

**Council Watch**

MARY ROGAL-BLACK  
THE BRUNSWICKAN

Trish Davidson, VP Student Services, reminded council that the UNB SU gives out two scholarships valued at \$500 each year, based on academic record and volunteer work. Davidson added that the volunteer work does not have to be associated with the SU, although councilors and others involved in SU activities are welcome to apply. The awards will be made next term.

Davidson reported that UNB students in Moncton weren't included on the health plan this year because of a clerical error. She said that those students will be added to the plan and can receive retroactive payments for any expenses covered by the plan that the Moncton students had incurred so far in the year.

Anthony Knight, VP External, said he was pleased that the awareness campaign, "Mr. Premier why don't you want me to work," had been getting a lot of media coverage. The campaign aims to raise awareness of student loan regulations that deduct 80% of part-time earnings from student loan awards. "Hopefully we can see some change soon," said Knight.

Monique Scholten, VP Finance, reported that she and the Honoraria Subcommittee are about halfway through the job of figuring out honoraria awards. Scholten reminded councilors to apply for honoraria if they felt they deserved it. "If you don't think you're worth it then we don't either." \$60,000 is awarded each year to students who volunteer for Student Union and associated organizations.

President Joie Hellmeister said she had received some complaints in the past week about council's decision not to publish the Student Directory this year. "I've had a lot of students come up to me demanding the Student Directory," said Hellmeister. She asked for more feedback from councilors and further debate on the issue.

Business Rep Matt Hanrahan, Law Rep Cathy Clark and Forestry Rep Blair Saulnier all said that students they'd talked to weren't overly concerned about the decision not to put out a hard copy of the Directory. Hanrahan said it was too late in the year and the money was better spent elsewhere, although students would like to see the Directory next year. Clark and Saulnier said that since their faculties put out their own phone books, Law and Forestry students won't miss the Directory.

Arts Rep Sarah Mullaly said students she spoke with were relatively upset that the Directory would only be available online. Arts Rep Shelley Wells said that the change was hard to swallow midway through the year and suggested that council do a shorter print run of the Directory to get it to students who would appreciate it. Wells moved a motion to that effect, but it never came to debate since the motion to reconsider last week's decision was defeated.

Quote of the week: "The Consumer's Guide is online if you type in the proper fields or letters or sequences you can get it." VP Student Services Trish Davidson. Davidson, who said last week that "come hell or high water" students are going to have to get used to the web, may be interested to know that that mysterious "sequence" is called a URL. Get that girl a Cyber Geek Handbook.

Davidson may also be interested to find out that the online edition of the Consumer's Guide contains only the preface information. No survey results have been posted on the web.

**'Corporate politics' are costing students**

JAMES BUDROW  
THE BRUNSWICKAN

The Liberals are favouring big business at the expense of students.

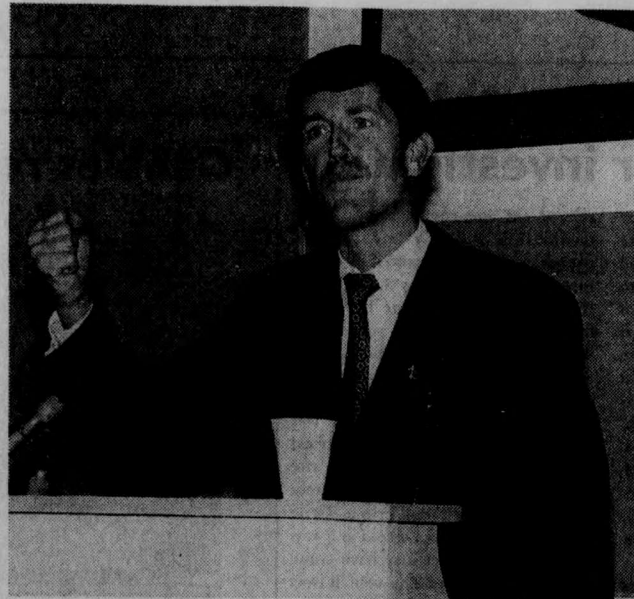
This is according to Svend Robinson, Member of Parliament for Burnaby Kingsway. Robinson spoke at Saint Thomas University's Holy Cross on behalf of the New Democratic Party of Canada on November 20.

