

AUNBT FALL GENERAL MEETINGS

Friday, 30 November 2012
Wu Centre Auditorium, Fredericton
Hazen Hall 232, Saint John
10:00 am
Video-Conferenced

1. President's Report – J. Hughes
2. Academic Pension Plan Report - J. Thompson
3. Treasurer's Report - D. DuPlessis
4. Collective Bargaining
 - 4.1 Full time unit
 - 4.2 CAE unit
5. Grievance Committee Reports
 - 5.1 Full time unit - A. Reid
 - 5.2 CAE unit - W. Bourque, A. James
6. Federation of NB Faculty Associations - E. Hans
7. Other

AUNBT Treasurer's Report November 2012

To Members:

Attached are the statement of income and expense to October 31, and a tentative budget for the 2013 year. We are showing a surplus for the year to date, and have been able to reserve funds for the negotiations that will commence in 2013.

Our expenses are maintained on a cash basis and the budget reflects an accrual method. Some expense items (Computer and Furniture, and Actuarial expenses) relate to 2011 and will be adjusted at year end. In addition, Other Income is a refund from the FNBFA legal defence fund and relates to 2011.

Also note that AUNBT has committed to spending upwards of \$70 000 on pension negotiations during 2012 and has made a donation to the CAUT's Academic Freedom Fund of \$10 000.

Investments

As of October 31, the market value of our investments with RBC Investments is S 1.6 million. The investments with Nesbitt Burns (BOM) of about \$250 K were transferred to RBC Investments in April, 2011. The annualized return on the RBC investments is 3.35 percent, which is above the blended benchmark.

Dorothy DuPlessis

2012 Cash Flow to October 31, and tentative Budget for 2013

	Budget 2011	Actual 2011	Budget 2012	Actual to Oct 31/12	%	Budget 2013	Change from 2012
Income:							
FT dues	610,000	614,169	625,000	522,680	84	635,000	10,000
CAE dues	75,000	59,058	60,000	45,230	75	60,000	0
Interest income							
CAUT defence fund		43,340		10,000			
Transferred from Invest	-100,000	-100,000	-4,300			100,000	104,300
Total Income	585,000	616,567	680,700	577,910	85	795,000	114,300
Expenses:							
Salaries/Benefits(**)	70,000	59,831	70,000	49,267	70	72,000	2,000
CAUT dues	110,000	101,919	115,000	87,544	76	110,000	-5,000
CAUT defence fund	45,000	44,165	45,000	34,370	76	45,000	0
FNBFA dues	125,000	115,637	120,000	106,072	88	125,000	5,000
NBFL dues	0	5,152	10,000	8,508	85	10,000	0
Strike support	15,000	6,279	15,000	0	0	15,000	0
Travel and conference	20,000	20,864	20,000	20,220	101	30,000	10,000
Release time	60,000	47,272	60,000	25,817	43	55,000	-5,000
Office supplies/tel	10,000	5,657	10,000	4,199	42	8,000	-2,000
Bank/Insurance	4,000	2,489	4,000	2,459	62	4,000	0
Catering (exec & subcom)	6,000	4,951	5,000	3,276	66	5,000	0
Catering (membership)		6,605	7,000	2,343	33	7,000	0
PT Negotiations	0	4,000	0			35,000	35,000
FT Negotiations	0	26	0			62,000	62,000
Pension negotiations			70,000	3,846	5	75,000	5,000
Legal/Mediator	25,000	24,315	0	5,112		10,000	10,000
Legal retainer	25,000	27,834	45,000	26,374	59	50,000	5,000
Auditor	5,000	5,175	5,200	5,277	101	5,800	600
Actuarial (pension)	20,000	39,961	20,000	68,717	344	25,000	5,000
Computer /furniture	7,000	100	2,000	5,057	252	2,000	0
HST and other misc	5,000	5,610	5,000	2,420	48	5,000	0
Donations	1,000	1,200	1,000	10,900	1,090	11,200	10,200
Room Rental	1,500	1,030	1,500	1,419	95	3,000	1,500
Job Action preparation						25,000	25,000
Reserve for future Negot	25,000		50,000	50,000	100		-50,000
Total Expenses	579,500	530,072	680,700	523,197	77	795,000	-114,300
net income - expenses	5,500	86,495	0	54,713		0	

Report of the Federation of New Brunswick Faculty Association – November 2012

Since the AUNBT's last general meeting at the end of April the Federation carried out some highly visible activities.

"Meet your MLA" lobby event

In the first week of May we organised a very fruitful 'Meet your MLA'- event. It was modelled on CAUT's Parliament Hill Day; this had never happened before in New Brunswick. The Ministry of Post-Secondary Education participated after some hesitation, and guaranteed that there would be a more intensive discussion in which the Faculty's voice would be taken into account. The reaction of the politicians to this event was more encouraging than expected, and we were pleasantly surprised by the media coverage afterwards in the form of articles and editorials based upon our press release.

The next such event will be organised at the beginning of December (December 5 & 6) and we hope a diverse group of faculty will participate in the meetings with politicians. Faculty, in small groups will meet with each politician in his or her office for approximately half an hour and share their experiences and concerns.

Topics to be discussed are: PSE funding, transparency, the bargaining process and faculty participation at different levels of PSE policy-making. The pensions issue will be addressed as well, but the rather technical character of the topic might be too complicated to discuss in half an hour allotted for the meeting with each politician.

