

# The right decision but.....

Last week's Board of Governors (BOG) meeting of the University of New Brunswick pointed out a serious problem and a dangerous trend in the way students are "governed" here at UNB.

All of the problems that the supreme governing body of UNB, the BOG, are dealt within a veil of secrecy (or "trust" as they prefer to call it).

The BOG meeting was planned to occur at the end of classes AND after the last issue of The Brunswickan (or so they thought!). Who made this decision is difficult to determine, but the result was that students were kept in the dark about their university's financial situation.

The Brunswickan could't even find out what the administration's recommendations to the BOG were before the meeting, because this would be a breach of this so-called "trust". The Brunswickan feels this is unwarranted. Informing the students as to what the "recommendations" were, would not place any unfair pressure on either party (BOG or Administration) on the final decision. It would only be bringing things out into the open.

In an effort to bring full coverage of this important meeting to the students, The Brunswickan discovered that the entire April 7 BOG meeting was closed, even to students and their press. "Budget matters are never discussed in open session". (Well, excuse us!)



## PLEASE SIR, SOME MORE

The Brunswickan can appreciate the need for discretion in the decision-making process surrounding such things as salary levels, faculty appointments, etc. But to bar the student press from listening to discussion on tuition and residence fees reduces the students to the realm of serfs paying homage to the great feudal lords.

Expecting students to submit to this method of "government" shrouded in mystery awe and prepared press releases is in direct contradiction of the university's responsibility to prepare "responsible citizens" for our "democratic society".

Student (and general) apathy and cynicism can be traced to the way we are abused by an

entrenched undemocratic social elite. This system either co-opts as into grey-flannel three-piece suits or turns us into apathetic degenerates. Either way, the university and society are not benefitted, except for the creation of a new "leather and tweed" generation to perpetuate this abuse.

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### SRC wraps up year

## All aboard for campus TV!

The last SRC meeting of the current academic year was, in usual SRC fashion, a mass of confusion and inconsistency.

SRC President, Jim Murray, in his weekly report to council, informed them that there was a



Jim Murray

NUS conference in Charlottetown PEI coming up in the near future. The travel expenses of delegates from all member universities were being shared in a travel pool. Murray stated that the student union's current financial situation prevented the union from sending delegate to the conference at a cost of \$360.00.

In Vice-President (Internal) Jan McCurdy's report on the by-laws, it was noticed (and subsequently removed) that there were clauses that permitted the SRC executive to 'collude' and inform any member of the executive of either CHSR or The Brunswickan that their respective honoraria would be taken away unless in the opinion of the executive of the SRC, the person 'shaped up'. Several councillors spoke up against this proposed by-law and in a straw vote, it was removed.

Comptroller Brian Pryde brought forth a motion authorizing him to obtain a "line of credit" to the amount of \$12,000 to carry the SRC over the summer. Pryde stated that this amount might be

necessary to cover the union's deficit. He also stated he felt that if "all went well", he would not need to borrow the money.

The last item of business concerned the student television proposal. This concerned equipment the group wanted to purchase. The group was asking for an advance of \$2,400 on a \$7,800 budget.

By J. DAVID MILLER

Councillor Jack Trifts pointed out that council didn't send a delegate to the NUS conference because they couldn't afford a \$360 fee. Trifts went on to point out that the student union was in such difficult financial straights that they had just authorized the comptroller to borrow \$12,000 if necessary.

Murray pointed out that the union was indeed in poor financial shape and urged that this proposal be put off until the fall. Murray noted that council was spending money which could benefit only a small minority of residence students and



Brian Pryde

would not benefit off-campus students at all.

Student television club president Robert Miller maintained that "there would be no student television club if council refused this money." He stated that financial help was forthcoming from many levels of government to assist with programming.

After this debate, council authorized the necessary \$2,400 to purchase the equipment to make television a reality to 27 television sets in the residence system.

**the brunswickan**

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