

Law faculty has reservations about french requirements

By HAROLD DOHERTY
Advertising Manager

The report of the ad hoc committee on the future of the UNB Law School was received with some reservation by the faculty and students at the school. The report recommended that a minimum competency in French be made a requirement to obtaining a law degree at UNB. The report is scheduled to be discussed at the board of governors next meeting on January 30, 1981.

The report also suggested that French language courses be made available at the school with credit hours granted for those courses.

In an interview Tuesday, Dean of Law Edward Veitch said the faculty response was to reject those recommendations. Dean Veitch said "the law school exists to serve the needs of Canada, not just the province of New Brunswick." According to Veitch 25 per cent of students presently attending the law school are from out of province. The effect of the

French language graduation requirement would be to cut the law school off from the rest of the country, he said.

The Dean also suggested that obtaining credits for language courses would dilute the law degree. Veitch feels that "only credits for law or law-related courses should be accepted for credit towards a degree in law."

According to Veitch the faculty is not opposed to the objectives expressed by the report. At present, French-speaking lawyers in New Brunswick have a right to present documents and enter pleas in their own language. The French-speaking lawyers are predominantly bilingual and have an advantage in dealing with an unilingual English lawyer.

In light of the situation, the law school faculty has decided to accept the recommendation that French be included as a factor in admissions. Veitch said that "some weight should be given to the fact that a person has ability in both official languages."

Dean Veitch said "that control

over French language requirements for entry to the Bar in this province is constitutionally the

function of the Barrister Society of New Brunswick." Veitch said that any target date set by the society

for a bilingual requirement should be such that students in high school have time to prepare.

Student response to the recommendations was also critical. Terry Morrison, president of the UNB Law Students Society said he opposed competency in French as

a requirement for graduation. According to Morrison, "the educational system in New Brunswick at the high school and undergraduate level has not matured

enough to enable anglophone students to meet the French language requirements." Morrison said "the inadequacy of the

educational system would also put the anglophone student at a disadvantage if ability in French were included as a factor in admission." Morrison said the French language requirement

would definitely prejudice the chances of English speaking students."

Morrison said he was not opposed to a goal of bilingualism but disapproved of it as a requirement for graduation from law school. He said "the Bar is of course perfectly free to make bilingualism a requirement for entry."

Mr. Morrison said that the Law Student Society had student input on each of the subcommittee reports sent to the board of governors.

Search is on for dean of men's residences

By W.M. STEWART
Brunswickan Staff

A search committee has been formed to find a Dean of Men's Residences. It is chaired by the dean of students Barry Thompson, who's post is also undergoing the same procedure. There are seven members, the other six are two Board of Dons representatives Michael Mills and Donald Fleming, one named by the Senate, Dean of Arts Peter Kepros; two student members named by the SRC, Kevin Harrigan and Peter Larose, and one ex officio member William Chernoff. The committee has met one so far.

The search procedure is as follows. Public advertisements describe the post and invitations

are then taken from the university community. The committee goes over the list and interviews the applicants. A decision is arrived at and a recommendation made to the president. This process happens every three years when the term of a position runs out. The committee receives no pay. The winning applicant receives a standard honorarium and the use of an apartment.

This search is complicated by the fact that Robert Smith, Dean until the end of the term, is two years overdue for a sabbatical. When asked, he declined to comment on his plans.

The search will probably be concluded said Dean Thompson, by February or mid-March.

By GORDON LOANE
Managing Editor

The Varsity, the undergraduate student newspaper at the University of Toronto has severed its ties with the student association and gone "independent". Angel Christopoulos, city editor of the Varsity confirmed this week that the student newspaper at Canada's largest university has been independent since May of this year. "Our paper is now governed by a Board of Directors which consists of approximately 15 undergraduate students. The editor is responsible to the Board of Directors and our staff christopoulos said. The separation was a mutual agreement between the student association and our paper," she added.

Meanwhile, Michael McEvoy, national vice-president of Canadian University Press, has confirmed in a letter to the Brunswickan that there is a trend to autonomy among student newspapers across Canada. "Student Newspaper autonomy has been a major goal of Canadian University Press members during the last couple of years. To date nine papers are autonomous and the same number are well on their way."

Clark Roberts a member of the

A look at independant student papers

Publications Board at the Simon Fraser university student newspaper "The Peak" has confirmed that their paper has been autonomous since 1966. "We are a non-profit corporation with a board of Directors known as the Publications Board," he said. "We negotiate each year with the student association to subsidize our paper. In fact we have just signed a new four year deal with the student association for funding."

Andrew Coyne, editor of the Manitoban, confirmed that the publisher of our student is still the student association. Coyne, however, hinted that a move to autonomy was in the planning stages. "At the moment we are administered by the Manitoban

Operations Committee which is a buffer between our paper and the student association. Several members of our staff including myself serve on this committee," Coyne said.

John Parsons, staff person of the Atlantic Region of Canadian University Press has confirmed in a letter to the Brunswickan that there is a trend to autonomous student newspapers in the Atlantic region too. The Gazette, Canada's oldest student newspaper "has moved from being a newspaper published by the Dalhousie University Student Union to one operated by a Publications Society." "As well, the Picaro at Mount Saint Vincent University is now administered by a publishing Board rather than its student union," Parsons said.

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