

SRC debates proposed honoraria for SUB Board members

By SUSAN MANZER
Managing Editor

Once again the new honoraria the Student Union Building Board of Directors granted themselves, retroactive to September, stood under heated argument at the regular meeting of the UNB Student Representative Council Monday night.

Council discussed the topic last week but the issue was tabled until the Board was ready to present their case. The Board added to the chairman's \$400, \$200 for the Treasurer, Program Officer (\$125) and \$100 for all other members.

SRC President Roy Neale explained that if both the SRCs of UNB and STU disagreed with the honoraria, the decision could be revoked or if one Council agreed and the other did not it could conceivably go to arbitration.

Board member Rick Fisher said the role of the building has changed substantially over the years and the SRC has very little say in the running of the building or the day to day routine.

"It has become an autonomous body with some responsibility to the SRC but more to the people who use the building."

He added that it is these people who elect the SRC.

The Board justified their new honoraria by the great amount of work they do and as an incentive to attract capable people to the organization who will work diligently. SUB Board chairman Peter Forbes pointed out the number of acclamations and empty seats on the SRC and this was what they were trying to avoid.

Chris Allen brought to the attention of Council that the Board has had only six meetings since the beginning of the year.

Forbes compared the Board and the SRC as the company and the shareholders; the shareholders should not be allowed "to vote".

"We don't want to sit in quaking fear of the SRC; it would invite utter chaos and disaster."

Forbes also said the honorarias were not something granted at the spur of the moment but a lot of thought and discussion went into it. He added that the money hopefully will aid in getting people to work but, of course, there are no guarantees.

"But if we don't try we'll never get anywhere."

Board treasurer Peter Galoska presented the annual budgets to Council, explaining how the money for the honorarias was easily obtained.

Neale said the work done is "actually done by the permanent staff" of the SUB and he did not agree that the Board did some of the major part of the running of the building.

"A perfect example of this is the fact they have only had six meetings this year. The SRC met a hell of a lot more than that."

He added that the minutes of the

Board meetings show little other work done besides discussing honoraria.

"There has been no proof of action," he said.

Forbes again argued the money was granted to obtain and retain members of the Board of such a quality, to better the building for the students.

A motion presented not to agree with the honoraria was defeated. Neale went on record as opposing the decision.

Comptroller Fud Steeves announced a motion to give the executive and certain members of the SRC honoraria of \$10,000 each, saying that if everyone was agreeable it could be done with no ratification from anyone. He pointed out the motion was presented to show Council it is not how much money is allotted to certain people, but the principle of the matter itself.

Neale suggested the SRC members receive \$100 honoraria retroactive to September. "I don't agree with the whole thing, but we're in better financial shape than the Board and we do a lot of work. But if you take it, then you explain it to the students."

Councillor Alex Mersereau said he would like to see the motion tabled since, as chairman of the Awards Committee who discusses honoraria, he has sent letters to other universities across Canada concerning the issue.

The motion was voted to be tabled until a later date.

Neale announced two students would be needed to sit on a search committee for the Dean of Students, besides one student senator and one student from UNBSJ. Applications will be accepted by the Applications Committee headed by Dave Gamble. The seven man committee will be required to find a replacement for Dr. Frank Wilson who recently resigned from the position.

Travel officer Gid Mersereau reported on a conference he attended in New York City, as the only Canadian university representative. He mentioned group rates as well as charter flights, and other information and films offered. Mersereau said UNB was probably the only Canadian university attending since the Association of Student Councils who discusses the same issues was holding a conference at the same time. Neale was present at these meetings.

Mersereau added that UNB's travel office was one of the best and most efficient of those in attendance.

"Some of them couldn't even touch us," he said.

In the Comptroller's report, a motion discussed to obtain "visiting privileges" for members of the Administrative Board.

The AB is a committee of the SRC which discusses financial matter before they are presented to Council. The privileges would be those enjoyed by the SRC which

allows any member of Council to attend free of charge any event sponsored by them.

Steeves said that since some of the AB members are already SRC Councillors, the people given these privileges would be few in number.

Councillor Kathy Pomery said there are other important committees of the SRC who do not have visiting privileges. However, Councillor Warren MacKenzie

thought it was a "good idea" since the AB does about the same amount of work as the SRC.

Neale suggested it might be beneficial since it is the AB who mainly discuss the financing of these events and it would help to have those people there to see how successful activities are.

The motion was carried eight for, five against.