Right to Information Requests

At the 1st of September the Right to Information and Privacy Act became applicable to universities. The FNBFA requested information on specific salaries of senior university administrators for all New Brunswick universities. Our press release on this issue was positively received by the media, and the amount of media coverage was more than anticipated. The universities' negative response came evidently at the end of the legal deadline for submission. A promise was made, however, to publish the requested information on relevant websites within the term of 90 days. Of course FNBFA published our disappointment with this delay, which again produced another stream of articles, editorials and TV-news interviews. Whilst writing this report, three universities – UNB, Mount Allison and University de Moncton- have published their salaries in bands, apart from the new President of Udm whose salary was simply indicated at 250,000. Unfortunately it is difficult to estimate salary increases in this system. Apart from NB and PEI, actual salaries of senior university administration (rather than just salary ranges) are disclosed in almost every province in Canada.

Bargaining

On the bargaining front, our first member the ABPPUM (University of Moncton) began bargaining for its collective agreement last year through the beginning of this year, and signed finally in September 2012 for the full time and part-time faculty. However they reopened negotiations shortly after for the part-time unit salaries, though this was foreseen at the initial signing of the contract. So the combat is going

on in Moncton. The satellite campuses of the Université de Moncton will follow their counterpart next year, hopefully without the need to battle much. The three Anglophone members will start bargaining in the spring of 2013, as will a majority of the Atlantic universities. FNBFA will organise conference calls between bargaining teams of our three Anglophone members starting in January. Furthermore FNBFA will organise the next Atlantic Chief Negotiators meeting somewhere next summer. FNBFA will do its utmost to persuade the Minister and the Deputy Minister of Post-Secondary Education of the importance of free collective bargaining without government interference. During our first meeting with the Minister and Deputy- Minister on November 1, we have already discussed the issue and requested a clear signal in that direction (that there would be no government interference).

Communication/ Relations

In between these major activities, the FNBFA concentrated on creating and maintaining strong relationships with the member organisations and their membership; our last summer Board meeting was organised in Shippagan. We are constantly busy improving the access to relevant information to our member associations and the membership at large through our website, regular newsletters and weekly e-mails with our news choices.

We stay in close contact with politicians, the permanent staff of the Ministry of Post Secondary Education, Trade and Labour, the Maritimes Provinces Higher Education Council, journalists of the local newspapers and broadcasting media. Furthermore, FNBFA's representation at local conferences and events such as Premier Alward's roundtable on New Brunswick as a learning province, the province's citizen's engagement projects, and the Ministry's initiative for a conference on Global trends in Higher Education etc., contributes to faculty's visibility. But also numerous discussions with members at other, often social, events, local schools, the ombudsman, the youth advocate etc. are of importance to connect faculty and the broader NB public.

Measuring the impact of FNBFA's activities is a tricky business. A changing attitude from media and politicians, however, shows the spinoff of our activities. For example the media response to our press release in September on our filed request based on the Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, was profiled and immediate compared to previous press releases the year before. Another example were the prompt (within 24 hours) and positive reactions from the MLAs to the second invitation for the MLA event to be held in December.

Overall the combination of austerity and short-term focus on Post Secondary Education in this province and this region creates a challenging environment for our Federation. Specific concerns differ from university to university, but in general the entrepreneurial approach at the governing levels of universities, the increase of administration costs, the austerity plans, the position and the misuse of part time faculty, the lack of transparency and future of students remain a concern for everyone.

For questions or more information, please contact Elisabeth Hans: Elisabeth.hans@fnbfa.ca

Report on the Joint Impact of Technology Committee

Prepared for the AUNBT Fall General Meeting, November 2012

AUNBT Co-Chair: Melanie G. Wiber

Administration Co-Chair: Lloyd Henderson

Members: Ann Sherman (Dean, Education); Fran Holyoke (Library, UNBF); Greg Fleet (Business, UNBSJ); Janice El-Bayoumi (ITS); John Teskey (Library, UNBF); Karen Keiller (Information Services, UNBSJ); Merle Steeves (Library, UNBF)

The new Impact of Technology Committee (IoTC) began meetings in January 2012 and has since been meeting on a regular schedule. The committee began by examining its terms of reference and those of related committees (Senate Technology Committee, IT Advisory Committee, Technology Services Committee) to understand how we might collaborate to understand the impact of technology on the work of the bargaining unit. We then formulated a list of topics that would need to be addressed in the coming year (Cloud Computing, Mobile Applications, pedagogical impacts and opportunities), and invited Terry Nikkel from Integrated Technology Services to present to the committee. At that point it was discovered that the administration had acted on none of the recommendations made by the previous iteration of the IoT Committee in 2005, so that a meeting was arranged between the co-chairs and the VP Academic to review that list of recommendations and to suggest ways to ensure the work of the committee would once again not be ignored. VPA Secco requested the committee to revisit the 2005 recommendations and to come back to him with any suggestions as to what was still current and needed action. Since May 2012, the committee has been pursuing this agenda and has nearly completed the review and update of the 2005 recommendations.

However, in early November 2012, the President announced the launch of yet another technology committee (Disruptive Technology), which prompted the IoTC to seek clarification yet again on how these two committees would or should work so that no duplication of effort was involved. There was a general sense among IoTC members that the work of the DTC as described will overlap significantly with the IoTC and that the lack of consultation with the IoTC was counterproductive. We have scheduled a meeting with the President to address our many questions about the respective roles of these two committees, the way that the two committees will interact, the lack of faculty representation on the DTC, the potential for the DTC to come up with ideas that are not functional for UNB, and the serious appearance of a lack of concern for collegiality.