

Teaching staff shrinks 5%

JOSEPH FITZPATRICK
THE BRUNSWICKAN

For the first time in five years, when students come to UNB in the fall, there will be fewer teaching positions than when they left.

Figures obtained by The Brunswickan indicate that UNB projects there will be 532.16 full-time equivalent academic staff next year, down from 559.50, a decrease of nearly 5%.

Even when UNB lost 56 faculty members to an early retirement package in 1994-95, total academic FTEs increased marginally (.5%) because the Board of Governors

doubled the number of stipends (funding for a one course instructor).

The documents obtained by The Brunswickan also indicate that although 12 faculty members will be added, 8 are scheduled to retire. In fact, over the course of the four-year plan to re-hire faculty members, UNB Fredericton will add 32 faculty and is scheduled to lose 30.

The documents further indicate that the primary reason for the decrease comes from a reduction in the number of stipends. In 1997-98, UNB will reduce funding for stipends by 37%.

When shown these figures,

Anthony Knight, president-elect of the UNB SU and current vice-president (external) was disappointed.

"Based on these numbers, it seems that we're being played around with, and that we're not really being given the straight facts as far as retirements, most likely students are going to be the losers in the long run," he said.

For her part, SU President Joie Hellmeister commented, "sweet, perfect."

"It's extremely upsetting," she said. "With the increase in tuition, it seems somewhat unfair, it's disturbing."

	Tenured / Continuing	Term Appointments	Stipends (FTE)	Total FTEs	Change
1993-94	502.00	11.00	17.33	530.33	
1994-95	507.00	11.75	22.16	540.91	1.99%
1995-96	465.34	22.50	56.00	543.84	0.54%
1996-97	461.50	27.00	71.00	559.50	2.88%
1997-98	469.83	17.33	45.00	532.16	-4.89%

New position for Student Services

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UNB's Student Services Department has received a modest increase in its budget for 1997-98, according to budget documents prepared for UNB's Board of Governors.

The University plans to increase staffing at Counselling Services by adding a .45 full-time equivalent position in 1997-98.

A recent external review of Student Services at UNB noted that staff in Counselling Services has faced increasing demands for their services over the last ten years due to larger enrollment, reduced staffing and an ever increasing number of students with problems seeking help.

Student leaders have been expressing concern about line-ups for Counselling Services.

UNB President Elizabeth Parr-Johnston, in a written response to the Student Services Review in January, noted that a strong recommendation would be forwarded to UNB's Budget

Committee for additional resources in 1997-98, especially for Student Counselling.

UNB's Student Health Centre has also received a \$1,000 non-salary increase in its budget for 1997-98.

The Student Services Budget for 1997-98 does not appear to contain any additional resources to upgrade the Dean of Student Affairs and Services position from a .67 FTE to a full time position as recommended in a recent external review.

Nor does there appear to be any additional monies for the position of Ombudsperson in 1997-98. A committee is currently looking at whether to establish such a position and how it might be funded. The committee's report is expected to be forwarded to the Vice-President Academic some time this Summer.

Overall in 1997-98, UNB plans to spend just over \$1 million dollars on Student Services. With revenues and other chargebacks the net budget for Student Services amounts to \$729,500 in 1997-98.

There are 20.38 FTE positions in Student Services in 1997-98. Of those, 2.21 FTEs positions are allocated for the Dean's office, which included the Dean (0.67 FTE), the Assistant Dean (0.50) and an Administrative Secretary (1.00 FTE) and a small allowance for part-time workshop leaders (0.04).

Present staffing for Counselling Services includes the Director and 3.67 FTE Counselors, a Career Library Assistant (0.67) and 1.82 secretarial and receptionist positions.

Staffing at the Student Health Centre includes 2.5 FTE physicians, 1.76 FTE for nurses and a .83 FTE secretary/receptionist.

The Financial Aid office has two FTE positions for a Director and a secretary.

The Placement Centre is staffed by a full-time manager, a .67 FTE employment counselor assistant and a .25 FTE clerk/receptionist. The International Student Advisor's office is staffed by a full-time Director and secretary.

Bookstore sales edge downward



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Sales for 1996-97 at the University Bookstore will fall short of projections by \$68,400, according to Manager Doug McConnell.

Despite the shortfall, McConnell says the bookstore will still make a net contribution to the University's bottom line.

"I had [originally] expected that we would show a surplus of something like a \$100,000, but it never happened," he said. "Now, we're looking at maybe \$35,000 or maybe a little less."

"Our sales aren't as high as I anticipated a year and a half ago," McConnell explains the shortfall simply.

"In November of 1995, coming up on two years ago, [when the projections were made] our computer sales and textbook sales looked very strong," he said. "I just budgeted aggressively, thinking we would at least get one more year of things happening reasonably well."

After the projections for 1996-97 were submitted to the UNB Budget

Committee, a substantial downturn in sales hit the bookstore. That trend continued throughout the fiscal year.

"The economy is not good for students," he said. "We felt that, especially [after] second term last year, from January to April 1996 sales fell right off, people were just running out of money."

