



By WILLA STEVENSON

Last week, I introduced the concept of the "Information Interview" - a useful strategy for gaining knowledge of the career in which you are interested. Easily set up and carried out, interviewing for information can clarify ideas you may already have about a given field of work, gaining a perspective that goes beyond the limitations of job titles to the actual skills that are used.

Uncertain about which career is right for me, I went to the Counselling Services Career Centre Library and played on a hunch. After a bit of research, I zeroed in on Law as a distinct possibility, and set out to discover more.

In an informal Information Interview with James H. Appleton, B.A., L.L.B., much valuable knowledge was gained. A graduate of U.N.B.'s Law School, Mr. Appleton now has a primary role in the Academic-industrial relations area of the university, a job he enjoys for its direct involvement and labour law concentration.

Basic Question 1: Why did you choose law? A lifelong interest and a desire for a reliable career turned out to be Mr. Appleton's motivation force. "I chose Law over an M.A. because the career route seemed to attract me more. There was no real correlation with my undergraduate work in History, except perhaps for an interest in the judicial side of government and politics."

Basic Question 2: What courses and experiences helped prepare you? "Anything that gets you reading and thinking is the bottom line." Mr. Appleton suggests courses which enhance writing abilities and which demand large amounts of heavy reading. As well, those dealing with politics, the philosophy of government, economics, corporate structure and taxation would be useful in a direct way. As for prior employment experiences related to his chosen vocation, Mr. Appleton had none: instead, he stresses the importance of developing one's ability to deal with other people. "Law is an adversarial system; you are expected to challenge the arguments of others. Assuming responsibility itself is good practice. Go out for debating, student government - anything to adapt that adversarial role."

Basic Question 3: What do you recommend to a prospective law student? Mr. Appleton says, "take anything you're comfortable with, that you enjoy, and through which you can excel. Leave as many doors open as you can, and allow time to direct you into the right slot."

Basic Question 4: What do you like most about your job? For Mr. Appleton, the direct involvement with industrial relations is a major selling point. "Helping draw out collective agreements and assisting in the arbitration process is interesting and challenging."

Basic Question 5: Can you elaborate on the different angles, different specialties within your types of law, including corporate, criminal, contract, tort, constitutional, labor and administration - but you interests are going to be subservient to the situation you're faced with. There is a great surplus of lawyers today; in order to be economically viable, you must learn to do anything and everything long enough until your specialty becomes in demand. Get involved with as many areas of the law as possible, get some background first - THEN be selective.

Thus, you see how twenty-five minutes of low-key conversation based upon a few broad questions can open your eyes to many possibilities. In order to make best use of the information gathered, it is important to evaluate by asking yourself questions such as:

-What did I learn from this interview? (both positive and negative impressions)

-How does what I learned fit with my own interests, abilities, goals, and values?

-What do I still need to know?

What plan of action can I make?

Talking to people about their work doesn't have to be a formal process, or one you practice only when career-hunting. Chat with people casually - on a plane or bus, while waiting in lines, as social gatherings etc. Most people enjoy taking about the work they do. Curiosity can open many doors.

4-THE BRUNSWICKAN

November 4, 1983

SRC Notes

By JANE CUNNINGHAM
Brunswickan Staff

The weekly meeting of the SRC concluded Monday night without accomplishing two of its objectives - to abolish the three rep-at-large seats on council and to ratify budgets. Comptroller Darren Evans was absent but sent his assurance that budgets should be available to those concerned by the next meeting.

Vice President Timothy Lethbridge presented a report to council entitled "Special Report on SRC Office Inefficiencies". Mr. Lethbridge submitted the report due to what he sees as a crisis situation now existing in the SRC office. He identified the crisis in terms of three major problems: very low employee morale, lack of communication, and procedural violations.

The report was almost completely based on the personal observations of Mr. Lethbridge and on conversation Mr. Lethbridge has had with Simone Poirier. Miss Poirier is the administrative secretary of the Student Union and is the president's personal secretary. She has submitted her resignation and will be the second person in her position to leave in the past five months.

Although Mr. Lethbridge identified the problem as "the present structure of the Student Union which he sees as 'totally inadequate'", the report was viewed by President John Bosnitch and many counsellors as a

direct, personal attack on Mr. Bosnitch. Consequently, Mr. Bosnitch responded to Mr. Lethbridge's report by denouncing each statement made in the three page report. Claiming that he could prove Mr. Lethbridge's statements false, Mr. Bosnitch accused the vice-president of acting irrationally and using the report as a political weapon against Mr. Bosnitch in his bid for re-election.

Mr. Bosnitch's response was followed by a question period, during which Mr. Lethbridge's motives were questioned by many counsellors. Mr. Lethbridge replied only that he stood by everything stated in the letter and that he had not been surprised by John Bosnitch's

reaction but had been expecting it.

Quorum was last during question period when counsellors Oliver Koncz and Brant Drewery left. The meeting concluded with Scott Thomas, President of the E.U.S. who was in attendance to submit budget reports, stating his disappointment that budgets had been further delayed.

An emergency council meeting must now be held before the election date on November 9 to officially abolish the rep-at-large seat. Next Monday's meeting has been cancelled due to the "Meet the Candidates Night", taking place at 7:00 p.m. in the SUB cafeteria. All students are urged to attend.

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PROSPECT STREET

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