

Newsbits

By Gordon Loane

Three to receive honorary degrees

The Right Honourable David Trimble, the First Minister of Northern Ireland and 1998 co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, will be among three individuals who will receive honorary degrees at UNB Fredericton's 46th Fall Convocation ceremony this Sunday, October 22nd.

Trimble will receive an honorary Doctor of Laws degree and address the graduates in a ceremony that begins at 2:00 p.m. at the Aikhen University Centre.

John Little, a UNB Fredericton alumnus, who achieved success as a corporate executive and scientist with Celanese Corporation, will receive an honorary Doctor of Science degree and also address the Convocation.

A Doctor of Laws degree will also be conferred upon Edward Byrne, who practiced law in Bathurst, N.B., for over 30 years and is known as the architect of the Equal Opportunity Program in New Brunswick.

Official opening of Renaissance College

The official opening of Renaissance College will take place in their new home at the Maggie Jean Chestnut Building, corner of Church and Charlotte Streets, tomorrow, October 21st, beginning at 3:00 p.m. In addition to the opening ceremony, art exhibits, photos and a video prepared by Renaissance College students will be on display. A jazz group will also be performing. All members of the university community are being invited to attend.

Board meeting today in Saint John

The UNB Board of Governors is meeting at 10:00 a.m. this morning in Room 206 of Oland Hall on the Saint John campus.

STU Homecoming 2000 this weekend

St. Thomas University Alumni Association is holding Homecoming 2000 celebrations on the STU campus this weekend.

The highlight of the weekend's activities is a reunion of the St. Thomas Four, a highly successful group in the late 1960's that won both the Maritime and New Brunswick folk championships.

The group will be performing tonight at 9pm at the Forest Hill Residence Ballroom with tickets prices set at \$8 for STU Alumni and \$10 for non-Alumni.

A special performance will also take place at 7pm tomorrow night in the Ted Daigle Auditorium of Edmund Casey Hall.

A full schedule of events for Homecoming 2000 can be found at: <http://www.stthomasu.ca/alumni/homecoming/prog.htm>.

UNB seeks applicants for Comptroller

UNB officials have taken out advertisements in provincial newspapers seeking applicants for the position of University Comptroller and Director of Financial Services.

The deadline for receipt of applications is next Monday, October 23rd. The position has been vacant since August when Daniel Murray was promoted to Vice-President Finance and Administration.

UNB's Assistant Comptroller Larry Guitard has been serving as Acting Comptroller and Director of Financial services since Murray's promotion.

HR Consultant earns National certificate

David Wiesel, a Human Resources Consultant in UNB's Human Resources and Organizational Development Department, has achieved the Certified Human Resource Professional designation.

The designation is recognized across Canada as setting a standard of excellence in the human resource field.

The designation is achieved by meeting standards for education and experience and is renewable every three years.

Keptos to chair Research Ethics Board

Dr. Peter Keptos, a retired Psychology Professor and former Dean of Arts, is slated to become the new Chair of the University Research Ethics Board, according to information provided this week at the regular October meeting of the UNB Fredericton Academic Senate.

Senate Search Committees

The UNB Fredericton Academic Senate also approved appointments to three search committees for Vice-President Research and International Co-operation, Registrar and Dean of Law.

MacNutt Memorial Lecture November 9th

Dr. Priscilla Renouf, of the Department of Anthropology at the Memorial University of Newfoundland, will deliver the 2000 W. Stewart MacNutt Memorial Lecture on the UNB Fredericton campus Thursday, November 9th, at 5:30 p.m. in Tilley Hall, Room 102. Her lecture is entitled "Ancient Cultures, Bountiful Seas: Five thousand years of Human Settlement on the Great Northern Peninsula of Newfoundland."

All members of the university community are welcome to attend.

History conference today and tomorrow

An international historical conference on modern China will be held at the Lord Beaverbrook Hotel today and tomorrow.

This is the year 2000 Conference on the Historical Society for 20th Century China with Larry N. Shyu as the program Chair.

