

SPECIAL ISSUE



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University faces \$500,000. deficit,
residence fees jump, but...

NO TUITION HIKE!

By DERWIN GOWAN
Managing Editor

The University of New Brunswick Board of Governors voted in an unprecedented move not to increase tuition fees for the 1977-1978 academic year, although residence fees will jump.

After a meeting last Thursday (April 7) the board decided tuition fees would remain at \$740 for undergraduates. Rates for graduate students will remain at a one time charge of \$660 for masters degree and diploma program students and \$990 for doctoral students in addition to a registration fee for all graduate students of \$165 a year.

Room and board for residence students will be increased \$100 for double rooms and \$150 for singles. This will put the price of a double room up to \$1,650, a single \$1,750. Magee House apartments will jump 7 per cent on July 1.

UNB president John M. Anderson said in a press release the Magee rent increase would permit the university to continue operating the apartments near the break-even level. The release said it was necessary to raise other residence fees because the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission does not fund residence deficits, which totaled \$335,000 at UNB this year.

These decisions were made after the announcements of a 6.9 per cent increase in the provincial operating grant to the university. This amounts to a 5.5 per cent increase in the overall operating budget.

Maritime universities had asked for a 12.5 per cent increase over last year's grant of which UNB got \$25,102,000. This would give the university an extra \$3,000,000 but the final figure was only slightly over half this amount.

The university had to cut \$387,000 off the current budget because they over-estimated enrolment by 482 students. As of December 1, 1976 net enrolment was 25 less than the year before. Anderson predicted earlier (Brunswickan, Jan. 14) that the 1977-78 enrolment would be even less.

The university is calculating next year's tuition fees on the basis that enrolment will be at least equal to the current figure of 5,882. This would give the university \$4,300,000 in tuition revenue.

Anderson said this meant \$500,000 would have to be cut in next year's operating budget. The cuts this year were made from non-space capital expenditures.

This includes library books, maintenance, lab equipment, etc. There were also cuts in part-time staff and the contingency budget.

A meeting of residence students in Tilley Hall last Wednesday (April 6) was told \$75,000 had to be cut from the cost of the residence system if fee increases were to be kept to the \$100 and \$150 level.

Consensus of representatives of the residence system was that they should have been contacted before it was decided where the cutbacks would be made.

A presentation to the board by Residence Representative Council chairperson David Bartlett, student senator Steve Berube, McLeod House president Beverly Doherty, and Victoria House president Blair Sellors, said in part, "The majority realized that these cutbacks may be necessary, but those suggested to the Board of Governors are perhaps more detrimental than those which could be suggested by the residence system, with some research."

The administration proposed eight possible areas for cutbacks: close Lady Beaverbrook dining hall, eliminate daytime security service, charge rent to dons for a minimum rent of \$1,918 per year, reduce remuneration to proctors in the men's residences to 50 per cent discount on price of single room plus meals, reduce telephone services in residences from 50 to 24 sets, and reduction of projected expenditure for supplies, repairs, and equipment.

Total savings would be \$123,892 or \$85.45 per residence student.

The board's decision on final cutbacks will be made at the next

meeting scheduled for May 18.

Student representative to the board, Brian Forbes, described the board as "very receptive. I think you're going to get it," he said before they entered the closed meeting.

They objected to charging rent for dons, proctors, and residence fellows, saying, "It would change it to a glorified boarding house."

They were also opposed to closing Victoria House and the Lady Beaverbrook dining hall.

They suggested decreasing the maid service to the men's residences, eliminating partially or totally the paid receptionists in the women's residence system, and a partial closure of the Lady Beaverbrook dining hall. They also suggested that students do some of the painting and small repairs in the residences.

They pointed out that there were four rooms over the Lady Beaverbrook dining hall which could be opened for students.

There are presently about 40 vacancies in the men's residence system.

The committee complained that they were only given 24 hours to prepare their brief.

This year residence revenue totaled \$2,345,830, but costs were in the vicinity of \$2,700,000. Dons cost \$28,743 last year-\$12,454 in the women's residences and \$16,289 in the men's. Proctors cost \$28,500 in the men's residences and \$19,800 in the women's for a total of \$48,350. Part time and full time receptionists in the women's residences cost \$61,300. The university pays \$18,137 for the dean of men and \$11,321 for the dean of women. It cost \$13,472 to have residence



Photo by Jean-Louis Tremblay

CHARGE! Looks of relief show on the faces of UNB vice-president [finance and administration] Jim O'Sullivan, comptroller Sam Mullin, president John Anderson, and student board of governors rep Brian Forbes, as they file out after a six hour meeting where they decided to hold the line on tuition hikes.

buildings inspected. Salaries for two secretaries were \$15,970. A student assistant to the dean of men cost \$200 and summer school proctors cost \$300. Incidental meals, entertainment, accommodations, and telephone calls amounted to \$4,711.

