

University requires more student participation

By SALAH HASSANIEN

The concept of university is certainly more than a degree producing factory. Education cannot be achieved by passing lectures material from the professor's mouth to the exam

paper without stopping to think about it. The process of learning in the university depends on the real participation of students, faculty, staff and the surrounding community.

This may seem like such an obvious truth that I am liable to be accused of stupidity for starting it. However, the present state of affairs is an ample evidence that this truth is not practised at UNB.

It seems that a large number of the student body at UNB is mainly concerned over finding the easiest way to punch in the required number of years required to obtain their degrees, preferably with a minimum amount thinking.

There are more students who are talking about the stupidity of the present exam system as means of evaluating the student ability or the divorce between political science courses and the Canadian politics realities or in general any good ideas, than students who are doing anything to achieve these ideas.

Students at UNB have gained without much toil representation, and in many instances have been invited to different UNB committees such as Senates, (some departmental meetings), executive committee of graduate school

and in the near future to the Board of Governors, just to name a few.

Again it should seem obvious that neither representation for the sake of having representatives nor radicalism for the sake of being called radical is a good itself.

What our student representatives have achieved is questionable. One can argue that the ratio of the student representatives to the administration in most of the committees is not favourable. Actually it is the poor representation, the student apathy and the totally disorganized student body which is responsible for the lack of achievement.

How can our student representatives put any ideas to improve student situation or to make UNB a more democratic university when most of the student body lack even the basic concept of university education and never even thought what is the university all about?

There seems to be a wide gap between studying the most modern theories or the ideas of

great men such as B. Russell, K. Max, B.F. Skinner, etc., and reflecting those to one's attitudes.

In UNB, there exists quite a few offices such as Dean of Students, SRC, graduate students association, Rap Room, etc., which are not wisely utilized by students to improve the cultural or political atmosphere in UNB.

In the province of New Brunswick, the university is not helping to enrich culturally the community around it. In fact there is a little contact between the university and the community.

It can be stated that in UNB campus we have the highest brain concentration in the province, however, these brains are rarely used.

It seems that more student participation and organization is badly needed if a real education is to be acquired.

Salah Hassaniien is a graduate student in Chemical Engineering.

Mugwump Journal

By EDISON STEWART

I am NOT an old lady. Reason I say that is cause some people might get the idea that all I have to do on this campus is complain. Not so. With the Journal going into its second year, it might be interesting to note that complaining is a vital function of people everywhere.

Consider, for instance, the fact that when fees were raised in 1968, people demonstrated in front of various buildings on campus. Consider also, for example, the fact that when the girls in the residences complained about open room hours, the hours were changed. Slowly, perhaps, but they've been changed nonetheless.

And now, for some reason or other, we've been getting a rather large amount of letters from people who want to get into the act and complain themselves. And if you don't like their letters (or this column) then complain. It's your right, and you won't be an old lady for doing it.

Beating the dead horse dept... The SRC has yet to even talk about the bus service we've tossed around down here for a while. And I've got another beef with these councillors. Last Monday night some of the SRC budget was passed, including our section.

As expected, the councillors wanted to know why we were spending money here, there and all those other places. When

I invited them down to our offices so they could see where their (your) money went, they nodded their heads in agreement. But NOT ONE of those doorknobs has yet darkened our doors. Howcum? Don't get me wrong several SRC members and all of the executive have been down. The people I'm complaining about are all talk and no action.

Roy Neale (the SRC Pres) and Bill Akerley had a big to-do over nothing earlier this week. When Akerley threatened to shut down the radio unless his budget was passed pronto, Neale called it blackmail (which it was) and both became increasingly hot under the collar. Akerley knows the move was totally out of the question - he no more needs the money right now than he did a month ago. He knows all he has to do to get money is to get the SRC executive to approve the expenditures. And for him to plead innocence was the height of the comedy. When residence reps and Neale joined the fray, however, the whole thing blew up. Neale began charging blackmail here and there, and to make matters worse, the residence reps said they didn't understand why they should have to pay a buck a head to help finance CHSR. When the smoke finally cleared, the budget was passed and CHSR continued on its merry way...

