

NEWS

Deadline: Wednesday at 12:00 noon Newsdesk 453-4983

Student requesting professor not be allowed to teach *Request seen as clear case of double jeopardy*

by Randy Goodleaf

Martin Kearnan, a UNB mechanical engineering student, has sent an open letter to Dr. O'Brien, president of St. Thomas requesting that Dr. Fish, a Psychology professor, not be allowed to teach at that University.

This request is based on the fact that Fish had recently pleaded guilty to verbally assaulting his wife by

threatening to kill her.

Kearnan felt that Fish's act is intolerable and immoral, and according to studies quoted by Kearnan, when a victim presses charges, they are usually exposed to greater physical, mental or sexual abuse than the charge.

Kearnan asks "can the quality of his teaching be professional and be truthful when he torments other human beings... just imagine the

role model he is offering to his eager learning students"

Kearnan claims that Fish's declaration that he is a born again Christian is only a calculated response based on his training as a psychologist, and wonders if religious organizations tolerate this. Kearnan states that family violence is all around us, and Fish should not be allowed to use STU to gain respectability and hide his evil actions.

Dr. O'Brien, President of St. Thomas University, says that while the University does not applaud or support this type of activity, any request for Fish's resignation is a clear case of double jeopardy.

O'Brien states that Fish has been tried and convicted in the public court system, and has suffered the humiliation and loss of status that accompanies a public trial. He adds that is an effective method of restitution, otherwise we would be seriously underestimating our justice system.

O'Brien also states that as an employer, the University must provide just cause for termination and Fish has not breached the terms of employment.

Jill Sullivan, a former student of Fish's at St. Thomas, has written a letter of support. The letter states that Sullivan is sympathetic to any person who has been abused, but she feels that it is unfair that any person be condemned by a sensational newspaper account.

Sullivan says that Fish is an enthusiastic professor who shows great concern for his students, and is well liked by many others.

Sullivan ends the letter by stating that she believes that Fish's personal life has nothing to do with his teaching ability, and if he is forced to resign, it would be a grave mistake to the potential learning of students at St. Thomas University.



Councillor of the year: Kim Desroches receives the Councillor of the Year Award from Kevin Bourque, outgoing Student Union president at the SU awards banquet on Wednesday night. Steve Seabrook photo.

Student awards presented at banquet

by Murray Carew

The UNB Student Union hosted a banquet on Wednesday night and presented awards to students who are graduating this year and have made a significant contribution to Student life during their years at UNB.

Merit certificates were given to Marielle Angers, Mike Comeau, Karen Geldart, Melanie K. Hawkes, Diane E. Kilpatrick, Lori Lee Love, Norman MacLennan, Dean Mullin, Hilan Tee Pang, Jamie Ryan, Peter W.H. Arthur, Robert Fowler, Peter J. Green, Wui Hua Tan, Bernard Lawless, Kim A. MacKay, Darcy G. McKillop, Christopher Nakash, Costa A. Papista, Peter S. Shaw, Nancy Washburn.

Silver Awards were presented to Kimberly Desroches, Serge Laviolette, Joseph L.R. Savoie, Robert A. Shaw, Mark A. Dykeman, Troy Morehouse, Tara Scott, Dannie Steeves.

And Gold Awards were presented to Marc Robert Braithwaite, Andrew F. Jones, Stephane Joseph Comeau, Gordon Malcolm Loane.

Student Union Councillor of the Year went to Kim Desroches. Other councillors who were recognized for their contributions were Kim Wetlaufer, Jon Lazer and Troy Morehouse.

The Dr. Downey Leadership Scholarship Award winner was Christa Wheeler. Wheeler, amongst other things, has been active in Student life as a residence proctor, sports rep. and assistant director of the Student Campus Police.

The last award went to VP Academic Robert Burridge. Jim McGee VP Internal described Burridge as someone who has devoted his entire life to the university.

The award which was not printed on the agenda came as a "complete surprise and a great honor" to Burridge.

UNB establishes a less formal procedure in sexual harassment policy

(UNB-PRI) UNB is looking for a few special people to volunteer their help in administering the university's sexual harassment policy.

Established in 1983, UNB's current policy outlines a formal complaint procedure to deal with cases of sexual harassment. In 1988 the Sexual Harassment Policy Review Committee recommended the addition of some less formal mechanisms which might be more useful in some cases and less formidable than the formal investigation process.

The committee felt the formal complaint procedure was working very well but might not be appropriate in all instances," explained Maureen Magee, UNB's employment equity officer. "It recommended that the

university establish a process for informal resolution and additional first-contact support for initiators of complaints." (The committee also recommended empirical research on the incidence of sexual harassment at UNB. That resulted in last year's sexual harassment survey, the results of which are being analyzed for a report to be issued later.)

In accordance with new policy provisions passed last August by the Personnel Policy Committee of the Board of Governors and now planned for implementation in the fall of 1991, the university wants to establish one group of 14 voluntary sexual harassment advisers and another group of 10 voluntary facilitators.

The advisers will provide confidential first-contact

support in the form of information, advice and referral for people who believe they have been sexually harassed and for alleged harassers. According to Ms. Magee, advisers will not only act as highly visible resource people for sexual harassment education and policy information, but might also help complainants approach perceived harassers directly, either in person or through a letter, to make them aware that their behavior is

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See also the UNB counselling services' reaction to the new policy. Page six

Proctors needed

by Leigh Acheson

Interested applicants are now being asked to volunteer to be proctors for the next academic year.

The proctor program provides peer counsellors for first year students and occasional assistance in tutorial discussions for Arts 1000 tutors.

Potential proctors must have completed Arts 1000 with a mark of B or better, and must

presently hold a GPA of at least 2.5. Proctors, who must be in at least their third year of the Arts program, will be expected to attend all of the meetings of their assigned tutorials in September and October, and for at least 1 meeting each month for the rest of the year.

For further details about the responsibilities of being a proctor, and for an application, contact the Office of the Dean of Arts before Friday, April 19.