Shyu is a professor emeritus of History at UNB Fredericton.

Thirty international scholars with expertise in modern Chinese History will participate in this conference and present 23 papers. All sessions are open to the general public.

Viscount Bennett Lecture November 7th

His Honour, Judge David Arnot, will deliver the 2000 Viscount Bennett Lecture Tuesday, November 7th, at 4:30 p.m. in Room 2 of Ludlow Hall on the UNB-F campus. The lecture is entitled "Aboriginal Treaties as a bridge to the Future: The Saskatchewan Model." Judge Arnot currently serves as Treaty Commissioner for the Province of Saskatchewan.

He is past Chair of the Canadian Judges Forum and a Past President of the Saskatchewan Provincial Court Judges Association.

Safe Spaces Program up and running

UNB's Safe Spaces Program is up and running for the 2000-01 academic year.

The program is an awareness-raising and attitude challenging visibility and support project consisting of stickers which declare an area free from ignorance, intolerance, bigotry and harassment for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, two-spirited, queer and questioning students, staff, and faculty at UNB. If anyone would like to obtain a sticker, needs more information, or is interested in having an information session presented to a group, please contact Heidi Carson, Safe Spaces Co-ordinator, at 453-4898.

UNB enrolment up marginally

Gordon Loane

The Brunswick

A report prepared for the UNB Fredericton Academic Senate this week shows overall full-time undergraduate student enrolment at UNB Fredericton stands at 6,711 this academic year, up five students compared to a year ago.

The largest enrolment increases overall are in Nursing and Arts, up 51 and 19 students respectively, compared to 1999-2000.

Slight enrolment increases are also being experienced in Kinesiology and the Education consecutive program.

The largest overall declines are in Engineering and Forestry, down 120 and 74 students respectively, compared to a year ago.

Student overall numbers have also

declined in Computer Science (-58) Science (-46), and Administration (-34). Declines are also being reported in Law (-6) and the Education concurrent program (-19).

In some faculties, an increase in first year enrolment has been a contributing factor in pushing up overall enrolment.

The largest surge in first year enrolment this year is in the Faculty of Arts, up 37 students compared to a year ago. Enrolment in both Nursing and Kinesiology in first year is up by 10 students this year.

In Administration, Engineering and Science declines in first year enrolment compared to a year ago have contributed to an overall drop in enrolment numbers.

First year enrolment in Science is down by 36 students, while in Engineering and Administration first

year enrolment has declined by 30 and 23 students respectively, compared to last academic year.

Meanwhile, overall undergraduate full-time enrolment at UNB Saint John has increased by 145 students compared to a year ago, contributing to an increase in enrolment of 150 students when the totals for both UNB-F and UNB-SJ are combined.

UNB's Acting Registrar, David Hinton, is also reporting an overall increase in graduate full-time enrolment compared to a year ago.

Graduate full-time enrolment has increased by 24 students on both the UNB-F and UNB-SJ campuses to stand at a combined 623 as of October 1st.

Hinton is also reporting a decline in part-time undergraduate enrolment on the Fredericton

campus this year.

There are currently 772 part-time undergraduate students registered this year, compared to 934 enrolled a year ago.

Part-time graduate enrolment has increased on the Fredericton campus this year, with 171 students registered compared to 154 in 1999-2000.

International undergraduate enrolment at UNB-F remains fairly stable compared to a year ago, with 240 international undergraduates registered compared to 242 a year ago.

On the UNB-SJ campus, however, it is a different story, where a surge in international undergraduate enrolment has occurred this year compared to a year ago. There are 267 international undergraduate students this year compared to 119 last year.

Natural gas upgrade by next summer

Joseph W.J. FitzPatrick III

The Brunswick

"[Natural gas] will definitely form a part of our fuel mix," Michael Ryan, UNB's Associate Vice-President Campus Services and Planning told The Brunswick this week.

