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Access to student photos granted to profs, others

Gordon Loane
The Brunswickan

The digital photos of students registered in academic courses at UNB Fredericton will soon be made available to professors and other selected administrators.

The UNB Fredericton Academic Senate voted on May 16th to reverse an earlier decision disallowing the practice.

The Senate also decided to broaden the scope of those with access to the student digitized photo IDs to include Deans, Associate Deans, Departmental Chairs, academic advisors, and UNB staff in the Student Affairs and Services Department, and Security and Traffic.

Students who do not wish to have their photos made available should contact the UNB Registrar's Office.

Access to student photo IDs is expected to be made available to professors and certain administrators later this month as part of the university's new web-based student information system which was first introduced in January.

At that time, the university quietly began making the photo IDs of students available to professors and instructors, only to be brought up short

when the UNB Fredericton Academic Senate voted to discontinue the practice at its January meeting.

Students at the Senate meeting expressed concerns about privacy and the lack of information and consultation before the practice had originally taken effect.

Following the January

meet and review the Ad Hoc Committee's decision.

The recommendation was forwarded for approval at the Senate's May 16th meeting and this time, the issue of confidentiality, security and release of student records, including the issue of access to digitized photo IDs, received a more favourable reception.

Key to winning the support of student Senators appeared to be the provision which would allow students to get their digitized photo ID removed from distribution on the new student information system upon notifying the UNB Registrar's Office.

Since the decision at the May meeting of Senate to allow professors and certain administrators access to a students' digitized photo ID, most students appear not to have been informed.

Most students also do not seem aware of the opt-out provision also adopted at the Senate meeting.

More details on the implementation of the new digitized photo ID system and other issues concerning the confidentiality, security and release of student records, are expected to be made available by the UNB Registrar's Office next week.

Most students do not seem aware of the opt-out provision

Senate meeting, UNB Registrar, Deanne Dennison, decided to set up an Ad Hoc Committee made up of faculty, staff and students from UNB Fredericton and UNB Saint John, to look at the entire issue of confidentiality, security, and release of student records and review guidelines in light of the implementation of the new DataTel student information system.

Several committee meetings culminated on April 5th with the recommendation that digitized photo IDs be implemented in the new student information system.

The committee's decision was kept secret for nearly six weeks until the Senate's Academic Policy and Procedures Committee could



Kevin Molyneaux Photo / *The Brunswickan*

UNB Arts-Science Frosh Amurlee Ashton went prepared and survived the annual Food Fight. In fact, she won the "Dirtiest Frosh" award at the event. Inset: close-up of her foot.

UNB student accident trial begins Tuesday

Joseph W.J. FitzPatrick III
The Brunswickan

One of New Brunswick's largest employers is scheduled to appear in Provincial Court next week to answer charges laid under the Occupational Health and Safety Act following a workplace accident which cost a UNB student her left leg below the knee.

Judge Denis Lordon set aside September 19th to begin hearing arguments against Repap New Brunswick at the Provincial Courthouse in Miramichi.

The Miramichi-based forestry company pleaded not guilty May 29th to a charge under

the Occupational Health and Safety Act. The New Brunswick Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission charged the company with failing to ensure adequate safeguards so that employees would not come into contact with moving machinery.

The Commission laid the charge after an incident on August 11, 1999 in which Candace Carnahan, a 21 year old UNB Fredericton student working at the Repap coated-paper mill for the summer, caught her foot in a conveyor which moves large rolls of paper. Carnahan subsequently lost her left leg below the knee.

Austin, Erdle win teaching award

Joseph W.J. FitzPatrick III
The Brunswickan

Diana Austin from the Department of English and Thom Erdle from the Faculty of Forestry and Environmental Management are the latest recipients of Allan P. Stuart Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Dr. E. Joy Mighty, Director of the Teaching and Learning Centre, made the announcement at the UNB Fredericton Academic Senate this week. The awards are named in honour of Allan P. Stuart, a respected professor of chemistry from 1946 to 1973 and one of the first recipients of an excellence in teaching award.

After the announcement, Mighty described the state of training workshops for new faculty. Though there are nearly 50 faculty teaching at UNB for the first time this Fall, only 18 showed up at the workshops. Mighty

asked Senators to encourage their newest colleagues to attend the workshop.

This didn't sit well with student senator Lori Rand, who asked pointedly, "Why isn't it mandatory?" She noted for students who work in the Residence System there is a mandatory 7-day workshop.

Dr. Wendy Robbins echoed the student's concerns with respect to UNB-specific policies of which new Faculty may not be aware.

Mighty responded that she didn't see how it could be effectively enforced.

Vice-President Academic John McLaughlin chimed in to say while he was disappointed with the turnout and that he would be working to increase participation, there was no chance the workshop may become mandatory. "It's not on the table," he said. "I have a suspicion it would be counter-productive."

Dean of Science Alan Sharp added that Deans and Chairs of Departments have a role in encouraging participation, but said he was leary of making it mandatory.

Better communication is also important, according to Dean of Computer Science Jane Fritz. She told Senate her office was not informed of when the workshops were taking place.

Rand persisted, attempting to continue debate by again asking "Why not make it mandatory?" but Senate moved on to other matters.

Meanwhile, the Senate also approved a new structure for committees dealing with teaching excellence, teaching awards, and the Teaching and Learning Centre. In a bid that Mighty described as a reduction in redundancy and an improvement in cooperation between the UNBF and UNBSJ campuses, Senate created a Teaching Awards

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d'Avray Cafe may close

Gordon Loane
The Brunswickan

The Marshall d'Avray Hall cafeteria may be forced to close its doors unless increased traffic over the next year or two reverses the operation's current financial woes.

Michel Ouellette, UNB's Director of Residential Life and Conferences Services has told *The Brunswickan* the d'Avray cafeteria will remain in operation for the 2000-01 academic year and perhaps

for a year beyond that but the situation is being closely monitored.

"We are talking about a losing proposition financially, the traffic patterns are not what they used to be, we have fewer students in the Faculty of Education because their programs are now two years in duration instead of four and there is cafeteria competition nearby at St. Thomas," Ouellette explained.

"The bottom line is that the retail operations, like at d'Avray cafeteria, have to

make money and the ones that don't we either look at other possibilities or we close them down," he said.

Ouellette is unsure at this point whether the expanded Student Union Building cafeteria might be a viable alternative for faculty, students and staff who currently frequent the d'Avray cafeteria.

"It will depend on how students, faculty and staff receive the changes in the expanded SUB cafeteria," Ouellette said.

COLLEGE HILL SOCIAL CLUB
For Members & Guests Only

MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

Skins vs Cowboys

Free popcorn

Budweiser

No cover

Bud Draft \$5.50 Per Pitcher 8-10pm