

Geomatics student awarded scholarship

by Kora Stapelfeldt

A UNB Geomatics student has earned himself a five thousand dollar scholarship.

Sam Ng'ang'a is the first recipient of the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association Graduate Studies Scholarship. Currently, he is working on an Ocean Governance Project known as G.E.O.I.D.E. The main objective is to define a system of marine rights and interests. Presently, the group stationed in New Brunswick is defining the coastal areas for which the province holds administrative responsibility.

The scholarship was established in 2000 and is available to Masters and Doctoral students enrolled at a Canadian University who are studying legal or cadastral surveying.

"This truly represents a new frontier in boundary surveying," remarked Ken Allred, the president of the Alberta Land Surveyor's Association.

Ng'ang'a's field of study, geomatics, came about due to the advances of technology such as the addition of Global Positioning Systems (GPS) being put in place. As it were, the study applies these new technologies to the surveying. When Ng'ang'a began his surveying in Kenya he realized the abundance of possibilities within the field.

More specifically, Ng'ang'a is involved with Marine Information Systems within this area of study.

"[The field of geomatics is] so much more than I imagined it would be," Ng'ang'a stated in reference to his early study at the University of Nairobi where he earned his bachelor's degree in

surveying engineering.

Preceding his study at UNB, Ng'ang'a worked as a field engineer for 'Doctors Without Borders', this particular agency helped to provide the medical technology necessary for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. This was one of the many agencies that worked under the umbrella and contributed to the group in total.

"It was easy to choose UNB, it is internationally known for geodesy and geomatics engineering" stated Ng'ang'a, "most of my professors at the University of Nairobi studied at UNB". He holds a masters degree from UNB and is currently in his second year of a PhD.

After completing his studies, Ng'ang'a's primary interest is to work once more with international organizations and hopes to further his knowledge of surveying. Moreover, a future professorship is also a strong possibility.

Ng'ang'a's doctoral thesis supervisors are John McLaughlin, the leading authority on land information management systems, and Sue Nichols, an expert in land and marine administration and tenure systems.

As a UNB graduate student, Ng'ang'a has received many awards including the prestigious UNB Governor's Merit Award for 2001-2002, a 2001 Geomatics Canada Scholarship, and a five thousand dollar Centre for Property Studies Scholarship.

With this Alberta Land Surveyor's Association Scholarship, Ng'ang'a hopes to contribute to his current project.

UNB's department of Geodesy and

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UNBSU hosts CASA Week at UNB

by Ben Conoley

The UNB Student Union has organized an awareness week for the Canadian Alliance of Student Association (CASA) to be held this week, having started with a discussion forum on Wednesday.

CASA is a federal student lobby organization which advocates to the federal government on behalf of the 310,000 students it represents all over Canada in 23 different organizations, UNB's Student Union being one of them.

During awareness week schools all over the country hold events in order to discuss issues concerning post-secondary students. Throughout the year there will be other week long events with similar themes.

With its head office located close to Parliament Hill, CASA has developed a very close and personal relation with many of the men and women who make decisions regarding students. This includes the Federal Government, the Opposition parties, and the post-secondary education policy realm.

During this week's discussion forum, a number of issues were brought to the attention of students topics.

First off was the current tuition

differentials for engineering and science students compared to the prices everyone else pays. The university claims these students should be

paying more due to the cost of equipment needed for these fields. Should other students be paying the cost of lab work done by science students is at the center of this debate.

UNB's unusually close relation to STU also plays a role in the pricing of tuition. With STU being a strictly liberal arts school tuition prices are already lower there than at UNB, which does not want to raise the cost of their arts programs in fear of losing potential students.

However some engineering and science students feel they should not be financially penalized for the education path they choose to pursue. On the other hand, they will probably be making more money upon graduation than most other students.

Secondly was the issue of course loads and full-time student status. Currently UNB requires students to be enrolled in four courses to be counted as a full-time student, where as student loans often only require enrollment in three.

Also, should UNB consider placing a cap on the number of courses a student can take, seeing as how the price for seven courses would be the same as that of four courses?

Thirdly, and at the heart of many student's concerns is the continuing rise

of tuition fees. The university does of course need money for maintenance and faculty/staff salaries, however without a new injection of funds these costs will cause tuition to potentially rise by another 8.5%, as it did last year.

