

News 25

abuse in military

Strategic Studies and employment with of National Defence, by College and other sites. A variety of works in the field have been published and faculty. more than 30 books military, political and history. Dr. Morton akker to mark the anniversary. He is ctor of the McGill Study of Canada. As ed 10 years in the ur years as secretary DP and held positions of Ottawa, Erindale University of Toronto. for his contributions, The Ottawa Citizen, zette, the CBC and

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Technology

ew millennium. history of economic at structural change a much faster pace past," he says. can provide the the leadership and ip society deal with come out of that

ew study options are s students, they are al to students in most oyers are looking for nly have narrow area who also think e creative," says Dr. in arts meet those ed a background in ents this." remain current and rket demand, the rment is developing future initiatives ine course scheduled ing. "We don't want says Dr. Cook. "At are thinking about o-op program and e education. We are for new avenues to

Income tax changes to notice

GORDON LOANE THE BRUNSWICKAN

With the April 30th deadline for filing income tax fast approaching, Revenue Canada is advising students to "study" 1996 income tax changes.

Students can now claim an education amount of \$100 (up from \$80) for each month or part-month they were a full-time or co-op student.

Students can also claim full credit for their tuition fees. But if they don't need all of their tuition fees and education amount to reduce federal income tax to zero, they can transfer some or all of the unused portion of their combined tuition fees and education amount to parents, grandparents or spouses to help reduce their federal income tax.

In 1996, students can now transfer up to \$5,000 (up from \$4,000).

In addition, some students may also be eligible to claim the goods and

services tax credit and their moving expenses.

To apply for the GST credit students must be 19 years of age or older as of December 31, 1996.

Students must complete the section on page 1 of the income tax return called "GST credit."

This return should be filed with Revenue Canada regardless of whether or not a student has an income.

Students can also claim moving expenses if they move more than 40 kilometers within Canada to take up employment—whether it's a summer job, a full-time job or self-employment.

Students may also be able to claim moving expenses if they left or came to Canada to attend university full time and if they moved at least 40 kilometers closer to the educational institution.

If a student moved to attend school, they can deduct moving expenses, but the amount can't be more than what

they received (and claimed on their tax return) as income from scholarships, bursaries, fellowships and research grants.

Certain students may also be able to claim child care expenses. Students can now claim expenses if the child care allowed them or their spouses to study in an educational program.

To qualify, students have to attend an educational institution at least ten hours per week for at least three consecutive weeks.

Students are urged to consult the income guide that comes with the income tax form and to obtain from Revenue Canada the pamphlet called "Students and Income Tax."

Additional information is available by calling the nearest Revenue Canada Taxation office in New Brunswick at 1-800-959-8281 for general inquiries or 1-800-561-9332 to use the T.I.R.S. Automated Phone Service.

Dean of Student Affairs and Services responds to review

GORDON LOANE THE BRUNSWICKAN

It will take a couple of years for UNB's Student Services Department to acquire the financial resources necessary to address a number of concerns outlined in a recent external review, according to Dean of Student Affairs and Services Tom Austin.

A review of student services, prepared by an expert three person committee last summer, outlined a number of areas where additional resources are required namely in the Dean of Students office, Counselling Services, Financial Aid and the International Student Advisors' office.

The report also recommended that UNB move to a "one-stop shopping" concept in which all student services would be centralized in one location, not scattered as they are now in several buildings around campus.

"I certainly did not expect that in one gulp everything would be acted upon this year," said Austin, in an interview with *The Brunswickan*.

He noted that the approach of the senior university administration as a result of the external review has been "let's move forward."

"We may not do everything by proclamation in one sweep but let's start working to create a framework in which constructive change can take place," said Austin in referring to the approach of senior administrators.

Chief among the pressures for additional financial resources this year is Counselling Services.

Students are facing long delays in accessing those services and it is a problem the Dean of Student Affairs and Services would like addressed.

He has the backing of UNB President Elizabeth Parr-Johnston who has conveyed her strong support for additional resources this year to UNB's Budget Committee.

"The Budget Committee has received input from Student Services where we have outlined the need for more resources in a variety of places, including Counselling Services," said Austin.

The Dean is also after what he describes as modest increases for the Financial Aid office, the International Student Advisors' office, Placement Services and in his own office to create the new position of Ombudsperson.

