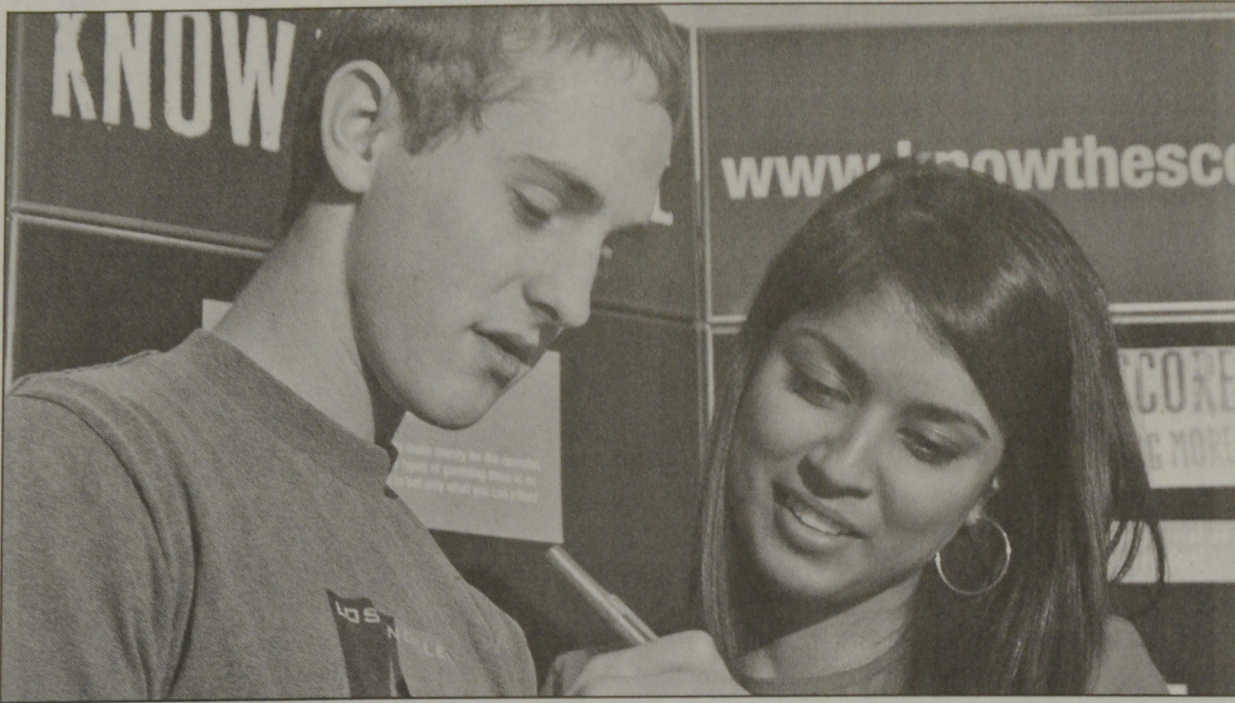


Statistics show that students are at a high risk of gambling addiction



Andrew Meade / The Brunswickian

The Know the Score booth was set up here at UNBF from November 19-22, promoting student awareness of the risks that are involved in gambling. Next, they are headed to Mount Allison to promote the program.

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The Atlantic Lottery Corporation (ALC) has sponsored this particular pilot program for the trip to New Brunswick, but while they have sponsored them to come to the province, they did not create the program, as Couperus explained.

"ALC is pleased to pilot Know the Score," said Kim Wilson, Manager of Social Responsibility & Responsible Gambling with the ALC in a press release. "Know the Score will enable ALC to further expand its 'Responsible Gambling' youth strategy through

education and awareness at the post-secondary level."

Statistics demonstrate that students are at a higher risk of developing an addiction, as studies have shown online gambling at poker sites has gone up. Attention has even been raised with the Celebrity Poker tours that are broadcast on television. The KTS program offers early awareness signs to recognize problem gambling, such as lying about gambling, borrowing money or selling personal items to gamble, skipping classes to do so, a general short-sightedness when gambling, and more.

