

Jones House gets a fresh look

by Lauren Kennedy

When coming up the hill from the bottom of campus, a prominent building stands tall and empty where Jones House once was. Now empty and waiting for new occupants to move in since it closed in the fall of 2006, there will finally be some activity happening within the building as key facilities on campus will be moving into Jones House.

The Executive Director of Student Affairs and Services, Anne Forrestall, explains what is happening to the former residence building.

"When I first came into this department, my first priority was to find a new space for the Student Health Clinic, which has outgrown its space. The waiting room is too small; the physicians only have one examination room each, slowing the process down; and it is located on the second floor of Tibbits East, which is not very accessible to some people," she said. "So when I found out that Jones House was closing its doors for good, I put together a proposal to house some locations of student affairs and services into one building."

There is enthusiasm around the idea of moving locations, says JoAnn Majerovitch, Director and Physician of the Student Health Clinic.

"We are all very excited at the Health Centre about the possibility of the move," she explained, as the plan is for the clinic to be moved from its current location to the third floor of Jones House. Counseling services would move from where it is now to the second floor of the house, and the first floor would become various offices of student affairs: financial aid, the student advocate, the development coordinator, and others.

At this point, two areas of student services that will not move from their current placements is the Student Accessibility Centre, which is now in Marshall D'Avery Hall. The education department that is housed in the same building has close ties to the centre, and it is very valuable to have both entities



Student Affairs and Services Executive Director Anne Forrestall stands next to the former all male residence, Jones House. Older facilities on campus such as the Student Health Centre will be moving into the house.

in close proximity together. The other area is Student Employment Services. Although not very accessible for some, it has the advantage of having small rooms for interviews and such.

Presently, phase one of the development plan is in the works. The goal of this phase is to make the building more accessible.

"The first phase of the renovations is to make the building more accessible. Right now it doesn't have an elevator, and one will be installed – that should be starting in a couple of weeks. The front of the building only has two steps right now to get inside and that will be fixed so there is a slope instead of steps," said Forrestall.

She sees this new movement of services as very beneficial for everyone who is a part of it.

"The benefits for students will be really wonderful. It's hard for us now to be in a different building and it will be nice to have a cohesive service for the students. A lot of what we do now is referring students from one service to another, but with this move everything will be interconnected once we are close to each other and it will be a great advantage for students."

Forrestall would love to see everything moved by September 2008, but she says realistically, it will probably be January 2009.

With the movement of all the new services into the building, the question is whether the building will still be named Jones House.

"We haven't decided on that yet. I've talked to a past president of Jones and we certainly talked about the recogni-

tion of the house, whether it is a plaque in the entranceway to be aware of the community that was once there, but we haven't decided on anything yet," she said.

She feels that having this structure visible as soon as someone drives from the entrance gates will show that students are number one.

"This is going to be great visually; it will help show that students are at the centre of our universe and it's a wonderful representation of having a student-centered environment."

Jones House was an all-male residence, which opened in 1958 and closed because it had the least number of returning students applying to return that year (2006). Only 25% of returning students applied, prompting the residence to shut down.

Whole new world

by Lauren Kennedy
with files from Jordan Gill

Some students may never get to experience what these few have done in 12 weeks.

The University of New Brunswick Centre for Property Studies works with students of any faculty to send Canadian student interns to parts of South Africa and Malawi under the AUCC (Associations of Universities and Colleges of Canada) program funding these internships. While living in these regions, students work with partnering universities in a university-to-university exchange, developing governance and working with land management, forestry, and legal structure.

"It's a 12 week program in a developing country earning three credit hours, either in the summer or the fall. We establish before hand what our partners want and what we can provide and then a proposal is written. When the proposal is accepted, we do a search for students and chose the best candidates to work with our partners. Essentially, this year we are sending students to build on the success of past interns," explains the Project Coordinator for the Centre, Veronica McGinn.

In 2006, Robbie Kingdon and Erin Riley traveled to Malawi to do such an internship at Mzuzu University, and truly experienced what life was like outside of Canada. While there, Kingdon explains that he did a lot more than what he expected.

"What I learned in Malawi is that things can happen very quickly. On the second day I was there, I was introduced to the Vice-Chancellor of the university and we quickly got talking about our projects. I found out there were some problems with some control points in a survey project, so I suggested a differ-

ent system, and the next thing I knew I was working on this great project," he described.

McGinn takes pride in the lessons that students learn while in developing countries. She says that the students who take on these internships have expressed a love for the work they participated in.

"A lot of people can't afford to take off and go with their own money so that is where this program helps out. The experience of the students is just incredible when they come back, they see everything in a different light," she said.

Adam VanderLinde and Brent Langille are students who travelled to Pietermaritzburg, the capital of the South African province of KwaZulu-Natal. There, they experienced working with land rights and land reform.

