

Upcoming SU changes

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Some of the acts the SU are looking to line up for the semester include the cast from *Mythbusters*, *Ghost Hunters*, and several different guest speakers. The executive is looking to bring back Sue Johanson, who is famous for her television show, 'Sex with Sue'. They are also exploring the idea of having the host of 'The Hour on CBC', George Stroumbouloupoulos, come in for a show. The Union explains the more popular the guest speaker, the more it will cost to bring them in to perform. Currently, a hypnotist is booked to perform on campus, but other acts are still in the early stages.

"We want students to know entertainment is a strong issue for the Student Union, by this time last year they had acts lined up but the SU wants to get a feel of what the students really want to see," Mullins explains and adds that the Union is looking to provide greater visibility and publicity for their events across campus.

Mullins wants to plan and execute additional ideas to bring entertainment to students, like contests and weekly or monthly mini-competitions with prizes for the winners at the end of the year, and is always looking for student input and ideas.

The electoral process is going through some serious changes, which is another thing the SU executive has been working towards.

"Most of the changes are recommendations from Clare [Henderson]. She took over the election last year and was our CRO the year before. A lot of [the recommendations] are temporary regulations she had enacted previously," explains Mullins.

A lot of the constitutional changes are grammatical, which will hopefully clarify all electoral regulations to make things more logical, while other alterations are more substantial.

"It's going to be written into the by-laws that we have to have a DCRO (deputy chief returning officer), as well as guidelines and deadlines for items such as the appointing of the Chair, the date by which the Appeals Board must be running, and hiring the CRO and DCRO."

Currently, the changes are at the second stage of the process, where they will be going through a second reading at council on Wednesday, September 26. By then, it is the executives' objective to begin the by-elections by the second or third week of October.

There are currently seven available positions on council, five of which have been reopened due to summer resignations. "It was just a strange thing that happened. They all had different things going on... It wasn't that they all just quit. One of the reps wasn't coming back to school this year, another was accepted into medical school," clarifies Mullins.

Council representatives for the Kinesiology, Nursing, Renaissance College, Arts, Computer Science and Law faculties will all be up for grabs, as well as a Residence Liaison, during the fall by-election.

"The overall objective is to prevent the same things that happened last year from reoccurring. We want to streamline the whole thing and set up timelines and clear expectations," explains Mullins.

Mullins is also pleased to announce another big change: "The Paper Trail is getting a new colour photocopy, which will allow the potential for the SU to provide a service that offers some of the cheapest colour copying anywhere in the Fredericton area, regardless of paper size."

SU council meetings are Thursdays at 4 pm, in room 103 of the SUB. Students wishing to involve themselves or learn more about the goings-on of their student government are urged to attend.



File Photo

Prisoners in their own home

by Jes Ellacott,
the *Charlatan* (Carleton University),
with files from Katherine Ellis

OTTAWA (CUP) -- Everyone has a daily routine that they follow more or less unconsciously. Wake up, shower, eat breakfast and go to work.

For Mohamed Harkat and his wife Sophie, the concept of a daily routine has taken a whole new meaning.

Most of their daily activities must be pre-approved by the Canadian Border Service Agency (CBSA), allowing no room for spontaneity.

They are constantly monitored by video cameras placed outside their home.

During the three four-hour outings they are permitted per week, they are accompanied everywhere by walkie-talkie-toting, bulletproof vest-wearing, CBSA agents.

In short, Harkat and his wife are prisoners in their own home.

"I thought I was going to be free, go outside anytime with [my] family [and go] shopping anywhere," said Mohamed. "Everything is very strict."

In 2002, Mohamed was alleged to have terrorist ties. He was not charged with any offence, but was detained for three and a half years under a security certificate.

Mohamed was released under house arrest June 21, 2006, but the strict conditions of his bail package cause frustration for him and his wife.

Harkat cannot use cellphones, the Internet or a BlackBerry.

