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Buns Bits

Course clarification:
Due to an unusual font used in last week's Course Timetable, History 3045 appeared to read 3845.

The course info is:
ID 35604
Number: HIST 3045
Section: (1A)
Term: 1st
Instructor: Gereau, S.
Times: MWF 10:30

UNB, STU expect tuition rise

by Gordon Loane
Brunswickan News

Administration officials at UNB and St. Thomas are not surprised about funding cuts to post-secondary education announced in the provincial budget last week.

The McKenna government announced that it will trim funding to universities by three million dollars in each of the next three years.

It amounts to a two percent reduction in funding each year. "It is the first significant reduction in provincial government operating grants for New Brunswick universities in a good many years, so from that point of view it's not good news, but it's not unexpected," said James O'Sullivan, UNB's Vice-President (Finance and Administration).

"In this period of restraint and with a large reduction in federal transfer payments to the provinces we expected this and are not surprised."

St. Thomas University President Daniel O'Brien had a similar reaction. "One is never happy when a reduction in funding is announced. But in these days when others are taking cuts I think the provincial government has been even-handed," he said.

"Given the reduction in federal transfer payments, I am relatively satisfied and believe that the McKenna government's agenda to support education is still there."

What the funding reductions will mean at both universities is still to be determined. But there are hints it will be another year of budget cuts and



Students protesting funding cuts in front of Legislature

Photo: Bruce Watson

tuition fee increases.

Both O'Brien and O'Sullivan are quick to point out that the budget process at UNB and STU is in the early

funding cut will not cause a major disruption.

"We intend to locate savings in our operating grant," said O'Brien, who

"If we had to meet our provincial operating grant cut just by increasing tuition fees it would amount to five percent," he said. "We will be meeting the cut in a number of ways besides increases in tuition."

O'Brien pointed out that St. Thomas has the lowest tuition fees in the Maritimes and among the lowest in Canada. Tuition at St. Thomas currently stands at \$2200. "We've been very sensitive about the level of tuition we set at St. Thomas," he emphasized.

For his part O'Sullivan preferred not

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stages. At UNB, the reduction in the provincial grant will be about two million dollars in 1996-97. "Very roughly I think our cut will be closer to 2.7% in 1996-97," O'Sullivan said.

At St. Thomas, O'Brien said the

indicated that process will begin this week.

Students at St. Thomas can look for a tuition fee increase next year but it won't be anything near ten percent, according to O'Brien.

Neill House appeals to President

by Gordon Loane
Brunswickan News

Neill House residents will ask UNB President Robin Armstrong to overturn event restrictions imposed on them earlier this month by Dean of Residence, John Craighead.

The appeal to Armstrong will be filed before the end of this week, according to former Neill House President Brad Coughlin.

"We will be asking that the ban on alcoholic events for the remainder of this academic year be lifted," Coughlin told *The Brunswickan* this week. "We also want restrictions imposed on a future House Committee lifted as well."

Following incidents at Neill on January 19 and 20, Craighead said a future House Committee would be required to submit written proposals for any event (alcoholic or non-alcoholic) to the Don for approval. The restriction would remain in effect until December 31, 1996. Interestingly, Coughlin says Craighead's decision to dissolve the House Committee will not be appealed.

"We normally elect a new House committee just after March Break each year so appealing that decision now wouldn't matter much," said Coughlin.

Meanwhile, Coughlin says four

residents evicted from the House appealed to Armstrong on February 5 but have heard nothing as of early this week.

Coughlin is also taking issue with a few remarks attributed to Dean Craighead in last Friday's issue of *The Brunswickan*.

In the article, Craighead states the university doesn't legally recognize the House Committee under the UNB Act.

But Coughlin refers to Section 19 of the Residence Agreement signed by all Neill Residents which states "the student is bound by the by-laws of the house she or he lives in, as created from time to time, amended by the House Committee in conjunction with the Don and Proctors."

Coughlin says if the university doesn't recognize the House Committee, why is it not stated in Section 19 of the agreement?

Coughlin also questions Craighead's statement about underage drinking and the number of freshmen in Neill House this year. "While 60% of the House members are freshmen over half of these are 19 years of age or over," said Coughlin.

"Certainly everyone was not drinking at the time or that night anyway."

Coughlin also takes issue with

Craighead's statements that complaints were received from other residences January 19 and 20. "We asked for a security log and there were no complaints those nights from other residences," he said.

Coughlin said he questioned Craighead when he showed up by invitation at a House meeting just over two weeks ago.

Craighead told them the complaints were registered with him. "He undertook to get written letters of complaints and to forward them to me

but we have still to see those," Coughlin emphasized.

Coughlin is also seeking written rules of conduct for the Residence Community.

Right now Coughlin feels standards of conduct are in the eyes of the beholder, mostly Dean Craighead's.

"I am looking for some written material that gives us some guidelines to follow instead of just a common sense rule that the Dean says, because common sense to him could be different to someone else."

New UNB President to be recommended on Feb. 26

By Joe FitzPatrick
Co-News Editor

UNB's Presidential Search Committee is expected to make its recommendation for UNB's next President on Monday, February 26 according to the committee chair, Dr. Robert Burridge.

Dr. Burridge told *The Brunswickan* earlier this week that the search committee has had an excellent field from which to choose. He declined to comment on whether candidates were internal or external to the University.

The nominee must be approved by both the Saint John and Fredericton Senate and UNB's Board of Governors, which will take place on Thursday, February 29.

The nominee will be in Fredericton on February 27 (6:30 - 7:30 PM in Tilley Room 303) and in Saint John on February 28.