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UNBSU passes motion to support those suffering in Gaza

SARAH RATCHFORD
THE BRUNSWICKAN

Renaissance College representative Matt Abbott brought a motion to the UNBSU students' representative council on Monday expressing concern over the destruction of academic infrastructure in Gaza.

Following a series of clauses stating the UNBSU's understanding of the importance of education and its sadness in the face of deaths occurring in Gaza, the summation of the motion read as follows:

"Be it resolved that the UNBSU condemns the destruction of academic infrastructure in all conflicts, including the ongoing conflict in Gaza. Be it further resolved that the UNBSU recognizes that many members of the UNB campus, including our constituents, have been personally and profoundly impacted by the crisis in Gaza, and we offer our sympathy and support to those students organizing support for the humanitarian effort."

The above motion was passed after a series of amendments to Abbott's original. Amendments included the SU's support of students involved in organizational positions and the removal of the word "military" prior to the word "conflict."

The original motion was sent by Abbott to council in an e-mail Sunday. It proposed to support the UN Security Council Resolution 1860 and made a direct reference to "attacks by Israel."

President Vail disagreed with the original motion in a response e-mail to council on Sunday, on the grounds that she felt it was not in line with the purpose of the Student Union.

"It is a motion that essentially is taking a side in this on-going conflict between the Israelis and Palestinians," said in the email. She said she believes that the Union would not be fulfilling its mandate to represent all undergraduate students if it were to take sides in this conflict.

She said she did agree, however, that the destruction of academic institutions is wrong and needs to be stopped.

In response to that statement, Abbott wrote in an email to council: "In reference to President Vail's comment that we represent ALL students I would respectfully suggest that this is impossible. To perfectly represent everyone is to never say or do anything."

Abbott expressed the view that it is the duty of the Student Union to "not allow academic institutions to be destroyed in any given conflict."

SEE GAZA PAGE 3

Grinch strikes Joy Kidd



Andrew Meade / The Brunswickan

Joy Kidd House was robbed on the last day of Christmas break, losing a large television and a sound system at a total loss of about \$3600. David Allison, above, is president of the house. The theft hurts residents of Joy Kidd who have worked hard for their house, he says.

JOSH O'KANE
THE BRUNSWICKAN

Carl Burgess spent the Christmas break working around Joy Kidd House, making repairs and renovations for students to return to in the winter semester.

On the last day of the break, however, someone decided to ruin the fun.

Sometime between 6 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 3 and noon the next day, a person or group of persons entered the house and stole a television and sound system from the basement lounge.

"It's just really disappointing," says Burgess, don

of the house. "It's a grinchy sort of thing to do."

The television, property of the house, was valued at about \$1,000, though it would only be worth about \$200 or so today given its age, says Burgess. The sound system was Burgess' own, which he left in the basement lounge for residents to use to practice music. It was valued at about \$2,600.

Burgess says he believes that the individual or individuals involved had a knowledge of residence life protocols, as locks were scheduled to be changed at noon on Sunday – but the theft took place sometime before then.

The locks were changed earlier than expected, however, around 9 a.m. Whoever was involved with the theft either had a three-hour window to enter with a standard set of keys, or they were privy to the residence Christmas keys – which are kept

under high security by Residence Life.

He does not believe it was a resident, but it was likely someone familiar with the university community.

"If it was a resident, they knew more than they were supposed to," says Burgess.

"If it did happen before they changed the locks back, that would really concern me. The Christmas locks are very strictly controlled. Even I had to get new keys."

The theft roughly coincided with an announcement on the official Joy Kidd House Facebook group that the basement lounge would be receiving a new television. Burgess believes this may have motivated the thieves to rob the lounge.

SEE STOLEN PAGE 5

CHILL Music
9pm-12am

SATURDAY

STUDENTS WORKING FOR STUDENTS SINCE 1970

Social Club

Dance Music
12am-2am

Pitcher of Draft \$6.50 - Liquor Pitcher \$6.50 - Large Nachos \$6.50
Prices increase by \$1.00 every hour. Special Starts at 9:00pm