Any visitors to his house must be pre-approved by a security check, which can take up to 48 hours. This includes family members. They only have one hour a day for exercise and are followed by CBSA agents during this time.

"[We] always have two people on our ass, following our every move, which really pisses us off," said Sophie.

"[The agents] are really loud and annoying. You always know they are there. The walkie-talkies are so loud. You just don't have any personal space."

Mohamed has three sureties: his wife, his mother-in-law, and her partner. A surety is someone pre-approved by CBSA to accompany the prisoner. Mohamed must be watched 24 hours a day by at least one of his three sureties.

Sophie said she sees herself as her husband's jailer. "[I] don't see the role of a surety. [We are] trusted within our residence and yard, but not while on outings," she said.

If other sureties are not around, Sophie cannot even go out to do something as simple as deliver a letter or pick up food.

"It's pretty insulting. I feel my rights are violated," she said, although response from the community has been encouraging.

On their first or second outing, Mohamed and Sophie went to renew his driver's license.

"An older lady approached us. She was around 75 years old," said Sophie. "She came up to [Mohamed] and put her arms around him and gave him a big hug, and said 'I am so happy you're out.'"

Another time, when they were in a Sears store, someone approached them and called them superstars.

"It's encouraging," said Sophie.

When they are not on one of their outings or using their hour of daily exercise, Mohamed and Sophie keep busy with projects around the house.

"[Mohamed] is a big consumer of tomatoes and cucumbers. He works in the yard, reads his Koran, exercises two hours a day on top of biking [...] and prepares for supper," said Sophie. "He cooks well and likes to barbecue and work around the house. He's a fixer-upper."

Mohamed said that it is obviously much better to be home with his family rather than in prison, but all the precautions and conditions make it so he can never forget his situation.

He wears an ankle bracelet when he is in the house, and neither he nor his wife can work. Essentially, he is never alone.

When outside the house, he wears a two-pound GPS tracking device that clips to his belt.

Mohamed says he feels as if he is not human. He has few rights in Canada under the restrictions of his house arrest.

"Your life is controlled by CBSA, by [the Canadian Security Intelligence Service]," said Mohamed. "My life is in the hands of somebody else."

