



February 21, 2017

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO FREDERICTON AND SAINT JOHN SENATES

An Exceptional and Transformative Student Experience

Experiential Learning – Provincial Task Force

The Presidents of New Brunswick Universities have met with PETL and accepted the final report submitted by the Task Force; the report is now being prepared for public release. In this meeting, it was agreed to move forward with the recommendations in the report, including the formation of a Standing Committee to continue the work. I wish to thank Laurelle LeVert for agreeing to represent UNB on this Standing Committee.

Additionally, the Universities all recognize and commit to the need to allocate resources to the implementation of the report's recommendations. As such, we are currently seeking one or two faculty members to work on further developing UNB's role in this area in coordination with Laurelle.

Academic Planning

Lisa Hrabluk has been hired as the Project Manager to facilitate the academic planning process on both campuses over the winter and spring. On the Saint John campus, faculty interim reports have been received from the Deans and have been brought to the Academic Planning & Resources committee on February 7. On the Fredericton campus, input has been received from individuals as well as some Faculties, with Faculty reports due on February 15.

Financial Resilience and Responsibility

It Begins Here Campaign

On January 27, an overflow crowd at the Richard J. CURRIE CENTER (RJCC), participated in the announcement of a \$6.2 million investment by Emera in our Faculty of Engineering. This investment, coupled with leadership gifts from a number of others, brought the fundraising totals for *It Begins Here*, the campaign for the University of New Brunswick, to just over \$88 million (80% of our \$110 million goal), up from the \$77 million we announced at the campaign launch in November.

As noted in earlier updates, we have set ourselves a deadline of April 30, 2018 to reach the \$110 million goal and, with the assistance of our distinguished and hard-working 43-member Campaign Cabinet, are confident we can achieve this fundraising milestone.

For more information, visit <http://www.unb.ca/giving/itbeginshere/> or contact Susan Montague, Senior Campaign Advisor, montague@unb.ca or Stephanie Slauenwhite, Senior Development Officer (Faculties), sslauenw@unb.ca.

Building a Better University

Converge 2017

Jacob Prosser (UNBSJ student), Hilary Swan (UNBF student), and I attended the Converge 2017 conference in Ottawa organized by Universities Canada. The event brought together students, politicians, university presidents and indigenous people to discuss the Canada of 2067. The Truth and Reconciliation Commissions Calls to Action featured prominently throughout. The Prime Minister gave brief remarks and took questions.

Strategic Partnerships

UNB's Strategic Partnership initiative is advancing the university's relationships with McCain Foods, Irving Oil, and J.D. Irving, Limited. Partnership activity with JDI, in particular, is growing across UNB's academic and non-academic units on both campuses. In November, UNB hosted a successful visit by Mr. Jim Irving and 13 members of JDI's senior executive team. The program included a series of presentations, roundtable discussions and tours that showcased UNB expertise and initiatives that align with JDI's lines of business, research interests, and talent development. A number of partnership opportunities were identified and are being pursued. One outcome, born of a roundtable discussion, has been realized. On Jan. 10, UNB and the NB Business Council jointly presented a Symposium on Carbon Pricing in New Brunswick. It brought together a diverse group of stakeholders from across the province, including senior leadership at JDI, to discuss which carbon pricing model is right for New Brunswick.

Administrative Review

The first recommendation of the review was to examine the administrative structure at UNB. We have engaged KPMG to look at the organizational structure of the administrative units providing support to the academic mission. To date there have been 2 meetings of the working group, with representatives from both campuses) and a report is anticipated by the end of February.

Project FOCUS commenced during the time of the review and work continues to define reporting and information requirements across the University as the ERP is rejuvenated. The project is a long term initiative with a goal of improving our use of technology to deliver timely, accurate and consistent information in decision making across UNB. A more in-depth update is included in Appendix A.

Financial Services continues to review the travel policy and seek ways to streamline and simplify it.

A key area to be reviewed is the chargeback models in Facilities Management on the Fredericton campus. However, there have been staff changes in the department with the retirement of the Director and departure of the Manager of Administrative Services resulting in a delay of this review. The RPB team will be working with the new staff members to move on this review.

The AVP of ITS is reviewing the Tier 1 support model on the Fredericton campus to determine the optimal model. It is anticipated this review will result in recommendations that impact the budget and will be considered by the President's Executive Team.

The Department of Human Resources and Organizational Development has begun looking at what is done for new employee orientation across the University. There is now a project manager in place to continue with the analysis and to develop recommendations for developing an employee orientation and leadership training program at UNB.

Communications

In addition to media relations, the Communications Office provided strategic communications, writing and event management on several projects, initiatives and files, including:

- Bi-Campus Budget Conversations
- NaviCare health research funding announcement
- Coffee with the President (SJ)
- Alumni News Direct (issued Jan. 31)
- Communications for strategic infrastructure projects
 - new kinesiology building - parking and traffic changes
 - greenhouse construction
- Canadian Institute for Cybersecurity official opening
- State of the Province address
- Emera Gift Announcement - Smart Grid
- Carbon Tax Forum
- Sexual Assault Campus Climate Survey release
- Storm Closures Policy and Procedures
- Active Threat Video release
- Various series, lectures and related events
- Numerous news releases, media advisories, speeches, obituaries and special announcements

Number of media inquiries received and managed by communications staff:

December: 33 January: 63

Media pitches:

Month	Stories pitched	Stories picked up	Success Rate (%)
December	10	9	90
January	9	6	67

Infrastructure

The Government of Canada's Post-Secondary Institutions Strategic Investment Fund (SIF) is focused on enhancing and modernizing research and commercialization facilities on Canadian campuses. UNB was successful in receiving financial support for two projects: a new Multi-Research Greenhouse at UNB Saint John and a new Home for Kinesiology at UNB Fredericton.

