

The Graduate School Myth

by Daniel Goodwin

Myth (mith), n. an unproved collective belief that is accepted uncritically and is used to justify a social institution. I'm not trying to be patronizing, sticking that definition up there where you can all see it. Of course I realize that you all know what a myth is. That was just my little way of satirizing academia's deep-seated need to define everything.

Also a nice segue into today's theme which is the myth of graduate school. I'm sure there are many myths, but I only have time here to puncture one. To that end, I'm going to ask you a question. What comes to mind when you think of graduate school? A bunch of over-educated keepers, perchance, who wear corduroy jackets with pockets on the elbows and call their professors by their first names while engaging in witty banter and repartee in the cozy and refined atmosphere of the seminar room? Perhaps.

But the most prevalent myth floating around out there is that graduate school is difficult. Like, really grueling. That's why so many ostensibly intelligent people study their youth away in order to become that greatly misunderstood and vastly overrated creature: the graduate student. Well, let me let you in on a little secret. Graduate school is E-A-S-Y. In fact, being

a graduate student is actually easier than being an undergraduate.

Before you stop reading this and rush off to apply to graduate school, I have to throw in a small caveat. Courses in graduate school are easier than those at the undergraduate level. A Master's thesis, on the other hand, is *not* easy. From personal experience, writing a Master's thesis makes Dante's inferno seem like Club Med. But that's a whole other column. What's under discussion here are courses. And they are easier in graduate school, for two main reasons.

First, the workload is a lot lighter. In the average graduate course (Arts), you come to each class, do a little reading beforehand, talk about it, and then hand in a paper at the end of the semester.

Blood Thunder

are appreciated and trustworthy, and to prove to Beaver that they can trust these same employees as much as we do.

Thank you for your time
Michael Ryan

STU über alles und
du bist ein dumkopf

Dear Editor

I've seen some completely idiotic things lately but I think last week's editorial "St. Thomas is like six fingers..." just about tops it all. Your suggestion that STU should amalgamate itself with UNB is completely ludicrous and insulting to



The Graduate School myth

That's it. Everybody usually gets A's anyway because your professors assume you must be smart if you're in graduate school. Compare that workload with the dizzying barrage of busywork they throw at you in those desperate undergrad years,

when you expend hours and hours of your life which you'll never get back dutifully connecting the dots on those little assignments that each count for 2.5% of your grade.

The second reason why graduate

school is easier is because you get to study what you want. Sure, you have to do a little prescribed reading here and there (but then it wouldn't be school if someone didn't tell you what to read) but your papers can be on whatever you want. Nobody tells you what to write about, nobody tells you what to study for the exam (no exams). The assumption underlying this rather radical program is that after doing what professors have told you to do for four years you are finally smart enough to work on your own.

Believe me, it's a lot more fun deciding what you want to study and how you want to study it. The relaxed schedule also gives you a lot more time to think. And thinking, after all, is one of my pet activities.

Continued from page 6

would be a grand way for them to force STU students to pay for SUB expansion without yet another referendum attempt. Plus, they could cease their... about banning STU students from expanded parts of the SUB and kicking them out of the Cellar completely and devote all their time and bullying efforts towards CHSR, who seems to be another current target.

Seriously appalled by your editorial
Sally Cogswell

If STU doesn't want
SUB Expansion we
don't want them

Dear Editor

If STU wants to waive the SUB expansion fee, fine. If they want to continue to use the SUB facilities, tell them to get their own SUB. In my mind St. Thomas has been riding the back of UNB for too long and it is time for STU to face the reality of being a 'REAL' school. Why should I, as a UNB student, foot the bill for something that STU is going to use. Hell, I'm not even going to use because I'll only be here for 1 more year. Maybe Jeff Price is right. Maybe it is time for us to butt out AND flick STU off our backs. Rouse added that he "hoped that STU wouldn't lose its place on the SUB Expansion Committee, and that STU students would still be welcome." Wrong! STU voted not to pay for the SUB expansion, so their seat should be gone! I don't get to vote on what happens to IBM because I don't own a share of the company, exact same idea! It's time for UNB to stand up to STU and give them the boot!