Women's Centre is open for business

by Lauren Kennedy

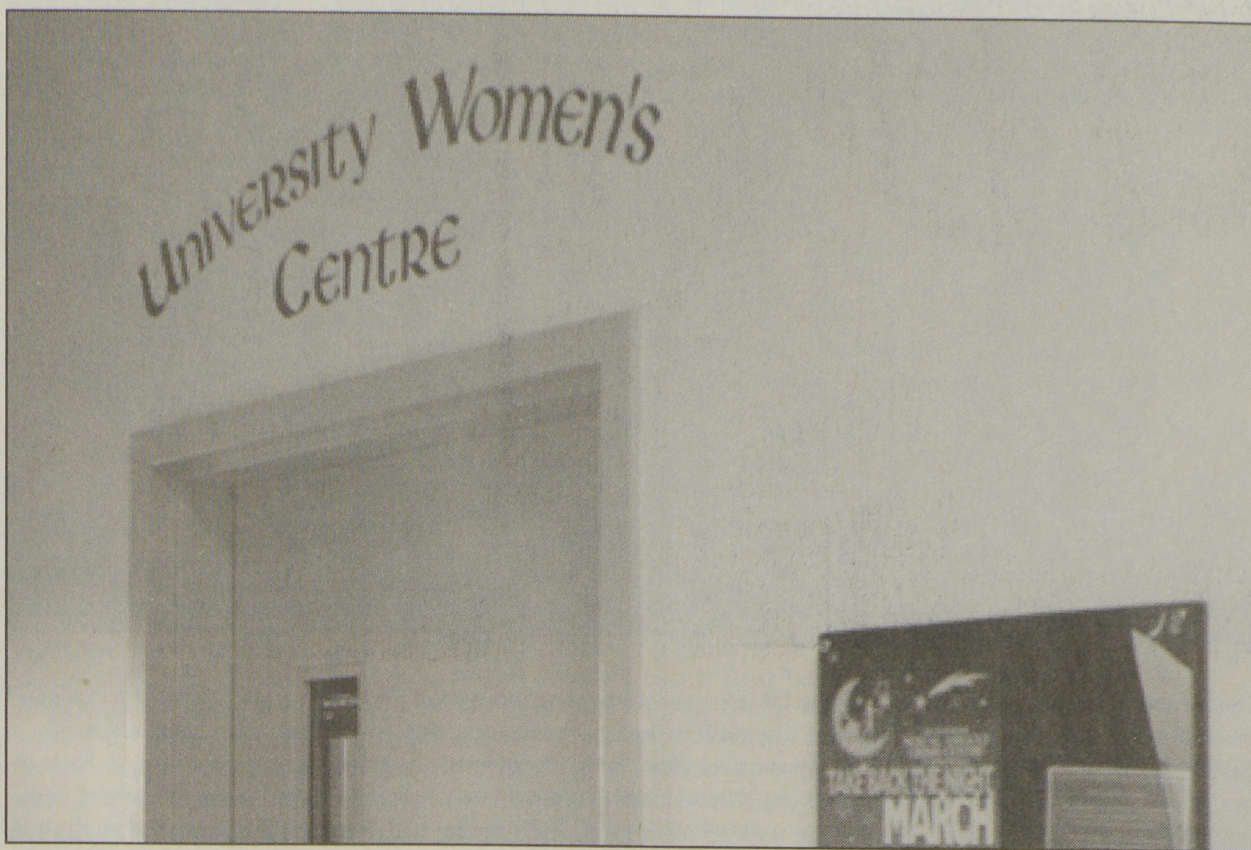
Despite rumours about the potential closure of the Women's Centre located in the Student Union Building, Chair of the UNB Women's Centre, Lee-Ann Myers wants people to know that they are open and are there as a resource for students on campus.

There was buzz around campus that the Centre was closed for business, as the rumours speculated the difficulty in forming a board, permanently shutting it down. Myers explains that the gossip was false, and was shocked to hear it.

She explained how last year's board was unable to meet due to certain circumstances, and as decisions regarding the Centre were made democratically, incentives were never voted on, thus disallowing change of any kind. Myers assures students that this year is different.

"The slowest process has been putting the board together, but now we have six student representatives from different faculties, a faculty member, and various organizations such as the Muriel McQueen Fergusson Family Violence Research Centre and the Sexual Assault Centre here in Fredericton, and we are planning on meeting once a month. We're going to get things done," said Myers.

Currently, an executive formed of Myers as the Chair, a treasurer, a secretary and a vice-chair, runs the centre and runs the day-to-day operations, although for the most part, the Centre



Andrew Meade / The Brunswickan

Many students walking by the Women's Centre think it's closed, but in reality there is just a lack of volunteers.

relies heavily on volunteers.

"We are completely not for profit and last year we had about 40 volunteers," explained Myers. "If the doors are closed it's because our volunteers are not around as they are here on their own time and we don't require them to have set hours."

She says that the biggest struggle for the Centre is getting the students to be aware that they are available and willing to be a resource for students.

"You can't ask someone to commit a certain amount of hours when they are

volunteering. When people walk by and the door is shut, it's not that we are closed, it's that we can't get a volunteer for that time. It really is a hit or miss situation."

Myers urges the people who complain about the door being closed to volunteer so they can be an active part of the solution.

The Women's Centre first opened its doors in 2002 after sexual assaults were reported on campus. Myers comments that most students have forgotten why the Centre was conceived.

"Women on campus have to remember that if this Centre wasn't here, there would be no voice for them on campus," she said.

This year alone, there were three sexual assault reports on campuses around Canada during a two week period. Myers sees this as just one more reason for the Centre to be available for the women around campus.

"We are a relatively safe community, but it's scary that something like this could still happen. The Women's Centre is here to meet those needs."

