

# Gigeroff skeptical about UNB housing proposal

By SEAN O'MALLEY

**D**alhousie student union president Alex Gigeroff has mixed feelings about

recent efforts by the University of New Brunswick's student union to purchase real estate in downtown Fredericton.

The proposal, spearheaded by student union president John Bos-

nitch, could have the student union taking out a mortgage on the student union building in order to finance the purchase of property that would be used to house University of New Brunswick students.

Bosnitch feels it is the responsibility of the student union to provide student housing.

"In the case of student housing, it's not really the university administration's problem and it's not really the city's problem—they make as good an effort as can be expected from a government and university agency," said Bosnitch in

a recent interview with Canadian Press.

"This is the students' problem. We represent a significant portion of the winter population in this city and yet we own absolutely zero per cent of the housing. That's an inequity and it's the duty of the students to change that."

Gigeroff says that he is interested in the idea on a small scale but said that anything beyond that would not be wise.

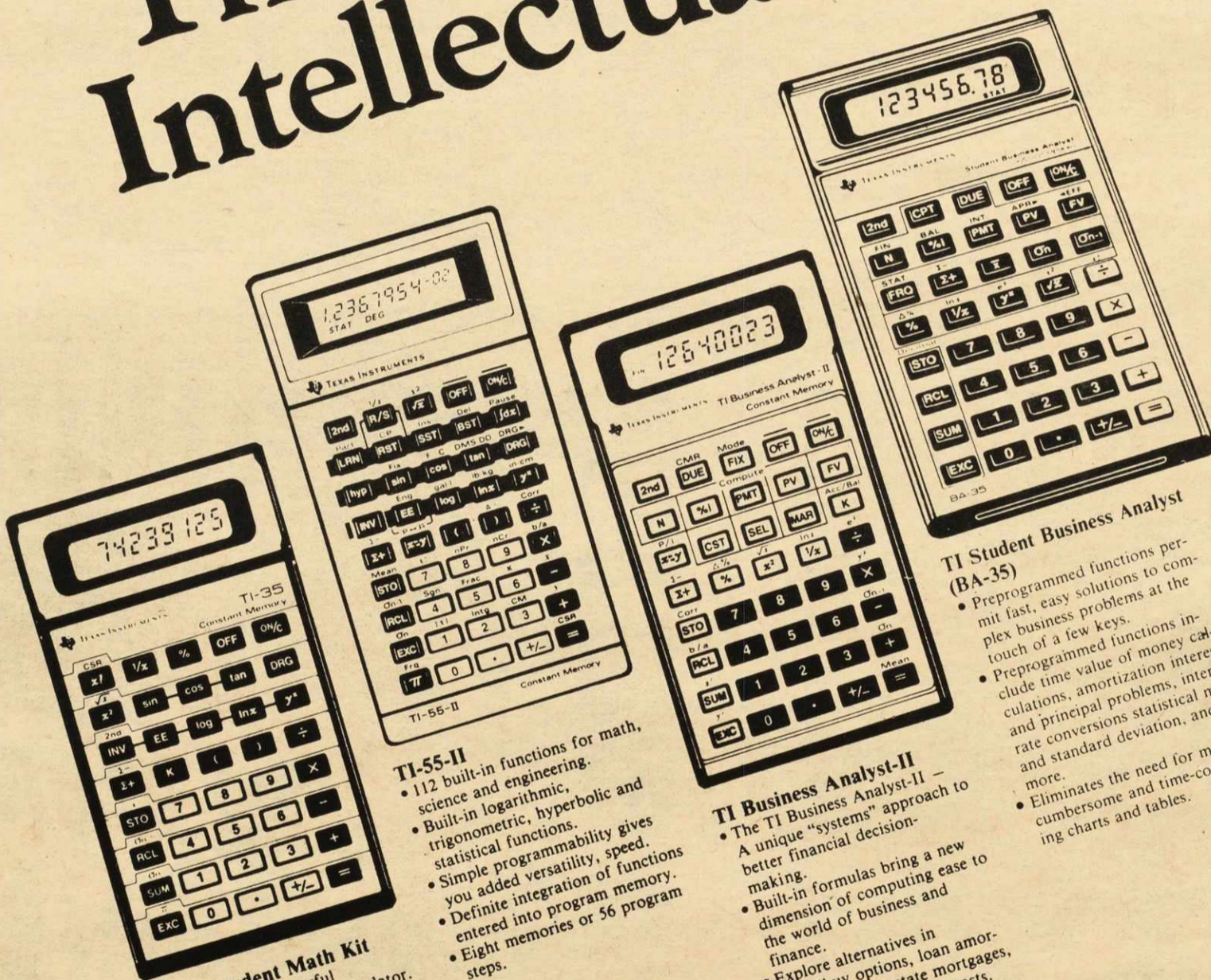
"The danger in doing that is that you risk the financial stability of the student union," he said,

Gigeroff said it would be a great idea if it worked but wondered what would happen if it failed. Once the concept of ownership is introduced there is the possibility of either profit or loss. A profit would mean lower student fees but a loss could mean a higher student fee or a cutback in existing student services or both.

Gigeroff says this real estate idea is part of Bosnitch's overall philosophy.

"If Bosnitch needed a copying machine he wouldn't just get a machine, he'd buy the company." □

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