



November 15, 2017

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO SAINT JOHN AND FREDERICTON SENATES

An Exceptional and Transformative Student Experience

Arthur and Sandra Irving Primrose Scholarships

Congratulations to Taylor Lee of Second Falls, N.B. and Brianna Forbes of Targetville, N.B. who are this year's recipients of the Arthur and Sandra Irving Primrose Scholarship valued at \$40,000.00 (\$10,000.00 per year for four years). This year's scholars come to our Saint John campus with a history of exemplary achievements as students, athletes and community leaders. We are proud to have Taylor and Brianna as part of the UNB family.

Teaching Award Winners

Congratulations to assistant dean of science Katherine Barclay, physics professor Ben Newling and chemistry instructor Valerie Reeves who have received awards recognizing their dedication to innovative teaching. Excellence in teaching is an integral part of providing an exceptional and transformative experience for our students.

Dr. Reeves and Dr. Barclay were recognized at UNB's recent convocation ceremonies with this year's Allan P. Stuart Award for Excellence in Teaching Award. The award recognizes outstanding teaching on the basis of nominations from students and faculty members at UNB.

Dr. Newling has been selected for the Neil Scott Educational Leadership Award by UNB Senates. The award recognizes those who encourage excellence in teaching.

Building a Better University

UNB named one of Canada's Top 100 Employers for 2018

I am very proud to share the news that, for the fifth time in six years, UNB has been named one of Canada's top 100 employers by the Globe and Mail. UNB is one of five universities on the list, and the only one in Atlantic Canada. I invite you to view UNB's report card here: <http://content.eluta.ca/top-employer-unb>.

Professor named to Ordre du Mérite Maritime of France

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Thierry Chopin, professor of Marine Biology on our Saint John campus, who is to be inducted as Chevalier (knight) in the Ordre du Mérite Maritime of France for his work as a researcher, teacher and communicator in the field of marine biology and aquaculture. Dr. Chopin will be invested into the Order by Her Excellency, Mrs. Kareen Rispol, Ambassador of France to Canada, on Nov. 21 at a ceremony at the Consulate General of France in Moncton.

Associated Alumnae's Celebration of Women Speaker Series

On October 26, it was my pleasure to attend a lecture by Sally Armstrong as part of the UNB Associated Alumnae's Celebration of Women Speaker Series. Dr. Armstrong is an internationally renowned speaker, journalist, award-winning author and human rights activist, and I found her to be remarkably impressive. Congratulations to our Associated Alumnae on a successful inaugural event in this new speaker series.

Truth and Reconciliation

On October 23 and 24, the Mi'kmaq-Wolastoqey Centre hosted its third annual Peace and Friendship Treaty Days. Participants at the event examined the contributions of indigenous political traditions to Confederation. On the 150th anniversary year of Canada's Confederation, the event will feature a keynote speech by Nova Scotia Senator Dan Christmas – the first Mi'kmaw to be appointed to the upper chamber, a public lecture entitled re-reconciliation, traditional Indigenous ceremonies, and many presentations and panel discussions. Thank you to the team at the MWC for your hard work in this area.

In November, a contingent from UNB attended the Bridging Reconciliation forum at the University of Manitoba. This forum is a great opportunity to share experiences from Universities across the country as we work toward bridging the educational attainment gap and other calls to action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

The work of UNB's Truth and Reconciliation task force continued with a meeting on November 14. Thank you to Shelley Francis who has agreed to co-chair the task force with David Perley. Vice-President Academic (Fredericton), Dr. George MacLean, is working with the task force to begin the process of forming an Indigenous Advisory Council and appointing an Indigenous Lead. These are seen as two important pieces in advancing projects and goals around truth and reconciliation at UNB.

Strategic Planning

With the academic plan at its core, strategic planning will begin early in 2018. The planning process will be consultative, beginning by seeking community feedback on the process itself. In December 2017, a proposed process will be shared with the UNB community for reaction and feedback. Strategic planning is intended to officially begin in February 2018 and we hope to have a draft plan in place within a year. We hope to build on the strengths of the previous strategic plan and to integrate much of the planning work that has been completed in the last few years including the academic plan, the strategic research plan, the administrative review, and the results of the Why UNB? project.