Ontario municipalities crack down on off-campus parties

but this time the police have extra staff and we're sticking with the strict enforcements. No warnings - that's the difference."

One student seeking legal counsel after being shocked by Taser

The *Cord Weekly*
(Wilfrid Laurier University)
by Margaret Sheridan,
(Interrobang)
and Dan Polischuk (Cord Weekly)

WATERLOO, LONDON (CUP) - Police in at least two Ontario municipalities are cracking down on off-campus partying with stronger patrols and hefty fines.

Emily Marcoccia, a spokesperson for Ontario's Fanshawe College in London, Ontario said that several parties on one street amalgamated on the evening of September 9.

"People gravitated towards one or two major addresses and there was some type of, what the police called, 'aggressive behaviour' by the students," said Marcoccia.

A group of students allegedly threw beer bottles at the police officers arriving on the scene and taunted them, calling them "pigs."

After trying to break up the party on Fleming Drive without any success, London police called in backup.

According to authorities, an estimated 30 officers were called on site to clear students out of the area.

By 1:30 am, four people had been placed under arrest; two criminal charges had been laid along with a handful of non-criminal charges including breach of peace. One Fanshawe student had even been neutralized with a stun gun.

But down the road at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, police are taking a preemptive strategy. Waterloo police are also cracking down on house parties and handing out fines to prevent a similar incident from taking place.

Ashley Clerici, a third-year student at WLU, has already accumulated \$600 in fines as a result of revamped noise by-laws.

According to Bryan Larkin, Executive Officer of the Waterloo Regional Police, the force is trying extra hard this semester to "send a powerful message that there's a certain level of [behavioural] expectation."

"Often, traditional methods of giving a warning... have not necessarily been successful. So really, it becomes a balance of education, community awareness and enforcement," said Larkin.

His explanations were echoed by Mary George, Acting Manager of By-law Enforcement for the city.

"Things have been done in the past,

According to Guerin, he was the given contradictory instructions from two different officers. One told him to continue walking, while another told him to stop and wait.

Then, according to Guerin, the first officer started yelling and approached him about not having listened to the previous instruction.

"I put my hands up in the air and then four cops put me to the ground and they started to kick and punch me in the back. My head hit the ground and that's when that occurred," said Guerin, pointing to a bruise above his left eye.

"I pulled my hands from behind my back to put on my face, as a barrier between the ground and my head, and that's when they Tasered me."

Guerin is now retaining legal counsel and intends to fight the charges. He later hopes to file a civil suit against the London Police.

"I understand that they have to take action, but the way they [did it] was not the best," Guerin explained. "I was on the sidewalk, didn't have a beer, wasn't totally intoxicated [and] I wasn't at the party. You can't just go and take it out on anybody. For them to paint us all with the same brush because some people on Fleming were throwing beer bottles at them is not right at all."

Indeed, having all students painted with the same brush as the loudest parties is what students in Waterloo find the most unnerving.

City councillor Ian McLean, who

oversees the ward in which the university is located, said that "a classic example of about 2% of students giving a bad impression for everyone else."

But, upon reflection, he doesn't believe the enforcement is "totally unreasonable."

"If you adhere to the by-laws then you don't get ticketed, right?" said McLean.

With student frustration reaching high levels, WLU Dean of Students David McMurray has already made plans to meet with Waterloo Manager of Community Relations, Kaye Crawford, to discuss a possible student-supported by-law awareness group.

This "structured program," explained McMurray, would "get students involved" in helping out their fellow peers, rather than relying on the more intimidating Regional Police door-to-door program.

McMurray is interested, first of all, to simply get "all the parties together" to follow a model that was successfully implemented at the University of Western Ontario in 2000.

Meanwhile, George is guaranteeing "strict enforcement all year round" and Larkin is assuring students that the force intends to "set the tone" in September and October.

"We want [students] to have fun and enjoy the university life... but we have citizens who are saying that there needs to be a line drawn in the sand here," said Larkin.



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News Meeting
10:30 AM Fridays
SUB rm. 35