"Know the Score shares the signs of problem gambling with students and lets them know where they can get help

in their local area if they ever need it," said Couperus.

In all, Couperus feels this pilot project at UNBF was successful and hopes that students have retained some of the information they learned while the program was promoted here.

"There were great students, and it was a great experience. We really enjoyed being here," she said. "We got great feedback and saw a couple of hundred students a day."

Next, the Know the Score program is heading to Mount Allison University to discuss the problems gambling can cause. For more information on the risks of gambling, visit www.knowthescore.ca.

5th annual CIBC Business Plan Competition

by Tony von Richter

A number of aspiring entrepreneurs are about to descend on UNB this week as the Faculty of Business Administration is hosting the 5th annual CIBC Business Plan Competition this Thursday and Friday.

The competition is divided into graduate and undergraduate divisions and allows students to organize and design business plans, where they will present to a panel of judges who will then select the best and most plausible plan in each division. Cash prizes will be awarded to the winning teams.

Secondary prizes will also be awarded in areas such as best elevator pitch (best 60-second presentation), best podcast (best video presentation), and best financials. In total there is over \$25,000

in prize money that will be awarded between the 15 teams from across Canada during the two-day competition.

Competition organizer Karen Murdock feels that the competition provides a great opportunity for the students involved, saying, "It gives young entrepreneurs a chance to test their skills in front of judges who are experts in the fields of marketing, public relations, entrepreneurship, finance, and other areas. This year, the entrepreneurs are encouraged to network with representatives from the First Angel Association, a group of angel investors who are there to run the elevator pitch boot camp, and they may find a venture that they want to back."

Dean of the Faculty of Business Administration, Daniel Coleman, echoed Murdock's feelings regarding the opportunities the competition can bring to the students and the local economy.

"The CIBC Business Plan Competition has grown from fairly modest roots

to an important regional and national event. We are now attracting participants from a large number of universities. This helps to raise the profile of the Faculty of Business Administration and UNB.

Maybe more importantly, the competition is also helping us to achieve one of our objectives – to help the local and regional economy. Several businesses have started that were based on plans that were presented at the competition.

I'm very grateful for the support of CIBC to help build and grow this competition, and I would be remiss if I did not publicly acknowledge the great work that Karen Murdock of my faculty does in organizing the event."

Aside from the competition itself, Peter Mansbridge, the award-winning host of CBC's *The National*, will be conducting a seminar with local entrepreneurs on how to interact with the media.

The competition kicks off this Thursday afternoon at the Wu Conference Centre.

Wine, Cheese and Education

by Melanie Bell

Engineers Without Borders held their annual 'Wine & Cheese' event on November 21. The Alumni Memorial Lounge quickly grew crowded with attendees nibbling, sipping, and networking over the sound of cello music. Some browsed the items in the silent auction, organized by member Andi Emrich and placed bids on their favourite items donated by local artists. Items included wooden carvings, necklaces, and photographs from travels overseas.

Others were there to listen to the keynote address by Gunaseelan Kulasegaram, the head of UNB's International Development Department. The buoyant professor affectionately known as Guna has a track record with EWB on campus. He was there as a speaker at the chapter's inaugural Wine & Cheese event in 2004, when a smaller number of people filled the space of the Alumni Memorial Lounge.

Guna addressed the audience directly when describing the value of International Development Studies (IDS) as a field of study.

"There's a huge gap between the rich and the poor, the haves and the have-nots. 20% of the world's population in the developed world has access to 80% of the world's resources. The other 80% of the world has access to 20% of the world's resources. Not only is it incomprehensible, it is just not right."

People in the majority world lack resources, opportunities, and fundamental human rights. The last three decades have seen unprecedented growth in the west. Politicians after World War II believed this development would have a trickle-down effect, creating wealth and a higher standard of living for the majority world. This has not yet occurred.

Progress, Guna says, "trickled, but suddenly dried up."

This is not due to a lack of resources. Global food production is enough to sustain not only our current 6.7B people but an additional 2B, yet 856M people are starving. Global warming, the AIDS pandemic (affecting 1.1M people), and human trafficking (affecting at least 22M) have also become undeniably more severe.

