

News Bulletin

21 September 1990

DECISIONS OF SEPTEMBER 20 BOARD MEETING

Enrolment figures jump

Enrolments took a significant jump at Malaspina College this fall, and follow two growing trends.

There was a considerable increase in part-time students, and enrolments continue to climb in university transfer courses while trades and occupational program enrolments generally remain constant.

Registrar Greg Link told the Malaspina College board at their meeting yesterday that in the 1990-91 year there are 6,479 registrants in academic and technical programs, compared to 5,485 at the end of the previous year. Link said at least three quarters of the total are enrolled in university transfer courses and one quarter are taking career and technical courses.

The figures count students for both Fall 1990 and Spring 1991 semesters.

In real terms, enrolments for the fall semester indicate there will be 3,725 students in Nanaimo, 668 at the Cowichan campus in Duncan, 75 at the Parksville campus, and 196 at the Powell River campus.

The number of third and fourth year university transfer students more than doubled this year, Link reported, jumping from 93.6 Full Time Equivalent students last academic year to a projection of 206 FTEs this year.

Another trend noticeable in the preliminary enrolment figures shows that there are an increased number of part-time students this year. More students are taking only a few courses at a time, possibly to allow them time to keep a job while they study. He said that the figures also show that Malaspina is retaining more of its first year students who would previously have transferred to a university for their second year.

Link pointed out that Malaspina, through careful enrolment management, has been able to accommodate more students in more classes, and has delivered FTEs to the funded levels.

Link reported that this is the second year of a new system of early and ongoing registration for students, and the results show that students are getting into as many classes as possible through the maximization of registration opportunities.

Facilities development plan

The board approved initial plans for the following renovation and expansions and has directed the architects to proceed to design and preliminary drawing stage.

Environmental Science building

Renovations to the Biology lab, Microbiology lab, and seminar room ES 214

Construction of a 90 sq. m. G.I.S. computer lab, a 75 sq. m. Geography classroom, a 31.5 sq. m. map room, a 109.6 sq. m. Biology lab, and 11 faculty offices of 7.5 sq. m. each.

Math/Chemistry building

Renovations to the Chemistry lab, balance room, and storage areas located on the lower floor.

Construction of a 58 sq. m. classroom, five faculty offices of 7.5 sq. m. each, and a director's office of 13.9 sq. m. on the upper floor.

Pacific Institute of Aquaculture and Fisheries (PIAF)

Construction of a 35 sq. m. prep room, a 60.5 sq. m. Biology lab, a 12.9 sq. m. meeting room and seven faculty offices of 7.5 sq. m. each on the lower floor, and two 58 sq. m. classrooms and five faculty offices of 7.5 sq. m. each on the second floor. A new fish hatchery of approx. 150 sq. m.

Revised budget process to reflect financial climate

Vice-President of Administration and Bursar Edwin Deas outlined the annual revised budget process to board members. He pointed out that the process must be undertaken amid discouraging forecasts of the provincial financial climate for 1991/92, which must be incorporated into the budget projections.

"We must view the next 18 months at least as a period when the considerable growth the college has experienced over the last three years will slow down. Growth is likely to be limited to areas of instruction funded by the 'Access for All' initiative, and overall instructional activity will be limited to that which can be delivered as a quality product within the funds available to us. We must also look at a consolidation for the support areas with little or no projected growth," he said. He added that the college will continue to encourage industry and business contract and training programs funded under the federal Canadian Job Strategy (CJS) initiative.

He said that one of the most difficult impacts of having an academic year which does not coincide with the fiscal year is that the college is faced with annualization costs in a year following one of extensive growth without any compensating increase in funding.

"In 1991/92 we will feel considerable impact from the investment which has been made in the college in the current year. The annualization of approximately 50 new faculty and staff positions will be added to the expense plan," he said.

Deas said that he plans to identify wherever possible, means to accumulate a reserve which can be used to ease possible budget problems next year. "I do not consider this as an action to deprive any area of the college; 1990/91 represents our largest-ever budget and one of the years of greatest growth in our history. To ensure this year's gains are not lost next year in the somewhat helter-skelter educational economy in which we exist, we must secure a small reserve," he said.

The board reaffirmed that the objectives established for the 1990/91 operating fund will be retained in the financial plan after the review process has been completed. The objectives are: (1) instructional resources to deliver the program profile; (2) increases in support resources to catch up with activity growth; (3) increases in all resources to deliver the activity plan; (4) provide for delivery of additional students if budget permits; (5) quality of education will remain our uppermost goal; (6) development of Multi-Disciplinary Studies (MDS) program; (7) commitment to regional campuses; (8) hold tuition fee increases to below the provincial average; (9) educational contracts will continue to be an important element of the budget; (10) temporary-funded courses and ancillary operations will continue to contribute to the budget; (11) provincial funding for capital will be insufficient and will require a substantial commitment from the college's own resources; (12) inflation will be provided for, including conservative estimates for collective agreements to be settled during the year;



(13) development will be supported where the budget permits; (14) the surplus carried forward will be divided into 'designated' and 'non-designated', the latter a commitment to establishing an ongoing reserve.

