

5. 2008-09 BUDGET, cont'd

Karen Maynes reviewed the proposed 2008-09 Operating Budget, which was supported in principle by the Board at the December meeting, and which will now go to the College community for input and feedback before final approval in April. She invited and responded to questions throughout her presentation, in which proposals reflect the Douglas College Academic Plan, Learning Support Services Plan and Strategic Plan as well as a number of assumptions for the upcoming fiscal year:

- There will be both program decline and growth; net enrolment is expected to increase
- There will be a \$535,000 contribution to student aid
- We are proposing a modest, two percent domestic tuition fee increase
- Capital expansion will remain a priority
- The proposals are based on 2008-09 enrolments being consistent with those of 2007-08, but include a small allowance for any unanticipated loss of tuition fees
- We require \$3.2 million to cover non-discretionary salary lifts, progression increments, contribution rate changes to benefits, annualizations and non-salaried inflation
- We have increased our International student recruitment goal from 390 Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) in 2007-08 to 430 in 2008-09, with a proposed fee of \$395 per credit, a \$10 increase
- We anticipate no inflationary funding from the Ministry, but do anticipate funding for 168 new FTEs, at \$7,000 per FTE. Actual funding for fewer than 168 new FTEs would drive reductions to planned new activity.
- \$875,000 will be provided to incorporate the second year of new programs started in 2007/08

Douglas College is committed to the annualizations of these programs regardless of FTE funding. Should no new funding be provided, we would be forced to draw on the Board surplus, on a one-time basis, to alleviate what would amount to a projected \$637,000 deficit, to enable the College to maintain its commitment to these programs. The Board surplus is approximately \$2 million.

New and expanded initiatives were reviewed; these include the Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) program, the Scholarly Activity Fund, Performance Tuition Waivers, an Urban Ecology Technician, the Centre for Health and Community Partnership and international practica. Financial lifts/support will also be required to support growth and complexity in areas such as the Centre for Educational and Information Technology (CEIT), the Centre for Students with Disabilities, to add an additional Associate Dean and to increase staffing levels in Science & Technology and Humanities & Social Sciences. Some additional lifts will also be provided on a one-time-only basis.

Ongoing reductions or program restructuring are proposed in a number of areas. The current learning opportunities would continue, with fewer sections of the same courses offered. Savings can also be achieved through one-time-only reductions in some programs, and these reductions would serve as trials.

7. INFORMATION/COMMUNICATION**7.1.1 DCFA**

The Chair conveyed Susan Briggs' regrets that she needed to leave early due to a conflicting appointment. He asked Board members to consider whether they would like to reflect upon the January 2008 DCFA report at this point or at a future meeting with Susan Briggs in attendance. Members expressed views ranging from one of perceived Board disrespect of Constituency Group Leaders (CGLs), and a reference to guests holding speaking rights at other Boards, to others' perceptions that the Board has neither intended nor demonstrated disrespect.

It was noted that Board membership includes representatives of each of the Constituency Groups, and that other boards' CGLs do not participate in board discussions unless specifically asked a question. A review of other boards' standards and protocols was proposed. Two members, noting their extensive board experience, considered this Board's inclusion of CGLs at the table as remarkably progressive. Agreeing that they'd never before encountered a situation in which such boards provide constituency groups a place at the table, these members suggested that the issue may be one of procedure, and that definitions of CGLs' roles and responsibilities would be helpful. There was consensus that it would be detrimental not to have CGLs at this Board's table.

The Chair invited comment from Matthew Steinbach, who had raised his hand. Upon invitation, he stated that, while the elected student Board members are at the table on behalf of students, DSU's resources enable it to host meetings where its CGL can hear from students. He expressed a desire

7.1.3 BCGEU, cont'd

staff. She advised that BCGEU members know that they have an elected representative on the Board, and that it is that person's job to add the BCGEU members' perspectives to the Board's

8.3.2 David Lam Campus: Health Sciences Centre, cont'd

It was moved by Ann Kitching, seconded by Cathie Gibson and resolved:

THAT a letter be sent to Terry Leonard on behalf of the Douglas College Board, congratulating him on the exceptional execution of his project management duties.

8.3.3 Tuition Limit Policy – As we acted in good faith when raising third and fourth year tuition fees, the Ministry is providing the College with \$122,000 in one-time funding to cover the 2007-08 cost of providing differential compensation to students enrolled in upper-level courses of the Bachelor of Science Nursing, Bachelor of Arts Criminal Justice, Bachelor of Arts Psychology and Community Rehabilitation degree programs. We will provide refunds in February 2008.

9. BOARD COMMITTEES

9.1 Finance Committee – Neal Steinman reported that he had been appointed Finance Committee Chair by acclamation, and that the Pinetree Community Centre agreements have now been signed by all parties and submitted to the College lawyers.

9.1 Human Resources Committee – Cathie Gibson advised that this committee had
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