

# The Students' Union presents its... \$2.6 million final budget

The Students' Union 1976-1977 final budget of \$2.6 million, approved Nov. 29 by Students' Council, is a "conservative budget" according to SU vp finance and administration Eileen Gillese.

"Our budget has potential revenues conservatively stated," said Gillese in an interview, "but that's traditional for SU budgets."

The only major change to the budget since it was approved in preliminary form last April is the allocation of 190,000 to SU reserve funds.

The \$90,000 has gone into capital reserves, fixed asset reserves, and building reserves.

"There were no reserves set up in the preliminary budget," said Gillese, "and we thought it was imperative we had some kind of monetary 'cushion', so we've put money away."

"This is not a paper transaction, as some people have argued," Gillese said. "These figures represent actual cash which is being taken from our revenues and put into long-term investments."

Capital reserves function as operating reserves to cover expenses if revenues have not become available, Gillese explained. Fixed asset reserves cover upkeep on any SU-owned materials, i.e. fixed assets.

And the building reserves are being started again, said Gillese, to ensure that the SU can expand its operations in SUB at some future time.

"Two years ago, the building reserve fund was completely drained because of expenses incurred through SU operation of HUB," said Gillese. "We're starting them again so that if we want to expand SUB either internally or externally, we can."

Gillesse noted that only two-thirds of SUB is currently being used by the Students' Union and

said she believed the SU would buy that space - "internal expansion" - before beginning an external expansion.

The final budget notes that \$83,000 was spent on capital expenditures. Gillese explained this included \$12,000 in material for SUB Theatre, \$28,000 in typesetting equipment for Gateway operations, \$7,000 into SUB's Gallery/Music Listening Area, and \$20,000 into SUB.

The largest single item in the budget is staff costs, nearly \$1 million.

Gillesse noted that as people read the final budget they should not be confused by a difference in set-up between the final budget and last year's preliminary budget.

"We broke down area budgets this year, so that on an individual basis they're not comparable to those in April's preliminary budget."

"But in summary form they are."

For instance, in the preliminary budget there is a listing for "Theatre, Cinema and Concerts" and in the final budgets there are separate listings for each of these areas - "Theatre," "Cinema," and "Concerts." Singly these may appear not to match entries in the preliminary budget but in the summary provided in this year's final budget, they will, explained Gillese.

Another difference in the way the SU budget is compiled is in estimation of administration costs, said Gillese. Salaries of the administrative staff of the SU - General manager, finance manager, accounting clerks - are put into a separate category and are not included in assessment of operation within the SU.

"A normal business might take 50 per cent of the general manager's salary and assess it to SUB

operations, if SUB took 50 per cent of his," said Gillese, "but we don't do that and so it might confuse some people."

Salaried administrative staff within the SU make up \$135,000 in expenses in the SU budget. The total budget for the SU general office is \$180,000.

Students Council is budgeted for \$44,500 in expenses - including travel, communications, supplies, and salaries to the five-person Executive and the Students' Council Speaker.

Gillesse drew attention to the fact that the costs of administration within the SU are \$237,000 but caretaking costs alone total \$230,000.

"People say they get nothing for their \$300 SU fees," said Gillese. "Yet there are a lot of things - listed under the budget services summary - which they get free and they perhaps don't know it."

Services provided by the SU include Freshman Orientation Seminars, a course guide, special events, cabarets, a housing register, faculty association grants, student media - CW Gateway, the blotter, media productions, yearbook and directory - and a grant fund administered by the Students' Council.

The net subsidy to these SU services is \$163,000 out of a total budget of about \$400,000.

Students' Union retail operations, which operated like business even if they don't charge students' market prices, said Gillese, include SU operations, the three SU business on the Hub mall, and any concerts sponsored by the SU.

SU retail operations contribute nearly \$100,000 in revenues to the SU final budget this year.

## Box Office

Budget Name Box Office

Budget # 520


Account Name	Preliminary Budget	Actual 31/3/76	Final Budget
R8 Commissions	( 11000)	( 6045)	( 9000)
Total Revenue	( 11000)	( 6045)	( 9000)
E2 Staff Costs	14200	7544	14200
E3 Maintenance			
E4 Supplies	150	94	75
E5 Office Expense	100	65	
E6 Printing & Advert.	800	651	400
E7 Services	200	117	300
E10 Travel	100		0
E11 Communications	600	369	450
E15 Rentals	400	586	700
E16 Miscellaneous			
Total Expense	16550	9426	16125
Net Income ( ) or Loss	5550	3381	7125
Capital Expenditure	300	5250	300
Contrib or (Subsid)	( 5350)	( 8631)	( 7425)


## Information Desk

Budget Name Information Desk

Budget # 525

Account Name	Preliminary Budget	Actual 31/3/76	Final Budget
R3 Admissions	(130000)	(112765)	(120000)
R8 Commissions		( 386)	
Total Revenue	(130000)	(113151)	(120000)
Expenditures			
E1 Cost of Goods Sold	92300	84925	86000
E2 Staff Costs	30000	29307	30000
E3 Maintenance	100	51	100
E4 Supplies	200	88	200
E5 Office Expense	200	106	200
E6 Printing & Advert.			
E7 Services		131	
E11 Communications	500	180	600
Total Expense	123300	114788	117100
Net Income ( ) or Loss	( 6700)	1637	( 2900)
Capital Expenditure	1000		1000
Contrib or (Subsid)	5700	( 1637)	1900





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