

NEWS

News Editors: Cynthia Kirkby and Joe FitzPatrick Deadline: Wednesday Noon

Student Union fees down \$2

by Joe FitzPatrick
Co-News Editor

If 7100 students register as undergraduates next year, they can thank Acting Vice President (Finance and Administration) Duncan Fulton for reducing their Student Union fee from \$102 to \$100.

This, according to the first reading of the 1996-97 Student Union Budget, will be the SU levee. If, however, enrollment stays the same (6950), the Student Union will be out some \$15,000 next year. It was an over estimate of enrollment which caused the Union to fall over \$10,000 short in 1995-96.

Despite what was previously reported in *The Brunswickan*, the student fee will not be \$106. Between last Tuesday's aborted attempt to give the 1996-97 Budget First Reading, and this Tuesday past, \$6 per student was cut from the Budget. This amounts to a reduction in spending of over \$42,500. This, according to Finance Committee member Derek Ferlatte, was due to the efforts of the Finance Committee.

The Budget does not include, as promised by Fulton, all the revenues generated from sponsorships and agreements with corporations.

Several omissions and errors are present in the Budget. Several large differences include: Salaries for 1995-96 do not include summer salaries, but for 1996-97 it does; the 1995-96 budget

for *The Beaverbook* is blank, yet \$3,195 was allocated. Fulton's document also claims that \$724,200 was projected revenue for 1995-96. In fact, only \$693,447 was projected in the 1995-96 Budget.

The only debate during the Council meeting surrounded summer Executive salaries. Trish Davidson, Vice President (Student Services), complained that the salaries had been cut by 50 cents an hour to \$6.75.

Ferlatte responded that according to his information, the hourly wage was the same.

Davidson disputed this, and Ferlatte recommended taking it up with Fulton, who did not attend the Council meeting. It was later discovered that he had class at this time and would not be able to attend. SU President Kelly Lamrock claimed at the Council meeting, and later told *The Brunswickan*, that he did not know where Fulton was. Fulton claims that Lamrock was well aware of his class until 5:00.

Highlights of the Budget include a 10% increase in Club and Society spending, 7% increase in SU Operating Expenses, \$5,000 in Student Union Capital Equipment, a \$3,000 reduction in Conferences, and a \$2,000 reduction in External Affairs.

Big changes include the downsizing of the *Consumer's Guide*. A savings of over \$31,000 will be

Line Item	1995-96	1996-97
SU Operating Costs	\$141,073	\$201,561
Council Activities	\$152,609	\$159,286
Campus Activities	\$177,590	\$180,630
Student Services	\$38,534	\$40,280
Student Media	\$114,855	\$102,893
Student Publications	\$20,975	\$19,940
Cultural Groups	\$13,690	\$16,590
Faculty Clubs	\$52,576	\$63,722
Special Interest Groups	\$11,522	\$18,000

realized. This will be accomplished by reducing the budget for the publication, which will no longer be printed, to \$3,500. In addition, there is no honouraria set aside for the Editor during the year, and no money for a summer position to compile the results.

Large increases include the student handbook - *The Beaverbook*. While only \$3,195 was allocated in 1995-96, \$12,440 will be put towards it for 1996-97. This is mostly due to a reduction in anticipated ad revenues.

Other large shifts include *The Brunswickan*, which was reduced by over \$11,000, nearly 27%. This unprecedented reduction followed a 10% cut imposed by the Council in December 1995.

Fulton makes no secret of the fact that the reduction is the result of a \$14,000 amount transferred to *The Brunswickan* from the Student Union. Fulton disagrees with that decision, which was made by this year's Executive in May 1995.

The agreement, signed by Lamrock, allowed *The Brunswickan* to use its 1994-95 surplus, some \$14,000, towards capital equipment and three summer positions. Ferlatte has accused *The Brunswickan* of attempting to defraud the Student Union of this \$14,000 by not accounting for this money properly.

However, *The Brunswickan* has learned that no request has ever been made by the Student Union for receipts or bank records relating to

the amount in question. Moreover, Ferlatte admitted that the decision of the Committee was based on incomplete information. In fact, should *The Brunswickan* have not accounted for the money, the audit of *The Brunswickan* would have shown a deficit.

The reaction of Fulton and the Finance Committee is similar to the reaction regarding the agreement between *The Brunswickan* and the Student Union regarding insurance. Despite a decision of Council to agree to the terms of a 50-50 split of insurance at the December 5 meeting of Council, it was not adjusted until March 28, after repeated requests by *The Brunswickan* of Student Union accounting staff.

Clubs and Societies funding jumps 10%

By Gordon Loane
Brunswickan News

Cultural, Faculty and Special Interest groups are among the big winners following the release of the Student Union's preliminary budget this week.

Cultural groups have received a general 21% increase in their budgets to some \$16,590.00.

The African Students' Union Budget increases from \$3,200 to \$4,020 for 1996-97. The Malaysian Students' will see an increase of \$1,165 in their budget to \$3,725. Overseas' Chinese Students will receive \$5,345 next year. The Singapore Student Association and the India Association received slight budget cuts.

The Board of International Students, Caribbean Circle and Indonesian Students Association, which were funded by the Student Union this year, have received no budget money for 1996-97. It is unclear whether these groups did not submit a budget, or if they were refused funding by the Student Union.

