

Atlantic tuitions to rise 15-25%

HALIFAX (CUP) — According to an unreleased report on educational funding in the Atlantic region, universities will be forced to increase tuition fees 15-25 per cent next September if they do not receive the 12.5 per cent increase in provincial funding that they have requested.

The report warns that the government is likely to grant only a 7 per cent increase in funding. The report, a product of the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC), was issued to the provincial governments last December, but the governments have refused to make the report public.

In the report, the MPHEC recommends that universities get the funding they have requested since the Maritime provinces per-student operating grants are

the lowest in the country.

MPHEC also recommends that tuition fees in the region be frozen at present levels for three years.

Parts of the report have been made available through efforts of the Atlantic Federation of Students although they have yet to be given a copy of the report.

Student reaction to the news of the predicted tuition hike has been swift. Students at a March 9 meeting at Mount Saint Vincent University opposed the proposed increase and called for action on the part of all Nova Scotian students. They decided to act on an information campaign directed at students and their parents as well as organize a demonstration in Halifax against the hike.

As well, the AFS in Nova has called for a meeting of student leaders on March 19 to discuss action against the tuition hikes.



Dal faculty attacks MPHEC

HALIFAX (CUP) — Dalhousie University faculty are agitated by and concerned with the recent decision of the Council of Maritime Premiers to limit university operating grant increases to seven per cent, Dalhousie Faculty Association president Dr. Roland Puccetti says.

"Students have a stake in this faculty-oriented decision," he said, because the quality of education at Maritime universities "will ultimately suffer" because of the limitation.

"The very best teaching comes

from the best research," Puccetti said, adding that research financing will become "impossible" as increased operating costs and salaries will use up most of the seven per cent increase.

Puccetti also feels that university professors will begin leaving Maritime universities as better opportunities open up in the United States and central Canada. The young mobile staff of the universities of the Maritimes are willing to move where the financial opportunities are greater, he said. They have no

objections to forfeiting their tenure, he continued, as they can get it elsewhere.

When asked how the faculty intended to go about alleviating the problem, Puccetti replied that they certainly intend to approach the government, but no necessarily alone. "Politically, we (faculty) have no public base, so we have to go to the public and hit the government in its weak point — its votes."

Both students and faculty will suffer as a result of financial limitations, he added, and he urged students and faculty alike to actively oppose the recent operating grant decision, as well as others of the same nature.

MP urges decentralization

By EDWARD BOWES

The Honourable Robert Howie, Member of Parliament for the federal riding of York-Sunbury, visited the UNB campus last week to support a movement to locate the Survey and Mapping Branch of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources on the UNB campus.

"The Department of Survey Engineering at UNB is the best in Canada," said Mr. Howie, "so it is logical that the Mapping Branch be moved here." The Land Registry and Information System already uses the UNB computer and certain confidential aspects of the operation are connected with nearby Canadian Forces Base Gagetown. The office involve a twenty-five million dollar annual and the move has "wide-spread non-political support," he said.

University President John Anderson, Chairperson of the Department of Survey Engineering, Angus Hamilton, and Fredericton Mayor Elbridge Wilkins will present a brief in support of the move to Resources Minister Gillespie in April.

Mr. Howie addressed two classes for Professors Passaris and

Pobihushchy. His topic was citizen involvement in the law-making process. He is concerned that the government loses contact with the people and as a result priorities in legislation are set by professional consultants. "The solution," he said, "lies in decentralization of government and access to government by the citizenry."

Mr. Howie, a graduate of the UNB Law School, recalled fondly his days as a staffer on the BRUNSWICKAN.

The Applications Committee would like to report to the people of UNB that we have happily delivered up to seven positions to the SRC. Now this is good, considering the many applicants, but there were a couple of positions left over. This sounds as though the fun-time jobs are insignificant, but this column will surprise you in that the Winter Carnival Chairperson and one-term SUB Board positions are still available. Applications can be mailed to the Applications Committee, SRC office, rm. 126, in care of Kevin Garland.

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