



# The Brunswickian

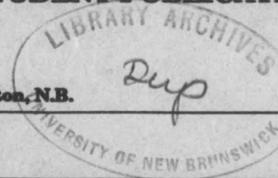
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## Tuition hike of 5.3% anticipated

by Allan Carter

If the recommendations of the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission are accepted, it is likely that student tuition fees will increase by 5.3%.

UNB vice-president of finance and administration, James O'Sullivan, is hopeful that the government will accept the recommendations made by the MPHEC.

If the recommendations are accepted by the government, the government will be providing a 7.3% increase in funding for UNB.

The MPHEC states in their report that "the policy of the commission with respect to fee levels has, for a number of years, been that tuition fees should increase with the cost of living, and should not decrease as a proportion of education costs."

"This policy has been expressed through the statement in the plan that fee increases would be expected to be of the same order as recommended increases in university sustenance."

The recommended

university sustenance for UNB is 5.3%.

It is not yet clear whether or not the university will increase tuition fees over 5.3% if the government decides not to accept the recommended 7.3% increase in operating grants.

In a CHSR news report, O'Sullivan says it is still a little early in the budget process to determine what the net effect at the university will

be.

O'Sullivan says labour contracts expire for all labour groups this year, including those for general maintenance workers, professors, and librarians.

In total, the MPHEC is recommending that the three Maritime provinces provide a total of \$393,497,000 in operating assistance for 1991-92, compared with the \$366,

614,000 approved the previous year.

According to the report, despite recommendations since 1985, the Government of Canada has yet to take action to improve or update the student aid program.

The MPHEC criticizes the government's action in charging a 3% administrative fee to students seeking aid. They say it is only

"exacerbating the problem."

Although the provincial governments have taken positive action in trying to improve the student aid situation, the MPHEC feels it is not easy for them to compensate fully for the lack of positive action taken by the Government of Canada.

Even though the commission opposes differential fees for international students, they realize that "in the current fiscal environment it is not feasible to recommend that government provide an additional \$3 million to offset the differential fee revenue or to suggest that institutions absorb a funding reduction of this magnitude."

The commission is recommending that differential fees remain at \$1,700.

The full year tuition fee for a full time student at UNB is currently \$1,975. If the fee is increased by the recommended 5.3%, then next year's tuition will be well over \$2,000.

## Disappointing turnout at SU meeting

by Murray Carew

Only a small crowd of about ten people showed up to the Student Union Council's meeting on Wednesday night in the Lady Dunn residence.

Most of the crowd were residents of Lady Dunn, and while the council held their meeting in the lounge, the residents sat up on the balcony peering down at the activity going on below them.

Unfortunately the meeting

was not broadcasted by CHSR-FM due to technical difficulties.

Mark Lockwood, VP External, started off the meeting with his executive report. Lockwood is looking into striking a deal with SMT to have chartered buses travelling to various destinations for students.

Right now Lockwood is looking at the fee structure and various routes to see if such a deal is feasible. Apparently the

SU could charter three buses for \$6,000.

Council will be presenting the SU Board with a policy asking that the cafeteria not be closed during the exam period.

In addition, Council will also see if the library cannot have more convenient hours for students, especially during the exam period.

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**Students give their opinions about Canadian troops being in the Gulf. See page 5.**



Touring residences: The UNB Student Union held their first meeting in residence this week.

The meeting was held in the Lady Dunn Hall  
Photo by David Smith

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