

Residence fees to rise 6 - 10 %

On Tuesday UNB's Board of Governors voted to raise residence fees by six to ten per cent. The exact amount will vary from residence to residence with on-campus rooms for single students taking the biggest jump (nine to 10 per cent). Off-campus rooms will cost six per cent more while apartments in Magee House will be up by about 7.5 per cent.

No decision has been made with regard to a tuition increase. Vice-president of finance and administration James O'Suilivan said the increases were made to compensate for increased operating costs. He said the board took into account what students would be able to pay and arrived at a figure which O'Suilivan said was "just and fair." He said not raising the fees would have resulted in a large increase in the residence operating deficit.

When asked if the increase might turn students away from residences, O'Sullivan replied that the board hopes the rates are competitive and that students will be able to pay them.

"If the service and the operations aren't what the student wants at the fee he is able and willing to pay we will lose occupants and that will be self-defeating."

SRC president Perry Thorbourne, in a brief presented to the board of governors prior to the vote for the increase, said "there are no longer any real significant advantages, as seen by students, for living on campus." He blamed poor administration for the increase and said students will continue to argue against fee increases despite his impression that it is a "losing battle." <image>