



# At last! An honest prof

I would first of all like to welcome everyone back to another delightful term of UNB. It's hard to believe that we're already at the end of the first week of classes.

I have been hearing comments from several people lately about how professors are cracking down this term on class attendance, many wondering why all of a sudden they are being so sticky about this issue. In a Senate meeting on December 12th the following items were discussed and carried.  
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Item 1 to read as follows:

1. (a) Students are expected to attend all classes, laboratories, tutorials, or other class meetings officially designated for a particular course. They are expected also to complete all assignments. These assignments collectively are referred to as term or class work. Departments, or individual instructors, may make specific requirements about attendance and class participation which may form part of the student's final grade. It shall be the right of the instructor to assign a final grade of "F" to a student delinquent in class work. Such requirements must be made known to students within the first two weeks of the course. It is the responsibility of a student who is absent during the first two weeks to ascertain the requirements of the course.

(b) It is expected that most problems caused by a student's absence from classes can be resolved with the instructor concerned. If through sickness or other unavoidable cause, a student is absent from classes, he or she must advise the instructors immediately upon his or her return to classes and supply suitable documentation if it is requested. It should be noted that medical certificates will only be accepted from the physician who attended the student during the period of absence.

The changes to regulations take effect immediately (i.e. January 1979) so I think perhaps this could account for the crackdown. So you may not like it and it may seem unfair (in that many students feel it is their money and it should be up to them to decide whether they wish to attend classes or not) but the rule is there.

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Extensive damage occurred during a Rugby Pub held last October which resulted in \$75.00 worth of expenses. While the cost may not seem prohibitive the fact must be taken into consideration that a lot of effort went into cleaning the area after the pub was over. Should staff be expected to clean up after such things? Damages such as a freezerful of ice and frozen broken beer bottles, vomit over several chairs and an unplugged milk machine were involved in the clean-up.

Good times are one thing, irresponsibility another. In a like episode the Aitken house members painted the town. Students wonder why they have such a bad name in the Fredericton area and why it is sometimes difficult if not impossible to arrange for events in that people are reluctant to lend their premises to vagabonds.

It appears that university students should not be trusted to act like adults but must instead be treated like irresponsible children. What really irks is the fact that most students do not partake in excesses such as those mentioned above, yet are left to suffer the consequences from the behaviour of a few. This is to my mind, extremely unfair. I don't know about others but I resent being labeled with a bad name because a few idiots don't know how to handle themselves. I guess it's the old story, "I don't vandalize so don't preach to me". Unfortunately even though innocents don't choose to take an interest they will suffer for other's errors.

I think most people will agree that it is possible to have a good time without wreaking havoc in the area in which you are partying. Another item which Beaver Foods manager Dave Campbell mentioned was cigarette ashes and beer on the tables and chairs. I found this particular complaint petty and am amazed that he even mentioned it. Cigarette ashes etc., are unavoidable and I think, no one could conceive of having a party without either. But after all, stealing fire extinguishers and kicking in doors is hardly necessary.

Well that's all for this week, I would like to remind people however, that we sure could use some extra hands around here and reiterate that absolutely no experience is necessary.

Dear Editor:

I would like to know what students and faculty think about UNB's regulation against class tests (excluding lab tests) during the last two weeks of each term. Perhaps you could publish some responses to my comments on the subject.

1. This regulation was introduced several years ago because a few faculty were giving term or final examinations in class time. Sometimes the motive was pure -- for example, clear the way for students to finish a major research project in the same course. More often, I suspect, instructors and/or students were looking for longer vacations. But in either case, the effect on courses where teaching continued until the end of term was devastating. Understandably, students who faced a final exam in some courses either did not attend their other classes, or else came ill-prepared. Their essays were often late or substandard. Occasionally students were forced to miss classes because their exams lasted more than one hour.

2. The regulation was therefore enacted to protect instructors who had thirteen weeks' worth of material to cover, and to a lesser extent to protect students from peer pressure to consent to an early examination. (It no doubt

occurred to some students that they might have to do less work if the course effectively ended after eleven or twelve weeks. They should have felt cheated, but being human, many were tempted instead.)

