

Majority doesn't rule for women's "open rooms"

There are quite a few girls at UNB who are upset. February 6th the Board of Governors at the University of New Brunswick decided not to approve the recommendation for an open house policy in women's residences. Apparently the majorities are being ignored in the four houses, for the majorities were in favour of the trial proposal.

According to UNB President Dr. John Anderson the Board had two reasons for vetoing the change. The first one was that while 65 percent of the girls in Lady Dunn voted in favour only 59.6 percent were affirmative in Murray House, leaving still a fairly large minority against. The second reason was the university felt it unwise to change its residence ground rules while the minority of students against the idea had signed up under the present system.

What we would like to know is why all this catering to the minority? We realize they are part of the residence community but we do not support either contention given by President Anderson (on page 7) above and here is why.

First, the wide spread of 59.6 to 65 percent...both are a fairly good majority, very good results for an entire residence, BUT there is still a significant minority? Since when do minorities rule the majority? When an election is held or a plebiscite do we not put the

people in office or go by the majority just because the minority might be considered significant? Trudeau set up a minority government but he was still elected by the majority (1972).

This may be a large scale comparison but it should get the point across. If we worried about minorities all the time we would never get anything done. Okay, now you say well they paid as much as the others did so their "rights" should be acknowledged. The majority rules still in this case same as in government, minorities still pay taxes. But also this was not meant to be a permanent change just on a TRIAL BASIS which could have been any length of time. Some of the girls may have found they did not like the idea after all or some of the negatives may have changed their minds too.

It would seem that the most logical time to try out the system would be this term since then they would know whether it is acceptable to start in the fall. We feel democracy has been swept under the carpet; the Board of Governors should take another look at their decision.

We are sure the girls of the residences appreciate Dr. Anderson's taking the time to answer their questions but we do not see how they can be totally satisfied. Better luck next time girls.

Yearbook is alive!

UNB HAS A YEARBOOK FOR ANOTHER YEAR. Now that the SRC has decided to have a yearbook even though the sales are lower than hoped for, the gang really needs staff. Every year students complain that the yearbook is never on time. It's pretty hard to get it to the printer by a deadline if the staff is minimal.

A yearbook never forgets and neither will you if you have one, so please give a damn and do some work for it. If you do something you will appreciate it even more.

Their offices are right across the hall from the Bruns on the first floor of the SUB in the office wing.



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