

College holds line on tuition fees

Okanagan College has decided not to increase tuition fees for provincially-supported programs for 2007-2008. This is the second year the institution will refrain from an increase.

"We deliberately made the choice to not increase fees on the basis of a number of factors," explains Okanagan College board of governors chair and Oliver resident, Janet Shaw. "The most important consideration, of course, is our goal to maintain affordable, quality education. Looking at the \$76.5 million budget for 2007-2008, we determined that we could expand the program we offer students without increasing our fees. We also looked at our tuition in comparison to other institutions."

Student consultations at all campuses were part of the budget development process.

A full-time student in university arts programs, taking all lecture courses, would pay \$2,910 for a year's tuition. If she were to take four lecture courses and one lab course, the annual tuition fee would be \$3,018.

The average annual academic arts tuition fee across the province in 2006 was \$3,133; that includes universities, institutes, and colleges.

Tuition for vocational and apprenticeship programs will remain at \$92 per week. Students in the Business Administration program pay \$132 per credit and students in Computer Information Systems pay \$125 per credit.

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