

NEWS

Deadline: Wednesdays at 12:00 Noon. Newsdesk: 453-4983

SDC to double minimum fine

To be raised from \$25 to \$50

by Mimi Cormier

A proposal to raise the minimum fine enforced by UNB's Student Disciplinary Committee (SDC) is to be presented at the next meeting of the Board of Governors. If the proposal is approved by the board, the minimum amount of fines issued by the SDC will be raised from \$25 to \$50.

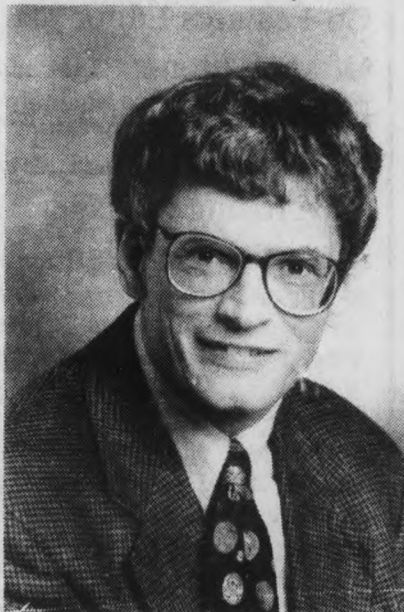
University Secretary Roger Ploude, who introduced the proposal, feels that fines would "act as a greater deterrent" against inappropriate student behaviour if the minimum amount of fines is increased. Ploude says that there is a "tendency to lean toward the minimum" in giving fines and that student disobedience of university regulations is often "deserving of a slightly higher penalty." The proposed increase would also bring SDC fines closer to the amounts imposed in off-campus fines, adds Ploude.

"(There is a) tendency to lean toward the minimum."

- Ploude

Diana Bourque, a member of the SDC, agrees that the current minimum fine of \$25 "is low," but says that there are "some special circumstances where there would be no fine." "If the circumstances warrant it, we

Joy Cummings Dickinson photo



Roger Ploude

can say 'no fine'," continues Bourque. Bourque also says that students "can appeal it" if they are given even the minimum fine.

Although the proposal to raise the minimum fine has yet to pass the Board of Governors, Bourque acknowledges that the SDC "did charge a couple of people in December" and imposed \$50 fines. Bourque explains that she cannot comment on the cases since she has not spoken with the students involved.

She adds that she believes the students who were fined the increased minimum amount are "appealing it."

Yates continues funding freeze protest

by Karen Burgess

Tammy Yates, SU Vice President of External Affairs, continued her efforts to dissuade the provincial government's proposed funding freeze by meeting with various government officials over the past week.

Yates has met with Minister of Advanced Education, Vaughan Blaney, Minister of Finance Allan Maher and MLA for Fredericton South, Russ King. During these visits, Yates has presented to the government over 1100 letters protesting the freeze which were signed by UNB students.

Of the three politicians, Yates felt that Blaney was the most sympathetic to the complaints of UNB's students, expressing support for the protest letter campaign and asking for input concerning an improved student aid program.

Apparently, Blaney is very concerned that the present program is being abused by students wrongfully receiving government money.

Yates felt that the Finance Minister, Allan Maher, was less concerned by the situation with which students are faced. He responded to their concerns by challenging them to find a source to replace the 6 million dollars being cut.

Russ King, the Fredericton South MLA, whose riding includes the University, met with Yates for an hour but she says "We didn't get a big commitment from him one way or the other on how he's going to speak on this whole thing."

Whether or not the government changes its plans to cut the budget because of Yates' protest campaigning she feels it was beneficial because the government will think twice about reducing the

Evaluation forms tested

by Brent Dickson

Shortly before Christmas, new teacher evaluation forms were tested in certain classes at UNB. These new forms are a result of the combined efforts of the Saint John and Fredericton Quality of Teaching Committee.

Dorothy Mackeracher, Director of Graduate Studies in the Education Faculty, had tested the teacher evaluation forms in her graduate classes. She said that the new forms "offered students more opportunity to rate instructors on more clearly defined criteria than the previous form".

Mackeracher said that Prof. Reavely Gair from the English Department had tested the forms out in his undergraduate courses, as well they were tested at the Saint John UNB.

According to Jonathan Lazar, Student at large, there are three students participating on the Quality of Teaching Committee, one of which is him. The other two students are Derek Dunnet, Vice President of University Affairs and James MacGee, business Representative and member of the UNB Senate.

Ideas from other universities have been used in part to help formulate the proper criteria of the new teacher evaluation forms, says Lazar. Although the new teacher evaluation forms have up to 21 questions, which is a substantial increase from the old forms, Lazar said that the

forms may undergo more changes.

Albeit the forms are still in the proposal stage, Derek Dunnet said "the views from students on the new teacher evaluation forms were almost all positive." Dunnet noted that the new forms will be sent as a proposal to the Senate

on February 11 for approval.

However, the proposal cannot be voted upon by the Senate till the next Senate meeting in March. Therefore, Dunnet speculates that we will probably not see the revised teacher evaluation forms being used in the classrooms till next December.

Harrington House safewalk offered

by Elise Craft

Two Houses on campus have organized programs to provide an escort for people who do not want to walk alone at night.

The Harrington Safewalk, "The Original Safewalk on STU and UNB campus," has been in operation since March 1991. The Knights of Neil House who received much publicity in the fall began their service in mid-October.

The two services are quite different. At Harrington, operators take your call and send a "runner" to pick you up. All runners and operators are volunteers, who have gone through a screening process.

Keith Wilson, president of Harrington House, says there are 56 volunteers involved.

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going to pull the plug on them." He continues "They don't see it as their problem, they see it as our problem and they're just counting the days."

Van Raalte admits the comment made at the Council meeting about "pulling the plug" may have been too harsh but says it was a reflection of his frustration at not seeing the attempts being made which are needed to cut the Station's expenditures.

He says, "I don't want to go in and impose my own cuts, I want to see where the station thinks they can be made. They should be able to re-prioritize where their own funding goes."

CHSR will begin its yearly fundraising campaign on February 14, by selling "Radio Valentines" and giving away prizes to those who make monetary contributions to the station. In addition, to this, Hare says that he and other members of the GSA are meeting with station representatives to try and work out a plan by which the Association could make some kind of contribution to aid the station.

Van Raalte emphasized that he does not believe the current problem will result in the closure of the station but says,

Jeff Reid, president of Neil House, says that to contact the Knights, call security. They will contact the Knights through a beeper which is circulated within the House. The student with the beeper will contact security, and come pick you up.

Both Wilson and Reid say that many people are using the service. Reid says 6 to 7 women call each night. Wilson says Saturday and Sunday nights are especially busy.

Wilson says there was a lot of interest in the fall due to all the reported assaults.

The main difference between the two programs says Wilson, is that all Neil residents share the responsibility.

"it may be the end of the structure that is there - I really do think there needs to be an overhaul of the Board of Directors."

H adds that he is impressed by the commitment made to the station by students this year which indicated by "the number of people working there and by the executive that has been established. I'd like to see more students working at that level for CHSR because it is the students that make the difference. If students put money into it, it should be the students who get the most out of it."

Condoms...continued from page 1

Health Plan covers oral contraceptives.

One STU student, who wished to remain anonymous, commented "I think condoms should have remained in the machines. I think students should have the option and availability of the condoms. As a Baptist I am aware of the doctrine of my church and of other religions to abstain from sex until marriage, but let's face reality."

Bishop Troy, Chancellor of STU, was unavailable for comment before press time.