

Three campus teams Run for the Cure

by Nicole Gifford

Approximately 21,600 Canadian women will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year. An estimated 5,300 will die from it. Such an alarming statistic has led to one of the most successful fundraising efforts in Fredericton: the CIBC Run for the Cure.

"Breast cancer is a community disease," said Judy Douglas, co-chair of this year's event. "It affects families, it affects everyone."

140 teams - approximately 3,200 participants - will take part in the Fredericton run this year.

"It's sad in a way... because that just shows how many people are affected," said Douglas. Reasons for taking part in the run vary, however most participants agree that they have been either directly or indirectly affected by the disease.

Of the three teams on UNB campus - the HR Hooters, the ladies of Computer Science, and the department of Geodesy and Geomatics Engineering (GGE) team - each cites some personal experience with the disease.

"A couple of staff members are personally touched by it," said Niki Cassidy of the HR Hooters. Their team consists of nine members, including spouses and friends of HR staff. Based on breast cancer statistics, Heather Smith, a member of the Computer Science team, agrees, "It's something that obviously is going to affect all of us somehow in the future."

One in nine women will develop breast cancer in her lifetime. Of the 12 members of the Computer Science team, "that's one of us," she said. "That's scary."

Each of the teams has undertaken a number of fundraising initiatives, from barbecues to yard sales. The ladies of the Computer Science department set their goal at \$1,200 this year, the HR Hooters at \$1,000, and the GGE team at \$1,350. The Hooters have already surpassed their goal, but "we're going to keep going, as far as we



can," said Cassidy. Each team has found success with different fundraising strategies.

"Food," said Jennifer Bishop of the Computer Science team. The team's second barbecue saw the selling of 40 hot dogs and 40 hamburgers in 40 minutes.

"You can't beat a dollar hot dog. And they're for a good cause," said Melanie Nason, another member of the Computer Science team. The fundraising is going "wonderfully," according to Smith. "[People] are coming down and they're saying 'here's ten bucks, I'll just take a cookie.' They're doing wonderfully... Mel makes these almond squares and [a woman from the Muriel McQueen Ferguson Foundation] buys the whole tray. She gives us \$10-\$15 and then just takes the whole tray," she said.

Besides food, the key to fundraising success depends largely on community reception.

"The support and the response we get is unbelievable," said Douglas. "The community is behind us 100 percent."

"People always seem to want to help when it comes to breast cancer," said Tracey Hawco-Winchester of the GGE team. "There's

a lot of awareness about the CIBC Run for the Cure." And about breast cancer. Members of the Computer Science team agreed that because breast cancer mainly affects women (although approximately 150 men will be diagnosed in Canada this year), "the women take the initiative... it's a kind of sisterhood thing... Women tend to be more expressive and nurturing," according to the ladies of Computer Science.

The event has also helped to bring together the various members of the departments involved.

"We've learned a lot about each other these past few months," said Cassidy. And there's no harm in a little bit of friendly competition.

"We've had a lot of fun with this," said Smith. "It's certainly brought us all together. We're working together for a common goal... We're women too."

Funds raised by the event go to the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation (CBCF), toward "relevant and innovative research, meaningful education and awareness programs, early diagnosis and effective treatment, and positive quality of life for those living with breast cancer."

An example of how donations eventually return to Fredericton is a recent grant from the CBCF - \$200,000 - toward the Dr. Everett Chalmers Regional Hospital for their Keeping Ahead of Cancer campaign.

Atlantic Canadians made up 13 percent participants last year and raised 13 percent of the total dollars raised. This year's goal is \$400,000.

"[Breast cancer] affects a lot of people. I think everybody knows somebody who's had breast cancer or been affected by it," said Hawco-Winchester.

Their advice to participants? "Make it fun," said Vicki Hape-Gould of the Hooters.

"We're working really hard to raise the money so they can find a cure for breast cancer," said Douglas. "That's why we're here."

The CIBC Run for the Cure takes place October 2, 2005, beginning at the Old Government House, 51 Woodstock Rd., Fredericton. There will be a one and a five kilometre walk/run.

*Please see news listings for upcoming fundraising events

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overall amount that the provincial governments could contribute to universities was drastically reduced. This forced university budgetary planners into a difficult decision - cut academic programs and properly maintain the university campus, or attempt to keep a rich academic environment at the expense of maintenance.

"As provincial funding was decreasing it was not critical that you fix the eavestroughs. It is like your house, you leave the eavestroughs for another year. It kind of adds up, people just didn't attend to it, institutions didn't attend to it." Said Angelo Belcastro UNB VP Finance/Academic. The choice was made, to promote academics over building and grounds maintenance; and ever since UNB has built up a considerable bill that some day has to be paid.

The current budget is the first since the funding cuts to halt the growth of deferred maintenance.

"For the first time in probably forever, 200 years + that were actually going to be addressing the situation how we should be addressing the issue from an infrastructure perspective." With the funds, provided in part by the infrastructure fee, UNB Finance and Corporate Services hopes to begin a five year program to tackle some of the outstanding maintenance on a priority based plan.

"In terms of capital renewal, we are in the process of developing a list that has about three or four

key ingredients to it... We had an independent company come in a year, a year and a half ago that assessed all our buildings and identified which buildings were in worse shape than other buildings based on age, based on the physical state of the building, so that goes into our thinking..." Explained Belcastro.

"The second [ingredient] is safety and health reasons... Another ingredient is our academic plan, what type of learning environment do we want to create... Finally the research, what kind of research needs do we have and how do we accommodate the research needs with the teaching and the instruction needs..."

"If you looked at those four independently you would have different lists of what needs to get done, what we need to do is to integrate those.... We're going to be working on that strategy this year." The list of maintenance is considerable and plan address pressing issues like accessibility and health issues before routine maintenance is considered.

Supplemental fees are nothing new to university students; they already cover a plethora of non-academic funding for programs like health coverage and Student Union Building expansion, as well as funding student media outlets like CHSR and The Brunswickan. In fact, prior to the suggestion of this new fee, UNB students were already paying a combined total of \$321 over and above tuition payment. With the introduction of the infrastructure renewal charge and increases in student organization fees, this amount will jump to \$561. This increased cost has raised concerns with some students.

"I didn't know there was an infrastructure renewal fee and I have concerns with how these fees are managed financially; but if I see something being done with it I'm happy." Said Chris Cogswell, a third year mathematics major.

Run Day Schedule

- 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Registration and donation drop-off
- 12-1 p.m. Entertainment
- 1:15 Opening ceremonies
- 1:55 Warm-up
- 2 p.m. Start time
- 3:15 Closing ceremonies

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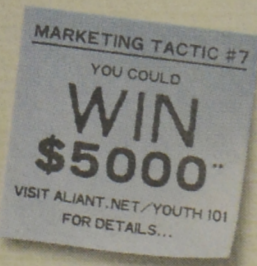
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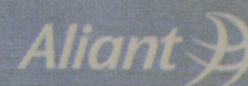
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