

Blood and Thunder

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rm. 35, Student Union Building, UNB Campus
DEADLINE: 5 p.m. Tuesday

Downey's Reply

Dear Editor,

J.W.J. Baggaley's letter ("Why the Apathy") in last week's Brunswickan deserves a serious answer. Mr. Baggaley asserts that the President and the Board of Governors of this University are uninterested in student affairs, and he ends by inviting intervention by the administration to correct the abuses of student government practised by "student such as John Bosnitch."

I can assure Mr. Baggaley that it is not the case that the Board and the President are apathetic towards student affairs on this campus; indeed, we are keenly interested in every aspect of student life — curricular and extra-curricular. It is true, however, that we have chosen not to intervene in the affairs of the Student Union, despite the obvious chaos created by the SRC over the past three or four years. Only when that chaos threatened the operations of the Student Union Building did we act to restore order. We have chosen not to intervene because we believe that, if possible, issues of student government are best settled by students. And until recently I had continued to hope that the SRC might be able to get its act together and behave in a mature, responsible way.

The events of the past couple of weeks have led me to doubt that this will happen. Mr. Bosnitch's manifest contempt for the wishes of his Council has left little hope that things will improve. It is clear from what has been said by the students who have approached me on this matter, as it is from the response to last week's referendum, that many students — perhaps most — have lost faith in the SRC to represent their interests.

That being so, the University is faced with a dilemma. All student fees, including SRC fees, are set by the Board of Governors and collected by the University. In the case of the SRC fees, these are handed over the SRC to spend as it sees fit. The question now is this: should the University continue to require all full-time students to pay such fees when it seems that the student government which administers this money is incapable of managing its af-

fairs and its funds responsibly?

If the University decides it cannot to do so, there are, it seems to me, three alternatives:

1. Collect no SRC fees from anyone.
2. Collect SRC fees on a voluntary basis. That is, the University would give each student the choice at registration of paying or not paying the SRC fees.
3. Collect a student activity fee from all students and directly disburse the money to those organizations, groups and clubs (e.g. The Brunswickan, CHSR, Orientation Committee, Campus Police) that depend upon such revenue.

At the moment these are only options being considered by the University. If it proves unable to do so in the weeks ahead, however, the University will have no alternative but to heed the urging of Mr. Baggaley, and an increasing number of disaffected students, and take some action.

Yours sincerely,

James Downey
President

It's Tax Time Again

Dear Editor,

April 30th, any year. Is there anything special about this date? To some, it may signify the end of another drooling academic year, the coming of spring, warm weather, beaches and beer. But, to some of the more financially-conscious types with a limited source of pocket money, it also represents the deadline for mailing your income tax returns. As I was pondering over the seemingly endless forms labelled with all letters of the alphabet, a curious aberration in the procedure for classifying graduate students' income was brought to my attention. As a graduate student of the Department of Chemical Engineering, I received, last year, a research assistantship plus a teaching assistantship. The research assistantship was paid from my supervisor's account. The teaching assistantship, which amounted to approximately \$1,000, was paid by the department's account. This arrangement is not atypical for many graduate students. However, it appears that the tax guide and the UNB business office differ in their view of how this income should be

broken down.

According to Interpretation Bulletin IT-75R2, the research assistantship, is classified as a scholarship, is entitled to a \$500 taxable income deduction. Fine. The teaching assistantship was presumably earned for teaching, and this earned, is entitled to a 20% employment expense deduction (to a maximum of \$500, page 1 of Income Tax Return Form). The UNB Business Office reports my total income as scholarship/bursary on a T4A form, and in so doing disguises that portion of my income which is eligible for an employment expense deduction. 20% of \$1,000 is \$200. \$200 less my total taxable income saves me approximately \$50.00. The UNB business office has refused to recognize that a change is needed. Neither will they write a letter on my behalf to the tax man of the fault in their assessing my income. The tax office, which can be contacted at 1-800-665-0354 (toll free) has not been very sympathetic to this irregularity and is "looking into it".

