

I n - D e p t h

S.U. Cultural Diversity Festival: Jan.23 - 28

By Luke Peterson
In-Depth Editor

The UNB Student Union will be presenting what it is touting as a "Festival of Cultural Diversity" from Monday January 23 to Saturday January 28 in order to foster cultural education and awareness on campus and in the community.

According to festival organizer Tareq Islam, a fifth year Civil Engineering student, the week's events should give students a "better perception and understanding of various cultures."

Incorporating various media, including exhibits, discussion workshops and presentation of international films, the week's events will highlight a large number of international cultures from Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, and Europe.

Islam is particularly pleased that the Fredericton native community will also be participating in the

week's festivities. In fact, members of the Fredericton Native Friendship Center are slated to perform a "purification ritual" during the festival's opening ceremonies on Monday evening.

Incidentally, the opening ceremonies which are scheduled for the evening of January 23, will also feature Sheila Finestone, the Federal cabinet Minister in charge of multiculturalism and the Status of women, as the evening's keynote speaker. Finestone recently accepted a long-standing invitation extended to her by Islam.

Islam began festival preparations during the summer while working in the Student Union funded position of Cultural Diversity Festival Co-ordinator. Having procured funding from the UNB Student Union, UNB's Alumni Association, The UNB President's Office, and federal and provincial multiculturalism



Festival of Cultural Diversity organizer Tareq Islam. (Mike Dean photo)

departments, Islam hopes that the festival will become an annual event. However, "it all depends on the success of this year's festival."

UNB's International Students Advisor Kay Nandlall will also be a guest speaker during the festival's opening ceremonies.

Nandlall's continued efforts are one of the reasons for UNB's strong reputation amongst international students. In fact *Maclean's* magazine, in its fall 94 university rankings, placed UNB first overall in terms of drawing power among international graduate

students.

In addition to showcasing the university's thriving international community, Islam hopes that next week's Festival of Cultural Diversity will highlight Canada's unparalleled

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Location: Wu Centre, Room 217

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CALS 1429 **Critical Thinking** 11 Feb. 9:30 am - 2:30 pm \$10

CALS 1410 **Seminars and Oral Presentations** 18 Feb. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm \$10

CALS 1423 **Improving Examination Skills** 25 Feb. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm \$10
Location: Tilley Hall, Room 125

CALS 1440 **Principles of Effective Writing** 24 Jan.-21 March 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
\$70 **Location: MacLaggan Hall, Room 102**

CALS 4401 **Secrets of Math Success** 18 Feb. 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm \$10

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