

# CHSR Budget

by Jodi Gay

Last week the Student Union handed down the first reading of the budget. In the budget CHSR-FM's operating cost was cut by \$27,000. The larger portion of this comes from the Student Union wanting to cut one of the two paid positions at CHSR.

The Student Union wants to give the Program Co-ordinator position to a student. This raises the question of whether or not one student will be able to handle co-ordinating over 140 hours of on-air programming a week and overseeing the training of over 120 volunteers.

When this question was put to Mr. James van Raalte, Chair of the Student Union Finance Committee, he said they could possibly make the position for 2 or more students. However, the radio station runs through the summer. Van Raalte said this could be solved by creating "summer employment." Whether or not this would be funded by the Student Union, he did not say.

The Student Union has also passed a policy whereby an external body like CHSR cannot hire a full-time employee that will be funded by the Student Union. This puts the program coordinator's job in jeopardy. This position is now being held by Steve Staples, who has held it for three years. Mr. Staples says that he does not feel like he has a say in how his job is

going to be affected. He also is more concerned about the position than his job because he sees it as being an "intricate" part to the running of the station. If there is not a staff member there, he sees the station as going back to being very chaotic.

In 1986 there was a study commissioned by the station director, at the time to examine the license and the outcome suggested that they should hire two paid staff. Two years later this suggestion was fulfilled. They reviewed the license past fall and Mr. Staples said they "were willing to accept all their commitments except for one, one area which continues to be a problem, but were working on it." With the budget cuts he sees the station as not giving "the same service" and it will not be able to "develop". The alternative may come from a media fee like the one at Guelph University. Mr. Staples feels that they have been "forced to examine it."

The station has had UNB Student Union cuts over the past two years and has also lost funding from the GSA.

In conclusion the lines are drawn with the Student Union knowing what they want and CHSR trying to adjust to this. The Student Union is planning on producing a survey to the Students which they say will give CHSR an idea of what the students want. This survey however will not affect the budget cuts.

# Nursing faculty adopts new curriculum

*Reducing credit hours will allow for a more focused approach to nursing*

(UNB-PRI) Students and graduates of the University of New Brunswick's nursing program may be surprised at the number of unfamiliar course titles in the new nursing curriculum. But new titles, such as Stressors & Human Responses and Caring Relationships, are just one indication of a substantial curriculum revision that the nursing faculty will introduce in September.

The new curriculum was examined by a professional audience in February when a group of nursing faculty members and students met with about 20 representatives of New Brunswick hospitals and health care agencies that provide clinical placements for students and employ UNB nursing graduates.

"We wanted to tell them about the new curriculum and get their feedback," said Nancy Wiggins, assistant dean, bachelor of nursing (BN) program. "Naturally, everyone in the group was very interested and asked a lot of thoughtful questions about the new material. We were very pleased with the reactions we got."

Leading the curriculum changes is a reduction of the number of credit hours required in the basic program

from 164 to 152. "The workload for our students has been too heavy," Prof. Wiggins explained. "We're trying to give them more time to spend on each course, to reflect upon and synthesize the information they're getting."

"We've adopted a primary health care approach that virtually does away with the old dichotomy of acute ofrhospital care on one side and community nursing on the other. Primary health care is a broader vision of nursing that embraces both streams, all the health care settings, all patients and all health team members."

Course allocations in each term have been rearranged to permit a more focused approach. Mixes of arts, science and nursing courses will be replaced with combinations of related courses that give students a chance to apply their classroom knowledge in appropriate clinical settings during the same term. The 1,400 nursing practice hours required by the Nurses Association of New Brunswick will be met through new combinations of nursing practice placements more evenly distributed over the four-year BN program. The traditional 6-week May-June experience after years one, two and three

will be eliminated and a four week concentrated practicum will follow the third year. "The new system will provide large blocks of time when the concentration can be almost entirely on nursing, and that should make for better understanding and better learning," said Prof. Wiggins.

The new curriculum will place emphasis on interactive learning approaches, provide more choices for the student and concentrate on the total life span, rather than the traditional medical model approach. The intent is to remain flexible in curriculum approach to allow for changes based on the needs of the students, the nursing profession and society.

Information and assessment sessions with nursing colleagues will continue as the new program evolves and is implemented. Prof. Wiggins says the process benefits both sides. "At the February meeting we got valuable feedback that will help us make our new curriculum more responsive to real health care needs. In return, we were able to reassure the practitioners that our new approach will continue to produce nurses with the high level of competence for which our graduates are known."

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