

Newsbits

By Gordon Loane

Board of Governors nominations

A call for nominations has been issued for two open student seats on the UNB Board of Governors for the 2001-2002 academic year.

Part-time students, graduate students and undergraduate students are eligible.

Nomination forms are now available at the UNB Student Union office, Room 126, of the Student Union Building.

The nominations forms must be completed and returned to the SU office by the deadline set for Wednesday, March 14th at 4:00 p.m.

Students on the UNB Fredericton campus will elect their two Board of Governor's representatives in conjunction with the UNB Student Union General Election set for March 28th - 30th.

Nominations for UNBSU, Senate

The UNB Student Union has issued a call for nominations for undergraduate students interested in running for open seats on Student Council and the UNB Fredericton Academic Senate for the 2001-2002 academic year.

In addition, five executive positions at the UNB Student Union are also open including full-time President and four part-time Vice-Presidential seats.

Nominations open today and close on Wednesday, March 21st at 4:00 p.m.

Nomination forms are now available at the UNB Student Union office, Room 126, of the Student Union Building.

The UNB Student Union General Election is being held on the Fredericton campus on Thursday, March 29th and Friday, March 30th with advance polls open on Wednesday, March 28th.

AIESEC may depart SUB

The UNB Student Union is apparently about to ask the AIESEC student organization to vacate SUB Room 31, by the end of August 2001.

AIESEC currently shares SUB Room 31 with the SU sponsored Student Advocacy Centre.

Since the SU does not handle their financial affairs, the SU feels AIESEC has been receiving preferential treatment through the allocation of office space in the Student Union Building.

The UNB SU tried unsuccessfully in the mid 1990's to evict AIESEC from their SUB office.

Safe Ride Report tabled

A report prepared for the UNB Student Council by SU Vice-President University Affairs Nalini Iype shows the UNB SU Safe Ride Van had a total ridership of 3,486 from September 2000 to the end of January 2001.

During the month of January, a total of 780 UNB and SU students used the free service, which is available seven nights a week from 7:00 p.m. to midnight.

The most popular destination for the Safe Ride Van was STU's Rigby Hall (Forest Hill Student Residence).

Safe Ride takes March Break, too

UNB and St. Thomas students are reminded that the UNB Safe Ride Van's last day of operation before Spring Break is today-Friday, March 2nd.

The free service will resume on Monday, March 12th.

UNB Library Conducts User Survey

UNB libraries are conducting a survey to find out what users read and want in terms of library services and to determine the level of satisfaction with current services.

Participating libraries include the Harriet Irving Library, the Science and Forestry Library and the Engineering Library.

The mail-out survey is being posted to a random sample of 500 UNB and STU undergraduate students.

The deadline for returning the completed survey is Friday, March 9th.

A draw for participants in the survey will be held on March 16th.

The prize being offered is a \$100 gift certificate from the UNB Bookstore.

New software for Online registration

UNB Students should notice that a new version of the software used for online registration has been made available by university administrators this week.

Web Advisor 1.5 has been completely rewritten using server-side Java servlets and no longer requires Active-X plug-ins.

It generates straight HTML and should be viewable in any browser, on any platform -no special configuration required.

Bridges House Polar Dip raised money

About 60 students from UNB's Bridges House took part in the 13th Annual Polar Bear Dip last weekend.

Instead of a location on the Saint John River, the students opted this year for a splash in a make shift pool dug in a snow bank outside their residence.

The students collected more than two tonnes of food and \$650 in donations for the Fredericton Food Bank.

Premier to speak at UNB today

New Brunswick Premier Bernard Lord will review his vision of post secondary education in New Brunswick when he appears at the UNB Fredericton Colloquium on the Philosophy of the University later today.

An informal reception will begin at 3:30 p.m. in the lobby of the WU Conference Centre.

At approximately 3:50 p.m. the proceedings will move to the Chancellor's Room for the Premier's address.

A discussion period will follow.

New lab opening celebrated

UNB's Faculty of Computer Science celebrated the grand opening of the Advanced Computational Research Laboratory last Saturday.

