

TRU FACTS, ISSUES, & MISINFORMATION



FACTS

Administration Boondoggles

TRU Administration has made some dubious financial and managerial decisions that have cost the TRU students, faculty and staff, as well as taxpayers in general, a great deal of money.

Branding:

Over the years, hundreds and hundreds of thousands of dollars have been spent on branding with pretty horrendous results. For example, in 2007, approximately \$100,000 was spent on a slogan: “Now, that’s university!” Currently TRU is rebranding again and plans on spending about \$115,000 for another laughable slogan. One of the recent choices included “Unearthing your potential” which generated well-deserved ridicule from the community.

What a boondoggle!

ISSUES

Skyrocketing Student Debt

Ever increasing debt loads for students at TRU are a reality. Student fees, tuition, books, and parking fees all place a huge burden on students. It is not unusual for TRU students to work one or two part-time jobs or even a full-time job to fund their education. As Faculty, we see how this affects our students. TRU administration has increasingly relied on this revenue generated from students but this approach is unsustainable and detrimental to quality education.

In addition to the rising costs, administration financial mismanagement also places a huge burden on students. Newly created administrative positions are also part of the problem. Why should students be funding the mushrooming administrative salaries and financial boondoggles? Funding issues that directly relate to students—class size caps, course availability, and student services should be a priority at any university that promotes itself as a teaching institution.

MISINFORMATION

How many Sessionals?

TRU Administration seems to have difficulty with some very basic math. The data they have provided TRUFA regarding the number of sessionals at TRU keeps changing. From 526 to 477 then again to 260 and 201, the numbers change in relation to their bargaining agenda at the time. So, it is clear that the TRU bargaining team provided false information, but the question remains: which of the numbers is correct? Are any of them?



If the TRU administration can’t handle the basic math involved in counting their employees...how can they handle the rigours of running a university? Given our present stand-off in bargaining, the answer is clear. Mismanagement is the rule at TRU, not the exception.

Quote of the Day

In the context of requesting accurate numbers of sessional instructors, TRU Admin to TRUFA: “We don’t care!”