While construction was conspicuously underway on Montgomery Street on the edge of the UNB-Fredericton campus, Ryan has been unable to negotiate prices with a natural gas provider. "Price is critical," he said.

While UNB does burn some relatively cheap fuel, like #6

Bunker "C" and wood, the pressure has been put on the facility internally and from the New Brunswick Department of the Environment to burn cleaner fuels such as #2 Light Oil, which is quite expensive by comparison. Recent increases in the price of oil has only increased the pressure

to find alternatives.

The frustration for Ryan has been that while Enbridge-NB owns the rights to provide natural gas and the pipeline itself, and was obviously building right up to UNB's doorstep, the company does not sell natural gas service, so Ryan had to wait until those companies were named to start negotiations.

A number of "marketers" of natural gas have been unofficially chosen only this week, according to Ryan, and he will sit down with them as soon as next week to discuss pricing and service levels. The official announcement on which company will provide the natural gas service is expected by November.

While the pipeline construction is nearly to a point where UNB could hook on, upgrades and changes are required to the UNB Heating which can not be completed until next summer.

"We can't exactly shut down the plant in winter," he commented dryly.

UNB spends approximately \$1 million annually to fire up its Central Heating Plant, which supplies heat and steam not only to UNB Fredericton but to St. Thomas University, the Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital and various government buildings on College Hill Road.

If the natural gas negotiations are successful, Ryan said the planning, design and tendering stages would take place over the Fall and Winter months with a view to undertaking a \$1 million conversion of UNB's Central Heating Plant on College Hill Road next Spring and Summer.

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Regent Construction Limited of Fredericton is about to be awarded a \$1,163,900 contract to add a new three storey, 8,000 foot extension to the Bio-Medical Engineering Building on the UNB Fredericton campus.

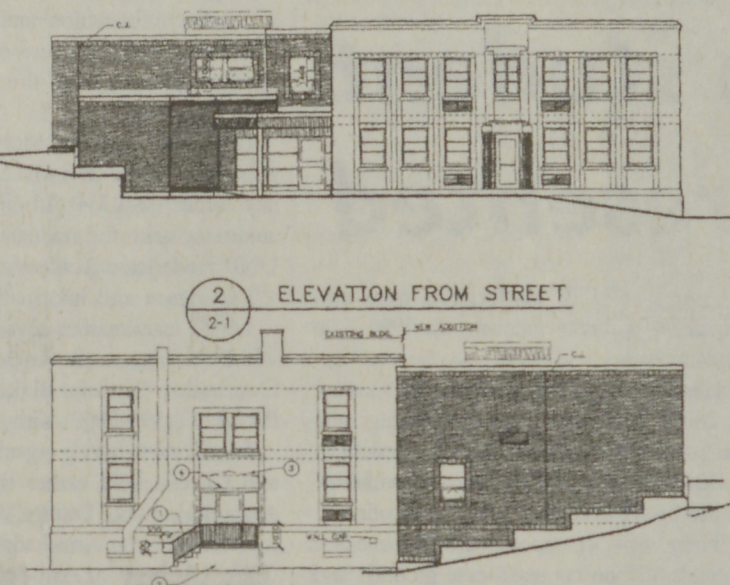
The firm won the right to do the construction work by submitting the lowest of seven bids received by the tender deadline last Friday.

Other bids were received from King Construction (\$1,164,087); Simpson Building Contractors Limited (\$1,171,800); Red Wing Construction Limited (\$1,224,750); Diamond Construction (1961) Ltd. (\$1,271,900); Maricon Construction Management Limited (\$1,277,600); and B & S Construction (\$1,321,810).

UNB's Associate Vice-President Campus Services and Planning, Michael Ryan, said the lowest bid for the project meets original budget projections and noted that just \$187 separated the two lowest tenders.

"For the two lowest bidders to be separated by \$187 on a \$1 million plus project is really tight bidding," Ryan said.

Construction on the project is



Special To The Brunswick
Sketches of the expansion as viewed from Dineen Drive (top) and from behind the existing Bio-Medical building (bottom).

expected to begin within the next two weeks just as soon as all details are finalized.

