

NEWS

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

Student Union fee back at \$102

by Joe FitzPatrick
Co-News Editor

The second reading of the 1996-97 Student Union budget calls for Student Union fees to be \$102 unchanged from this year.

However, projections for increased enrollment, by over 150 students, will result in an overall increase in Student Union expenditures. The budget for 1996-97 tops \$724,000, an increase of over \$15,000.

The fee, according to first reading, would have stood at \$100.

The increase was due to the addition of several items of expenditure, including the restoration of over \$12,000 to *The Brunswickan* budget.

Acting Vice President (Finance and Administration), Duncan Fulton, explained that the reduction in *The Brunswickan's* 1996-97 Student Union allocation was "a bureaucratic step." The alternative would have been to have the Student Union invoice *The Brunswickan*, as per normal bookkeeping practices.

Increases included: \$200 for the Forestry Engineering Society; \$1,200 for two more CASA conferences and \$1,500 for the General Administrator's conference. Elections, which continually goes over-budget, was increased by \$1,000 for a total of \$8,500. Honouraria was increased by \$4,950. Honouraria was allotted for the Coordinator of the Student Resource

Centre, Orientation Honouraria was increased by \$250; \$375 was set aside for students sitting on the UNB Foundation for Students; a further \$375 was allotted for the Chair of the Student Disciplinary Committee. \$3,000 was set aside as "Other."

The Recording Secretary's salary was put back to its 1995-96 level, \$850. \$1,500 went to restore funding for AIDS Awareness.

Two clubs which submitted their budgets late received their full amount: \$2,851 for the Rugby club and \$770 for the Physics Society. In a bid for austerity, Student Union Executives have also sacrificed a total of \$6,400 in summer salaries, over the objections of Trish Davidson, Vice-President (Student Services).

While the hourly wage was restored to last year's \$7 per hour for Vice Presidents, and \$7.50 for the President, the number of weeks was reduced from 18 to 15. In addition, only 36.25 hours will be paid out, rather than the 40 hours that they were paid out last summer.

The third and final reading of the Budget occurred on Thursday, April 11. On Thursday morning, copies of the 1996-97 Budget were not available, a violation of the Union's Financial Policy which requires copies of the budget to be available 24-hours before final consideration and adoption.



Neill ARPs' grievance: resolved for now

by Gordon Loane
Brunswickan News

A grievance filed by two Academic Resource Persons (ARPs) in Neill House against Dean of Residences John Craighead has apparently been resolved.

Neill ARP's Jeff Smith and Craig Maskill launched the complaint after being called into Craighead's office for a meeting in early February. The meeting took place the week after comments attributed to the pair appeared in the February 2nd issue of *The Brunswickan*.

Smith and Maskill had spoken out on behalf of Neill House residents who were frustrated with the lack of an official written response to complaints launched in November about House Don Jeff Wedge.

Although Smith and Maskill are saying little about the meeting or the grievance, former Neill House President Brad Coughlin isn't so reluctant to talk.

"The two had different meeting times set up with Craighead, but decided to go together," said Coughlin.

"Craighead grilled them for being mentioned in *The Brunswickan* article because they are ARP's and are supposed to be responsible to the students, in keeping the students happy so to speak... like keeping the stress down in the House and stuff like that," Coughlin said.

"The word around the House is that essentially the ARP's (Smith and Maskill) were told to keep quiet. They certainly don't say anything at House meetings anymore."

Coughlin said the two asked Craighead "what do you do if you have a problem with your employer?"

According to Coughlin, Craighead replied "you quit."

"That's the big one as far as the grievance complaint goes, as far as I know," said Coughlin.

For his part, Craighead confirms the meeting with Smith and Maskill took place.

"The message that was in my original meeting with them was that they, as ARP's, had a responsibility to promote an



Neill House, the infamous domain.

Photo: Warren Watson

environment in Neill House which was conducive to both individual and group academic success."

"Because of that responsibility, it was inappropriate for them to do things that would, in fact, heighten tensions as opposed to lessening them," Craighead said.

"One example that I used, among several others, was that it was certainly not in the best interests of trying to reduce tensions in the House for them to be quoted in *The Brunswickan* with comments that concerns were not being legitimately addressed," he said.

Craighead told the pair that they had a position with the university which was to help with the academic side of the House and that the encouragement or the prolongation of this situation was not in the best interest of the House academically.

ARP's are paid \$2,855 a year, which is the equivalent of the cost of a single room plus the difference between the standard 14 meal per week plan and the 19 meal play which ARP's get.

Subsequent to the grievance being

filed with both the University Secretary and the Dean of Students, a series of meetings took place in an attempt to resolve the matter.