Five-year capital request submission

Every year the college is required to submit a five-year plan for major and minor capital requests to the Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology. Vice-president of administration and bursar Edwin Deas explained that a large number of items are related to health and safety issues.

The board approved the following requests, in order of priority.

1991/92

- 'Access for All' development plan, \$3,000,000 requested to complete phase I.
- B.C. Hydro property acquisition at the prevailing market value.
- Upgrade existing Gymnasium floor covering and install conventional wood flooring to prevent injuries as a result of deterioration of 3M floor product, \$200,000 requested.
- Hazardous storage facilities for upper and lower campuses to comply with WHMIS regulations, \$150,000 requested.
- Fire detection system upgrade and provision of exterior handrails (recommended by insurance consultants), \$110,000 requested.
- Communication distribution system (for computer and telephones) for lower campus area, replace system shared with B.C. Hydro, \$250,000 requested.
- Phased programs of upgrade and cyclical replacement of rooftop heating, ventilation and air conditioning units, \$60,000; carpets \$50,000; roofing \$50,000.
- Replace Theatre flooring backstage and onstage for safety reason, \$35,000 requested.
- Handicapped access program continuation, \$50,000 requested.
- Royal Arbutus Room extension to provide expanded lab facility for Hospitality programs, \$250,000 requested.
- Computer Centre three-phase plan for mainframe and communications upgrade: balance of financing costs Phase I, 140,000; Phase II, \$150,000 requested.
- Signage for Nanaimo campus as a result of change in traffic flow brought on by additional buildings, \$50,000 requested.
- Carpentry Shop with associated equipment (program currently in shared facilities with borrowed equipment), \$400,000 requested.
- Multi-purpose instructional playing field, \$500,000 requested.
- Renovations to Automotive and Millwright buildings #40 and 19, \$175,000 requested.
- Security systems intruder alarms, \$180,000.
- Retaining wall behind ABE building to correct erosion of banking, \$50,000 requested.
- Building 18, conversion of steam boiler to hot water, \$150,000 requested.

1992/93

- Computer Centre phase III for mainframe and communications upgrade, \$360,000 requested.
- Install plumbing and large scale clean-up sink backstage in the Theatre, \$15,000 requested.
- Phased programs of upgrade and cyclical replacement of rooftop heating, ventilation and air conditioning units, \$60,000; carpets \$50,000; roofing \$50,000 requested.
- Renovations to Heavy Duty and Welding Shops, #18 and 30, \$250,000 requested.

1993/94

- Phased programs of upgrade and cyclical replacement, \$180,000 requested.

1994/95

- Phase II of master facilities plan incorporating implementation of 'Access for All' program, \$12,000,000 requested.
- Phased programs of upgrade and cyclical replacement, \$180,000 requested.

1995/96

- Phased programs of upgrade and cyclical replacement, \$180,000 requested.
- Physical Plant complex \$1,000,000.

Paper recycling proposed

The board passed the following notice of motion regarding recycling: "Malaspina College is committed to establish paper, cardboard and newsprint recycling procedures, on all campuses."

Associate degrees for career programs defeated

The board passed a resolution to not approve associate degrees for career programs at Malaspina. The board was asked by the Ministry to determine whether or not an associate credential should be available for two-year career programs, and the title to be awarded to students who complete the associate program. These two issues were not resolved at an Associate Degree workshop, held on March 23 in Richmond and attended by 130 delegates from the post-secondary system, and required resolution before legislation is introduced.

The college board moved "That the board approves exclusion of career programs in the proposed two-year credential and directs the president to inform the Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology. Further, that the board does not approve the use of the title of associate degree for the proposed two year credential and directs the president to inform the Ministry."

"We are so involved in the development of university degree programs at the moment that it may cause a lot of confusion in the province. Maybe down the road we could take another look at it," said board member Fran Jones.

Fee exchange with Washington continues

The board approved continuation of the Memorandum of Agreement between the State of Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology for a reciprocal fee exchange program for bona fide residents of Washington and British Columbia, effective August 15, 1990 to June 30, 1991.

Leave approved

The board approved the unassisted leave for Bill Negraeff under article 17.10 of the BCGEU agreement from December 3, 1990 to February 29, 1992 to allow him to work in Grenada to develop a regional computer service facility.

Marlene Krakowec joins board

Marlene Krakowec, former school trustee for district 66, Lake Cowichan, has been appointed to the board for a period of one year.

Next meetings of the board are set as follows:
October 25 in Powell River
November 15 in Parksville