The extension is expected to be ready for occupancy in about eight months.

Once completed, the extension will nearly double the existing research and teaching space currently

being provided to the Institute of Bio-Medical Engineering, famous for its development of myoelectric controls for powered prostheses.

The building which currently houses the Institute is located immediately adjacent to the centrally-located Bank/Bookstore building on Dineen Drive on the UNB-F campus.

Prison Awareness Seminar at STU

Joseph W.J. FitzPatrick III

The Brunswick

The St. Thomas Criminology Society will hold its second annual Prison Awareness Seminar on Saturday, October 28th starting at 10am in the Ted Daigle Auditorium of Edmund Casey Hall.

"It's totally student organized," said Bob Doiron President of the Criminology Society, who is an ex-offender.

Students in the Criminology Society range from corrections officers, former police officers to ex-offenders like Doiron.

The seminar is designed to introduce students to the corrections environment by allowing them to interact with offenders currently under sentence, ex-offenders, advocates and professionals in the system.

Among the highlights will be the community chaplain for Cons for Christ, an organization that works with offenders, ex-offenders and their families from a restorative justice perspective.

Restorative justice is non-traditional

justice, an alternative to the criminal justice system currently in place in New Brunswick and Canada. Examples of restorative justice are a sentencing circle, or what is called "alternative sentencing"

when a sentence is handed down other than probation or jail time. While the dominant view of criminal justice is arguably retribution or punishment, the perspective of restorative justice is "accountability" for the offender.

Among the offenders under sentence will be two drug offenders, which Doiron feels is significant.

"This is a type of offender in our community," he explained. "We do this to prepare students for the criminal justice context."

"I know what's out there waiting for them. I think it's incredibly important to make them aware of what's out there."

The majority of students in the St. Thomas criminology program will seek employment somewhere in the criminal justice system.

The seminar is also a fundraiser for the Society to organize for prison visits, which Doiron also feels are

important for students looking to enter the prison environment professionally.

More than 30 students visited Dorchester Penitentiary last term.

"Your perception of your environment is totally different," he said of those who have experienced the facility.

Doiron encourages students and faculty from all disciplines to attend.

"[Attendees will] develop an understanding of what is going on in criminal justice. They'll be better positioned to draw a conclusions."

"You're going to draw your own conclusions," said Doiron. "And you may raise new questions."

"We invite that, because it opens up dialogue with different perspectives."

"By asking questions we search for answers."

The next trip is scheduled by the end of November, and those wishing to participate must attend next weekend's seminar.

For more information contact the Society at crimsociety@hotmail.com.



Look! It's snow. With the exam schedule appearing this week, snow can't be far behind. Kevin wishes only for Nikon to fix the slide scanner, so he can run in-season photos.

\$13,000 Neville Bed Push

Sarah Dickie

The Brunswick

There were some emotional faces Saturday morning when the gentlemen of Neville House finally arrived at Boyce Farmer's Market.

They had spent the night pushing a bed from UNB Saint John to Fredericton, with one man on each corner, and 100 more gentlemen taking turns.

Despite the long night, they were happy and proud when upon their arrival they were greeted by members of all the local residences, families, and supporters.

Also happy and proud was Tim Richardson, the President of the Women's Transition House; the final tally was \$13,000, double the amount raised last year.

Aside from the bed push, some of the fundraising efforts involved canvassing from door to door, setting up a table at the Farmer's Market, and holding a slave auction.

According to Jon Chung, President of Neville House, "All the guys were great, and practically the entire city was behind them."

There were jokes about what they would have to do to beat this year's \$13,000 total in 2001.

This was the eighth annual Neville House Bed Push. The residence originally ran for Christmas Daddies in the mid-80s, but it was then decided to support a local charity, thus the Bed Push now raises money for the Women's Transition House in Fredericton. The purpose behind that particular choice was to prove that "some men do care."