

# EDITORIAL

By the time most of you read this, the future of UPEI may be sealed. In a meeting of Senate today (Thurs. Oct. 16) which begins at the fateful hour of 3 pm, the Business Department at UPEI may attain school status. While future repercussions of this act can only be speculated, the fact remains that there will be effects, as there are with any act.

The article on page two is presented for the most part from the side of Business, if only because the members of the Faculty of Arts who were approached refused to comment. Perhaps one should play "Devil's Advocate" in order to present an alternate view to those students who are new to the issue.

Business has made a name for UPEI. The quality of the Business Administration courses here has attracted four times the number of students enrolled eleven years ago. Smaller classes than have most other well-known Business Schools allow the personal attention necessary for a successful understanding of material taught.

However, the hard facts and implied repercussions must also be discussed. The popular figures floating around show that Business students now make up approximately 70% of the Faculty of Arts. What that means is that if you take 400 students out of Arts, you have about 170 students left to warrant the continuation of the Departments of History, Philosophy, Sociology, Modern Languages, et cetera. With the increasing decline of enrollment in the Arts, it does seem logical that UPEI will exist in the future as a community college. According to the MPHEC Sixth Annual Report which came out last month, Arts enrollment for the Maritime Provinces in 1979-80 was 26.4%, down from 42.0% fifteen years earlier.

With talk on integration between faculties running cheap, the President's recommendation that the Business Administration Department be given school status seems instead to favour fragmentation. In a university that now has three faculties, there will be two faculties, two schools, and presumably eventually one vet school. What will there be to prevent Engineering and Home Economics from becoming schools?

All the stink about Business becoming a school seems to be a smokescreen set up unintentionally to take the emphasis from the absurd administrative councils and committees which are the topic of many heated discussions at Faculty meetings.

In essence, what the President proposes is to dissolve two committees and to initiate/formalize three councils and one committee. This increase in administrative bureaucracy as it now stands lends itself

beautifully to criticism and questioning.

The most absurd, or rather ridiculous, is the Academic Council which is to act as an advisory to the President to coordinate all academic matters. These include curriculum, allocation of resources, staffing, long-range academic planning. The composition of the Academic Council will be determined by the President (is this democratic?).

In the recommendations, the President states that it is his belief that an Academic Program Committee for Business Administration together with the Academic Council will be the most effective way to encourage meaningful interaction between Business and the rest of the University. It looks like the only interaction will be between Senate and the committees. The entire Faculty of Arts is cut out of the discussion except for two token remarks. And the most disturbing of all is that students are not mentioned at all in the recommendations regarding structural change, as it stands now. STUDENTS YOU SHOULD FIGHT FOR A SEAT ON THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL. After all, curriculum changes are the interest of the student.

It seem that space will not allow for more, but if there are further questions, please see the President or the Editor or a Faculty member.

We do not mean to insinuate that the President is not doing his job properly. On the contrary, we think he should be commended for finally making an attempt to change some of the archaic structures around here, but the recommendations do need further work.

Have a funny week and be strong.

## UPEI SUN

The UPEI SUN aims to be an independent newspaper published weekly throughout the academic year by the UPEI Student Union, printed by Williams & Crue Ltd. in Summerside and distributed throughout the campus and select spots in Charlottetown.

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Contents are the responsibility of the editor. Opinions are those of the persons expressing them. All letters and articles must be signed even if the name is to be withheld from publication. Deadline for all submissions is Monday noon. We reserve the right to edit material for space or legal reasons.

The Staff meeting is Sunday night at 8pm in THE SUN's office, fourth floor Main, east end. BE THERE !! Thanks muchly to:

- Cathy Parkman
- Nancy MacDonald
- Heather MacDougall
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- Mike Evans
- Caroline Meincke
- Mike Armitage
- Paul Robinson
- Ross McDermott
- Gary Fisher

for all the slave duty they paid this week.

### the staff

- Editor - Maureen Hartman
- Advertising Manager - Tom Elliott
- Photographer - Todd MacLaughlan
- Typist - Catherine Wilson

## LETTERS

Dear Editor:

This is in response to the childish display of name calling and confused contradictions found in last weeks editorial.

For instance, someone finally decided to do something about the SUN's rather unique ability of putting people to sleep. This "SUN Staff" should not be scorned, but applauded.

Why don't you get off your pedestal? Those who read the supplement read it because it is the kind of material they would like to see in your paper. The few that complained are mere hypocrites, afraid to admit they liked

it. They should also consider coming down from their pedestals.

We, the Engineers of UPEI, do not claim responsibility for the SUN Supplement, but do applaud the Phantom Writer and hope to hear from him or her again.

"What is Obscenity"  
 "Loose and vulgar talk about human genitals, or kids starving in ghettos? Humorous celebrations of sexual intercourse, or men getting blown to pieces by grenades? Obscenity is usually in the mind of the reader."

...Clive Barnes, 1971  
 A Peeved-Off Engineer.