

# NEWS

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

## UNB's residence orientation restructured *RRB not involved in the decision making process*

by Randy Goodleaf

On Tuesday, the Dean of Residence, Mary Lou Stirling, presented a package of changes to the structure of the orientation process, effective immediately.

These changes involve individual house orientation committees, the actual orientation activities, and the restriction of guests in rooms between midnight and 8:00 AM.

These procedural changes were initiated by the Dean of Residence, and formulated by the Board of Dons, with a conspicuous absence of input by the Residence Representative Board.

According to Stirling, the purpose of these procedural changes is to gain control of the orientation program, and this control will allow the reduction of the alleged coercion that occurs during orientation. She said that the RRB was not involved in the decision process because of a need for expediency and confidentiality.

Dean Mullin, chair of the RRB, objected to the normal channels being circumvented and the content of the report. He added: "It would be much faster for us to be involved and to work out a deal... than to strike a deal and have us fight it later".

He felt that the changes were going to diminish the healthy inter-residence rivalry and spirit that makes the system work. In terms of confidentiality, Mullin commented: "Why did this have to be confidential, because it involves students, and why should they not know about it?"

In a letter addressed to Dean Stirling, the proctors of Tibbits "expressed their extreme dissatisfaction with the way in which you (Stirling) have arbitrarily imposed your new orientation policy on the residence community". The Proctors also objected to the hypocrisy of Dean Stirling, who had previously encouraged input in the their own orientation program.

Mark Lockwood, proctor of Mackenzie House commented: "I have seen positive change (in orientation) in the last five years, and feel positive that change would have continued with the current policy. I think they are over reacting to a few letters and phone calls, and you will get complaints in the best systems". It should be added that a press release recently described UNB's present orientation program as an "internationally lauded student-run program".

The UNB Student Union passed a unanimous resolution

### Orientation Summary

- House committees will not automatically become members of the house orientation committees.

- Members of the house orientation committees must be approved by the Dean of Residence.

- All house residence orientation activities will be created by the Dean of Residence.

- All guests must leave residence rooms between 12:00AM and 8:00 AM.

- These measures are in effect only during frosh week.

- Any infraction will result in expulsion from residence.

that condemned the actions of the Dean of Residence for the lack of consultation with the RRB (an officially recognized and democratically elected body) and they "cannot support the draconian approach in which the new policy was created".

In response to the overwhelming support and solidarity shown by the RRB, proctors, the Student Union and the residence community, a meeting was held in McConnell Hall on Wednesday.

There was an estimated 500 people in attendance. Dean Mullin presided, and he outlined their strategy. The group will be attacking the policy, not the administration, and this will be done in an orderly fashion.

Apparently, there will be a march on Friday which will start at the dining halls and finish at the old Arts building. They are also targeting the Fredericton Joint Senate/Residence board.

This board is significant in that it must approve all proposals tabled by the Dean of Residence.

There has been concern by some of the parties involved that even if the policy was accepted, it would be very difficult to enforce.

One proctor noted that even with the present policy, there is some discretion, and imagine what will happen with a policy that was imposed in this manner and, as a result, would not be looked on favorably.



Students meet: On Wednesday night a meeting was organized at McConnell Hall to discuss the new orientation policy for the residences. David Smith photo

## Committee created to study feasibility of SUB expansion

by Karen Burgess

During the Student Union Council meeting on January 23 the motion was made to set up a committee to study the feasibility of an expansion to the Student Union Building.

The committee, which is chaired by James MacGee, VP Student Union of University Affairs, consists of seven members appointed by several groups around the UNB and STU campuses.

Among the representatives are Kim Norris, SUB Director, CAMPUS (Continuing Adult Mature and part-time University Students) appointee Mark Fletcher, Grad Student Association appointee Regan Legassie, STU Student Union member John Hunter, and representatives for UNB Student Union, Art Doyle and Jody Cruickshank.

The committee will hold its first meeting on the near future to relegate responsibilities to each member to study different aspects of the financial and architectural feasibilities of the project.

The matter has been brought up in previous years, but a motion to have students continue contributing to a SUB fund was defeated in a referendum the year the buildings original mortgage was paid off.

The issue was raised again

last year and a group was formed to study the project whose work will be the foundation for that of the new committee.

The cost and the means of funding the expansion will be examined when all of the requirements of the proposed project become available; not only do the immediate building costs have to be considered, but also the resulting operating costs that would be incurred.

The expansion, ideally, would house many of the services available to students that are presently located all over the campus.

James MacGee, who is chair of the committee, hopes that the expansion would "make the SUB even more the living room of the students", but adds that before any action can be taken, the project must be identified as one of high priority.

MacGee feels that the project will require several years of discussion (a difficult achievement when there is letter continuity of committee members) and hopes to be involved in next year's committee, though not as an executive of the Student Union.

The expansion is an issue that will be fully researched, and foreseeable, put to student referendum in the future. The major task ahead of the expansion committee is to decide

how the construction will be funded because, without the necessary economic backing, even a project with full student support cannot come to fruition.

## Controversial T-shirts in Persian Gulf

by Allan Carter

The "Desert Storm T-shirts" which were sent to the Persian Gulf will be going to the Canadian Medical units and will be given to patients.

Greg Belding, general manager of the Smokeshoppe, finds this "fitting" since he feels that the shirts represent "defiance and resilience - humanities ability to rise above even the worst diversities."

The shirts have been selling in the store since Belding decided to create them about a month ago.

Some students who find the shirts offensive have decided to boycott the store.

The shirts have the Operation Desert Storm logo on them and a cartoon of Saddam Hussien with "Sodamn Insane" written under the cartoon.