

GSA picks new Executive

Gordon Loane

The Brunswickan

Four positions, including President, were filled by acclamation and a fifth remains open for nominations until November 6th after executive elections for 2000-01 took place earlier this week at the regular monthly meeting of the UNB Graduate Student Association (GSA) Council.

Acclaimed were President, Alain Murphy (Geology); Vice-President Communication, Chris Sheehy (History); Vice-President Finance, Erin Budd (Electrical and Computer Engineering); and Vice-President External, Michael Sutherland (Geodesy and Geomatics Engineering).

No nominations were filed by the deadline earlier this week for Vice-President Administration. As a result, nominations were extended until the GSA's November 6th meeting.

All four acclaimed executive members for 2000-01 have previous experience on the GSA Executive.

Murphy served as Vice-President Administration during the 1999-2000 academic year, while Sheehy returns for a second term as Vice-President Communications.

Michael Sutherland served as President of the GSA during the 1998-99 academic year and continued as Past President of the association during 1999-2000, before offering as V-P External this year.

Erin Budd served for several months as V-P Finance before re-offering again for the current academic year.

Meanwhile, several firms and individuals, both within the Fredericton and university communities, have been approached to help formulate a business plan with respect to a



Kevin Forneris Photo / The Brunswickan

Front (L-R) Alain Murphy, President and Chris Sheehy, VP Communication. Back (L-R) Michael Sutherland, VP External and Erin Budd, VP Finance.

proposal by the GSA and the Faculty Club to take over a vacant university property at 676 Windsor Street.

The proposal would also see the property expanded in line with architectural plans drawn up by Ed Goguen.

While no decisions have yet been made, the business plan will be a key component of

any proposal presented to UNB Administration officials for consideration.

Also in the mix is whether the business plan and any mortgage that might ensue to get the Grad House/Faculty Club project underway would require a mandatory yearly fee or some sort of voluntary fee from both UNB graduate students and Faculty members.

Further information and direction with regard to the business plan is expected to come up for discussion at the GSA meeting November 6th.

GSA President, Alain Murphy is proposing a change to the by-laws which would designate any future GSA V-P Administration as the automatic voice for graduate students on the UNB Fredericton Academic Senate.

Experience and information flow appear to be the main reasons advanced by Murphy which have drawn the support of both GSA Councillor Patricia Blakeney and GSA President (1999-2000) Kirby Shannahan.

In addition to having organized a GSA Wine and Cheese, held earlier this week in the Alumni Memorial Lounge, V-P Chris Sheehy is looking for the e-mail addresses of all new GSA Council members to facilitate information e-mails throughout the upcoming year.

In addition, V-P Finance, Erin Budd, will be e-mailing a copy of the proposed 2000-01 GSA operating budget to all GSA Councillors within the next week. The budget, which will be considered at the November 6th meeting, will be retroactive to November 1st.

As part of a \$1,500 grant awarded to the Geological Association from the GSA Special Projects Fund, the first of three field trips that will take place this academic year is being organized for Bathurst, N.B., later this month.

Further information can be obtained by contacting Chris MacDonald by e-mail e9s9@unb.ca.

A full slate of graduate students has been appointed to about 23 GSA, Senate, and university committees on which graduate students are required to serve.

The committees include, among others, the Alcohol Policy Board, Computing Services User Committee, the Enrollment Management Council, the Library User Committee, the Student Standing and Promotions Committee, the Student Union Liaison Committee, the Student Disciplinary Committee, and GSA committees on Communication and Orientation, Constitution and Bylaws, Conference on Employment, Conference on Student Research, the Grad House Committee, and the Finance Committee.

The GSA also appoints members to the Teaching and Learning Centre and to the Boards of Directors of CHSR-FM and The Brunswickan.

Councillors also approved funding to allow V-P External, Michael Sutherland to attend a meeting of the Canadian Graduate Council, slated for October 28th to 30th, in Winnipeg.

The Council is an umbrella group for graduate students at various universities across Canada, including UNB Fredericton.

Anti-Drug War advocate at Senate Drug Committee

Joseph W.J. FitzPatrick III

The Brunswickan

Bruce Alexander will address the Senate Special Committee on Illegal Drugs during its live web broadcast on October 30th from 10:30 am - 6:00 pm Atlantic time.

Alexander is one several respected Canadian criminologists, lawyers, psychologists and drug policy researchers who have called either for an end to drug prohibition in Canada.

