

Chernoff to retire

by Alex Chernoff

As Bill Chernoff's son, I have always had a hard time introducing myself without hearing "Chernoff...are you related to the Professor Chernoff who teaches math at UNB?" Most times, I have neglected to pass on to my father the praise that strangers detailed about his performance in the classroom. However, as he is retiring this spring, I've decided to gather a few stories and comments from current and past students to pay tribute to his career at UNB.

Professor Bill Chernoff is best known for his charismatic and enthusiastic teaching style. Fourth year Arts/Education student Alicia Stafford commented "not one class goes by that I don't laugh out loud."

In a frenzy of chalk dust and frantic action, it is common to see Chernoff fill a chalkboard, and then continue writing onto the wall, and then right out the door of the classroom.

"Learning from someone that

you know is so enthusiastic about something, makes you want to learn. His excitement for math is contagious," Stafford noted.

Dr. Andrew Myles holds a PHD in Organic Chemistry, and currently works at the Scripps Research Institute in San Diego, California. A 1993 alumnus of Chernoff's class, he recalled, "you didn't feel like you were in a complex math class, he could explain difficult concepts in real terms. He knew the material so well."

One of Professor Chernoff's favourite techniques is to simplify complex problems, using apples, oranges and bananas to represent the variables of an equation. Using this relaxed teaching philosophy helped countless students overcome the notorious fear associated with first year calculus.

"He has a way of making people feel comfortable, and a way of breaking down that fear," said Myles.

Jim Dunphy is an income tax lawyer in Calgary with Warren Tettensor. Another former pupil of

Chernoff's (1976), he summarizes the impact he has had on students. "He was so outgoing, and so accepting of students. People that take the time to care make a huge difference, and that's what he did."

Chernoff will be remembered for his enthusiasm and passion for delivering the highest quality of

instruction. In Myles' words, "he showed true interest, not only in the material, but in student's learning."

Professor Chernoff most certainly will be missed, but his influence has left a lasting imprint on students such as Dunphy, who concluded, "I wouldn't be where I am today if it wasn't for him."



Submitted to *The Brunswickan*
Bill Chernoff will be greatly missed by students, faculty, and alumni.

NEWS SHORTS

compiled by Graham Cox

Stop violence against women campaign

Amnesty international has launched a campaign to stop violence against women.

The human rights group feels that the governments around the world are not taking a serious enough stand to stop violence against women.

Amnesty will increase its activities with regards to reporting the breaking of domestic and international laws, disseminating information, and organizing demonstrations to educate people around the world on the causes and impacts of violence against women.

China changing land ownership rules

Land ownership by the individual is being introduced in China.

The change will allow individuals and corporations to have equal rights over purchased land as does the state over public land. This will increase the ability to make money off land as well as the ability to compete with state run companies.

This is a large departure from the basic model that was Chinese Communism in the latter part of the 1900's which was based on the idea of public ownership of land and sharing of profits.

This change is being seen as a continuation of China's increasing focus on its economy in relation to capitalist nations and integration into world markets.

Safe injection sights in Vancouver in spotlight

A UN report has brought negative attention to the safe injection sight program in Vancouver.

The report by The International Narcotics Control Board raised concern that the provincial-run drug program is violating international drug policy that states only "prevention, punishment, and treatment" should be used to stem drug use.

Canadian officials have criticized the Board's comments as being dogmatic and void of the concept of "harm reduction."

Study of soldier girls

A new three and a half year study examines the role of young girls in armed conflict.

The study "Where are the Girls?" partly funded by CIDA, was conducted for the independent Canadian rights group Rights and Democracy.

It brings to light the conditions of girls below 18 years of age as soldiers in the front lines of conflicts and how they came to be there.

The authors outline the methods of recruitment including kidnapping and coercion as well as describing sexual abuse and government concealment of the numbers of soldiers that are women.

Rights groups have praised the study as invaluable in responding to rights abuses internationally.

Whistle blower protection calls

The largest public sector union in Canada is calling on the government to increase its protection of whistle blowers.

The Public Service Alliance of Canada is asking that all employees of the government including crown corporations have it written in their contracts immediately that they have protection from reprisal if information of wrongdoing is conveyed to authorities.

Currently, employees will have to wait for legislation to pass through government to see any changes in the status of protection.

Universal bus pass for September

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of U-Pass opponents.

"I'd like to know why they voted against it. Obviously it's a concern for a lot of people, like those who live out of town and have to drive in or who live so close to the university that they don't need a bus," said LeBlanc.

"These are the two main groups that I'd really like to talk to and work out how it could work better for them," he said.

LeBlanc said one of his goals is to accommodate as many people as possible with regards to the bus pass.

"At the end of the year, they're going to be open to negotiations to reflect what the student's liked or didn't like about it," explained LeBlanc.

The SU will be in charge of re-evaluating the one-year U-Pass to see what changes need to be made

to improve services.

"The U-Pass has both positives and negatives," said Jeff Brewer, the new SU VP University Affairs.

"I would say the two biggest positives are environmental issues and they [have already] implemented this at another university and within a year, 500 parking spaces opened up so it benefits drivers as well," said Brewer. "I don't think they realize how much it will benefit them as well."

The team has already had their first informal meeting and Matheson said they are eager to assume their responsibilities. This excitement, Chotal said, is a good indication of what the elected SU will bring to UNB next year.

According to Brewer, he can't wait to start making some changes.

"I'm very interested in making UNB a more equitable university with regards to a no sweat policy and a sexuality centre," Brewer said.

Sexual diversity centre needed: MacGillivray

Centre continued from Page 1

space," she said. Safe Spaces is a sticker program run by Erin Hancock that identifies spaces on campus as "safe" for GLTBQ students, staff and faculty at UNB. It's run through Student Services. Spectrum is the social and support group for GLTBQ students/staff/community members.

MacGillivray and Soucy's proposal cited the Student Union Building (SUB) as a prospective space, although this is yet to be secured. Funding is also being sought after to help with room modifications and initial set up costs.

"The first thing that needs to be completed is the budget. There's a lot of need for a [sexual diversity] centre on campus. Students are very excited about it," said MacGillivray. val colden agreed.

"A sexual diversity centre would



provide a space to house our library which is currently in the University Women's Centre, and for us to meet. These kinds of centres are standard in most campuses, and there are very few resources in Fredericton. For students there is very limited support, but the centre would be able to expand this support," suggested colden.

"I'd love to see something up and running within a year," MacGillivray enthused. "At counseling services we're making an effort to support everybody, and right now we don't have a lot of programming for GLTBQ students."

One member from student council voted against the proposed GLTBQ centre but was unavailable for comment at press time.

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