Remember that I talked about complaints at the first of this column? Well one fellow came and said he'd like the folks eating at the SUB to clean up their act. I agree. Without Saga and the maintenance dept. cleaning it up every few hours the place would be a real mess...

They done it again dept...

Two of New Brunswick's greatest newspapers - the Daily Gleaner and the Bathurst Tribune (the what???) - printed the standard dead moose and delighted hunter pics last week. After running a story on it one day last week, the Gleaner received a letter charging them with condoning the hunt. The Gleaner editor replied to the letter, and noted that it was only printing the news, and not in reality, condoning the killing. In that same paper, they ran a quarter page photo of someone from Lower Slobbavia smiling proudly beside the moose he had killed. (Pretty unbiased reporting, huh fellows?) That same week, the Gleaner ran an editorial advocating that we bring back hanging. But who to hang?

Certainly not moose. We can already shoot them. People, they said. People who 'push' drugs on our unsuspecting young. So long for now. See you next week...

Conformity responsible for our choices

By BARB HILL

One century ago Florence Nightingale wrote: "I would earnestly ask my sisters to keep clear of both the jargons now current everywhere (for they're equally jargons); of the jargon, namely, about the 'rights' of women, which urges women to do all that men do, including the medical and other professions, merely because men do it, and without regard to whether this is the best women can do; and of the jargon which urges women to do nothing that men do, merely because they are women, and should 'be recalled to a sense of their duty as women' and because 'this is women's work' and 'that is men's' and 'these are things which women should not do', which is all assertion and nothing more. Surely women should bring the best she has, whatever that is, to the work of God's world, without attending to either of these cries. For what are they, both of them, the one just as much as the other, but listening...to the 'voices from without?' And as a wise man has said, no one has ever done anything great or useful by listening to the voices from without... Oh, leave these jargons, and go your way straight to God's work, in simplicity and singleness of heart."

It is indeed an eye-opener that a "current" issue stirred Englishmen of Victorian times, and one

wonders whether a satisfactory solution is forthcoming.

Raised in an era in which women of prominence became mothers, socialites, and very little else, Miss Nightingale was able to dodge the menacing fists of bureaucracy and cloak working women with a few tatters of respectability. The fact that a brief time span saw extensive attitudinal change is a living testimony to the flexibility of our social system. Yet women's liberationists would surely question the degree of this supposed flexibility in the light of widespread antagonism to their movement - not only from men, but from "members of the sisterhood" as well.

That feudal lord, Conformity, is partly responsible for large followings of both the Liberation movement and the "Maintain the status quo" camp. I present that the extremism of much Liberation propaganda has alienated a substantial segment of women unwilling to jump on so apparently intolerant a bandwagon. The seriousness and complexity of the issue demand individual consideration based on moral and disinterested judgement. Let us be sure that we are not tipping a lump of bigotry from one side of the scales, only to plunk it unwittingly on the other.

Equality of two groups need not reduce mutual respect, and

whether present standards of etiquette must undergo comprehensive reorganization is debatable. Is Florence Nightingale not justified in impelling women to fulfill their personal commitment? If we truly value the sanctity of every individual and the oneness of each being, let us enter what field we will, not because a group of which we are members urges it but because our minds demand it. Let "singleness of heart", not conformity, dictate our choices.

FEEDBACK

Continued from page 4
Dear Sir:

Recently a number of articles have appeared in the BRUNSWICKAN concerning voting procedures in the upcoming Federal Election. As I feel there is still some confusion as to whether students may, or may not, vote on campus, I am writing this letter so as to, hopefully, clarify.

In the September 29th issue of the BRUNSWICKAN it was stated, "According to regulations drafted by Canada's Chief Electoral Officer, students who are not 'on their own' must vote in their home constituency." The

Continued on page 6