His topic was the state of the country to date. Since the fall of 1993 when Canadians voted in support of an overwhelming change from the corporate politics of the Progressive Conservative Party, the Liberal Party of Prime Minister Jean Chretien has instead remained on track with policies [such as NAFTA and the GST] that support the interests of big business, according to Robinson.

"The Liberal's purpose has been to spark the economy by downsizing the federal government's involvement in publicly funded programs like unemployment, public broadcasting, and funding for post-secondary education," said Robinson.

Robinson used the example of a one hundred forty percent increase in tuition over the past ten years. The result has been a huge debt load for those students heavily dependent on student loans, with the average debt being \$24,000 at the end of four years. Such a burden prohibits a graduate's ability to repay their loans and the stress of such a debt load discourages students, he said.

Since 1990 some 35,000 graduates have declared bankruptcy, Robinson said. The government's response was to



Svend Robinson, MP for Burnaby Kingsway, spoke at STU Wednesday about the state of the country to date  
DREW GILBERT PHOTO

establish a law that forces graduates to wait at least two years before they can legally declare bankruptcy. Robinson sees this as one example of how the government of Canada has lost its credibility as representative of the well being of Canadian citizens.

"The government has come to be controlled by corporate Canada," he said. "By pulling out of public involvement the government has allowed these areas [such as education and health care] to be privatized. This allows the businesses who control them to exist unregulated

and it is obvious that they have the best interest of profit in mind - not the well being of their employees or those in need of their services."

Robinson said the problem is that those areas of public interest which are being privatized are necessary to sustain life in our society.

Robinson ended his talk by noting "When the government steps back and allows private interests to dominate the public's well being it becomes irresponsible, illegitimate, and futile."

**National awards for UNB students**

Two UNB students have received national recognition for outstanding achievement in their undergraduate studies. Colleen Hobson and Heather Redstone, both of Saint John, NB, are 1996-97 recipients of Corporate Awards for Canada Scholars.

Valued at \$1,000 each, the awards are sponsored by Canadian corporations to attract more of this country's brightest students into areas of the economy where their skills are most needed. Candidates must be in their last or second-to-last year of undergraduate study and hold a Canada Scholarship in Science and Engineering.

Hobson is the winner of one of 10 GE Canada Awards. This award is designed to recognize excellence in electrical, mechanical and chemical engineering, and to reward Canada Scholars who have demonstrated strong leadership skills and abilities. A fourth-year mechanical engineering student, Hobson plans to pursue graduate studies in biomedical engineering. She is the daughter of Roy and Doris Hobson.

Redstone, a senior biology student, received one of 20 Her Royal Highness The Princess of Wales' Canada Scholarships in the Biological Sciences. The objective of this award is to foster excellence in the field of AIDS treatment and prevention research. Redstone, who is the daughter of John and Lorraine Redstone, plans to attend medical school after graduation.

Both Hobson and Redstone have grade point averages of 4.1. A letter grade of A has a 4.0 grade point value.

Candidates for the Special Corporate Awards for Canada Scholars are evaluated on the basis of academic standing, course content, institutional recommendation, extra-curricular activities, and career plans and objectives. An independent committee of experts, convened by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, selects winners on behalf of the minister of Industry and the presidents of the sponsoring companies.

**Campus Radio**

Continued from page 1

Engineering Representative Darren Thompson questioned the time line suggested by Executive. Two members of the Executive, Joie Hellmeister and Monique Scholten, sat on the search committee that chose Tony Sekulich as the new Station Manager in August. Thompson asked whether they expected that was ample time for change. "Management seems to be the thing in question. I find it interesting that [Hellmeister and Scholten] thought he was going to change things," he commented.

Thompson also said he felt that CHSR suffered from student apathy, a problem student council has complained about frequently. "If you put the question out to students, 'Do we need a Student Union?' a lot of students would say no," Thompson said. "We need to look at ourselves. Everyone's aware that there's a lot of apathy on campus. It's a much larger issue than CHSR."



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