3. The regulation created a legitimate grievance among instructors whose teaching method involved a series of class tests, each covering a few weeks' work. But university authorities apparently felt it would be too difficult to distinguish between such legitimate tests and disguised examinations, so they banned both types.

4. I sense that the regulation is being violated with increasing frequency -- and with impunity. For those instructors who are giving the last in a series of legitimate class tests I have some sympathy, and I hope some way can be found to legalize what they are doing. But I have no tolerance for those who are giving full term or final examinations. For one thing, they are being contemptuous of my right to teach until the end of term. For another, they are being cynical and irresponsible when they justify their practice by obtaining the "unanimous consent of the class." They are unfairly tempting some students without acknowledging the costs, and they are obviously

intimidating others. Even a student who felt his hefty fees entitled him to a full course or foresaw the effect on his performance in other courses would not happily antagonize classmates or his instructor. Also, I do not think very highly of administrators who make no effort to enforce academic regulations.

5. I would regard simple abandonment of the regulation as a giant cop-out. Beyond that, I welcome reactions and suggestions either directly or via the Bruns.

Yours sincerely,

B.L. Vigod  
Associate Professor/History.

# Vending & vandalism (again!)

Dear Editor:

tonight, as is per usual on Wednesday nights, I made my usual trip down to the vending machines to purchase something to eat and a Coke. (I wouldn't eat in the coffee shop if you paid me!) You can imagine my frustration when I found ALL of the machines either broken or empty. I realize, of course that the vending machines are always open to vandalism, (not all of which is caused by University Students!!) But the situation seems to be getting worse instead of better. This year, unless I'm mistaken, this topic has come up in Sound-Off no less than three times. I believe that the upkeep of these machines is the responsibility of Beaver foods, who answer to every SUB-rats friend from last year, Howie Goldberg. It's about time that dear old Howie lit a fire under the people responsible for these machines. You did a good job keeping the SUB going last year. Let's get Beaver moving, ok Howie?

Another thing I'd like to bitch about while I'm at it is the large amount of vandalism caused by non-university people (i.e. high school and younger kids). I think that it's about time that something was done about this problem that we have to pay for. The administration doesn't seem to care about the situation so I'm going to suggest that all students take upon themselves to escort any of these trouble-makers off campus and aid them on their way with a foot to their posterior.

Well, that's enough complaining for one night. Thanx for the space.

Just sign me,

HUNGRY AND PISSED OFF.

# Robbery in disguise

Dear Paper People:

Let it be known at the outset that I am not an emotional person. Very little upsets me. Rape on campus troubles me not at all. The unspeakable tangle of red tape one must go through to get a meal card replaced leaves me unruffled. Even the revelation that Greg Fox does not exist failed to alter my composure. What, you are now no doubt wondering, does bring me out of my blissful apathy? Having to pay \$3.00 per night to stay in residence after December 17th simply because my exams run until the 22nd, that's what! The fact that I am going to have to shell out \$18.00 to live in my own room for six additional nights as well as purchase my food does not please me. Even if I had unlimited financial resources, it still would not please me.

Let me explain that I do not expect to be maintained in luxury. I quite understand the impossibility of keeping open a dining hall for the benefit of those few students who will be here after the 17th. What I do not understand is the reason for penalising (don't change that "s" to a "z", I prefer the British spelling) students who are unable to leave residence at the time set by the university. Has anyone considered, for example, the expenses that would be

incurred by a foreign student unable to return home for the holidays? But back to my original point. It seems to me that when a student must remain in the university for reasons related to his or her studies, the least the hallowed institution could do is refrain from this thinly disguised robbery.

Merry Christmas, UNB Enjoy your little gift, and don't spend it all in one place.

Sincerely,  
Wendy M. Tait

ED NOTE: The above letter was received after our last issue before Xmas went to press. We feel it's apt.

# Here's Maurice

Dear Editor:

About three years ago the Security Service (RCMP) offered me protection, which I refused.

Circumstances now force me to accept.

Sincerely,  
Maurice Spiro