Assistant Comptroller Pat Flanagan told Council they could

Parliamentary intern says

Minority government interesting

By TOM BENJAMIN
News Editor

This session of parliament has produced a lot of good legislation such as the wiretapping and election expenses bills, said Rick Chambers, a parliamentary intern.

In an interview last week Chambers commented on the federal parliament from his viewpoint as a parliamentary intern.

"A minority government makes things interesting around the hill," said Chambers.

There has been a real input by all the parties. This parliament has been a lot more participatory than the previous one, he said.

"The members of parliament are a lot more important than they are given credit for," said Chambers.

He said the press distorts the lives of the M.P.s. and give the public the impression that their representatives live a soft life. Most members work 14 or 16 hours a day, "and are lucky to get 20 minutes for lunch".

He expressed his views on several of our representatives, and said he was "most impressed with Donald Macdonald - his performance during the energy crisis was first rate".

Chambers described Robert Stanfield as "much more impressive in the house than he is in the media".

"Gordon Fairweather, Tom Bell, and Bob Howie are first rate members," he added.

He said he was impressed with the personality of Bob Howie, "a very warm man, easy to work for, and one of the best members in the house."

Chambers explained his position as parliamentary intern as an "executive assistant".

The interns are paid a scholarship of \$750 a month by the Canadian Political Science Association. The association usually receives about 1,200 applicants a year, and ten interns are chosen after extensive testing.

The program, now in its fourth year, is open to any Canadian citizen with a university degree, although most interns have backgrounds in political science, law, or journalism.

Language training is required if applicants are unilingual, he added.

Chambers said the interns "have access to almost everything that happens on the hill."

Each intern works with both a government backbencher and an opposition member. They spend most of their time writing speeches and doing general research.

The interns are also invited to seminars with various members and ministers.

"The talks are frank and open, but held in the strictest confiden-

ce," said Chambers.

The interns will visit Toronto, Quebec City, Washington D.C., London and Paris, "Comparing experiences and meeting politi-

ians."

"My perceptions of the political process have become much more alive since entering this program," said Chambers.



Photo by Ron Ward

Parliamentary intern Rick Chambers

Anderson discusses janitorial walkoff

President John M. Anderson of the University of New Brunswick said Tuesday that action being taken by janitors, none of whom are employed directly by the university, is beginning to interfere with the academic and administrative functions of the university.

Anderson said the university had been very tolerant of the protestors' actions to this point. No attempt has been made to interfere with those persons sitting in buildings or with those who have been preventing normal janitorial services. However, the situation has deteriorated to the point where the university must take a stand, he said.

The dispute centers on wages being paid janitors by Capitol, Modern and Jet cleaning firms who have contracts with the university. Another firm Custodian Services Ltd., had a janitorial contract with the university until January 31 when they decided to withdraw. Their employees and some of those with the other firms have been occupying a number of buildings in protest over wages.

When asked to comment on the situation, Anderson pointed out, that much of the protest to date was illegal. Furthermore a significant number of the protestors do not appear to work for anyone and are therefore unemployed. Their decision to sit in the buildings was preventing the contracting firms from fulfilling their responsibilities.

"We are concerned particularly

about the lack of cleaning service in the dining halls where the maintenance of required health standards is essential," said Anderson. "Some damage has been done by the protestors to university property and their refusal to allow others to work is now interfering with the normal academic operation of UNB".

Anderson said it was his understanding that the Student Representative Council will not support the action of the janitors. A representative of the protestors had requested student support when they appeared before a regularly scheduled council meeting Monday night.

The SRC did ask however that the university administration make its position clear to the community.

"Like any organization, the university must live within the funds available to it," Anderson said. "The operating budget for the current academic year has been settled for some time and the government operating grant for 1974-75 is now clear. The university cannot expect to receive additional government funds."

The President said UNB was a present negotiating a new contract with its unionized staff, some of whom are janitors. He felt the action taken by the protestors was premature and that they may have a stronger case with the cleaning service companies, their employers, when the university settles with its own employees.

By acclamation

STU SRC posts filled

By GEOFF RHODENIZER

Elections were held at STU this week for positions of president, comptroller, internal and external vice-presidents, Programme Director, Secretary, public relations and class presidents. Out of the ten positions open only seven were filled, and they were won by acclamation.

The three positions for class presidents are still open for

nomination. They are for senior class, junior and sophomore.

The SRC this year consists of: Alfred Doucet - President
George Sevigny - Comptroller
Dave LePage - Internal Vice-President

Richard Roach - External Vice-President

Cathy Joyce - Programme Director

Janet Thorne - Secretary
Marcel Goyette - Public Relations