The new laboratory features high performance, problem-solving equipment that will be used by students, professors and members of the IT sector.

The lab was established with the assistance of the Canadian Foundation for Innovation and the federal government through the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency under the Canada/New Brunswick Regional Economic Development Agreement.

Campbell appointed Superintendent

Rod Campbell, Director of Field Services for UNB's Faculty of Education and Executive Director for the New Brunswick Centre for Educational Administration, has been appointed the new Superintendent for N.B. School District 6 in Rothesay.

His appointment comes into effect July 1st, with the implementation of the province's new school district structure.

Student leaders fight City Hall on proposed changes to housing by-laws

Gordon Loane

The Brunswickan

Student leaders at UNB and St. Thomas Universities want Fredericton City Council to re-think a municipal plan and zoning amendment proposed by residents in the Southeast Hill area bounded by Montgomery, Priestman, Regent and York Streets.

Appearing before Fredericton City Council last Monday night, UNB Student Union President Charles Goguen and St. Thomas Student Union President Jeff Richardson voiced their continuing opposition to a plan that would decrease the number of rooms in a basement apartment in an R-2 zone from three to two.

"Simply stated, tenants will now be paying one-half of the rent and utilities where they would have been paying one-third previously," the student leaders emphasized in a joint statement to City Councilors.

"Again, the citizens this will impact most upon are the students of Fredericton who will be forced into this new arrangement without option, as the vacancy rate is so low," they stated.

The student leaders also felt the



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(L-R) Kate Whitfield, UNBSU VP (External), Charles Goguen, UNBSU President and Jeff Richardson, STUSU President presented objections to proposed changes to municipal by-laws which affect students living in apartments.

proposal will not only affect university students but all those renting basement apartments in all

areas of the city, if the proposed plan is approved on third reading by City Council on March 12th.

The student leaders are also worried that the plan will drive students further away from the two university campuses increasing transportation costs for those on low incomes trying to meet monthly expenses and the rising cost of post-secondary education using student loans.

Changes being proposed in the noise by-law that would increase the initial fine to \$200 from the current \$50 is also of concern to the two Student Union Presidents.

"Our suggestion would be that the graduated system be implemented, with the initial fine remaining at \$50," they argued.

City Council is set to approve fines for noise offenses that start at \$200 for an initial fine with a sliding scale up to a maximum \$1,000 fine.

Further changes being proposed would see tenants who

park on front lawns in residential areas getting a ticket from police instead of the current system which makes the city wait to go to provincial court in order to seek compliance.

Other provisions would see fines levied on the legal owner of the property, forcing landlords to deal with problem tenants on their properties.

Part of the Southeast Hill plan also calls for a traffic calming study to slow down drivers trying to take shortcuts on Lisgar Street and Pederson Crescent.

Single family homeowners in the Southeast Hill area have been pushing for new regulations from Fredericton City Council in response to density, noise and parking problems in recent years.

The residents also claim that many houses in their area have been snapped up recently by absentee landlords who in turn rent to students in an attempt to turn a profit.

Suspect charged in heist

Gordon Loane

The Brunswickan

A 36 year old Fredericton man, Robin Fraser Chase, has pleaded not guilty in provincial court to theft and breach of probation in connection with a January 23rd incident in the Student Union Building on the UNB Fredericton campus.

Chase is charged by City Police in connection with the theft of an \$850 Tissot watch from Flannery Jewellers in the SUB.

He will be back in provincial court May 30th for a trial.

Chase and a second man entered Flannery Jewellers on January 23rd. When Jewelry owner Mike Flannery went to the back of his store for a few seconds to get a scale, one of the two

men leaned over the counter and took a watch.

Flannery was alerted to the fact that a theft was in progress by another customer who happened to be in the store.

He then came from around the counter and detained the man who initially took the watch by closing and locking the Jewelry shop door.

But when Flannery went to the back of his store to call police, the detained man managed to unlock the door and bolted.

Running out of his store in hot pursuit, Flannery was successful in catching the man in the SUB and held him until City Police arrived on the scene and took him away.

