

# SRC Presidential Candidates: What?

It is always difficult to cover an election. The Brunswickan has tried in the past to provide as complete and fair coverage as possible. This year will be no exception. As mentioned in the editorial page of last week, the election of a Student Union president is a major event. His performance over the one-year term will be important for all students at UNB in many areas. Only an effective student union president can represent our views on such diverse subjects from fee increases to entertainment.

The following interviews were taken over a two-day period, Friday and Saturday, January 21 and 22 respectively. The same questions were asked of the candidates, and my notes of their answers were, in each case, read back to them for their approval. Differences in length of answers and content directly reflect the answer given and, in many cases, the ability of the individual candidate to answer under pressure.



**KEVIN GARLAND**

**Bruns:** Why are you running for Student Union President?

**Garland:** "I feel that I am qualified to do the job having been involved in a number of student activities such as Orientation, Winter Carnival, SRC and SUB Board. I think that I can do a good job."

**Bruns:** What are the students bitching about?

**Garland:** "Students are complaining about increases in residence fees, tuition and SRC fees. They don't really know where their SRC fees are going to, as there are only a few events where SRC fees are noticed by the majority. Only that percentage of the campus involved in clubs have any idea where their money goes."

**Bruns:** What is the purpose of the Student Union?

**Garland:** "To lay out student union money to the various organizations within the content of a balanced budget. This money is to provide a service to the majority of students. As members of NUS and possibly AFS use them as lobbying forces to governments to hold fee increases."

**Bruns:** What do you think about NUS and AFS?

**Garland:** "I didn't support it in the first place, although I believe we should use our membership to the fullest advantage."

Unless there is a serious misappropriation of funds within NUS, I wouldn't support a referendum within my term. I support AFS and believe that the fee increase is justified."

**Bruns:** How do you feel about the past year?

**Garland:** "I feel that last year was characterized by an indecisive council and low public opinion of the SRC."

**Bruns:** How do you feel about the SRC fee increase?

**Garland:** "Looking at the budget, I feel that it is necessary since this year has seen 6-10 new organizations with budgets constituted. To maintain The Brunswickan and CHSR at even the same level will cost more in the light of inflation."

**Bruns:** What are your priorities for spending money?

**Garland:** "The large organizations have first priority. There are the ones that provide a lot of service to the majority of students. Orientation, Winter Carnival, Student Handbook, The Brunswickan and CHSR and the Yearbook."

"CSL is a good organization, but little or no money will be put into it next year. It must make money. The approach taken last year was a little mis-directed."

"Other clubs and organizations are a priority but after the service organizations. The amount going to these clubs should be based on the number of students. As it stands now one-third of the budget goes to the smaller student organizations which are comprised of 10-15 percent of the student body."

**Bruns:** What should be the relationship of the Executive to Council?

**Garland:** "The Executive should always know what is going on. It should provide council with the material to make decisions."

**Bruns:** What exactly do you propose to do?

- Garland:** (1) "If SRC fees do go up, implement an SRC course evaluation."  
 (2) "Attack all fee increases at all levels."  
 (3) "Ensure a harmonious and smooth-running executive."  
 (4) "Use NUS and AFS to the fullest advantage."

**Bruns:** How do you feel about:

**CHSR** - "A student radio station is a definite necessity. I would like to see it go off-campus, but that is dependent on the fee increase."

**The Brunswickan:** "Absolutely necessary. It provides information, editorials, and it is a good forum for students to get involved."  
**Entertainment in the Aitken Centre:** "I'd like to see it in conjunction with the big events such as Winter Carnival."

**Travel Office:** "I support it, a good service to students."

**SUB Expansion:** "I agree with it. We need an intermediate size hall, 800-1,200 people. Many events are impossible to hold because we can't get this sized auditorium."

**Bruns:** Any parting shots?

**Garland:** "No, I don't think so."



**JAMES MURRAY**

**Bruns:** Why are you running for Student Union President?

**Murray:** "First of all, I believe that I can do the job. With the background that I have in student organizations such as Orientation, CHSR, SUB, etc., I have developed a fairly good idea about what students are bitching about."

"For me, it is not enough to complain about the way things are going, as you can only change something when you get involved."

**Bruns:** What are the students bitching about?

**Murray:** "First of all and foremost it is increases in costs. Not only SRC fees, but perhaps more importantly, tuition fees and residence fees."

"There seems also to be a kind of apathy in doing things; participating in events, and this is a concern. Students are not satisfied with the job that the SRC is doing for them. The SRC does not appear to be doing anything for the majority of students, although for a lot of students who get involved it has been accomplishing a few important things."

**Bruns:** What is the purpose of the Student Union?

**Murray:** "Firstly, and perhaps most significantly, it provides the students with some sort of a voice-box to make representative to the University, the government, and to the other student organizations."

"It provides a social atmosphere for students by initiating and organizing events such as concerts, pubs, Winter Carnival and Orientation."

"The Student Union provides the organizational basis for different clubs such as EUS, the Law Society and service organizations such as CHSR, The Brunswickan and the Yearbook."

**Bruns:** What do you think about the past year?

**Murray:** "Most people would be very negative, although they may not be fully aware of some of the positive things that the SRC has accomplished."

I feel the year was characterized by an indecisive council, which did a lot to

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