During the state of the university address on November 24, I will announce to the UNB community that we intend to engage in strategic planning over the course of 2018. At that time, I will also share some of my own ideas for UNB's future. My intention in sharing my ideas is to challenge our whole community to engage in the strategic planning process. As senators, I do encourage each of you to also spend some time reflecting on ideas for UNB's future and to engage in the consultations and planning process to make your ideas heard and to hear those of others. My hope is that the strategic plan will be developed by the whole UNB community and in order to do that we will need to engage in open debate on many issues.

Administrative Services Review

As you will recall, the first recommendation of the 2016 Administrative Review was to conduct a review of our administrative services structure. The report that resulted from this recommendation was shared with the UNB community and feedback was received in my office. I will be issuing a letter to the community this month with my response to the report. My office is working on the document summarizing the feedback we received. This document will be released with the letter.

You may remember that my letter to the community inviting feedback on the report was specifically to pull out the recommendation on the Provost position as this particular recommendation extended beyond the mandate of the review. I can share with you that we will not be moving forward with creating a provost position. With regard to the other four recommendations, as feedback was varied, I will be asking Vice-President Administration & Finance, Karen Cunningham, to consider each recommendation carefully. If any of the recommendations are to be implemented, it will not be done without the support of a bi-campus working group, made up of faculty and staff, which will consult widely on implementation plans.

Leadership in Discovery, Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Governor General visit to Institute of Bio-Medical Engineering

On November 7, I was honoured to welcome Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette, Governor General of Canada to our Fredericton campus. This was Ms. Payette's first official provincial visit since her installation in October and we were delighted that she chose to tour our Institute of Biomedical Engineering. Following the tour, Ms. Payette engaged in a roundtable discussion about innovation and collaboration with a number of researchers, many of whom are from UNB.

Financial Resilience and Responsibility

Tuition Review Task Force

I recently received the final report from the Tuition Review Task Force. The report recommends a new framework for undergraduate domestic tuition whereby our tuition would be differentiated by program. The report recommends that the tuition re-set occur in the 2019-2020 academic year and, in the interest of tuition predictability for our students, will only apply to newly enrolled students. All students enrolled in 2018-2019 or earlier would still pay tuition under our current framework, subject to 2% annual increases, for the duration of their degree program.

While there were students from both campuses on the task force, I will be consulting with student groups in the coming months to get their feedback and reaction to the recommendations. Feedback received from the community will be considered before I submit a final recommendation to the board of governors as part of our spring budget package.

Thank you to the members of this task force for their excellent work.

Communications Office Update

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

- Alumni News Fall print edition, writing
- Annual Report 2016, content development, writing, project management
- Numerous news releases, speeches, op-eds, obituaries, special announcements
- CAST-UNB Research Chair news conference
- Fall convocation ceremonies in FR & SJ
- Budget 2017-2018 Town Halls
- 3rd Annual Peace and Friendship Treaty Days
- Promise Partnership media event
- Hynes Lecture
- Viscount Bennet Lecture,
- Dineen Lecture,
- Pacey Lecture
- Chareka Memorial Lecture NR
Associated Alumnae event ft. Sally Armstrong
- NAFTA roundtable and town hall at UNB with MP Matt DeCoursey
- AAU Enrollments released (messaging/reaction prepared)
- MacLeans Rankings
- UNB's Campus Sexual Assault Support Advocate's first annual report to community
- Several issues management files (student services, PR issues, social media issues)

Number of media inquiries received in Communications Office:

Oct: 98 | Sept: 97 | Aug: 68 | July: 56 | June 56 | May 67 | April 57

Ad value of earned media:

(Advertisement value is the cost of purchasing a print ad with similar parameters as a print article. The communications office just began tracking this.)

Oct: \$ 509,117.00

Sept: \$ 468,716.00

Aug: \$ 644,664.00

Upcoming files and priorities:

- Release of UNB's annual report
- State of the University events (bi-campus)
- Eaton Lecture
- Several news conferences, events and releases