Dean of Students Tom Austin told *The Brunswickan* he had productive meetings with both Smith, Maskill and Dean Craighead. "I think the issue is settled unless there is a further issue arising from it," he said.

Craighead shares Austin's interpretation. "The conclusion that seemed to come out of that meeting was that the situation at Neill House has been a very tense one and perhaps that affected the ARP's perception of the message and my delivery of the message," Craighead said.

"Perhaps I didn't explain my position as clearly as I might have, but on the other hand they were, given the tenseness of the situation, prone to hear the most pessimistic version of what I had to say," Craighead concluded.

The Brunswickan contacted Neill House ARP Jeff Smith about the grievance. "All I will say is that the grievance has been settled for now."

SU Banquet turnout low

by Joe FitzPatrick
Brunswickan News

Seventy-five seats out of 175 were vacant at the \$27.50 per plate Student Union Awards banquet held on the evening of April 3 in the Student Union Building Ballroom.

According to Jeff Clark, the Chair of the Awards Committee, who is responsible for planning the event, there cannot be a determination of the reason for the low turnout because both the list of invitees and the list of RSVPs have been discarded.

The cost of the 75 seats will amount to over \$2,000. The budget for the event was \$8,950.

The \$27.50 per plate dinner, among the most expensive available from Beaver Foods, included fish chowder, green salad with scallops and chocolate cheesecake for desert. Cornish Game hens were supposed to be the main course, but Beaver Foods substituted chicken halves, according to Vice President (Student Services) Trish Davidson.

Despite the vacant seats, a student employed by the Union, who appeared without an invitation, was asked to leave by

Davidson. Upon refusing, the person was physically escorted from the room by Jeff Clark, at Davidson's request. Several people reported to *The Brunswickan* that, the next day, April 4, this person received a phone call from Davidson.

"[Davidson] called [the employee] at work and told [the employee] that they had ruined the evening," a source close to the Student Union, who wished to remain anonymous, told *The Brunswickan*.

Davidson could not be reached for comment.

Cleaning contract awarded

by Gordon Loane
Brunswickan News

Janitorial Services in several buildings including the Student Union Building, on the UNB Fredericton campus will be in the hands of Atlantic Building Cleaners for the next three years.

The Halifax-based company's bid (totalling \$2,642,740 over the three years) has been accepted.

The bid from Atlantic Building Cleaners was judged by an evaluation committee to be the best overall proposal, according to Michael Ryan, UNB's Associate Vice-President Campus Planning.

Formal approval of the contract is expected when the university's Board of Governors meets next week.

Atlantic Building Cleaners was among eight companies which submitted bids by the March 8 tender deadline.

Other bidders included Service Master, Ogden, Norway Products, GM Enterprises, Beaver Foods, Morrison Crothall and Modern Building Cleaning which currently holds the contract.

"Atlantic submitted the second lowest bid in terms of cost, but when each bidder was evaluated against four main components - price, overall staffing, cleaning ability and equipment to be used - they came out on top," said Ryan, in an interview with *The Brunswickan* late last week.

"Atlantic have about forty percent of

the market share in what is known as the Central Business District of Halifax," Ryan said. "They provided cleaning services at Scotia Square, Halifax Developments and CFB Shearwater."

In Fredericton, Atlantic Building Cleaners has contracts at King's Place, the Regent Mall and Centre Communautaire Sainte-Anne, according to Ryan. Current employees of Modern Building Cleaning on Campus are nervous about their jobs and whether the hourly rate of pay will

drop with a new cleaning contractor.

Current employees (of Modern Building Cleaning) have been invited to apply for jobs with Atlantic Building Cleaners, sources told *The Brunswickan* this week.

Atlantic Building Cleaners has also taken out advertisements in Fredericton's daily paper seeking cleaning staff with at least three years experience for both day and midnight shifts on campus.

Walker, Islam recognized

For the first time, two students were awarded the Dr. James Downey Leadership Award by Dean of Students, Tom Austin at this year's Student Awards Banquet, on April 3.

Tareq Islam, a fifth-year student in Civil Engineering, has worked extensively with the Union's newest service: the Student Resource Centre. He has accomplished this through coordination with the Dean of Students Office regarding Peer Mentors and similar efforts. Islam was also responsible for the development and direction of the first Festival of Cultural Diversity.

Chantale Walker has served as Vice President (University Affairs) and as student representative on the Academic Senate. She has also been extensively involved in Team SMART-PACC and Campus Safety. She was recently elected Valedictorian for Ceremony "B."

BOG to set fees

Residence fees for the 1996-97 academic year will be set when UNB's Board of Governors meets next Thursday. Housing and Food Services Director Roy Brostowski told *The Brunswickan* this week that he is unable to discuss what recommendation is being forwarded to the Board.

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