Other areas over which the university has no direct control includes the cleaning contract with Modern Building Cleaners, the Saga Foods contract, heating, light, water, and maintenance. The food contract is presently under negotiation.

The specific cutbacks in the residence system and university operating budget will not be decided on until the May 18 board meeting.

Anderson did not know where the cutbacks would come from and had no answer to the question of how the university could continue to operate with continuing cutbacks in library expenditures, equipment purchases, and maintenance.

However, he said other social

services such as hospitals were facing similar situations. He said that the MPHEC would not allow the university to deficit budget.

Student representative on the Board of governors Chris Nagle said, "I'm certainly glad they decided to hold the line on tuition this year". Any cost cuts in the residence system would be done in consultation with residence students, he said. He said it was "highly likely" that Victoria House would be closed, along with the Lady Beaverbrook dining hall.

He said the main reason for the cutbacks was low government funding to the university. "We lose out," he said.

Anderson said in the press release that while UNB and Mount Allison University have the highest tuition fees in the country, other universities were closing the gap. Ontario universities, the release said, were expected to increase tuition fees by \$100, bringing them within \$50 of the Maritime universities.

The right decision but.....

Last week's Board of Governors (BOG) meeting of the University of New Brunswick pointed out a serious problem and a dangerous trend in the way students are "governed" here at UNB.

All of the problems that the supreme governing body of UNB, the BOG, are dealt within a veil of secrecy (or "trust" as they prefer to call it).

The BOG meeting was planned to occur at the end of classes AND after the last issue of The Brunswickan (or so they thought!). Who made this decision is difficult to determine, but the result was that students were kept in the dark about their university's financial situation.

The Brunswickan could't even find out what the administration's recommendations to the BOG were before the meeting, because this would be a breach of this so-called "trust". The Brunswickan feels this is unwarranted. Informing the students as to what the "recommendations" were, would not place any unfair pressure on either party (BOG or Administration) on the final decision. It would only be bringing things out into the open.

In an effort to bring full coverage of this important meeting to the students, The Brunswickan discovered that the entire April 7 BOG meeting was closed, even to students and their press. "Budget matters are never discussed in open session". (Well, excuse us!)



PLEASE SIR, SOME MORE

The Brunswickan can appreciate the need for discretion in the decision-making process surrounding such things as salary levels, faculty appointments, etc. But to bar the student press from listening to discussion on tuition and residence fees reduces the students to the realm of serfs paying homage to the great feudal lords.

Expecting students to submit to this method of "government" shrouded in mystery awe and prepared press releases is in direct contradiction of the university's responsibility to prepare "responsible citizens" for our "democratic society".

Student (and general) apathy and cynicism can be traced to the way we are abused by an

entrenched undemocratic social elite. This system either co-opts as into grey-flannel three-piece suits or turns us into apathetic degenerates. Either way, the university and society are not benefitted, except for the creation of a new "leather and tweed" generation to perpetuate this abuse.

SRC wraps up year

All aboard for campus TV!

The last SRC meeting of the current academic year was, in usual SRC fashion, a mass of confusion and inconsistency.

SRC President, Jim Murray, in his weekly report to council, informed them that there was a



Jim Murray

NUS conference in Charlottetown PEI coming up in the near future. The travel expenses of delegates from all member universities were being shared in a travel pool. Murray stated that the student union's current financial situation prevented the union from sending delegate to the conference at a cost of \$360.00.

In Vice-President (Internal) Jan McCurdy's report on the by-laws, it was noticed (and subsequently removed) that there were clauses that permitted the SRC executive to 'collude' and inform any member of the executive of either CHSR or The Brunswickan that their respective honoraria would be taken away unless in the opinion of the executive of the SRC, the person 'shaped up'. Several councillors spoke up against this proposed by-law and in a straw vote, it was removed.

Comptroller Brian Pryde brought forth a motion authorizing him to obtain a "line of credit" to the amount of \$12,000 to carry the SRC over the summer. Pryde stated that this amount might be

necessary to cover the union's deficit. He also stated he felt that if "all went well", he would not need to borrow the money.

The last item of business concerned the student television proposal. This concerned equipment the group wanted to purchase. The group was asking for an advance of \$2,400 on a \$7,800 budget.

By J. DAVID MILLER

Councillor Jack Trifts pointed out that council didn't send a delegate to the NUS conference because they couldn't afford a \$360 fee. Trifts went on to point out that the student union was in such difficult financial straights that they had just authorized the comptroller to borrow \$12,000 if necessary.