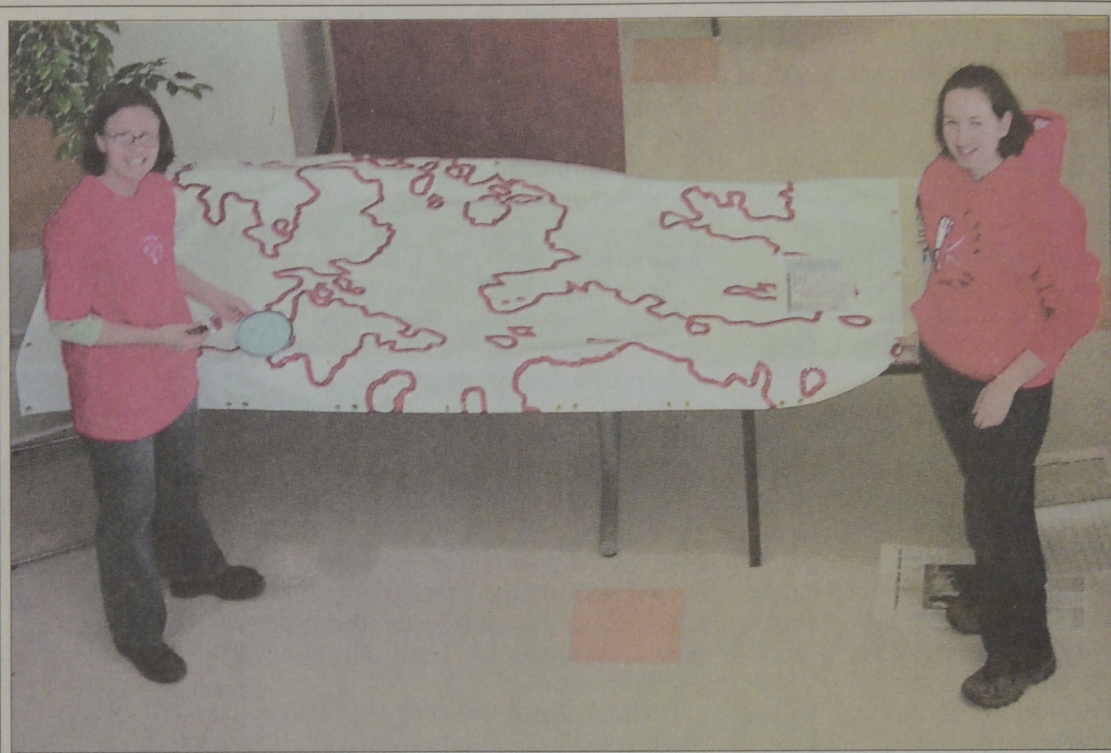
UNB may set aside a 3.5% increase for a specific cause as students annually wonder where their money went after it left their bank accounts. For example, one year the school may ask for additional funds which would go towards library maintenance. This system would assure students their money is being spent responsibly.

Lastly and again dealing with costs is the proposition of implementing supplementary fees for building maintenance.

Examples of such include a \$25 fee, in addition to tuition, to be put towards the gym, or repairing an old building. The introduction of these fees would likely see tuition increases grow at a slower rate.

Students are encouraged to actively participate in the decision making process of such issues.

If Wednesday's forum was missed, more information and a chance to respond to the preceding questions can be sent to unbsu@unb.ca



Mark McGinnis/The Brunswickian

To commemorate CASA week, UNB's Student Union adds their contribution to a large map of Canada, which will be filled in by thumbprints of students all over the country. Striking a pose are Kate Whitfield, VP External (left), and Sarah Caines, VP Finance.

Killer Pizzas for Killer Prices

Xtra Large	18"	\$9.99	extra toppings \$1.00
Large	15"	\$8.99	extra toppings \$1.00
Medium	12"	\$7.50	extra toppings 50¢
Small	9"	\$5.00	extra toppings 50¢

Saputo Mozzarella cheese & tangy homemade tomato sauce included
Pizza Toppings: pepperoni, salami, beef, bacon, ham, sausage, green peppers, mushrooms, tomatoes, onions, green olives, hot peppers, black olives, feta cheese, pineapple, anchovies

Super Subs

6" Pizza Sub	\$3.49	12" Pizza Sub	\$5.49
6" Donair Sub	\$3.99	12" Donair Sub	\$5.99
6" extra toppings	30¢	12" extra toppings	60¢

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