I, along with every other graduate student receiving both a research and teaching assistantship, am losing \$50.00. I wonder how much of a fuss employers of the business office would make if they each received a \$50.00 cut in one of their pay-checks? It appears to me that if graduate students are to claim what is rightfully theirs according to the laws of the government, all those concerned should contact both the UNB business office and the District Taxation Office, in an effort to remind and hopefully correct the bureaucracy which was originally designed to serve them.

Sincerely,
David Wallace

Thanks For The Memories

Dear Editor,

One more academic year seems to have finished adding knowledge and experience to all the hard working graduates.

A year has also been added to the history of our association. This year in fact will be remembered for some time and will be characterized as a very active year on behalf of our Association.

The participation of various graduates or graduate group in various social or academic activities have been outstanding. The executive have been working hard carrying out their

assigned tasks. I would sincerely like to thank them and hope that all graduates understand and appreciate them for the work they have carried out.

As a brief summary I would like to inform the grad population on a few very important issues that we have pursued over the past year:

- 1) Independence or autonomy of the Graduate Student Association, which means that from now on we will be expressing our own views instead of allowing the undergrads to perform this task.
- 2) We will still remain full members of the Student Union and we can run for any position as well as benefit from the various undergraduate organizations, activities, newspapers and radio station for a fee of only \$10 per student. (Until now we were paying a fee of \$20 per capita)
- 3) The yearly budget has been increased from approximately \$5,000 to at least \$12,000 with the possibility of a maximum \$22,000/year.
- 4) An '86 Challenge' application has been completed in order to hire a full time secretary for the summer period of 1986.
- 5) Meeting with Dr. Downey, Dr. Brewer, Dr. Woodfield and Mr. Garland and other administrative officials took place in order to be promised of some sort of an office space arrangement and in particular the vacant office at the Old Arts Building.
- 6) To request more representation of the Graduate Students' views on the various Boards and Senate.

Finally I would like to inform the Graduate Students that an executive election will be held on the 24th of April for various executive positions. Notices will be delivered to all Departments within a few days.

President of G.S.A.
Achilles Karagiozis

Eight is Enough

Dear Editor,

After reading the last 2 issues of the Brunswickan, one must really question the journalistic integrity of your "sensational" front-page stories and editorials. It's hard to believe that students may believe such garbage! The omission of critical facts, obvious and

routine deletions, as well as those purely fabricated quotes, only goes to show your lack of professionalism.

We are referring specifically to the "poster" incident. Mr. Quigley, if you were so concerned about the posters and their damaging and embarrassing effects on those involved, why then, did you personally take it upon yourself to reproduce EIGHT THOUSAND copies of the five posters? This is such a great contrast to the 15-18 posters originally posted.

We certainly hope that you will not launch a personal vendetta on us as you have launched against Mr. Bosnitch.

The biased nature of your reporting is obvious in your failure to print 3, that's right, THREE letters that you received:

1. Jeff Collins, the poster designer.
2. the first letter of explanation of the incident read to council by the President the day after the event, and
3. the President's personal letter of apology and regret of the incidents. It must be fun being able to choose which side you're going to report on.

Mr. Quigley, ENOUGH IS ENOUGH. If you are going to have a witch hunt, have a good one. But don't use the Brunswickan to call it reporting.

Sincerely,
Andrea Garvie
Nursing Representative

Shirley Lee
Science Representative

Vote of

Non-Confidence

Dear Editor,

The UNB Student Council, by majority vote, has called for the resignation of John Bosnitch as the President of the UNB Student Union. This clearly demonstrates the loss of confidence by students in the present leadership of the student government. For this reason, the UNB Business Administration Society no longer recognizes John Bosnitch as the President of the Student Union. The UNB Business Administration Society, in turn, urges other student groups and associations to consider a similar stand on this issue.

Sincerely,
John Landry
President, UNB Business Administration Society