Although McConnell muses that students are buying less, he doesn't feel that the Harmonized Sales Tax will impact greatly on the sales of the bookstore.

"It's not going to help on clothing, because there was only 7% before," he admits. "On textbooks, which represents about two-thirds of our total sales, there's only 7%, and that's not going to change."

"On computers, instead of the 18.77% once you compound the old numbers, now it's 15%. Theoretically, it might help, but I can't see HST doing much one way or the other," he concluded.

Currently, computer sales are keeping steady with last year.

"They're not doing too badly," said McConnell. "We're running right even with the year before."

He added that this statement is reflective of the dollar value, rather than the number of units sold.

"If hardware costs go down we have to sell more computers to make the same amount of money," he explained.

McConnell has taken into account the lower sales figures from this year, when preparing projections he submitted to the UNB Budget Committee for 1997-98.

"When I did the budget for 97-98, I had a sense that things weren't going to pan out for the 1996-97 year, and I took into account that things had leveled off considerably," he stated. "I've done the budget for next year, and right at the moment, I have no reason to believe that targets won't be met."

McConnell anticipates running a small surplus in the 1997-98 fiscal year. "Very little, maybe one percent,"

Documents submitted to the UNB Board of Governors on Thursday, April 17 confirm that the Bookstore expects to generate a surplus of \$30,900, representing less than .6% of the projected 1997-98 sales of the UNB Bookstore, which are projected to be \$4,954,400.

Tenants get 2 more years SUB leases renewed



The UNB Student Union Building is home to some medium happy campers this week. Although all eight tenants got they're leases renewed, it's only for two years. And no word on the SUB Ballroom, yet.

GORDON LOANE
THE BRUNSWICKAN

UNB's Board of Governors has decided to offer lease renewals to all eight tenants in the Student Union Building for two more years.

The leases would expire July 31, 1999. Leases that have been renewed include: The College Hill Social Club, SUB Hairstyling, SUB Towne, SUB Shoppe, Flannery Jewelers, an office rented by the UNB Student Union for Orientation/Grad Class, and leases for the UNB SU owned and operated Celler and the Paper Trail.

There is no decision yet on whether any rent increases are to be included with the renewals, although in recent

years rents for commercial tenants in the SUB have increased five percent yearly.

There is no word from senior university officials yet on whether an application by the College Hill Social Club to take over the SUB Ballroom on most Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights throughout the school year will be accepted or rejected.

The CHSC application is being opposed by SUBS Inc., the Board that runs the UNB Student Union-owned pub "The Celler."

The Student Union Building Advisory Board has recommended that the Social Club's application for permission to use the Ballroom be turned down, despite the potential

revenue gains in rent for the university that some have estimated in the \$30,000 to \$50,000 range yearly.

The two-year renewal of leases in the SUB, rather than lengthier renewals, could mean university officials are hedging their bets about proposals currently being discussed for SUB Expansion.

UNB undergraduate students have been paying a \$25 annual SUB Expansion fee for the last three years.

But as yet plans for the SUB Expansion are not well advanced.

UNB Student Union President-Elect Anthony Knight, who takes office on May 1st, has publicly vowed to make SUB expansion proposals a major priority this summer.

UNB Budget 1997-98 Both Campuses			
	96-97	97-98	Change
Revenues			
Operating Grant	69,741,000	68,147,000	(1,610,000)
Student Fees	28,828,000	31,009,000	2,976,000
Ongoing Sources	2,464,000	2,434,000	(133,000)
Parking Fees & Fines	348,000	391,000	45,000
Shared Admin. Costs	0	0	0
Interest Income	375,000	375,000	60,000
Non-space Grants	900,000	950,000	50,000
New Nursing Program	2,042,000	3,556,000	1,514,000
One-time items	275,000	0	(110,000)
Chargebacks & Revenues	12,441,000	13,427,000	926,000
TOTAL REVENUES	116,551,000	120,289,000	3,738,000
Expenditures			
Salaries			
Academic Depts.	47,391	48,193	802
Stipends	1,890	1,524	(366)
Early Retiree Replacement	94	253	159
Support Services	25,869	26,168	299
Salary Increases	0	1,435	1,435
Benefits			
Acad. & Support services	10,540	10,780	239
1994-95 Early Retirement	1,166	990	(176)
Fund for Retirements	2,662	110	(2,552)
Other	215	312	97
Other			
Non-salary costs	25,890	25,929	39
Ancillaries (Net)	192	142	(51)
Capital Projects	503	500	(3)
New Nursing Programs	1,580	3,056	1,476
New Building Operating Costs	0	17	17
Student Bursaries	0	375	375
Internal Audit	0	60	60
Institutional Research	0	60	60
Recruitment & Retention	0	50	50
Review of Shared Services	0	45	45
Renewal Costs	0	80	80
Datatel Project (net)	0	461	461
Salary underspending	(425)	(250)	175
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	117,567	120,289	2,722
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	(1,016)	(0)	1,016