Jonathan Penney

Full
SPECTRUM
Next week

University Bookstore

Store Hours:
9:00 - 4:30

VISA and Mastercard Accepted



APTIVA MODEL 730

Intel Pentium 60, 8 MB RAM,
727MB PCI IDE Hard Drive,
CD-ROM, Aria Soundsystem,
14.4 Data/Fax Modem

\$ 1999.00



PERFORMA 580CD

66/33 Mhz Motorola 68LC040 Processor,
8 MB RAM, 500MB Hard Drive,
AppleCD 300i Plus CD-ROM,
External Data/Fax Modem

\$ 1665.00

Computer March Madness

Available in March While Quantities Last

Best Value/Performance

Imagine Family P100
Intel Pentium 100Mhz CPU
16MB RAM (Up To 128MB)
1.1GB EIDE Hard Drive
2MB PCI Graphics Accelerator
14" 28 NI Color SVGA Monitor
1.44MB Floppy Drive
14.4Kbaud Voice/Fax/Modem
4X EIDE CD ROM
16-Bit Sound Card
Multimedia Speakers
Imagine CD Software Pack
2 Serial Ports, 1 Parallel Port
Mini-Tower Case, 6 Drive Bays
104 Key WIN95 Keyboard
Microsoft Windows 95
2-Button Serial Mouse
One Year Extendable Warranty

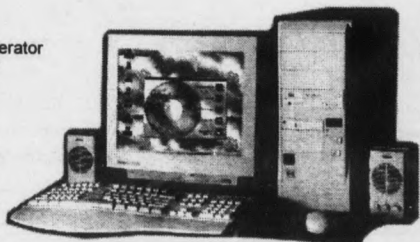
\$ 1895

Lease \$62 per mo

Imagine Family P120
Intel Pentium 120Mhz CPU
16MB RAM (Up To 128MB)
1.1GB EIDE Hard Drive
2MB S3 MPEG Graphics Accelerator
15" 28 NI Color SVGA Monitor
1.44MB Floppy Drive
28.8Kbaud Fax/Modem
6X EIDE CD ROM
16-Bit Sound Card
Amplified Multimedia Speakers
Imagine CD Software Pack
2 Serial Ports, 1 Parallel Port
Mini-Tower Case, 6 Drive Bays
104 Key WIN95 Keyboard
Microsoft Windows 95
2-Button Serial Mouse
One Year Extendable Warranty

\$ 2295

Lease \$75 per mo



May not be exactly as shown, picture includes some options

Best That Money Can Buy

ImageStation P150
Intel Pentium 150Mhz CPU
16MB EDO RAM
256KB Pipelined Burst Cache
1.1GB EIDE Hard Drive
2MB MPEG Graphics Accelerator
15" SONY Trinitron SVGA Monitor
1.44MB Floppy Drive
28.8Kbaud Fax/Modem
6X EIDE CD ROM
Sound Blaster32 Wave Sound Card
55 Watt Surround Sound Speakers
Flexmic Gooseneck Microphone
2 Serial Ports, 1 Parallel Port
Mid-Tower Case, 10 Drive Bays
104 Key WIN95 Keyboard
Microsoft Windows 95
Microsoft 2-Button Serial Mouse
One Year Extendable Warranty

\$ 3495

Lease \$114 per mo

200Mhz 686 - Fastest!

ImageStation P200 Pro
Intel Pentium Pro 200Mhz CPU
16MB RAM
256KB Internal Cache
1.1GB EIDE Hard Drive
2MB MPEG Graphics Accelerator
15" SONY Trinitron SVGA Monitor
1.44MB Floppy Drive
28.8Kbaud Fax/Modem
6X EIDE CD ROM
Sound Blaster32 Wave Sound Card
55 Watt Surround Sound Speakers
Flexmic Gooseneck Microphone
2 Serial Ports, 1 Parallel Port
Mid-Tower Case, 10 Drive Bays
104 Key WIN95 Keyboard
Microsoft Windows NT 3.51
Microsoft 2-Button Serial Mouse
One Year Extendable Warranty

\$ 4995

Lease \$162 per mo

Power On The Road

ImageBook P100
Intel Pentium 100Mhz Processor
8MB RAM (Up to 64MB)
500MB IDE Hard Drive
1MB PCI Graphics Accelerator
11.3" Dual Scan 800x600 Color Display, Optional TFT Active
1.44MB Floppy Drive
Internal 4X IDE CD ROM
16 Bit Stereo Audio
Infrared Data Transfer Port
1 Serial Ports, 1 Parallel Port
11.8"x8.9"x2.1", 6.9 lbs
Touch Pad Pointing Device
85 Key Keyboard
NiMH Battery, Optional 2nd Battery
Microsoft Windows 95
Executive Carry Case
One Year Extendable Warranty

\$3395

Lease \$107 per month



Shipped By Purolator
Courier To Your Door

Visit Our Showroom

285 Restigouche Rd., Oromocto 506 446 3335

1-800 Support

Service Centers
Across Canada