VanderLinde explained that their job was to work with the newly passed Communal Land Rights Act, which would transfer all ownership of land to the Zulu communities who would then decide whether to keep the land as their own communal land or have it as private property.

At the end of the day, all the students that went felt like they really made a difference in the lives of the people who lived in these places and within the communities as well.

"I've never been to the African continent before. Much of the news you hear about from the Western media tends to be depressing and horrific, but for me, it was a fantastic experience. It was just great!" said Langille.

"A lot of students on campus are interested in international work. Until you actually do it and get a feel for it, you don't know what it's really like. I've had some students go and it changes their lives," said McGinn. "It gives you an opportunity to see what life is like outside of Canada and you get a whole different perspective."



Submitted by UNB Centre for Property Studies
Robbie Kingdon shows a student how to use Survey equipment.

A chance to win the wedding of a lifetime

The Delta has partnered with Capital FM and The Fox to bring a contest that offers a free \$15,000 dream wedding to a deserving couple.

by Naomi Osborne



Internet
It began with 150 couples and the winning duo will be chosen on Valentines day.

For couples ready to tie the knot, this contest may just win them the wedding of their dreams. The Delta has partnered with Capital FM and The Fox to create a contest that gives 150 couples the chance for a free wedding, valued at \$15,000.

Amanda Brown and Joey Carr have been together for five years and have jumped at the chance to have a dream wedding when they saw the free package.

Amanda is graduating from Renaissance College this spring, as well as her fiancé Joey who is graduating from nursing at the University of New Brunswick. Winning this prize package would assist them in paying for their wedding.

"We both still have student loans, so this would be amazing," said Brown.

The contest has been narrowed down to 50 couples, and the number of votes each couple receives via Internet determines the winner.

The contest is set up so that people can vote for their favourite couple just by going to the Capital FM or The Fox website. Everyone is able to vote once a day, everyday.

The contest began with 150 couples

when the Delta first approached the radio stations, and since then it has been broken down into three stages. The Promotions and Marketing Director for Astral Media Radio Atlantic, Jennifer Cox, has worked to make this contest possible for viewers to vote.

"The Delta first approached us to help put together a prize package and come up with the sponsors, that's how we got \$15,000 worth," said Cox. "We opted to make it more interactive and put it on a website."

The contest was broken down into three stages. A random draw was done with the original 150 couples, from that only 50 were drawn and those couples advanced. Those same 50 couples are now the ones that people are voting for on the website.

On February 1, the bottom 25 couples that have the least votes will be eliminated, while the other 25 will resume the contest with votes reset back to zero.

Every time couples are eliminated, the votes are reset back to zero, so it is important that people vote for their favourite couple everyday.

February 8 is the final elimination

before the draw; it will be narrowed down to only five couples and the votes will be reset.

The winning couple will then be announced on Valentine's Day, and the Delta along with the sponsors help the couple plan their dream wedding.

"They chose Valentine's Day for two reasons, because it is the most romantic day of the year and because this is the time of year that couples start planning their weddings," said Cox.

The Delta originally decided to start the contest in an attempt to increase the traffic at their wedding show, explained Cox.

The way it works is that each sponsor

contributes something, whether it is the photographer, the cake, the dress, the tuxedos, or anything else – the couple has to use what the sponsors have provided. This has caused some issues with other couples in the contest already.

"There are certain requirements if you win; they only pay for 100 guests, and if you want more then you have to pay for it on your own," said the bride to be. "You also have to use their photographer and one couple has already dropped out because of that."

The issue is that most couples have been planning their wedding for a long time and already have most of the details worked out. And for some couples, money isn't as big of an issue as it is for students.

If Brown and Carr won, they would move their wedding date from August to April 19 (as per the contest regulations), mainly because it wouldn't take as long to plan.

"The whole point of it is to help out a couple who maybe couldn't afford to have a big wedding," said Cox.

The contest is almost over, but in the meantime, all couples can do is wait and hope that people will vote for them. If the contest is successful this year, the Delta may just make it an annual event.

"If people could vote for us that would be the greatest thing!" said Brown.

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TENTATIVE APRIL 2008 EXAM SCHEDULE

THE TENTATIVE APRIL 2008 EXAM SCHEDULE WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE WEB ON FRIDAY FEBRUARY 1st, 2008 FROM THE UNB HOMEPAGE OR AT THIS URL:

<http://www.unb.ca/schedules/exam/>

The tentative schedule is also posted on faculty bulletin boards. It is expected that the Final Exam Schedule will be available by February 15th, 2008. Students are reminded that they are expected to make themselves available for examinations until the last possible day of the examination period, ie April 24th, 2008. Therefore, travel arrangements should not be finalized until the final examination timetable has been released. Deferred exams will not be granted for reason of travel arrangements.

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