

NEWS

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

Newsbits

UNB: \$3.5 mil in NSERC grants

The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada has awarded \$3,596,538 to UNB researchers in support of new and continued research, and for the purchase of related equipment for the 1996-97 academic year. Additional funding from other NSERC programs such as industrial research chairs and research partnerships will increase the total NSERC support for 1996-97 to over \$4 million.

"The University of New Brunswick enjoys a significant record of success in the attainment of external research support," said Frank Wilson, UNB's Vice President of research and international cooperation. "I'm pleased with the results of our NSERC applications, particularly the success rate of our new applicants."

Benfey named to Committee

A biology professor at UNB has been named to Canada's National Biotechnology Advisory Committee.

Tillman Benfey, a specialist in fish physiology and aquaculture, was appointed to the position by John Manley, Minister of Industry Canada.

Established in 1983, the National Biotechnology Advisory Committee comprises senior representatives from Canada's business, academic, financial, communications, and legal communities. Its members provide advice to the minister of industry on matters related to the development and commercialization of biotechnology in Canada.

"I feel honored to be included in such a high-level committee of business executives and university administrators," Dr. Benfey said. "I am excited by the opportunity this appointment provides for input at the national level in biotechnology."

"Salmon farming is a major industry in the province: it's our most valuable agricultural product," he said. "New Brunswick and UNB can benefit from having a representative advise the federal government on development of the industry."

Of the 15 committee members, Dr. Benfey appears to be the one with major expertise in aquaculture. "Among farmed animals, biotechnology is most likely to have a major impact in fish, as they are more amenable to biotechnology than other animals, such as cows or pigs," he observed. "I hope to be able to brief the committee and minister on the importance of aquaculture biotechnology and where the impediments to development lie."

Counting on your response

Tuesday, May 14, 1996, is Census Day in Canada. By participating in this important national event you play an important role in shaping Canada's future.

The census gathers essential information on the social and economic conditions of people living in all regions of the country, including your community. The data will help:

- identify future employment needs and plan education and training programs
- set up job programs for young people
- identify the need for roads, schools, day-care centres and public transit.

If you are living in residence, a Form 3 census questionnaire will be given to the contact person for your residence. The questionnaire will then be distributed to all persons living in the residence for them to complete. If you are attending school out of town but return home when school is not in session, you should be included on your parents' questionnaire when they complete their household's form. You must also complete the first two questions on the Form 3 census questionnaire, which will be distributed to you at your school residence.

If you plan to be travelling abroad during May 1996, please telephone the nearest Statistics Canada office and staff will make sure you receive a questionnaire early, or they will fill one in with you over the telephone. If you have any questions or if you need information about the census, call the Census Help Line free-of-charge between May 9 and May 17 at 1-800-670-3388.

