

NEWS

News Editor: Position vacant, Deadline: Noon Wednesday

16 positions affected by cutbacks, yet...

UNB records surplus

by Gordon Loane
Brunswickan News

UNB recorded an operating surplus of \$1,140,788 for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1994. The Fredericton campus had a surplus of \$826,000 while the Saint John campus ended the fiscal year with a \$315,000 surplus. It is UNB's sixth operating surplus in a row dating back to 1988-89.

"The operating surplus on the Fredericton campus was achieved despite a shortfall of more than \$700,000 from the budget target for regular session tuition fees," said James O'Sullivan, UNB Vice-President Finance and Administration, in a report tabled at the UNB Senate meeting last week.

The shortfall happened because of an overall drop of some 200 full-time undergraduate students attending classes on the Fredericton campus last year.

The loss of revenue was accompanied by less than expected expenses for salaries, heating fuel, and the post-office. Revenues were better than expected from programs administered by the Department of Extension and Summer Session.

The university earned \$92,000 more than expected from short-term investments.

Overall, for both the Fredericton and Saint John campuses, student fees from tuition and residences increased 1.3 per cent over 1992-93 while government grants increased 1.7 per cent over the previous year.

On the expenditure side, salaries and benefits rose year over year by 4.2 percent while departmental budgets actually decreased by 4.6 percent, reflecting a drop in the volume of equipment purchases. The Fredericton campus' expenditures include the first full year of operation for the Wu Conference Centre.

On a cumulative basis, the university now has an accumulated deficit of just over \$789,000 after allowing for year-end adjustments of just over \$2.7-million as of April 30, 1994.

Meanwhile the university is projecting a deficit of \$352,000 this year. As a result, the university has decided to eliminate 14 full-time and two part-time positions on the Fredericton campus, *The Brunswickan* has learned.

Three professors, two secretaries and four technical support staff are among the cuts. Five other jobs have been eliminated in various departments around the university.

In addition, faculty members agreed to defer a three per cent salary increase for six months to January 1, 1995 and a possible further increase due to changes in the Consumer Price Index for three months to next April 1.

The university has also introduced an early retirement package for faculty members. The budgetary effect is yet uncertain, but 100 professors are eligible for the program this year and next.

-See SURPLUS, page 4.

Surplus irks law student

by Gordon Loane
Brunswickan News

News that UNB had a \$1.1-million operating surplus last year while increasing tuition fees for law students this year is not sitting well with at least one Student Union representative.

Second-year law student Paul McLean was an outspoken critic of the university's decision to increase tuition fees for law students by 5.2 per cent to \$2600 from \$2470 last year.

"There are about 240 students in the law faculty, and if you do the math, the university will realize just over \$30,000 in extra tuition revenue from us," said McLean.

"I fail to see the necessity of gouging law students for a paltry \$30,000 given the operating surplus recorded for 1993-94," said McLean.

"While I recognize the university has difficult choices to make, I hope university officials can understand the detrimental effect any increase in tuition can have on certain law students," he said.

Meanwhile, UNB Student Union

Vice-President Pat FitzPatrick, who also serves as one of two undergraduate student representatives on the university's Board of Governors, has two concerns about the future.

"I question the need to increase tuition fees each year when the university seems to be recording budget surpluses," he said.

"Assuming the trend continues, I cannot see the need to increase tuition fees next year either," he continued.

A second concern for FitzPatrick arises out of the rapidly depleting fund to improve student residences. While the fund contained \$1.6-million as of April 30, 1994, that money is expected to be spent over the next several years for safety and other improvements.

"What happens after this?" FitzPatrick asked. "Does the university intend to replenish this fund? Or are the recent rumours that residences will be gradually converted to academic buildings because of a lack of funds true? It casts a shadow over the future of the residences as we know it today," FitzPatrick concluded.

Have organization, will travel

AIESEC's looking for a home



AIESEC's office (until the end of December) will be in the basement of the Neville Homestead. The group is still looking for a space for January. Photo by Mike Dean

by Jonathan Stone
Brunswickan News

AIESEC-UNB is looking for a place to hang its hat.

The organization which is dedicated to developing students through exchange programs with businesses around the world is now located in the basement of the Neville Homestead. Come December, they'll have to move out.

"We don't seem to be a priority right now," said Patrick Langlais, AIESEC's president, when asked about his group's situation.

But AIESEC is not the only club looking for a place to call home.

"Every year we receive a substantial number of requests for space," said Ann Bonnell, administrative officer for the associate vice-president of campus services and planning.

"There's tight space on a campus-wide scale. We try to fit people in every nook and cranny," she added.

Bonnell said priority is given to academic and teaching needs - classrooms and office space for professors. After that, she said, the space goes to the groups deemed most needy.

"Unfortunately, academic requirements are tight. There's little space on a growing campus," she said.

Last year AIESEC-UNB sent three students away on exchanges. According to Langlais, that was the lowest number in the last eight years.

He explained that office space is crucial to the existence of his organization. Without it, he said,

companies willing to provide jobs for the exchange would not take the group seriously.

"It's really hard to show them you're a confident organization when you're carrying your files around in a paper bag all the time," he said. "It's going to be hard to raise the jobs," he added.

Langlais said without the current temporary location there probably would not have been a Career Day. He said the Atlantic provinces regional conference which UNB is hosting this October would likely have been a no-go as well.

In addition, Langlais said an office is essential to recruit and educate new members.

"The office is the communications centre for members. New members learn best by observing marketing calls," he said.

Meanwhile, Bonnell said she will keep her eyes open to satisfy space requests.

"I've never given up on anyone," she said.

AIESEC's problems began last year after the Student Union announced that it was taking over the office space allocated to AIESEC in the SUB. At the time, that office was shared with the Board of International Students.

Over the summer, AIESEC occupied a classroom in the science library.

There are about 800 AIESEC locals at universities around the world, making it the largest student-managed apolitical organization. In fact, Langlais said, AIESEC is the only student group officially recognized by the United Nations.

Student assaulted while entering Bridges House

Brunswickan News

Fredericton City Police are seeking assistance to identify the person responsible for subsequent assaults on a female student which occurred on campus earlier this week.

Both assaults took place outside the main entrance of Bridges House. It is not known whether or not the suspect is a student.

Director of UNB Security Rick Peacock said the first incident took place at approximately 12:30 a.m. last Sunday

morning. The victim was grabbed as she was about to enter the residence.

Peacock said the second incident happened at 12:15 p.m. Monday in the same location.

He said UNB security notified city police shortly after both attacks.

Dean of Residence James Skidmore and Bridges House Don Mary Williams are providing assistance to the victim.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Corporal Danny Copp, Fredericton City Police, at 452-9701.