A second man allegedly involved in the theft managed to escape.

New College proposal to be reviewed

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The Brunswickan

A Sub-committee of the UNB Fredericton Senate's Academic Planning Committee has been set up to review a proposal that would create a bi-campus College of Extended Learning for both the Fredericton and Saint John campuses.

The Sub-committee, to be Chaired by UNB's Director of Libraries John Teskey, will consider several issues recently raised by the Saint John Senate including the approval process for courses (both credit and non-credit) which would be offered by or through the College.

Other concerns include quality control issues such as the appointment of instructors, coordination and administration of course and program offerings and the evaluation of students. Other issues involve the resource and support needs for the proposed college in terms of library, computing services and other

technical services; implications for faculty and departmental workloads and arrangements for campus-specific sharing of revenue generated by the College.

The Sub-committee has also been asked to consult further with the Deans and others as well as redraft the proposal for Senate consideration.

Under the proposal, UNB's Department of Extension and Summer Session would be renamed the College of Extended Learning.

The College will attempt to reach new learners with new educational offerings through new formats and attract new public and private funding for program and e-learning development.

In partnership with various Faculties, the College hopes to develop, deliver and market credit programs for certain niche markets.

On the non-credit side, the College should have broader scope in the development and delivery of programs.

Under the proposal, the College would also assist the University to address the opportunities and threats presented by the world of distance and e-learning.

A proposed Centre for Distance and e-Learning would attract major funding for on-line development and would work with other UNB units to provide online course/program development assistance.

The College would operate on a revenue generation model, similar to the Department of Extension and Summer Session which generates just under \$1 million for the University each year.

The College would be headed by a position at the level of Dean who would report to the Vice-President Academic on the Fredericton campus and the Vice-President Saint John campus.

An Advisory Council for the College would also be set up as well as an internal College Management Council.

Other members of the sub-

committee reviewing the establishment of the College, besides the Chair John Teskey, include Dean of Computer Science Jane Fritz and Dean of Administration Dan Coleman.

The Acting Director of UNB's Department of Extension and Summer Session, Judith Potter, will serve as a resource person to the sub-committee.

UNB Vice-President Academic John McLaughlin told the Fredericton Academic Senate this week that he hopes the sub-committee can complete its work so the proposal can be approved in April.

"There is some urgency to get on with this proposal as several Fredericton IT firms would like to partner with UNB on several life-long learning initiatives," he said.

McLaughlin urged all those who want to comment on the proposal for the College to consult with sub-committee members as soon as possible.

Centre for Geodetic Engineering approved

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The UNB Fredericton Academic Senate has approved the establishment of a Canadian Centre for Geodetic Engineering on the Fredericton campus.

The Centre will formalize the existing Engineering and Mining Surveys Research Group headed by Professor Emeritus Dr. Adam Chrzanowski.

Dr. Chrzanowski, despite his retirement, has volunteered to act as Director of the Centre, collaborating with the Industrial Research Professor, who will be the head of the new Centre.

The Centre will be self-supporting drawing in some \$200,000 to \$300,000 a year from industrial contracts and research grants.

In addition, matching funds for basic research and commercialization will be sought at the level of \$230,000 annually from government innovation programs and research granting agencies.

The matching grants would be used to fund half-time salaries for an industrial research professor and a senior research associate and create two full-time positions for a research associate in geomatics engineering and a research assistant/technologist.

Some \$45,000 would be spent annually on operating expenses.

The Centre, in addition to the present laboratory and office space in the Geodesy and Geomatics Engineering Department will also seek office space from the Faculty of Engineering for the industrial research professor and for one research associate.

"Dr. Adam Chrzanowski and his research group have developed an interdisciplinary expertise in

engineering and mining surveys of high precision that is unique for North America," the proposal presented to Senate this week stated.

"The research results have been implemented world-wide in large engineering and geoscience projects gaining a reputation for UNB as being among the world leaders in the development of new methods and techniques in this rare specialization," the proposal to Senate emphasized.



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A wonderful and serene view from the SUB. If only all the snow would melt away. Happy March Break and come on Spring.