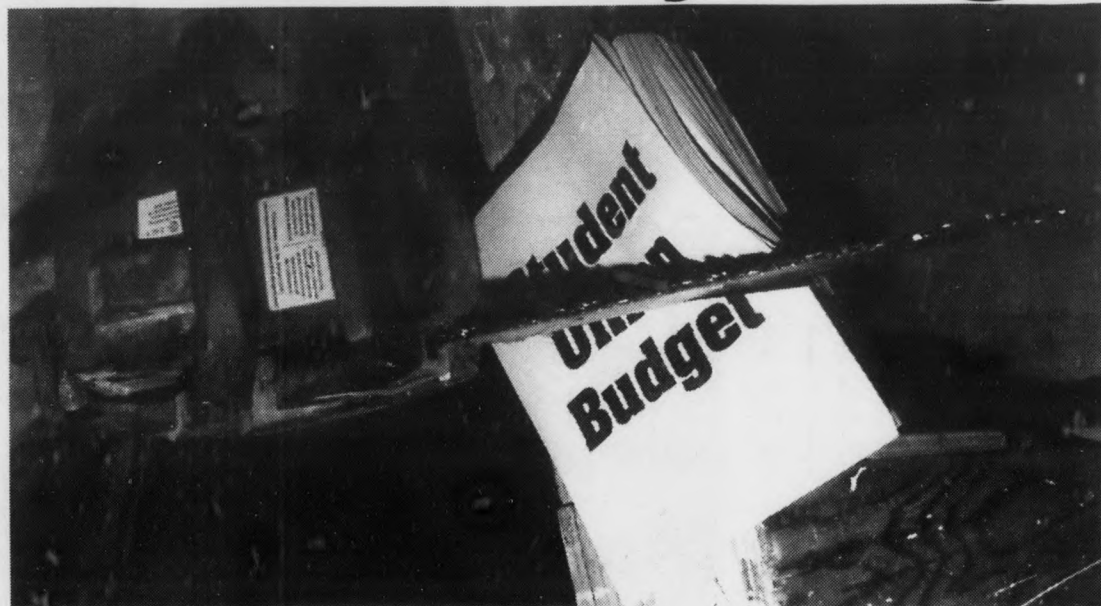
World Wide Web Campus Cafe

Campus Cafe, an umbrella web-site for all things related to Canadian campus culture and life, kicks off today with a web-site contest to win free tuition for a year, courtesy of Campus Cafe. Finders of the "Keeper of the Password" in the home page will be enabled to enter a cryptic zone within the web-site, where a series of journeys must be completed in order to enter the draw to win.

The Campus Cafe web-site will provide post-secondary students across Canada with, true to its name, an "interactive meeting place" to freely exchange ideas and participate in campus life. It will also provide significant services and valuable information designed to assist students with school and career-related decision-making, as well as feature premiere entertainment, fun contests, and dollar saving promotions throughout the year.

The web-site, which doesn't fall under any restrictions of institutional or governmental bodies, will allocate ten percent of its sponsorship dollars to create a scholarship program for students. Campus Cafe can be found on the World Wide Web at Campuscafe.com.

SU Council delays budget



This photo is very relevant to budget stories.

by Joe FitzPatrick
Co-News Editor

The UNB Student Union decided to postpone the first readings of its 1996-97 budget until April 2. This will force the second reading, at which the budget will be debated, to take place on April 9. An emergency meeting of Council was called to accept the final version of the budget. The Council Chair has set this meeting for April 11.

The delay was the result of efforts to force compliance with the Student Union Financial Policy, which states that the Finance Committee must meet and consider the budget, and then present the budget to Council.

"It's true," acting vice-president Duncan Fulton told Council. "If you look at the Bylaws - we didn't follow them."

"It just wasn't logistically possible to have a meeting," he continued.

Derek Ferlatte, member of the Finance Committee, complained that the Finance Committee was circumvented. "This budget," he said, pointing at the document distributed by Fulton, "is the

work of only two people - that's not the Finance Committee."

Duncan Fulton acknowledged that this was true, but that the budget consultations which were held for clubs and societies on Saturday, March 23 had only two members of the committee in attendance. Ferlatte confirmed that this had been the case, but stated "The committee knew that this would be the case. It did not, however, authorize Mr. Fulton and Mr. Chiasson to put the budget together alone."

"I understand entirely," he later told *The Brunswickan*. "The fact is that it's supposed to go to the Finance Committee, and it didn't. It was perfectly reasonable

to expect this."

While the preliminary budget distributed to Council was collected by Fulton, *The Brunswickan* has learned a few details about the 1996-97 proposal.

The new student fee would stand at \$106 for next year, if the proposal was accepted. This would mean an increase of \$4 per student. This would result in an increase to the Student Union operating budget of roughly \$28,000.

Other details surfacing: Councilors' honouraria was reinstated (after a lack thereof for the past three years), and the part-time receptionist is set to become full-time in September of 1996.



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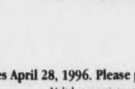
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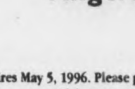
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