Alexander who is a Professor in the Department of Psychology at Simon Fraser University authored the book "Peaceful Measures: Canada's Way Out of the War on Drugs" in which he wrote "... use of these substances is not more dangerous, unhealthy, or addictive than countless other practices that Canadians engage in such as driving motorcycles or automobiles, skiing, smoking cigarettes, white-water rafting, playing hockey, playing poker, or eating chocolate."

"The biggest cost of the drug war propaganda may be the systematic reduction about people's ability to think intelligently about drugs," he continued.

The Senate Committee has been given a mandate to review the federal government's policy on illegal drugs in Canada, its effectiveness, and the extent to which it is fairly enforced. The Committee is also specifically directed to explore the effects of cannabis (marijuana) on health.

"New legislation needs to be formulated to adapt to changing social problems and mores," said Chairman Pierre-Claude Nolin (PC-1993) in his opening remarks before the committee. "The hearings will continue on a regular basis, normally one every two weeks for the next three years except when the Senate is in recess."

The first public hearing of the committee was on October 16th. Eugene O'Connell, Executive Director of the Canadian Drug Policy Foundation, spoke on the impacts of Canada's drug control laws on rights and liberties; Line Beauchêne, Professor at the Department of Criminology, University of Ottawa, analyzed the different approaches which are open to the government on the issue of drug legislation and will discuss the merits of a more liberal approach; Neil Boyd, Professor at the School of Criminology at Simon Fraser University, presented a historical review of Canada's laws on drug control and Dr. Zoccolillo, Associate Professor at the Department of Psychiatry, University of McGill, discussed the results of a study on drug use among adolescents.

On October 30th, three witnesses will appear before the committee. Marie-Andrée Bertrand, Professor Emeritus at the School of Criminology, University of Montréal is Editor-in-chief of the Canadian Journal of Law and Society/Revue Canadienne droit et société. Her teaching involves the doctoral seminars at the Faculty of Law and in the Ph.D. Program in applied human sciences, where she focuses on critical theory, constructivism and postmodernism.

Bruce Alexander will be the second witness.

The final witness is Michel Perron, Executive Director, Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse. The CCSA is an arms-length, national agency, established in 1988 by an Act of Parliament.

In addition to holding the hearings, the committee is building up a background collection of documents and research papers related to different aspects of drug use.

The link for the live audio web cast can be found by visiting the homepage of the Canadian Parliament, www.parl.gc.ca.

Report on student appeals presented

Gordon Loane

The Brunswickan

Nearly 6.6 percent of the 6,700 undergraduate students registered at UNB Fredericton during the 1999-2000 academic year were required to withdraw for academic reasons.

In a report prepared for the UNB-F Academic Senate this week, UNB's Acting Registrar, David Hinton, indicated that of the 449 students required to leave the university, 143 were registered in Arts, the largest faculty on campus.

The second largest faculty - Engineering - saw 92 students withdraw, while 63 students left Computer Science and 54 departed in Administration.

In Science, 27 students did not obtain the grades necessary to continue while a further 23 left Forestry and Environmental Management.

Six students withdrew from Kinesiology, three from Forest Engineering, three from the Bachelor of Office Management program, two from Education, and one from Nursing.

Thirty-two students registered in other

programs at UNB Fredericton were also required to withdraw following the 1999-2000 academic year.

Hinton also reported that during the Summer of 2000, the Senate Student Standings and Promotions Committee heard 223 appeals from students who were either required to withdraw or had been placed on academic probation.

There were 41 appeals based on medical grounds, 127 on compassionate grounds, and 44 based on medical and compassionate grounds.

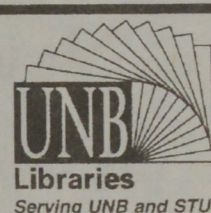
Eleven others defined as academic offence/deliberate plagiarism cases were also heard.

Four plagiarism/academic offence cases were from students in Computer Science, two were in Arts, two in Administration, and one each in Law, Graduate Studies, and the BA/BED program.

Of the total 223 cases, 180 appeals were granted and 43 denied.

The Student Standings and Promotions Committee also dealt with three cases in the Faculty of Kinesiology in which the entire class of students appealed.

In all three cases, the class appeals were granted.



