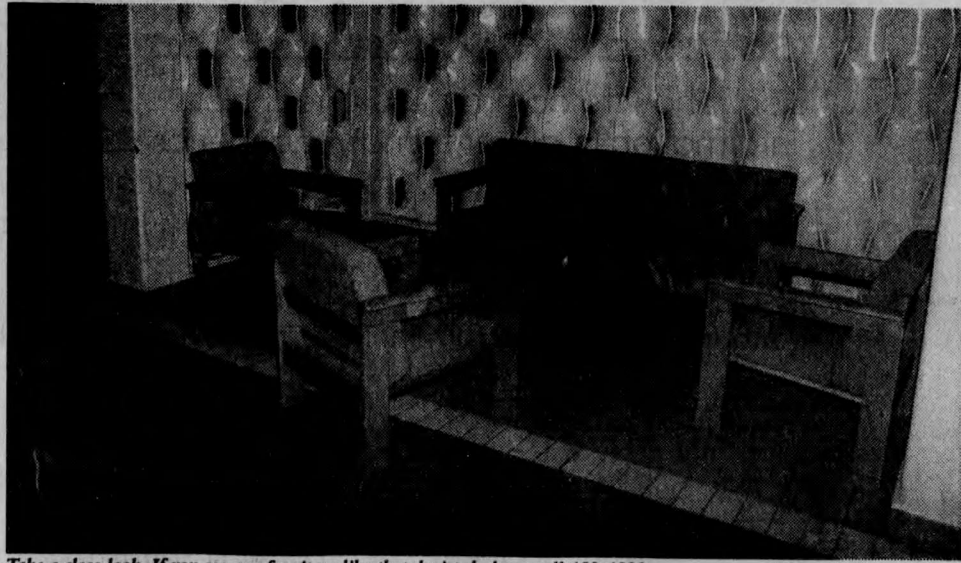
"This way students would provide some of the services government has been forced to cut back on," he said.

Rouse is also particularly enthusiastic about the idea of creating a National Lifetime Learning Fund.

It would be paid for out of payroll deductions from employees and funding from employers.

With people changing jobs frequently in a rapidly changing economy Rouse said the money from the fund would help those who need it to retrain and provide money to help defray the rising cost of post-secondary education.

5 chairs, 1 couch still missing Security recovers SUB chair



Take a close look. If you see any furniture like that depicted above, call 453-4830.

JUDSON DELONG PHOTO

AARON MACEachernz
THE BRUNSWICKIAN

One piece of the missing furniture from the Blue Lounge of the Student Union Building has been recovered.

Thanks to a tip through Crime Stoppers, UNB security were able to recover one of the six chairs from Bridges House, one of the university's residences.

However, five chairs and the chesterfield are still missing. The lounge furniture, some of which was stolen over the Christmas break, and some of which vanished during the March Break is valued at \$2,300, in total. With the recovery of the chair, that total is lowered somewhat.

UNB Director of Security, Richard Peacock told *The*

Brunswickian that the chair was removed during regular hours of the SUB.

"I asked the person who did it. I was actually taken in the daytime."

Peacock also went on to discuss crime in general and talked of the relationship between theft and time.

"People that do a lot of house break-ins now, they most often do them during the daytime, when people are at work."

UNB Security will continue to look for the missing articles and encourage those who know the whereabouts of the missing furniture, or have any information which could assist in the arrest of the person or people responsible for this crime to call 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).