

Student brings up complaints about Student Aid

Dear Bruns Editor:

I am writing this letter because I know this problem is not unique to me. I am very angry at the way our provincial government administers bursaries to students.

I was awarded a bursary of \$442 from the Canadian Army Welfare Fund, situated in Ottawa. The cheque was sent directly to the UNB Business Office. It wasn't until the first week of September that I found out that every penny of my bursary would be deducted from my New Brunswick Bursary. I refuse to sit back and let the government take my money, without complaining at least or doing something at best.

In August I went to see a Student Loan counsellor. She

confused me so much, that I thought when I had left the meeting, that I wasn't going to lose anything. I didn't realize that until I tried to explain it to my parents that I had no idea what I was saying, and I had to go back. Needless to say, I wondered what was going on because the most difficult task was finding out the information in the first place.

I next saw a gentleman, who told me that yes indeed, I will be losing the \$442 off of my N.B. Bursary. He then tried to convince me that I wasn't really losing anything at all, and that isn't it a good thing the Army Welfare Fund could help me out. What a joke! He also said that that's the way it's always been done, and there was nothing I could do about it. I got that attitude

from everyone I talked to at Student Aid. I have this reply: "Damn it, if I'm old enough to vote and pay taxes, I'm old enough to do something about a policy that's unfair."

This gentleman also told me that if I got a scholarship the same thing would be done. So I left, but didn't give up. It had taken many phone calls since June to find this out.

I went to see my M.L.A., Horace Smith because I felt that I was treated unfairly. He found out from a close assistant to Youth and Recreation Minister Les Hull, that yes, scholarships and bursaries are treated the same. I anonymously called the Student Aid Secretary who told me that every penny of a bursary is subtracted from a N.B. Bursary, but up to \$600 in a

scholarship is forgiven before any deductions come off. I couldn't understand what the hell was going on.

I then called Brent Aylward, Director of Student Aid, who told me that yes, up to \$600 in scholarships are forgiven, but not bursaries. He said that's the way it has always been. According to a very reliable source of mine that's not true. My source told me that every year, it changed as to what would be forgiven, i.e., some years, scholarships are forgiven, some years bursaries are forgiven. Strange, isn't it???

Consider that I was told awards were given solely on the basis of financial need. What a lie! It's great when a person can get a scholarship, so don't get me wrong. I am using this example because this year, scholarships are forgiven. Why should this person be able to keep any of their scholarship, if Student Loans and Bursaries are based on financial need?? An 'A' student pays the same tuition I do, the same at Sobey's, and pays high rent like I do. Mr. Aylward told me that forgiven

scholarships is an incentive. Why then, is it called scholarships some years, and bursaries other years?? I got angry and asked him why my M.L.A. was given incorrect information by this lady, and his reply, "Well, she has nothing to do with Student Aid."

By the way, I don't feel that either scholarships or bursaries should be deducted. These awards are given to help students, not for them to be forced to give it to our provincial government.

The one who's ultimately responsible is Mr. Les Hull. I hope that he will be seeing this letter in print (and I'll make sure he does see it); he will do something about messes like these and make it a lot easier for students to get the information they need from Student Aid. I think this year to year inconsistency is ridiculous, but it's up to him to do something. I hate being told that I'm a little person who can do nothing about "established policy."

Linda Ann Goleniec
BA III

Currie corrects editorials

To the editorial board of the Brunswickian:

I am writing this letter to correct certain incorrect facts which were quoted in your editorial of October 19, 1984, titled "The SUB according to the Brunswickian." I list these in the order in which they appear in your article.

1. "The Board has met five times since its appointment..." The Board had met six times at press time and nine times at distribution time.
2. "It marches unimpeded...by student representatives with a mandate from voters." The "old" SUB board was composed mainly of students appointed by the SRC's and of two representatives appointed by the Board of Governors.

People have never been elected to SUB Board. I am a student representative with a mandate from voters to represent the best interests of the students, whether it be on Senate, or connected with that office.

3. "The Board has been meeting...for one month now..." The Board had been meeting for 22 days at publication date - only two thirds of a month.

4. "...The meeting room, SUB 103." The trustees met only once in this room, and have been meeting since then in SUB 26.