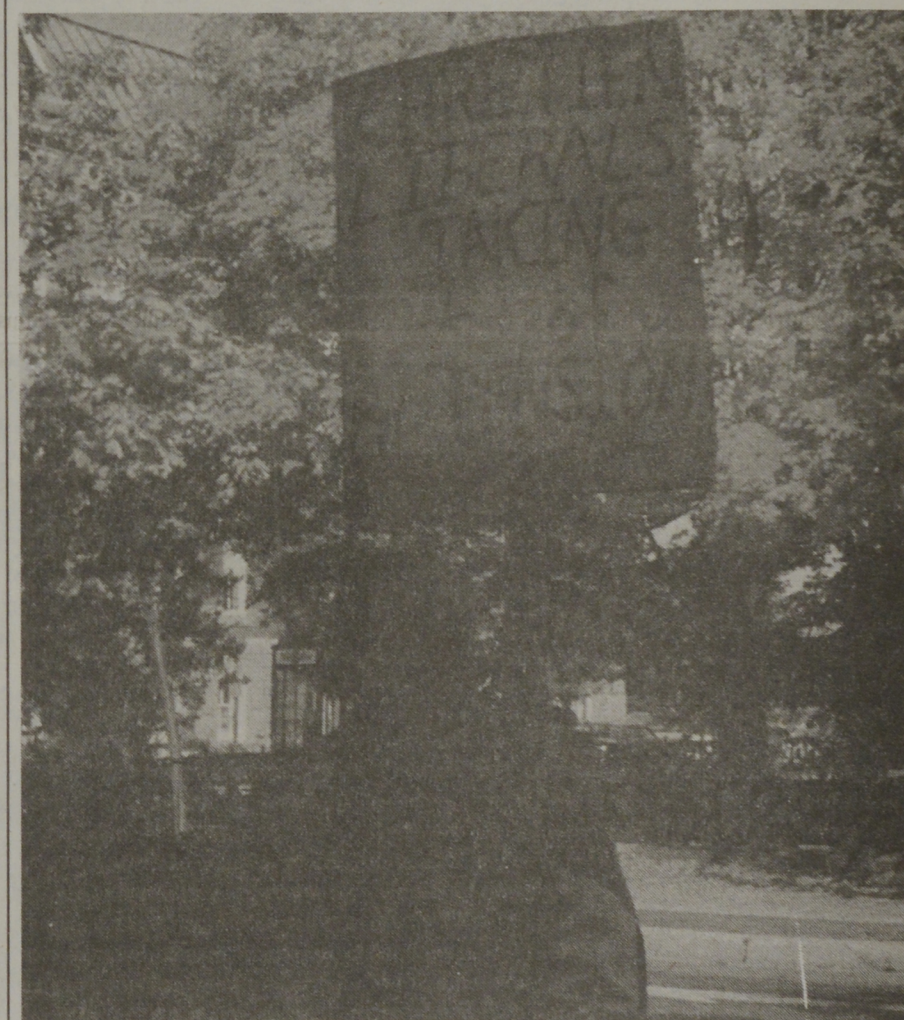
e-info LABS

**Indexing/
Abstracting
Databases**
Wed, Oct 25
9-noon

Finding citation to articles and other publications, search techniques, retrieving results, getting articles.

www.lib.unb.ca/library/instruction/Labs.html

A Voice in the Wilderness



Claire Dough Photo / The Brunswickan

K Brookland

The Brunswickan

The provincial legislature was a hive of activity last Friday - at least outside the building.

Bus loads of protesters were there to demonstrate against what they feel is their unfair treatment at the hands of government. The focus of their protest? Pensions, or rather the lack thereof.

Doug Parr was there but then, why wouldn't he be? He's been picketing and protesting for three and a half years, but not always at the legislature.

It appears the former Public Works and Government Services Canada employee was "born just a little too early."

He says when the budget came down in

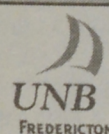
February of 1995, those who were under 50 but over 45 would get what he refers to as "a one percent pension, rather than two percent." Parr was a little over 47 at the time, therefore, he receives the one percent pension, which amounts to \$8,400 per year.

Parr says it's just not enough to live on.

"I wrote to Andy Scott and have yet to receive a response," So Parr is responding to what he feels is Scott's lack of interest by picketing outside the MP's office and has been doing so off and on since April of 1997.

Parr says "I'll be here 'til the election is over," obviously referring to the strong possibility of Jean Chretien calling a federal election this November.

Parr is now 51 and concludes, "they don't want to deal with me. I'm in the minority."



The Information Technology Professional Program

Taking applications for January 22, 2001



Information Session

Thursday, Oct. 26, 7:00 pm
Eaton Multimedia Centre
Marshall d Avray Hall, Room 251
UNB Fredericton

For further information please contact:

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