



Saturday, the SUB will be 25 years old.

Canada's Oldest Official Student Publication
University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, N.B.

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BlatantFill

Technology is wonderful—when it works. Our beautiful 11x17" laser printer was on the fritz this week, causing no end of problems. In the old days, full tabloid printing would have been a luxury. Now, we can hardly live without it.

Special thanks to the Student Union for the loaner laser.

A fee expansion for SUB expansion

by Gordon Loane

A referendum next month will ask UNB students to approve a \$25 yearly fee for SUB Expansion.

That is a significant change from the original plan in one important aspect and comes after months of discussions with UNB Administration officials.

The original expansion proposal, released by the UNB Student Union last June, called for a student fee of just five dollars a year until the expansion opens in about two years.

After that, students using the new facility would pay \$25 a year, with increased inflation adjustments. The student fee would continue until a long-term mortgage is paid off, estimated at about 30 years.

But this plan made certain administration officials uncomfortable, raising concerns about the level of student commitment.

"The five dollar student fee would only raise \$30,000 yearly at the beginning of the project and that's not a major commitment for a project this size," said UNB President Robin Armstrong. "We needed a stronger commitment to get approval from the UNB Board of Governors, especially these days," he said.

Original estimates pegged the expansion at nearly \$9.8 million, but that has been scaled back to something approaching \$6 million. All parties to the negotiation admit the \$6 million tab is still flexible.

In the meantime, UNB Student Union President James van Raalte admits Council made a tough decision to increase the fee to \$25 across the board. "Council decided to ask students to approve the fee because we see this as a major priority," he said.

While there is no doubt UNB President Robin Armstrong's concerns are important, van Raalte said Council had other concerns as well.

"We looked at five options in a closed-door session of council last week," he said.

"One option was to drop the expansion plan, while a second was to adopt the original five dollar fee followed by a \$25 fee. Option three was a broader quality of student life referendum of \$25 that would have included SUB Expansion, library, athletic and computer fees," said Van Raalte.

"A fourth option was a \$25 across the board expansion fee and a fifth was asking the UNB Board of Governors to levy a fee without a referendum. Council took option four in the crunch," he said.

It is a decision that has pleased Armstrong. Subject to student approval and more negotiations, he seems committed to the project.

"The university is prepared to provide the land, guarantee the mortgage loan and provide maintenance costs in the new expansion," said Armstrong.

But the university has provided no commitment yet with respect to fundraising or alumni money. The original proposal had asked the university for some three million dollars in this regard. But a reduction in the scope of the project is expected to reduce this request.

Armstrong said certain student services could move to an expanded SUB, but the university has provided no commitments yet. "These are still early days yet," he said.

For his part, van Raalte admits selling the project will be a little harder given the increase in fee being requested, but he doesn't see the

lack of commitment so far from the university as a negative.

"We're selling this project as a concept and asking students for approval in principle. We haven't wanted to be too specific at this point," he said. "The experience at other universities has been positive when they try to sell a concept rather than a set in stone proposal," van Raalte concluded.

Not all students agree with van Raalte. Andrew Van Wart is an Engineering Representative on Council and President of the Engineering Undergraduate Society. While the EUS has not taken a formal position on SUB Expansion, Van Wart

said he will personally oppose it.

"The \$25 fee is too much, especially with a \$100 health plan fee already approved for next year," he said, "UNB Fredericton is experiencing an enrolment drop if this year is any indication. Despite a tuition fee freeze next year we are in an era where yearly increases are perhaps inevitable," Van Wart said.

Van Wart will still support Council's decision to hold a referendum.

"We'll just have to wait for the students decision," he said. "One thing is positive, and that's a decision to go with one large proposal with one set fee. That's the right way to go," he concluded.



The Winning team: Paul Estabrooks, Professor Ross Darling, Jason Savage, Jeff McConaghy, and Luc Pinet. Photo by Marc Landry

UNB wins marketing competition

by Kayleigh Freeman

UNB has won the Manitoba International Marketing Competition for the first time since it began entering a team seven years ago.

A team of four undergraduate students from the Faculty of Business Administration travelled to Winnipeg last weekend to compete in the finals.

Paul Estabrooks, Jeff McConaghy, Luc Pinet, and Jason Savage entered the computer simulation business competition in early October, under the guidance of Professor Ross Darling.

The team submitted proposals each week representing the yearly budget and marketing decisions a company in the electronics industry would make in a year. At the end of a 10 week period, a winner was declared in each of four industries. UNB's team swept its imaginary market, claiming 78% of its market share.

Each of the 16 teams competing in the simulation then attended the finals in Winnipeg to make a presentation to a Board of Directors, and an overall winner was determined from the results of the performance

of the companies, and on the presentations.

UNB defeated teams from across Canada, the U.S. and Germany to take first place.

As Darling explained, UNB's team did exceptionally well in all of the segments of the competition.

"These guys were the only team out of the industries to win both the performance and the presentation segment. They were the unanimous choice of the seven judges for first place, when the judges voted they voted for second place," he said.

"It's actually the same computer simulation I run in my classes here at UNB. The students sometimes complain about the workload, but I say 'Look what you can get if you work, you can be the best damn marketing students in North America.' And that's what I consider them to be."

Teams from UNB have finished second three times in the seven years that the university has entered, and Darling said the competition just gets tougher and tougher each year.

"In the last seven years we've come second three times with what

but these guys had the sense of teamwork and skills, and they're all smart guys. But it's not just that they're smart, it's that they're good," he beamed. "There's a difference between being smart and being good."

The time and hard work the four-some dedicated to winning the competition has given their faculty something to be proud of, said Darling, who credits the Centre for International Marketing, the Faculty of Business Administration, the Business Society, the president, and the Alumni Association for helping to make UNB's participation possible.

With costs rising as high as \$4,000 each year, the professor is hoping to be able to find the corporate sponsorship needed to keep UNB competitive.

"It's bragging rights that in our scale of school we've got the very best marketing and business students going, no question. These are only third year students, they're not seniors, we could go back next year and really kick their butts."

The students also benefit directly

—See 'UNB WINS, page 7