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Bruns Bits

*It is early in the morning,
 I would like to go to sleep,
 But there are problems in
 the News
 That make me want to
 weep.*

*'Cause I can't leave 'til it's
 finished,
 And there's always more to
 do.*

*Little details drive me crazy
 And I wish that this was
 through*

*But it's not and I'm still
 working
 To get this layout done
 So you'd best damn well
 enjoy it,
 Or else you'd better run.*

*- The grumpy co-news editor
 (the short one)*

Executives resign in protest

By Cynthia Kirkby
 Co-News Editor

Three of the four executives of the Political Science Students' Association (PSSA) have resigned because of what they see as departmental interference.

This "interference" arose over choosing delegates to the North American Model of the United Nations (NAMUN), to be held next February in Toronto. Ex-PSSA president Mark Lewis said the organization was not given a chance to choose candidates because of restrictions placed by self-appointed faculty advisor, Thom Workman.

"Workman told me in October that he wanted me to submit criteria for selecting the team [of delegates]," Lewis said. The PSSA met on Wednesday, November 8 to discuss criteria of the candidates, but delayed the vote until that Friday because some interested candidates couldn't attend. Friday morning, the signs advertising the meeting were covered with the word "cancelled."

"There was a great deal of outrage," Lewis said. "A lot of students were quite angry, which moved the full professors of the [Political Science] department to hold a meeting on November 14." The department passed a motion to offer the

PSSA its involvement - in exchange for the power to choose the criteria for the candidates, the department would give the PSSA \$200 to \$300 towards the estimated \$5000 cost of the conference, and official letters of support for PSSA members.

According to Lewis, delays caused by a computer virus ruined the PSSA's chance of voting on whether or not to accept the department's terms - on November 20, the department took over. Its requirements were that candidates must have a certain academic standing, and must not have attended the conference before. The latter requirement, instituted to prevent a group of friends from attending constantly, was protested by Lewis. "Veterans don't necessarily get to go again, even though in the past two years we've had five honourable mentions."

It was this "take-over" that caused the resignation of three of the four PSSA executives. "In May of this year I was given a mandate by the student members of this organization to fulfil the duties of the President," Lewis wrote in his resignation. "However, as this first semester has progressed I have been hindered in that duty by outside forces pushing their own agenda. This outside interference marks a first for the

organization in the three years that I have been involved with it."

Ex-Secretary/Treasurer Eugene Davies had a similar explanation. "I don't want faculty involvement, but I don't have time to bicker with [them]. If they want to sponsor us, fine. If they want to take over... we can find \$250 elsewhere."

James Ward, ex-VP Internal, was more specific with his complaints, citing Professor Thom Workman as the force behind the department's involvement. "We had a problem with the working relationship with Professor Workman, because of the pressure coming in from him."

VP External Chelsea Baker was not available for comment at time of press. Lewis commented that when Workman gave him the information on NAMUN in October, Workman had "indicated that NAMUN was not his sole reason for going to Toronto," where his family lives and had said that he'd be travelling on departmental funds.

Workman denied involvement and wrong-doing. "It was the Chair of the department who intervened, with the unanimous decision of the department, on behalf of the students," he said. He acknowledged that the conference was obviously not his only motivation for going to Toronto, but dismissed the

comments made by the former PSSA executives as "unfortunate allegations."

Gary Allen, the chair of the PS department, accepted responsibility for the intervention, but added that it was on behalf of "several students in the PSSA who felt that the process of selection of candidates was not advertised enough and was not open to all students."

"We asked [the PSSA] for criteria, they didn't give it to us. They called a meeting to select candidates, not criteria, so I cancelled that meeting." He claims that the PSSA did not respond to the motion passed offering them departmental involvement. Consequently, the department did not support the PSSA. "We wanted to be satisfied in the criteria before the department endorsed participation in the conference," Allen said. "[The PSSA] can send a team to NAMUN if they choose. I can't stop them. But we will not endorse the team."

The deadline for applicants to the conference is today. Lewis commented that he knew of several students who had been interested in attending the conference, but were no longer interested because of "the mess the department's created." Lewis admitted to being "disgusted with the department," himself.

Orientation \$28,000 over budget

by Joe FitzPatrick
 Co-News Editor

The Student Union Finance Committee will recommend that the UNB Student Union absorb a \$28,000 overage in the Orientation 1995 budget at the next meeting of Council on Tuesday, November 28.

Jeff Melanson, Chair of Orientation '95, was asked to appear before the Finance Committee on Wednesday. Nahie Bassett was clear on her objectives: "We are not blaming you, Jeff. You ran an excellent Orientation program and did a fantastic job."

Melanson, who, according to the Bylaws of Orientation, is not responsible for finances, wondered why he and not the Treasurer, Blair Larson had been called in front of the Committee.

According to Bassett, Melanson was there to clarify "administrative" problems. Melanson was asked if the Union should be liable for the over-expenditure. "If the Union shares in the surpluses, it should share in the deficits," Melanson told the six-member committee.

Melanson explained that "a smaller Frosh turnout put us back \$10,000 before Orientation Week had even started." Approximately 1000 of the expected 1200 freshmen bought the \$50 packages.

"An additional \$5,000 loss was incurred on the concert because of a miscommunication between Campus Activities and Orientation," Melanson told the Finance Committee on Wednesday. "I had thought they had agreed to take the first \$5,000 of profit, but they took the first \$5,000 of ticket sales."

While Orientation relies on the funding of the Dean of Students Office, Student Union, the Alumni Association, and SMART-PACC, the 75% of its \$65,068 budget is derived from expected sales of Frosh packs. The SU had \$5,195 allocated to Orientation for 1995, the same amount it has allocated for at least the past 9 years.

Nahie Bassett, VP (Finance & Administration), has been in contact with Lois Clowater, Associate Dean of

Students. On the question of additional funds from the Dean of Students office, Bassett said "[Clowater] told me that the Dean of Students was not willing to put any more money into Orientation."

Asked where the money would come from, Bassett replied, "the new budget will be adjusted to accommodate the overage."

Bassett confirmed that the new budget would be to Council before the

No plea until Dec. 4

UNB student Jacob Kees Smith, who is charged with three sexual assaults, will not enter a plea until December 4. The 19-year-old Neill House resident was released after promising "to refrain from alcohol, have no contact with the women involved, and report in person to the police station every Friday."

see orientation, page 5



D.O.A. preach to their congregation - story on page 14 photo by Kent Rainville