

April 26, 1984

In edition is the University of Winnipeg's internal newsletter. It will normally be circulated every second Wednesday throughout the Winter Session. Notices and information must be submitted to Janet Walker in Room 4W16 before Noon on the Monday preceding circulation.

#### BOARD OF REGENTS APPROVES 84-85 BUDGET PLAN

Faced with a three per-cent increase in funding from the provincial government and a \$895,000 shortfall in operating revenues, the Board of Regents decided Monday to reduce selectively certain University programs and services and to increase tuition fees.

"The grant falls substantially short of what is required to maintain our current levels of programs and services", Dr. Farquhar said. I'm not happy about any of the cuts, but we're making every effort to maintain academic quality, avoid staff layoffs and optimize student accessibility."

Virtually every area of the University suffers with these cuts. Sessional appointments have been reduced; the Library, Maintenance, Media, Development Centre, Administration travel and development budgets have been cut back and the hockey team eliminated.

The decision to solve the University's financial problems through direct and selective budget cuts was difficult and painful for board members who spent several hours discussing the budget plan. An across-the-board cut-back approach was rejected because of the broader, more detrimental impact it would have on the University as a whole.

Teaching and support programs and services will be reduced by \$428,000 and will include the following:

- the elimination of nearly all sessional appointments and reduction of stipends to a minimal level - This was recommended by the Advisory Committee and will result in the reduction of our teaching capacity by approximately 50 full course equivalents; the variety of course offerings will decrease and the sizes of many classes will increase.
- reduction of the Library allocation from 8.25% to 8.0% of the University's operating budget - This is recommended by the Advisory Committee and will result in an allocation to our Library that still remains higher, as a proportion of total operating budget, than in any other Canadian university.
- reduction of the Development Centre budget by \$5,000 - This will result in some modest reductions in service, particularly in the Public Relations function.
- reduction of the provisions for administrative travel, development, and entertainment by \$10,000 - These are significant reductions in budgets which are already considerably lower than those in most other Canadian universities.

- reduction of the Media Services budget by \$50,000 - This is recommended by the Advisory Committee and will result in the elimination of at least two positions. Opportunities for transfer to vacant positions elsewhere in the University exist so that layoff and termination settlements can be avoided.

- reduction of the Budget of Maintenance by \$35,000 - This will probably require the elimination of one position but no layoff, and some reduction in our provision for utilities made possible in part by new equipment we are acquiring.

- elimination of our inter-collegiate hockey team - This is recommended by the Advisory Committee and, due to relatively high expenditures on this particular sport, will result in a savings of some \$50,000. It should be possible to transfer the coach to a suitable vacancy elsewhere in the University.

The University is seeking clarification from the Universities Grants Commission regarding tuition fee increases. The proposed increase in fees is equivalent to that already determined for similar programs at the University of Manitoba, but slightly above the 10% increase suggested by the provincial government. (This is because we do not offer all the programs offered by the University of Manitoba.) The Board approved a 10% increase in fees for Spring and Summer Session programs and will await the decision from the Universities Grants Commission before establishing Winter Session fees.

Dr. Farquhar indicated in his comments to Board members that he believes the provincial government has made a considerable effort to treat universities as well as it can under difficult circumstances. He further expressed his appreciation to all members of the faculty and staff for their effort to adjust to the difficult and painful budget cutbacks.