

NB government to compare student aid across Canada

By ROGER WINSOR

Silence has fallen once again in the main lobby of the Centennial Building in Fredericton. The students from University de Moncton packed up and headed home after the government ordered them from the building.

This is, however, not the end of possible improvements in the student aid program. "The government agrees there need to be changes, but they can't be done overnight. We have to do research and compare it with other provinces all across Canada," said J.P. Ouellette, Minister of Youth, in the province of New Brunswick.

"The formula we have here this year for calculating student aid is about the same as it was last year. A student can obtain a \$1400 loan then he is eligible for a \$100 bursary. If the student needs more than he can apply for \$400 more," said Ouellette.

This situation is not comparable to the student aid program in Newfoundland. In Newfoundland, a student can receive \$900. If he receives this loan, he is then eligible for a \$1900 bursary.

According to Ouellette, the government is working to improve the student aid situation. The government is working close with the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission. There will be a three man commission set up in the near future which will present it's recommendations to the government. The first member of the commission will be appointed by the government. The second will be appointed by students and the third will be a person agreed upon by the first two.

Ouellette noted that if a satisfactory solution is found and if the government accepts, it is possible that it may come into effect next year. He also made it clear that it is the responsibility of the parents

to pay for their kids to attend university and also the students should make some contributions and the government should only supplement the students if the parents can't afford to contribute.

Students attending trade school in the province of New Brunswick are paid to do so. They also receive their tuition free. Students going to university end up paying money and after are in debt when they

graduate. Ouellette feels this is very unfair to university students and the government has to do something to straighten up this problem.

Another hope for student aid

may be coming next year when the federal government reviews the situation. With the recent government cutbacks it is quite possible they may give the province more money to spend on student aid.

"Big Bamboo Nite Club" is coming

Caribbean Night - an annual event presented by members of the Caribbean Circle will be held Saturday, February 21st in the SUB ballroom between 8:00 p.m. and 1:00 a.m.

The purpose of holding Caribbean Night is to depict the Caribbean culture and way of life. The films reveal a segment of each island in the Caribbean Sea, from the Yucatan Channel and Walling Island, south to the Lesser Antilles. These films show areas of each island (ie. scenery, local events pertaining to each island like the annual carnival on Tobago). There will be posters of each of the Caribbean Islands on display in the display lounge across from the sub-ballroom.

Popularly known as the "Big Bamboo Nite Club" Caribbean Night offers a wide variety of entertainment. A really exciting attraction this year is the Playboys' Steel Band. This band is currently based in Montreal and have played there and in other parts of Canada since Expo '67. A group of West Indian Students from Dalhousie University in Halifax will be appearing as quest artists. Caribbean Circle members are busy preparing skits, dances and songs.

The night starts off with a film of the West Indies, followed by a meal

consisting of native foods of the West Indies. There will be a greater variety of dishes prepared this year as compared to previous years. The famous West Indian

"Roti" will be served. Dancing will be from 12:00 p.m. til 1:00 a.m.

President of the Caribbean Circle Executive, Felix Gregoire said that "tickets will be sold in

advance, starting Monday the 16th at the SUB information booth. Tickets sell for \$1.00 a piece and will be sold on a first come first serve basis.

Research project receives grant

UNB's Bio-Engineering Institute has been awarded \$106,500 for continued research on electrical controls for artificial arms. The funds, made available by Health and Welfare Canada, cover an 18-month period.

Institute director Robert N. Scott describes the research as a three-year project to completely redesign the control system for arm prosthesis.

The research team of R.N. Scott, P.A. Parker, R.H. Brittain, R.R. Caldwell, V.A. Dunfield and J.M. Baird will develop a new sensory feedback system based on an earlier UNB design. The sensory feedback system allows the amputee to judge pressure on the fingers of the artificial hand.

A new sensory feedback system is required to make it compatible with a new electrical control system designed by the institute in 1975. The new control system is lighter in weight, easier for the prosthetist to fabricate into an

artificial arm and uses dry electrodes.

Although its light weight and dry electrodes are a benefit, the new control system has caused interference with the old sensory feedback system. The team will give their highest priority this year to developing a sensory feedback feature that will work with the smaller, more convenient control.

The research will also work on further developing the system's control over delicate finger movements and provide a system that measures gripping pressure directly.

Professor Scott expects to have a satisfactory prototype of the new system available for evaluation within 12 months. The clinical testing will be done in collaboration with the clinical and research staff of the Ontario Crippled Children's Centre in Toronto.

A target of five fittings of the basic system have been planned

with at least two involving patients experienced in wearing the earlier systems. In evaluating the system the institute's staff will work closely with the clinics responsible for the patient.

Research will also continue at the institute related to a surgically-implanted wireless transmitter, intended to permit the amputee's muscles to control an artificial arm without the use of skin electrodes.

This research, termed myo-telemetry research, will be done in close collaboration with the rehabilitation engineering department, Health Science Centre, Winnipeg where parallel and complimentary research is taking place.

UNB's professor Vaughan Dunfield, the designer of the UNB telemetry system, is spending 1975-76 working with the research group in Winnipeg.

JIM SMITH

SMITH STANDS FOR —

1. A fight to freeze the tuition and residence fees.
2. An Ombudsman on campus.
3. A continuation of pressure on the University as to the question of Student Housing.
4. An increase in the range of social activities available for students on campus.
5. An improvement of relationships between students of UNB and the community of Fredericton with the implementation of a Community Affairs Secretariat.



ON FEBRUARY 18TH

RE-ELECT

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PRESIDENT

A Student Leader
For
A Students' Government