"Not a single country can challenge these global issues."

Citizens need to approach these problems from a broader perspective of poverty, which looks beyond 'vita-

min M', money, to take in the lack of nourishment, shelter, safe drinking water, sanitation, education, and employment. The equation must include human rights.

Self-interest is often accused, in many cases rightly, of preventing citizen action against world crises, yet Guna claims it is a human reality which can also increase positive action. "Community, regional, and national self-interest undermine cooperation. Why should we stop at the national level? Why not take it to the next level and have global self-interest?"

While people in the western world feel disconnected from issues that take place far from their own backyards, a long-term connection exists.

"It's in your best self-interest that the 80% of the world that lies in developing countries do well because our futures depend on their survival," says Guna.

With the increasing sophistication of technology allowing machines to replace much of human labour, and the peak in multinational ownership reducing labour even further, Guna predicts that "the workforce will be laid off one after the other. We will need Third World society to be affluent and work with us."

Currently, the Third World is far from affluent. Sweatshop workers in El Salvador are being paid as low as \$1.18 every hour. They receive no healthcare coverage and no consideration of worker rights. To compete economically, their employers decrease their wages and stop paying workers' benefits.

"When poor countries face challenges, they immediately set them back," said Guna. "A lot of times, governments mismanage," says Guna. "And we are all to blame. We are all consumers."

Guna advocates that people working in international development ask local stakeholders when determining how issues should be managed.

It is important to "get away from the mentality that they have the problems and we have the solutions," says Guna. "They have the needs, we have the means. They know what they want. They just need some help."

Guna gives some advice towards how to help such situations.

"Be sensitive to the needs of others. Listen. Be supportive."

Looking out into the audience, Guna smiles.

"Do not feel like you can't do much. Individually, yes, you can make a difference."

Following Guna's presentation, Owen Scott and Emily Brown shared the history of Engineers Without Borders.

The organization was founded seven years ago by two engineering students

at Waterloo. It has since expanded to include 27 campus chapters and seven professional chapters across Canada, becoming the country's fastest-growing international development organization since its inception.

UNB's chapter was founded in 2004 by Mike Gallant and Jennifer Dysart. It aims to create awareness around international development programs and outreach to encourage change. Its activities include 'Bridging the Gap' at the Fredericton Farmers' Market, implementing a battery recycling program on campus, and holding more politically involved events such as October's 'Stand Up and Speak Out' for poverty.

'Public School Outreach' presentations provide interactive education on food and water issues to students from elementary school to university, and even some professional audiences. Teachers appreciate the presentations because they are an easy way to incorporate global issues into the curriculum.

What about the professionals? "We're challenging them," Brown smiles.

Last year, the UNB chapter reached more students through this program than any other chapter in Canada, a total of 2,500. EWB meetings also include workshops for the purpose of educating members and making them think.

"One of the things EWB tries to do nationally and locally is learn," says Brown.

EWB has started working with local organizations and reduced their focus from 17 countries to four.

The first 'Junior Fellowship' program, labeled Operation 21 (to refer to the 21 chapters of EWB in its initial year of 2003), aimed to send one member from every chapter to work on a development project so that each chapter would be in touch with issues overseas.

Currently, two forms of overseas placements are available through EWB. Long-term placements last a minimum of one year. Both founders of EWB-UNB have taken part in long term placements. Mike Gallant worked in Mali, while Jennifer Dysart is in her third year in Zambia. Junior Fellowships are provided to send two or three members of each chapter overseas for four months every summer.

Placements are available in Zambia, Ghana, Burkina Faso, and Malawi. Brian Magee and Ryan Brideau have been chosen as this year's Junior Fellows.

The announcement of a new event marked the end of the evening's presentations. The chapter has been working hard for a year now to begin the Light Bulb Lecture Series, which will take place in March. The first speaker will be former Prime Minister Paul Martin.

This is the LAST ISSUE of The Brunswickian for the 2007 Fall Term

Meetings resume in January at the regular time, Wednesday at 12:30pm

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