



A Frosh Guide to The Brunswickan

The Brunswickan remains Canada's oldest student publication. All other claims to this title are invalid and may be deemed liable. This publication is over a hundred years old and has maintained a commitment to the expression of student ideas through the written media ever since its inception.

The Brunswickan alumni list looks like a who's who in Canadian media, but we are also proud that anyone who works here leaves with a stronger sense of the good UNB spirit and a deeper appreciation of the media. It is also true that most staffers remember especially, the tremendous fun that it is working on a student paper.

The Bruns is run by students and we make every effort to keep it that way. While we are funded by the Student Union, we remain committed to the interests of the students first. We respect the elected representatives of students but our mandate demands that we are never controlled or censored by these individuals.

The staff that works at the Bruns is voluntary. The Union gives a small honorarium to editorial staff at the end of the year, but this in no way serves as payment for the amount of work that is done. We employ typesetters and an advertising manager, but that is where the paid staff deal ends. Beyond that, the thirty odd staff members are all voluntary and they give of their time and talent freely to put out the paper once a week.

The beauty of The Brunswickan corporation is that we do virtually all the production work right here on campus in our offices located in the Student Union Building. We use our fancy Macintosh computers to typeset and design the paper; then we do the paste up and layout work on our chaotic work tables in the main office. All photo development and Photo magnetic transfer (PMT) work is done in our two dark rooms. When the real work is done, we then truck the photo-ready material to the printers who are located in Fredericton. From that point on the paper is out of our hands.

What this implies should not be lost on students at UNB. The fact is, The Brunswickan has the facilities to produce a very attractive and informative paper making use primarily of student power and talent. Students who are interested in working in the media can gain invaluable experience working on the paper. We encourage students interested in writing, design, administration, sports and sales to be a part of the paper simply because there is something here for virtually everyone.

Working here is not free of its controversies and usually it is the media folks who get an in-depth look at the runnings of student life on campus. The truth is that the newspaper is one of the few things that everyone at UNB reads consistently. The implications are obvious when we think of the problems that may arise between faculty and students, students and the administration, students and other fellow students and so on.

Below is a short breakdown of some of the areas of involvement that are available to the UNB student at The Brunswickan. This listing is by no means comprehensive and it is often better to ignore what is written below and just come in to the offices and ask questions. However, if you are the cautious type, perhaps the material contained here will be helpful.



News

The News Department is a challenging and demanding area of the paper and yet it is often the most exciting. The Department is committed to the development of writers who can delve into a wide variety of new stories and emerge with interesting and informative stories. There is so much news worthy material on the Fredericton campus and the real excitement of it all is in the digging out process: interviewing people, asking the right questions, getting into places that may be hard to get into, listening out for those little tidbits to slip and so on. Above all, the News Department operates on the principle that students should never be kept in the dark about anything that in some way relates to them. The News Department is looking for people from every facet of University life to work as investigators and reporters.



Entertainment

Entertainment is a dynamic department largely because it is not limited in the type of events that are covered. Review, interviews, previews and critiques are some of the types of writing that are encouraged. With the number of bands that pass through the campus each year, along with the multiplicity of plays, ballets and classical recitals that are staged in town, writers should have a great deal to write about. Fredericton is becoming more and more a centre for film production and screening in the Maritimes and so writers who are interested in film should have more than enough material to work with. We are also searching for writers interested in writing book reviews and television reviews. Finally, for those who have ever read the Brunswickan, it should be obvious that the Entertainment pages are a virtual haven for design buffs. The Entertainment section is known for zany, innovative and fresh print media design; not to mention, intriguing photo work. The possibilities are...



Features

The Features section of the paper is geared for people who specialize in writing in-depth articles that cover any range of issues that are of interest to students. The Features section occupies the coveted centre-spread of the paper thus making it the domain of distinctive design and eye catching layout. Feature writers get a chance to use a variety of writing styles to explore issues that they have a special interest in. And so we encourage various groups and societies to explore ways in which the views and activities of their special interest groups can be articulated in a Bruns Feature. Topics can be as varied as cooking, travel, feminism, war, the environment, native issues, nintendo, computers....

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