

News

Austin re-offers for Dean's post

by Gordon Loane

Tom Austin has announced his intention to seek a second term as UNB's Dean of Students. His current five year term of office expires next summer.

"I've decided to be a candidate because I enjoy the job and there are challenging times ahead to say the least," said Austin. "Most of all, we face challenges to do what we do best in student services given our financial resources."

"Given the current economic climate we've been under pressure, there's no doubt about it," he continued. "It's meant we've had to make some major adjustments."

Austin does not favour splitting

the dean's duties into an administrative position and an ombudsperson's position as some have advocated over the years. Austin said the duties as combined in his office have worked and he sees no need for a change at this time.

Selecting a new Dean of Students will be an involved process taking several months. To this end the university has already appointed an 11-person search committee.

Members include Vice-President Academic Tom Traves as chair, and Vice President Finance and Administration James O'Sullivan joins faculty members Penny Ericson, Neil MacGill and Nancy Nason Clark.

Suzanna Weisner and Reg Craft

have been appointed from Student Services to the committee which also includes Student Union President James van Raalte along with Jennifer Lawson, Heidi Hawkins and Ron St. Onge.

The search committee is expected to meet for the first time later this month. Nominations and applications will be accepted from the university community. The selection is expected by April.

There is speculation several faculty members are interested in the post. One name that has surfaced in recent weeks is Judith Potter, current Assistant Dean of Students. But Potter has told the *Brunswickan* that she is not planning to offer for the position.

International students elect new Board

by Jonathan Stone

The Board of International Students elected a new executive last Saturday, and it was quick to identify areas of concern.

Elected were: Aurelius Gordon, President; Rayvathy Kanayson, Vice President; Peter K. Thande, Administrative Secretary; Nazerene Ibrahim, Treasurer; B.C. Lee, Sports Director; and Shirlaw Law, Social Director.

The Board, founded in August, 1983, wants a race relations policy to be struck at both UNB and STU; a seat on the student unions and orientation committees of both schools, and a better understanding of non-European cultures.

Gordon said UNB is rated first among Canadian universities for the number of countries represented amongst the student community. Currently 68 countries are represented, not including faculty.

He pointed out that neither UNB nor STU has a race relations policy in place, although UNB has promised one for the next academic year.

"It's long overdue," he said.

Gordon noted that most universities in Canada have an international student rep on council, but that the current working relationship between the board and the student union is positive.

"Winter is a shock. I thought I would become a corpse!" - Aurelius Gordon

"There is no animosity between us and the union," he said, and pointed out as an example that the ever-popular Caribbean Nights would not be possible without the help of the Student Union.

Also, he said that by having an international student representative on the orientation committee, it could better serve new students who arrive at the Fredericton airport, in translation for example.

"The selling point of the university is Orientation. It sets the tone," Gordon said.

He recalled his first winter "trauma" at UNB during a day in

January 1991 which was so cold he swore he would return to his home in the Commonwealth of Dominica, a Caribbean island the size of PEI. "Winter is a shock. I thought I would become a corpse!" he said.

He feels that international orientation committee volunteers could relate the drastic changes in temperature that occur in Canada to newcomers.

Gordon thinks that the university does not do enough to gain support from international alumni.

"A lot of very important people have graduated from UNB," he said. "There is a resource that they're not tapping into."

He mentioned that a 1977 Forestry graduate, Philippe Gregoire, is now Director of Forestry for the Commonwealth of Dominica.

The new Prime Minister of Guyana, Sam Hinds, is also a UNB grad, as are members of the Wu family of Hong Kong, who have contributed the WU Conference Centre. But these are only a few examples from a very long list, Gordon concedes.

Deans of Arts and Comp. Sci reappointed for second terms

Brunswickan staff

The Deans of Arts and Computer Science have been reappointed for a second term of five more years each.

Dr. Peter Kent, Dean of Arts, the oldest faculty at UNB, has been involved with the faculty since 1965. He is currently on sabbatical until July 1994.

Under his leadership, the faculty has increased its profile in the Fredericton area through initiatives like the recently formed Muriel

McQueen Fergusson Centre for Family Violence Research, the Murray Vaughan Chair in Regional Economics, and a new fine arts program.

Kent also encourages academic excellence by honouring hard-working Dean's List achievers with a formal dinner.

Dr. Dana Wasson, Dean of Computer Science, leads the only faculty of its kind in Canada.

"The demand for our graduates remains strong," he said.

He noted that there has been a

20% increase in undergraduate enrolment and an increase of over 30% in graduate enrolment.

Wasson explained that many companies, because they do not have the personnel or facilities, have hired the university to do work for them in research and development.

This way, the students have access to the latest in hardware and software, and graduate students gain valuable research assistantships.

"Both sides win," he said.



An estimated 25% of men are violent towards women sometime in their lives.
Photo by Mark Bray

The White Ribbon Campaign

Men ending violence against women

Brunswickan staff

It is estimated that 25% of men are violent towards women at some point in their lives.

The White Ribbon Campaign, currently underway, commemorates the December 6 Montreal Massacre, where 14 young women lost their lives to male violence.

The Montreal Massacre has come to symbolize a problem that although is widespread, is often invisible.

The campaign, organized by men, is intended to remind men of their collective responsibility for ending men's violence

against women, and to lead men into joining women in taking responsibility for ending men's violence towards women.

The more men who participate, the more intense is the commitment to encourage meaningful change.

Amongst a list of things men are encouraged to do are; Objecting to any sexually demeaning pictures in the workplace; Challenge jokes and sexist language that imply violence towards, or abuse of, women; Writing to the media or advertisers to object to demeaning images of women.

Silence is a form of violence.

The Brunswickan will not be published again until January 14. Have a joyous Holiday Season everyone.