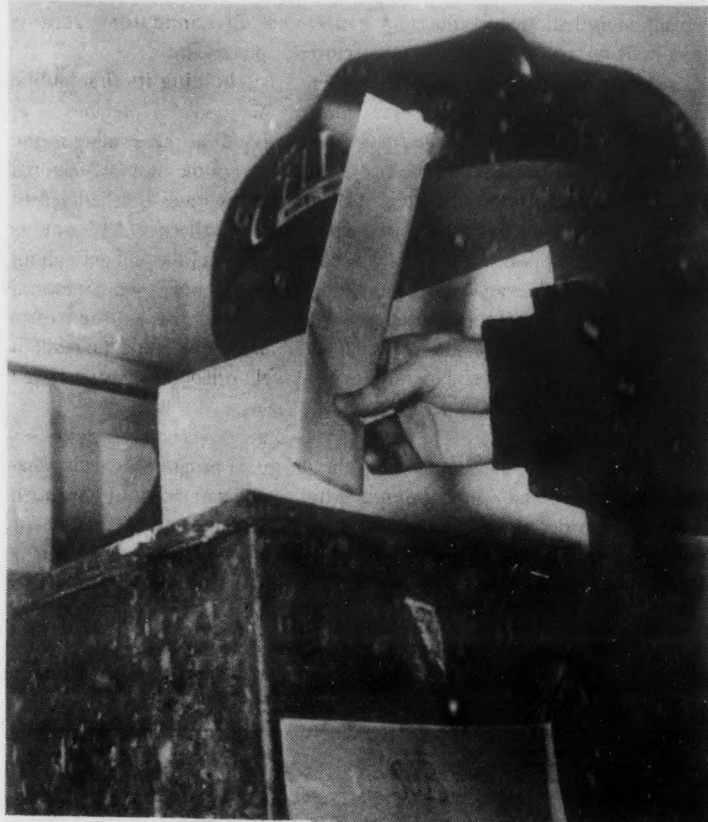


CASA wants to reduce pressure of tuition



CASA wants your vote for education

by Jillian Barton
Brunswickan News

As everyone gets back into the "swing-of-things" each September, one thing on the minds of a lot of students is their student loan and that four letter word that many students cannot avoid - debt. A significant portion of the student body would not be attending university if it were not for their loans.

Each year, students across Canada get themselves into more and more debt for their education. One is reminded of the question "Is education a right, or a privilege?"

Government budget cuts make the search for solutions more urgent. Adjusting to these cuts with the minimum possible damage to accessibility and quality is the challenge faced in the post-secondary education system.

The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA), is an organisation formed to search for solutions which

protect the quality of education while minimising upward pressure on tuition fees.

To achieve this goal, CASA has identified six points of immediate concern that could reduce costs to the system. These are:

1. Greater Co-ordination of Administrative and Academic Services
2. Greater Co-ordination of Provincial Systems of Higher Education
3. Teaching on Non-University Settings
4. Instructional Technology and Distance Learning
5. Research Funding
6. Year-round Education

To summarise CASA's approach on post-secondary education funding is that each university can perhaps downsize within departments. Universities in close proximity can specialise further by transferring certain fields from one university to another, evenly distributing specific educational tasks among schools.

Another step in CASA's approach is to ensure that proper links between the labour market and post-secondary education are up to date and functional. This would require university professors to attend courses to improve their methods and strategies.

CASA's major suggestion concerning Student Loans is the graduate surtax. This would mean a student paying back a loan will only pay what they can afford. Payments would be defined on how well their post-secondary education has helped them in the labour force.

STU SU Prez splits

by Shirley
Brunswickan News

In an unexpected move, Saint Thomas finds itself without a student union president. This week John Desmond has resigned his position as STU Student Union President.

According to various sources, Desmond left the SU in order to spend more time on his studies as an honours student in Political Science. He was employed by the SU over the summer and reportedly found the work too time-consuming in addition to his other activities.

Desmond himself was unavailable for comment.

"It was a shock," says Sally Cogswell, Vice President Administration. "We didn't expect him to resign, but his education comes first, so we understand."

Desmond is not, however, backing away from student activities. He is still committed to a number of campus groups, including the STU Men's Rugby Team, the campus safety program and a number of joint projects between UNB and STU, such as the SUB expansion.

"John and I work very well together," says UNB Student Union president, Kelly Lamrock. According to Lamrock, Desmond was a strong contributor to the SUB Expansion Committee. "He was great to work with, but that goes for the rest of the [STU] Council as well."

In accordance with STU bylaws, Cogswell will assume Desmond's position for the remainder of the year.

The position of "Vice President Administration" is now vacant and will be filled in an election on October 4. Nominations for candidates opened Wednesday.

Just checkin'...

UNB online on target

by Mike Drost
Brunswickan News

The Online registration has run its course for the Fall semester, with the exceptions of dropping courses, or leaving university altogether.

So far, according to Mr. McKillop, the head of the online project: "We've had very good results, and students seem quite pleased. We have had a few minor problems, but no problems worse than we would have had with the old way of registration—perhaps, not as many as the old way of registration."

It is the first year for online registration. Considering the

tremendous amount of information to enter into the computer, the registration has gone very well. It was commented that with any tedious task comes a few problems.

It is quite conceivable that for a Computer Science student, who is more knowledgeable with such devices, the system may appear to have problems. It is also quite conceivable that for other students, who stagger online, may be somewhat intimidated, or even confused, but there may also be one of us who want the mouse to do the work in the labyrinth of technology.

So for the students who have a few years remaining, have patience.



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The opinions contained in this newspaper are those of the individual writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Brunswickan*.

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