

SUB Advisory Board attendance checkered

by Gordon Loane

Communication problems, scheduling conflicts, lack of issues and student apathy are some of the reasons being given for lack of attendance at several meetings of the SUB Advisory Board this year.

Information contained in the public minutes of Advisory Board meetings indicated that three of five monthly meetings called between November and March had enough voting members present for business to proceed. Meetings called for January 20 and February 17, however, did not. No meetings of the Board were called in September or October.

A final board meeting has been scheduled for next week. Attendance records of individual board members run the gamut from per-

fect attendance to no attendance at all.

Three voting members appointed by the UNB Student Union had excellent attendance records. Jennifer Lawson and Board Chair Laughlin McQuarrie had perfect attendance records for all five board meetings called. A third appointee, Ben Bedard, missed just one meeting. Rob Knesaurek had hockey scheduling problems and has not attended any meetings this year.

UNB Student Union President, James van Raalte, a non-voting member of the board, had a perfect attendance record. Two voting members appointed by the UNB Board of Governors—Fred Beairisto and Frank Wilson attended just one meeting each.

Saint Thomas Student Union president, Melanie White, also a

non-voting member of the board, attended about 50% of the meetings. One appointee of the STU Student Union, Ramona Snyders, attended all three of the board meetings when quorum was obtained. Three other appointees from STU attending less often include Tanya Clark, Linda Gionet and Linda Cameron.

A communication problem is being blamed for the lack of a Saint Thomas Administration appointee this year. Professor Richard Myers is on sabbatical and apparently no replacement was named.

"The SUB Advisory Board is appointed to advise me, so lack of meeting equals lack of advice and no action taken on problems," said Kim Norris, SUB Director. "Fortunately, there have been few complaints to deal with this year, so I'm left to guess whether everyone is

happy or whether it's apathy or perhaps a combination of both."

Norris said the Board has dealt with a few day to day issues, discussed rent increases for commercial tenants, and accessibility problems for physically challenged individuals at CHSR-FM. He said other than that, it has been a fairly routine year.

Meanwhile, van Raalte thinks it is time the SUB Advisory Board engages in what he terms "navel gazing."

"Perhaps the Board needs to be backed up by two Student Unions with a renewed commitment to it another year," he said. But he stopped short of calling for a Board re-structuring at this time.

"The SUB expansion project should focus everyone's attention for the next several years and that should result in a renewed commit-

ment," he said. "The Board's major problem is that it has not been involved in any long term planning, but that should change. At the moment the Board is saddled with a certain image. It is simply an Advisory Board with no real decision-making power. I'm not sure how seriously it is taken by the administration or even by its members under the circumstances."

"What will have to be determined with SUB Expansion is whether students should get more decision-making power over a building they are helping to finance," said van Raalte. "When the expansion opens that may be the case. If it is, it will be up to student leaders to petition the UNB Board of Governors to change the powers and duties of the SUB Advisory Board," he concluded.

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The Canadian edition of the April issue of *Playboy Magazine* contained an article about the suspension of mathematics professor Matin Yaqzan.

In the article, *Playboy* points the finger at the professor for his comments contained in an Opinion piece which ran in this newspaper on November 5.

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