Among faculty clubs big winners include the Engineering Undergraduate Society which sees its budget increase from \$7,715 to just over \$8,200 next year, the Computer Science Association which goes from \$3,110 to \$4,495 next year, the Civil Engineers which increases from \$2,099 to \$3,769, Mechanical Engineers from \$2,045 to \$3,225 in 1996-97, Society of Automotive Engineers which gets \$2,355 from \$800 this year, the Nursing Society which goes from \$1,200 to \$2,950 next year, and the Bailey Geological Society which was granted an increase from \$150 to

\$780 next year.

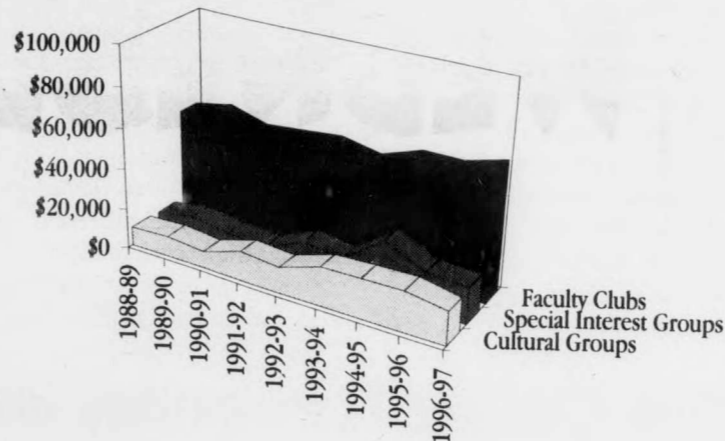
The Health Sciences Society and the Classics Society also received increases, while the Education Society saw its budget cut to \$1,140 next year from \$1,879 this year.

Several clubs and societies funded this year have received no funding in the SU preliminary budget. These include the Arts Undergraduate Society, Albert Ross Society, Anthropology Society, German Club, French Club, Russian Club, Spanish Club, and Hemlock Society. The Physics Society and the Math and Statistics Society also have not received budget money.

Special interest groups received

about a \$6,500 overall budget increase. New groups receiving funding include the Art Club, the Environmental Society, Students for Literacy, and the Muriel McQueen Ferguson Foundation. The Law Journal receives a budget increase from \$850 to \$2,000 in 1996-97, while Toastmasters, the Debating Union, the Gaming Club and the Wildlife Society have seen their budgets hiked as well. AIESEC received a budget cut.

Groups receiving no budget to date include the Status of Women, Social Action Committee, the Music Society, Rock and Ice Climbing, the UNB Rugby Club, and the UNICEF chapter on campus.



Changes: Salaries, honouraria

by Gordon Loane
Brunswickan News

The UNB Student Union plans to spend \$201,000 next year operating its general office, a 7.3% increase over this year. Figures supplied in the preliminary budget appear to make the increase 43%, but summer Executive salaries and wage subsidies are not included in the 95-96 office budget total, but are included in the office budget total for next year, an obvious error.

The biggest increase in the office budget is for full-time staff salary increases of up to two per cent that became effective January 1, just three weeks after general budget cuts of about 10% instituted in December.

The SU also plans to pay a secretary on

a full-time basis. This secretary held a part-time status for a portion of this year.

Discussions aimed at creating a full-time salary for the SU President of between \$15,000 to \$18,000 a year have disappeared with the winter breezes. The salary will remain the same as this year.

Similarly, Vice Presidents will be paid the same amount next year as in 1995-96 for both the summer and the academic year.

The SU plans to cut salaries for its poster run by some \$2,000, while slightly increasing the salary of its summer publications manager to \$3,915.

Preliminary plans call for the creation of one salaried summer position. Three others will receive wage subsidies if the SU is successful in receiving a similar number of federal Challenge Grants.

The SU plans some changes in its honouraria or pay schedule for 1996-97. SU councilors would receive up to \$250 a year. The total tab for 27 Councilors will add up to \$6,750.

Meanwhile, the SU Council Chair will take a pay cut from \$500 to \$250 a year, while the recording secretary's pay will be slashed from \$850 this year to \$250 in 1996-97.

The Orientation Executive will see only two positions get honouraria. The Orientation Chair will get \$500 a year while the Vice Chair will receive \$250, double the \$125 of this year. The entire Orientation Executive received \$1500 for all executive positions in 1995-96.

The Red n' Black Coordinator will receive \$500, down from \$1000 this year. The Festival of Cultural Diversity

Coordinator will receive \$350, down from \$500. CHSR FM coordinators appear set to take a cut from \$650 to \$500 next year.

The Movie Series Coordinator will receive an honouraria hike from \$250 this year to \$450 next year.

New honourarias will be provided for the Deputy Returning Officers, the Employment Opportunities Coordinator, the Student Advocate Coordinator, and up to five Student Advocates.

Honouraria during the academic year will stay the same for the SU President, the four Vice Presidents, the Chief Returning Officer, the Campus Activities Coordinator, Grad Class Coordinator, Alcohol Education Coordinator, the Yearbook Editor and Coeditors and *The Brunswickan* Editors.