In Placement Services where students go to seek full and part-time employment opportunities, Austin sees the need for year round secretarial support for manager Kevin Bonner.

"In the past we have been able to get by with summer student help in this area, but we don't always know whether we are going to get the federal student challenge grant that we hope for," said Austin.

"It would be much more comforting to have the support year round in the

regular budget instead of being contingent on those sorts of external funding options," he emphasized.

Despite a request for extra resources in several areas in student services, Austin tempers the request with a note of sad reality, given the fiscal reality the university now faces as a result of a continuing reduction in the provincial government operating grant to the tune of some \$1.7 million in 1997-98.

shove and there is great demand for space for student clubs and societies which have no other space elsewhere on campus at all," Austin said.

"No matter the funding issue, it will be tight for space even in an expanded SUB," he said.

A second option to centralize Student Services would be to reclaim some old space if there were any kind of a major shift in other departments in various buildings, something Austin said he is not currently aware of. A third option is to take advantage of the benefits of technology in which WEB pages and telephone lines may address student concerns more quickly and more centrally with a minimum of cross-referrals.

But Austin said frequently a student comes with an issue and needs to go immediately to the appropriate person, minimizing the net effect of the new technology.

Austin also told *The Brunswickan* that a suggestion contained in the external review report that would have seen the Health Centre move from the second floor of Tibbits Hall to the Alumni Memorial Building would seem unlikely to happen.

The Dean admits the location of the Health Centre is not ideal despite recent renovations aimed at greater physical accessibility.

But moving the Health Centre to the Alumni Memorial Building would mean displacing the current offices of UNB's Associated Alumni.

"It is not clear that there would be sufficient space for the Health Centre in the Alumni Building," Austin said.

"The President's Room in the Alumni Building has been recently renovated and any move to increase space for a Health Centre for example would take away one of the very few significant meeting spaces that remains in the center of the campus," he said.

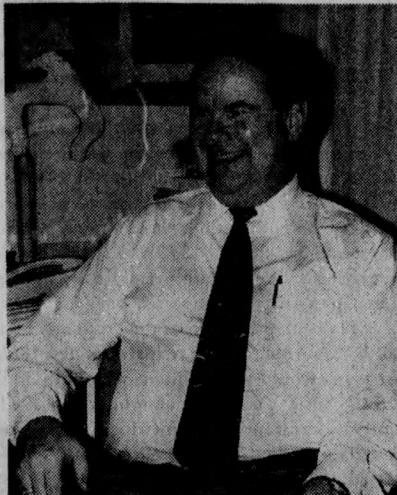
Austin also thinks that one of the significant challenges that stems out of the external review is one aimed at making student development an integral part of the learning process.

One of the benefits of splitting the office of Dean of Students into a department head position and an Ombudsperson is to free up time for the newly named office of Dean of Student Affairs and Services to concentrate on student development as an integral part of the academic process.

To that end, the Dean of Student Affairs and Services has now been made a full member of the Dean's Advisory Council.

"Meeting with the Dean's on a regular basis provides a forum for information exchange on a more regular basis," Austin emphasized.

"It will be a challenge for me and my successors to work hard to make this happen," Austin concluded.



Model parliament to be held April 5

KURT PEACOCK THE BRUNSWICKAN

On April 5 the Legislative Assembly will be filled with the heckling, filibustering, and grandiose speech-making that have coloured the history of its splendid chambers. The speakers on this day will not be Frank McKenna or Elizabeth Weir, however, they will be students from the University of New Brunswick! As a climactic ending to the UNB Debating Union's year, the organization has decided to hold a Model Parliament complete with opposition bills and a question period, to be held in New Brunswick's historic

legislature on April 5.

"We're very excited about the idea" commented Darren Thompson, the President of the UNB Debating Union, "The Debating Union has been planning this for a while now. We hope to have about 50 people participate - Reformers, Liberals, Tories, the NDP, even the Bloc Quebecois!"

The purpose of the Model Parliament is to increase the level of political debate on campus, by helping organized political clubs from the university to get their message out. A secondary purpose is to introduce UNB students to the fine art of debating. "Each party will have the chance to

present their own bill for debate" said Thompson. "Throughout the day, we hope to have different politicians serve as Speakers in case our arguments get a bit heated. So far, we've seen a lot of enthusiasm from our members and from the various political clubs on campus."