Murray pointed out that the union was indeed in poor financial shape and urged that this proposal be put off until the fall. Murray noted that council was spending money which could benefit only a small minority of residence students and



Brian Pryde

would not benefit off-campus students at all.

Student television club president Robert Miller maintained that "there would be no student television club if council refused this money." He stated that financial help was forthcoming from many levels of government to assist with programming.

After this debate, council authorized the necessary \$2,400 to purchase the equipment to make television a reality to 27 television sets in the residence system.

the brunswickan

THIS ISSUE
COMPLIMENTS OF

Sarah	Jack
Derwin	Jan
Sheenagh	Tom
Gerry	Jim
J. David	Megan
Jean-Louis	Howard
Tom	Debbie
Tim	

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Student board reps predicted no tuition hikes

By GERRY LASKEY

Before the April 7 Board of Governors meeting started, the Brunswickan representatives were informed in the lobby by university secretary, Dugald Blue, that the entire meeting was closed, even to the student press.

He said that almost the entire meeting would deal with budget, which is always closed. When told we were present due to student concern about tuition and other fees Blue said that especially those matters are closed to the public.



Chris Nagle

There had been rumours circulating that tuition would not be going up for political reasons. UNB's fees are already the highest in Canada. The fact that no hints at increases have been made and that Blue made the off-hand comment "Don't assume anything"

when a media representative mentioned the "inevitability" of a tuition increase, gave further strength to this idea. There had also been speculation that the government's grant to UNB had been "padded" somewhat.

The Brunswickan was able to get some pre-meeting response from the two UNB Fredericton student governors, Brian Forbes and Chris Nagle.

"I don't think it's (tuition) going to go up," said Forbes, "because it's the highest in the country now." Forbes added that only Mount Allison had fees as high as UNB and that "We'll price ourselves out of the market if there's any increase."

Forbes did say that he expected residence fees to go up, however. He cited increases in labour and food costs as reasons for this being probable. He said that it would be "unfair", on the other hand, if residence fees were raised simply to offset other cost increases, saying cutbacks should be made elsewhere if the budget didn't balance.

Chris Nagle, the other Fredericton campus student Board of Governors Representative, said, "Like anyone else, I'm against any kind of fee increases." Nagle added, "We're over charged now, we have the highest prices and the lowest services."

Nagle also speculated that some very detrimental cut-backs in student housing were considered. He said the university was considering dropping Victoria House, cutting back on dons and other measures. "If all this goes



Photo by Tom Evans

Four residence students' spokespersons made a formal presentation to the Board of Governors Thursday, April 7. They were responding to information they received only 24 hours prior calling for residence cutbacks totalling \$75,000. The representatives have until the May B.O.G. meeting to come up with alternate proposals.

through, you might as well not have a residence system," he said.

Commenting on the closing of the Board of Governors meeting, especially to students and their press, Nagle said, "I find that a little questionable. They should give more information to students in advance so their representatives could pick up the grass roots feeling better."

This was the situation as the meeting was about to start.

OYER, OYER, OYER; Let it be known to all persons that Sally Patricia Goldberg celebrated her first birthday on the twenty-first day of March in the afternoon, in the Year of our Lord,

nineteen hundred and seventy-seven.

Let it also be known that she had the weight of nineteen and one-half pounds and consumed much cake and ice cream at the event.



Signed by the proud parents:

Howard Peter Goldberg Elizabeth Logan Goldberg

Condon made SJ vice-president

Thomas J. Condon has been elected Vice-president of the University of New Brunswick, Saint John. The five-year appointment was announced last Thursday at a meeting of the UNB Board of Governors. The appointment will be effective July 1, 1977.

Dr. Condon will replace G. Forbes Elliot, a principal of UNBSJ since 1964; presently acting Vice-president.

Dr. Condon joined the UNB faculty in 1962 and was appointed Dean of Arts in 1970. In 1972 he

was responsible for the establishment of a four year arts program at the Saint John campus. He sees the future for UNBSJ as a time of consolidating. He intends to make the strengthening of recruitment activities a priority item, as he believes the growth in full-time enrolment is essential.

In the short-term, Dr. Condon intends to see what can be done to supply more housing near the campus available to students. He is also interested in future development of campus residences.

Dr. Condon will also assume the position of professor of history in the Division of Humanities at UNBSJ.

Included in the ten-member search committee for the Saint John Vice-presidency were UNBSJ faculty members Barry Beckett, Wayne Jollinear and Winnifred Bogards, student Randy Hatfield, and Philip W. Oland.

UNB President John Anderson chaired the committee and the other members were from the Fredericton faculty.



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