



# THE BRUNSWICKAN

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## Access to student photo IDs clarified

Gordon Loane

The Brunswickan

Within the last week, UNB has worked out the technical details which will allow students to opt out of a new information system which will make digitized photo IDs available to professors and other selected administrators.

To opt out, students should access their individual secure website at the university in the usual manner, using their ID and pin number.

In the area where students would change their home or local mailing address, if need be, there are also two features to allow them to easily opt out of the online student directory and the digitized photo ID system.

"The opt-out provision for the digitized photo ID system is now entirely under the students' control on their secure website," said David Hinton, UNB's Acting Registrar.

"While some students have come to the Registrar's Office requesting an opt-out in the last few weeks, and those requests have been accommodated, that visit is no longer necessary with the opt-out on the secure individual websites," he said.

Hinton has also clarified the range of professors and other administrators who will have access to a student's digitized photo ID, if the opt-out provision is not exercised.

"The photo IDs and the class list will be available to the instructor of record in each class, while that class is active," Hinton said. "Once the class is over, shortly after the end of term, then access to the entire class list and the digitized photo ID is taken down for that instructor."

The photo IDs are also being made available to Academic Deans and other selected administrators at the Director's level.

For example, the Director of Student Affairs and Services, Jane McGinn-Giberson; the Director of Residential Life and Conference Services, Dr. Michel

Ouellette; and the Director of Security and Traffic, Reg Jerrett; will be granted access to both the digitized photo IDs and class lists.

At the discretion of Academic Deans and Department Chairs, certain administration staff in those areas, including Faculty Advisors and Departmental Advisors, who normally work directly with students, will also have access to class lists but will not have access to the digitized photo IDs.

The motivation for placing digitized photo IDs on UNB's new student information system is to allow professors and instructors to become familiar with students and for certain administrative staff to identify students they would be dealing with, Hinton explained.

Meanwhile, the Acting Registrar said a recent review of the policy on confidentiality of student records has determined that no changes are necessary.

Information on the date of birth and the social insurance number of each student that is provided to the Registrar's Office is severely restricted.

Authorized university personnel such as administrative staff who deal regularly with students and faculty or departmental advisors do not have access to dates of birth or SIN numbers but do have access to the other demographic and personal information provided by each student.

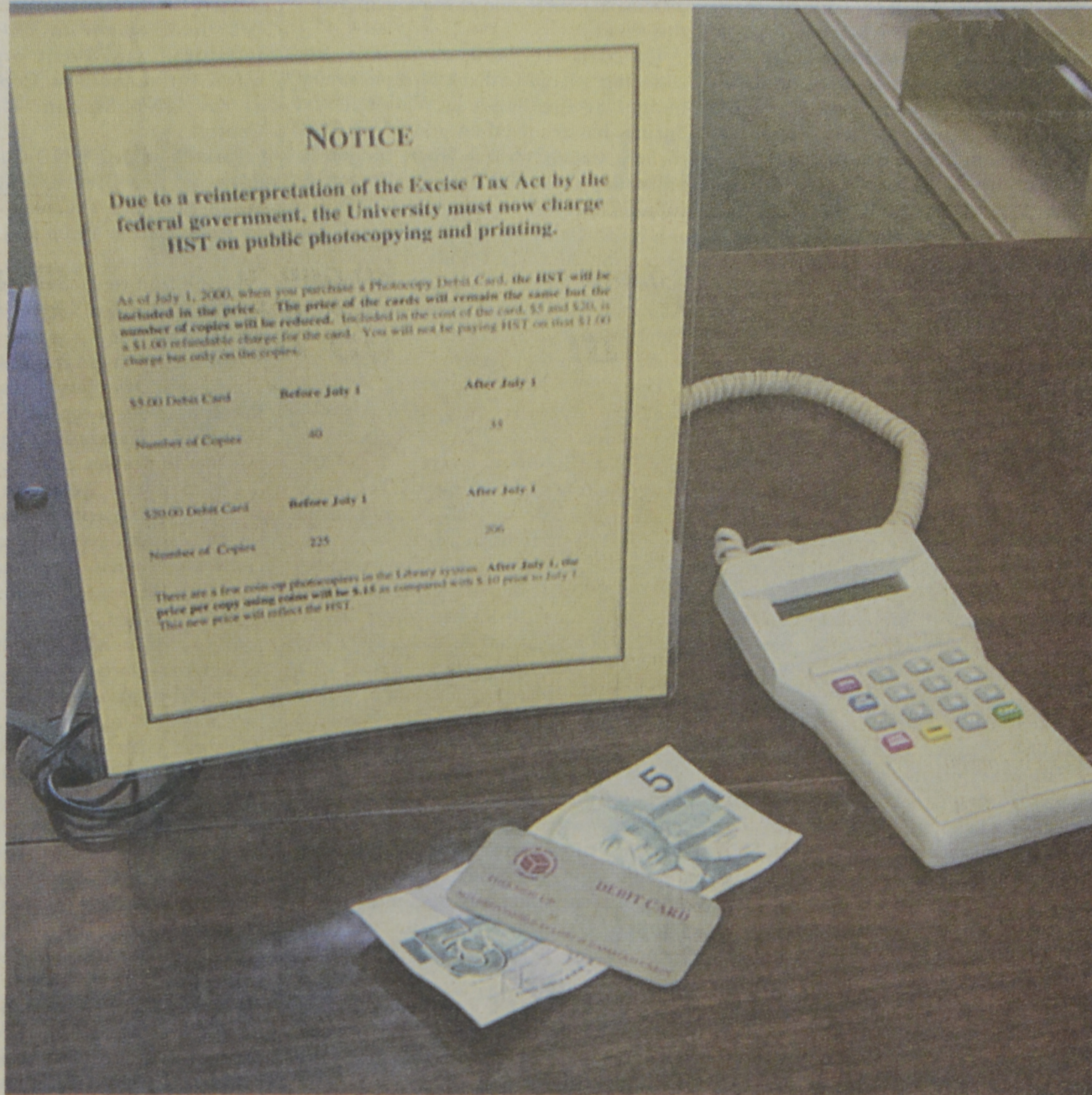
Academic transcripts are supplied only to instructors while a class is in progress during a particular term and to authorized university personnel designated by academic Deans or Directors.