Anyone who is interested in participating in the Model Parliament can come to the next UNB Debating Union meeting held on Thursday Nights at 7:00 in Tilley Hall Room 303. Further information about the Model Parliament can be obtained by contacting Kurt Peacock at L2GL@UNB.CA.

Desmond Morton continued from page 1

ought a major fire in over 50 years. That being said, "the effectiveness of Canada's Forces may not matter today, but we know from our history that we want them at some time, and we want them to be as good as they can possibly be."

To critics who suggest that the military and civilian components of Canada's Department of National Defence should be separated, Morton suggested that the two groups need each other, stating "I believe that the Department needs an integrated Canadian Forces headquarters." He warned against a bloating of the Officer ranks, noting that "1 in 5 members of the Canadian Forces is a Commissioned Officer. Once a sign of leadership

responsibility, rank has become part of the compensation for skill or long service."

A partial solution to current Armed Forces difficulties would be to re-invigorate the senior ranks with educated and skilled young Officers. "Military service should be the first of several careers" according to Morton, who suggested that Officers should be fewer in number and should be better educated. In Canada, 1 in 20 Generals has a post-graduate degree while in the United States 90% of Generals have a post-graduate degree of some kind. To cope with the dissatisfaction that the current ranking system produces, Morton thinks that the military should be a shorter career for many. "A

younger Canadian Forces would allow its able leaders to have a second career at the height of their power. Yes, the Forces would lose - but Canada would gain."

On Tuesday, March 25, the day after Professor Morton's speech, Defence Minister Doug Young announced a series of reforms to Canada's Armed Forces, based partly on the recommendations of the McGill professor. Whether or not Young's reforms will re-invigorate a troubled military remains to be seen; in the mean time, experts like Professor Morton and the academics studying at UNB's own Military and Strategic Studies Program will probably continue to be asked for advice.

The Fredericton Science Fiction Society Presents...
Movie Night 2!
Thursday, March 27th at McLaggan Hall
Featuring:
6:00 STARGATE
8:15 THE ABYSS 3-hour director's cut!
Admission: a non-perishable donation to the Food Bank.

Social Club
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TONIGHT

Open til 2 am
 \$2.00 Doubles
 \$1.60 Beer
 from 8-11

Don't Miss Retro Night Next Wed.
 Coming Soon: Last Class Bash

For Members And Guests Only

GORDON LOANE THE BRUNSWICKAN

An eight member committee has been set up to look at the future role and function of an Ombudsperson at UNB following a recent external review of the Student Services Department which recommended that the office of Dean of students/Ombudsperson be split.

The committee of administrators and students representatives from the UNB Student Union, Graduate Students' Association and Campus (mature and part-time students) has already met once, according to Tom Austin, UNB's Dean of Student Affairs and Services.

"The committee will be looking at what kind of service we have been

providing, what kind of service is already being provided by the UNB Student Union in Advocacy, what kind of service models might exist at other campuses in Canada and how it might seem from the information we have how we might best provide an appropriate service," said Austin, in an interview with *The Brunswickan*.

To be determined by the Committee is whether the Ombudsperson will act for students in an "arms length" relationship from the Administration and report directly to the University's Board of Governors as was suggested in the external review report, or whether the position will be that of an "advocate" for students involved in the selection, training and assigning of students to act

for students.

"The position might also be a blend of Ombudsperson and Advocate," Austin suggested.

Input will be sought in the university community over the next several months.

Residence and International students, among others, will be contacted.

The committee is expected to complete its work by mid-summer.

"The final report will produce not a decision but will simply provide options for Vice-President Academic Louis Visentin to consider," Austin told *The Brunswickan*.

The report will also contain funding options for the position as well.

When asked about the money question, Austin said no constraint had been imposed on the committee as to whether funding would come from within the Student Services Department or from without. "My personal expectation is that relatively speaking it would be new money to Student Services," Austin said.

One funding proposal might be seeking partnerships between the university administration, the UNB Student Union and the Graduate Students' Association or some combination.

Under questioning, Austin said that option will be considered.

Another option for funding the position might be similar to one considered in the 1980's.

The university administration and the UNB Student Union had originally agreed to a joint fifty-fifty funding arrangement but it fell apart when the Student Union backed out.

"All funding options are open for consideration," Austin said.

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