

UNB administration refuses to divest

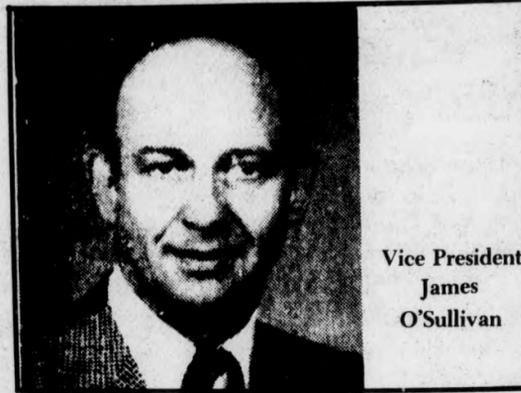
by PAM JOHNSON
Brunswickan staff

"We are not prepared to say we will not invest in South Africa," said James O'Sullivan, UNB's Vice President of Finance and Administration.

The question of UNB's divestment in South Africa was raised by Mary Abraham at last month's Board of

Governors meeting. Abraham is a student representative on the Board.

According to Timothy Lethbridge, Abraham's counterpart on the Board, she had asked whether UNB had ever considered the moral issues - such as the possibility of supporting apartheid by investing in certain companies - when formulating UNB's financial policies.



Vice President
James
O'Sullivan

Sullivan said, "No. This is not an object of concern in the formulation of our financial policy."

"The purpose of the Board is not to discuss moral or political issues. The Board concerns itself with making the highest

return on investments," he said.

The university comptroller John O'Brien said UNB's total investment with companies dealing with South Africa is 3.2% of UNB's overall fund investment. This figure represents \$520,000.

The Hudson Bay Company, General Electric, IBM, Noranda and Johnson and Johnson are the five companies in which UNB has invested that deal with South Africa.

O'Brien said "UNB does not invest in any company that has a head office in South Africa."

Bosnitch won't recognize SUB board

by KAYE MacPHEE
Brunswickan staff

"We still do not recognize the SUB Board," said Student Union president John Bosnitch.

"I cannot undo what council has done nor do I want to," said Bosnitch.

Bosnitch said a motion was passed by council a year ago to increase UNB's representation on the Board from four to ten. Until the Board accepts that "we won't take part," he said.

The makeup of the Board as it now stands is four student representatives from UNB-F (these four seats are vacant), four student representatives from Saint Thomas, three representatives appointed by the UNB Board of Governors, and three ex officio non-voting members, appointed by position, UNB SRC president, STU SRC president, and the SUB Director.

SUB Director Kim Norris said "I feel UNB students are at

a disadvantage because they are not actively taking part in the decisions being made.

"Right now we're working on things that UNB students should have some input on," he said.

Bosnitch said "If we accept four officially, then we will have accepted the new situation and then we have lost the right to say we do not concur with this. As it stands now we do not think it is proper."

Saint Thomas SRC president Greg Davis said "I wish the UNB Student Union would recognize the Board as it is the Board that controls this building (the SUB)."

"I realize there were problems with the previous Board but they should take part in it now and make sure it's run respectfully," he said.

Davis said, "As it stands now, the Saint Thomas Student Union is the controlling factor on this Board."

CUP investigates dispute

by LAUREN GRIEVE
Brunswickan staff

Officials from the Ottawa-based Canadian University Press completed an investigation Wednesday into a dispute between the Saint Thomas *Aquinian* and the STU SRC.

CUP president Martha Muzychka headed the commission to investigate whether the *Aquinian* should continue to be considered a member of CUP even though the SRC, as publishing representative, defeated a motion in October that would allow the paper to remain in CUP. Muzychka said she felt CUP had to intervene in the dispute because "things had gone just a little too far."

"We had seen the question

of CUP membership escalate to the point where the *Aquinian* constitution was in question and the editor was nearly asked to resign," said Muzychka.

While SRC president Greg Davis said the SRC, as publisher of the paper, has the final word in the matter, Muzychka said, "CUP's position has always been that 'the paper should decide.'" She said even if it was the paper itself that wanted out of the organization, membership would still be in question. "You can't back out in the middle of the year."

Although no contract has been signed by either the SRC or the paper, Muzychka said the *Aquinian* should still be considered a member in good standing since it has operated

in good faith with CUP over the past two years. The *Aquinian* has continued to run national ads negotiated through CUP's sister organization, Campus Plus, and has made use of the various services offered by CUP.

Muzychka says the deadline for withdrawing from CUP is March 31. Since she had not received notice from either the *Aquinian* or the SRC on that date it was assumed that the *Aquinian* would continue to be a member.

SRC members pleaded ignorance of the deadline during Muzychka's presentation at Tuesday night's SRC meeting. Several members of council said the SRC should not be responsible for paying the fees since the deadline was not common knowledge.

Muzychka told councillors there were two alternatives to having council pay CUP membership fees. The paper could apply to CUP for a fee appeal, following which the fees may be reduced or even written off as a bad debt, or the paper could ask CUP to balance the debt internally by deducting fees directly from national ad revenue.

Toner thinks the SRC may reconsider their decision not to let the *Aquinian* remain in CUP. "There is a chance of that, especially since we have shown council that it won't cost them any extra money," said Toner. "With all the remittances and subsidies we get from Campus Plus, the revenue from national ads will cover the CUP fees."

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Fredericton faces a housing crisis

by JULIE SMITH
Brunswickan staff

Fredericton is currently facing a housing shortage crisis.

The low vacancy rate has grave repercussions for the city's low income residents according to a report of the Fredericton Affordable Housing Steering Committee.

The FAHSC is comprised of several groups including various churches, the Fredericton Anti-Poverty Organization, and the Department of Social Services.

These groups are concerned about the housing problem in

this area and formed the group to address the issue.

Those in most need are welfare recipients, single displaced people, the working poor, the physically and mentally handicapped, and senior citizens on fixed incomes.

For these people, there is too great a gap between their social assistance payments and the average monthly one bedroom apartment price of \$373.00 as quoted by the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Commission.

The committee presented their report to the Fredericton City Council in September. In it they recommended the

formation of a non-profit housing corporation.

This corporation could use federal funds to increase the housing stock by renovating dilapidated houses and turning them over to needy people in the target group.

Such a program would upgrade the quality of existing housing, provide more affordable units and also provide employment in the construction phase.

Larry Worthan, the Director of the FAHSC, said the city council has been slow to act on these recommendations however; a fact that causes the committee some concern.

This concern has led to a public awareness campaign in hopes of motivating the city to act.

The first of December was declared Housing Awareness Sunday. As part of the public awareness drive the committee distributed inserts for church bulletins.

The insert includes a copy of a card addressed to Mayor Elbridge Wilkins and council expressing concern over the situation.

Three thousand citizens signed the cards.

These cards have now been collected by the committee and will be presented to city council as a petition for action.