5. "...The policy of the Board of Trustees is not available to students." All members of the Board of Trustees are willing

to talk to students about the Board's "policy". The Board has not set out "an official policy" because 1) there are much more pressing matters at hand and 2) we are only a temporary body. No member of the Board of Trustees expects to see it in existence past December 31.

6. "The SUB itself...should be back in the hands of students..." It is in the hands of students - 4 of 6 trustees are students. A quorum cannot be met while students are in a minority voting position.

7. "...the only student-owned building on campus." (Referring to the SUB). Students only paid 50% of the cost of building the SUB, and pay next to nil in maintenance cost. The vast majority of students who did pay for the SUB are now alumni.

Congratulations on dissent

Dear Editor:

Congratulations, Kathleen Murphy, for being one of the few to stand up to such trash as the cartoon strip Kaptain Ka-Ching by Paul White. Sexism comes in many forms and the ones that are under the guise of "fun" are the most dangerous. If women do not stand up to such insults even portrayed in fun (?), who will?

As a member of the Fredericton community I find it amazing and frustrating that in a higher learning institution such as the University, such antiquated, narrow-minded and infantile notions are perpetuated. Not only this but the EUS handbook as well.

The student newspaper which is for ALL students should not be party to such prejudices. If a cartoon por-

trayed an ethnic race in a corresponding derogatory manner, it would not get past the editor's desk. But somehow if the insult is directed at women it is taken for granted as status quo, or palmed as a joke. Rape is no joke. Sexism is not "fun".

As to Mr. White's definition of libel; I would say his actions (i.e. the cartoon) have already put himself up to public ridicule. He does not need anyone else to do it. As to his reputation; if he writes such things he does not much care anyway.

Congratulations, Ms. Murphy, for having the conviction to be a dissenting voice.

Sincerely,

Kathy Ebbinghaus

In closing, I would like to point out that, while these mistakes may seem trivial to you, this kind of reporting is what makes many people in the University community, not just those on the Board of Trustees, unwilling to deal

with the student press. If you wish to obtain facts on the Board of Trustees for future articles, I am very willing to provide whatever information I can.

Yours sincerely,
Suzanne Currie

Member
SUB Board of Trustees

Resident rant brings rage

Shocked mildly describes how I felt about the actions of some supposedly, mature student(s) at the annual Halloween Resident Rant held Saturday night in the Lady Dunn/Tibbits cafeteria. As I walked into the Tibbits games room at about twelve o'clock it was like a waterfall with water gushing from the ceilings and gushing from the electrical outlets. Upstairs there was also water flowing through the first floor lounge and into the storage room. This was the result of having a sink ripped from the wall of the men's washroom on the first floor of Tibbits.

This event, sponsored by the social directors of each residence was planned to supply the students with a fun-filled Halloween party. All day students decorated the large cafeteria to create a party atmosphere. No doubt they, along with other involved students have had their energetic spirits "dampened" by this episode. Why should preparations be made to please students when all you seem to get in return is a bill of which could be well over one thousand dollars and hours of clean up!? To me, it just does not seem worth the effort and I would never consider having a Resident Rant in our cafeteria again!

The students pay well to live in residence on the UNB cam-

pus and as a result of this incident, must have even more money taken from their House dues to cover damage and labour fees for maids, electricians and plumbers. This money could have been used to support House, Inter-Resident or community functions but due to some maniac(s) we are paying for the stupid action. It would be nice if the person(s) responsible would be mature enough to own up to the action so that everyone else would not be penalized. You certainly cannot tell me that it was an accident to have a forty pound sink with heavy iron pipes fall from the wall and I remain to see or imagine the fun that someone would find in doing such a miserable stunt.

I would like to thank the Tibbits Don, Proctors and House Committee for helping, being so organized and being remarkably fast in shutting off the electricity. Thank goodness there were no fires or serious injuries. Also thank you to the active Tibbits girls who came to the rescue on this wild night and to everyone who stopped to help instead of walking by and laughing at the destruction.

IT CERTAINLY WAS NOT A LAUGHING MATTER.

Sincerely,
Margaret A. McLaughlin
President
Tibbits House, UNB