Demographic information and academic transcripts are never released outside the university to anyone, Hinton continued.

Hinton said even if parents call the Registrar's Office looking for the grades of students, the information cannot be released unless the student notifies the Registrar and authorizes their release either by letter, e-mail or fax.



Kevin Forneris Photo / The Brunswickan  
David Hinton, Acting Registrar



Mike McGinnis Photo / The Brunswickan

Next time you buy a photocopy card, it will have a few less credits on it because of a ruling by the Federal Government which means HST now has to be collected.

## HST takes a hidden bite out of Library photocopy cards

Robin Duguay

The Brunswickan

Students are once again dealing with financial hardships brought forth by the Federal Government. As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2000, photocopying and printing have been considered goods and not services. This means these two vital aspects of university life are subject to HST through the reinterpretation of the Excise Tax Act by the Federal Government.

The change is not immediately visible, however. Debit cards for photocopying and printing have not increased in cost; cards can still be purchased for five and twenty dollars. The difference is the number of copies issued per card. Twenty dollar cards now carry 206 copies instead of 225 previously, and five dollar cards give students 35 copies instead of 40. The one dollar refundable charge included in the price of the card is still in place.

Larry Guitard, UNB Acting Comptroller and Director of Financial Services, said CAUBO (Canadian Association of University Business Officers), "argued that there should not be a change [in the interpretation of the Excise Tax Act]."

"The issue has been on the table for quite some time," he said. "CAUBO delayed the change, but wasn't successful to get them [Federal Government] to change their minds."

Director of Libraries John Teskey doesn't like the tax hike either because in his mind, photocopying and printing are essentially not goods for sale. Regardless, like all universities across the country, UNB had no choice but to comply.

Income generated through printing and photocopying goes back to the students through services like document deliveries, which costs

about 12 dollars per transaction.

Though photocopy revenue has been down the past few years, the university is looking at replacing all existing public machines because of their unreliability. The Harriet Irving Library is also looking into providing wireless services such as laptops that would be available on reserve. This is being made possible by way of a grant the library has received.

While photocopy use is on the

decline, the use of electronic resources available through the Library is increasing. While 75,000 articles were downloaded in 1998, approximately 226,000 were accessed last year. Teskey attributes this increasingly popular method of retrieving information to its availability.

"These services are available 24 hours per day. The number of people using the building [HIL] has not gone down," he concluded.

## Anonymous donor kicks in \$100,000 SUB Elevator delayed

Gordon Loane

The Brunswickan

It is expected to be at least January 2001 before a new public elevator being installed in the SUB on the UNB Fredericton campus is fully operational.

While construction of the concrete block shaft between all three floors in the SUB is close to completion, the so-called elevator cab is not scheduled to arrive until the week of November 12<sup>th</sup>.

"The elevator cab is a long lead delivery item, which will be arriving later than we originally expected but we will have all the preliminary construction done when it arrives next month so we can proceed with installation as soon as possible," said Michael Ryan, UNB's Associate Vice-President Campus Services and Planning.

The new public elevator in the SUB is being installed thanks to a \$100,000 gift from an anonymous donor and a matching \$100,000 from internal university funds. The anonymous donor plans to come forward when the SUB Expansion project is officially opened some time later this academic year.

The university also plans to erect a plaque near the new elevator to officially recognize the donor's contribution.



Janis Miller Photo / The Brunswickan



Janis Miller Photo / The Brunswickan

Sandwiches hot! Beaver Foods recently set up a temporary cart in the SUB Cafeteria offering made-to-order sandwiches.

Coming in October Watch for Details

**Astral Birthday Parties**

If it's your SIGN, you could win Backstairs passes for YOU and 9 of your friends Special Gift for the Birthday person, and much, much more

For Members & Guests Only

WIN A PARTY OUT OF THE Blue