Update on the \$1 million Multi-Research Greenhouse: This project will allow for the replacement of existing outdated infrastructure with a state of the art greenhouse to support the research activities of students, faculty and industries such as aquaculture, health care and pharmaceutical development.

Funding for the project is comprised of a federal SIF contribution of \$450,000, a provincial contribution of \$225,000 leaving UNB to contribute \$323,000. UNB had this funding in an account earmarked for this project.

The demolition of the existing greenhouse is underway with an expected completion date within 8- 10 weeks. The foundation for the new greenhouse will follow this work in Spring 2017 and the installation of the new greenhouse structure will occur in Summer 2017. It is planned that the new greenhouse will be ready for occupancy in January 2018. The project is on schedule and within budget.

Update on the \$36 million New Home for Kinesiology: This 60,000-square-foot facility will provide teaching, learning and research space for the Faculty of Kinesiology and will create a nationally significant research cluster focused on health, wellness, physical fitness and health promotion. The new facility is connected to the west side of UNB's Richard J. CURRIE CENTER, providing a direct link to the Andrew and Marjorie McCain Human Performance Laboratory.

Funding for this project is comprised of a federal SIF contribution of \$16,585,000, a provincial contribution of \$8,292,500 leaving UNB to contribute \$11,122,500. UNB has \$3 million of this required funding in an account earmarked for this project.

The project is well underway. The design team is working to complete the design by mid-March 2017. On-site construction started in November 2016. The project is using a delivery model where design and construction occur concurrently, an approach that is necessary to meet the April 30, 2018 completion date required by SIF.

On February 6, students participated in a design charrette with the architects. Students were asked to imagine and articulate on the attributes of exceptional student spaces. The architects will use this information to better inform their design decisions.



Installation of shoring along Mackay



Mass excavation for building

The project is pursuing a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) designation and is currently well-positioned to achieve a Gold target. The project team continues to meet all schedule milestones and the project is within budget.

Update on the Aitken University Centre (AUC): The \$2.1 million project to renew the ice plant at the AUC is proceeding on schedule. A tender was awarded in mid-January for the refrigeration system. The delivery and installation of this system is planned to align with the planned summer shut down of the AUC with ice being reinstated in August 2017. The project is on schedule and within budget.

APPENDIX A

(Project FOCUS)

PROJECT FOCUS

Project FOCUS Update

The Project FOCUS Steering Committee has been incorporated into a new governance committee, Enterprise Systems and Services Governance Committee, created by the President's Executive Team to ensure strategic alignment and coordination among related initiatives including IT strategy, data management, and Project FOCUS. The broader committee will evaluate all new proposals to add to the Project FOCUS portfolio using rigorous business-case format and methodologies. In addition, the new committee will consider issues around initial and ongoing financial support of the various initiatives identified as supporting Project FOCUS objectives.

Following the launch of Project FOCUS, it became obvious that bringing closely-related initiatives under the Project FOCUS umbrella would ensure consistency and alignment between them. Three projects were brought under the Project FOCUS umbrella: FOCUS CAE, FOCUS Awards, and FOCUS Continuing Education. These initiatives join FOCUS Financials, which was launched in July 2016.

A dedicated Project FOCUS blog (<http://blogs.unb.ca/project-focus/>) was established to house initiative updates in an effort to keep the Project FOCUS website (<http://unb.ca/project-focus>) easy to navigate and free of clutter. Any notices published to the blog appear in a feed on the Project FOCUS website.

Status of FOCUS Financials

Members of the FOCUS Financials project team continued to meet and consult with a number of users in the broader university community. These consultations helped the working group acquire a greater knowledge of how users at UNB use the General Ledger and what they need in a revitalized system to support the information they use in decision making and analysis. More consultations, including site visits with other schools that use Colleague, have been conducted, and will continue.

The FOCUS Financials working team has documented standards for the GL Chart of Accounts and will continue to refine the standards and requirements to meet the information and reporting needs identified in the discovery phase. The working group is developing further business knowledge regarding the capabilities of the Colleague software, such as project accounting and online budgeting.

Status of FOCUS CAE

FOCUS CAE is an initiative designed to improve the process of administering contracts for UNB's Contract Academic Employees, as the old processes are lengthy and hard to maintain.

The new contract system has a number of features, including:

1. Automatic calculation of contract stipends with the ability for departments to modify this amount when required
2. Electronic routing and approval of contracts, resulting in faster turnaround and eliminating the need for departments to manually secure signatures.
3. Online access to all CAE contracts by deans and chairs (regardless of what department they are associated with). As with the Right of First Refusal (RoFR) system, the CAE contract system is transparent across the faculties and both campuses.

A pilot of the new system and beta testing took place in November and training for administrative assistants took place in early December. The new contract system was launched the week of Jan. 16, 2017.

Subsequent phases of FOCUS CAE will identify the solutions for managing RoFR assessments and bring UNB Online course contracts into the system.

Status of FOCUS Awards

FOCUS Awards is an initiative designed to create an efficient, streamlined process from discovery and application, to awarding and publication of awards and scholarships at UNB. The goal is to enhance our student experiences and support recruitment, retention and advancement activities.

A working group has been diligently documenting the processes and tools currently in place. One of the guiding principles of Project FOCUS is to make the most effective use of Colleague resources the university already pays for. To support this principle, the team will undertake a full review of Colleague to determine what opportunities there are to leverage Colleague's capabilities.

A request for product information (RFI) process is underway to learn more about potential software solutions.

Status of FOCUS Continuing Education

The objective of FOCUS Continuing Education is to improve the student registration experience for non-credit programs and courses through modernizing registration and communication tools, and updated service-efficient integration.

FOCUS Continuing Education is currently on hold, awaiting required functionality to be released from the vendor.