

UPEI parking starting to drive Prof crazy

By Jarrod Yeo
Panther Post

Disappointment.

That's the feeling UPEI professor David Buck said he felt when he discovered his reserved parking spot outside MacDougall Hall occupied by another vehicle on Feb. 12.

This meant Buck had to go searching for a vacant spot which he found on the other side of campus behind the Classroom Centre. The cold rain and slippery walkways made the trek to his office difficult.

He said it wasn't an isolated incident.

"It usually happens every day."

Buck said the problem is at its worse when he leaves campus to go for lunch. Upon returning later in the afternoon, he's come to expect his spot to be taken.

"I know it's a tempting spot and gets a lot of mixed use, but it's also a matter of respect for regulations and consideration for others."

Senior university officials including the president, vice-president, deans and department chairs have the option of reserving a spot in close proximity to their offices and classes. Where as a full-time student pays \$82 for a parking pass for the year, a reserved spot costs faculty members \$176 and entitles them to 24-hour, year-round access.

Despite this, it's a problem that has been increasing, Buck said.

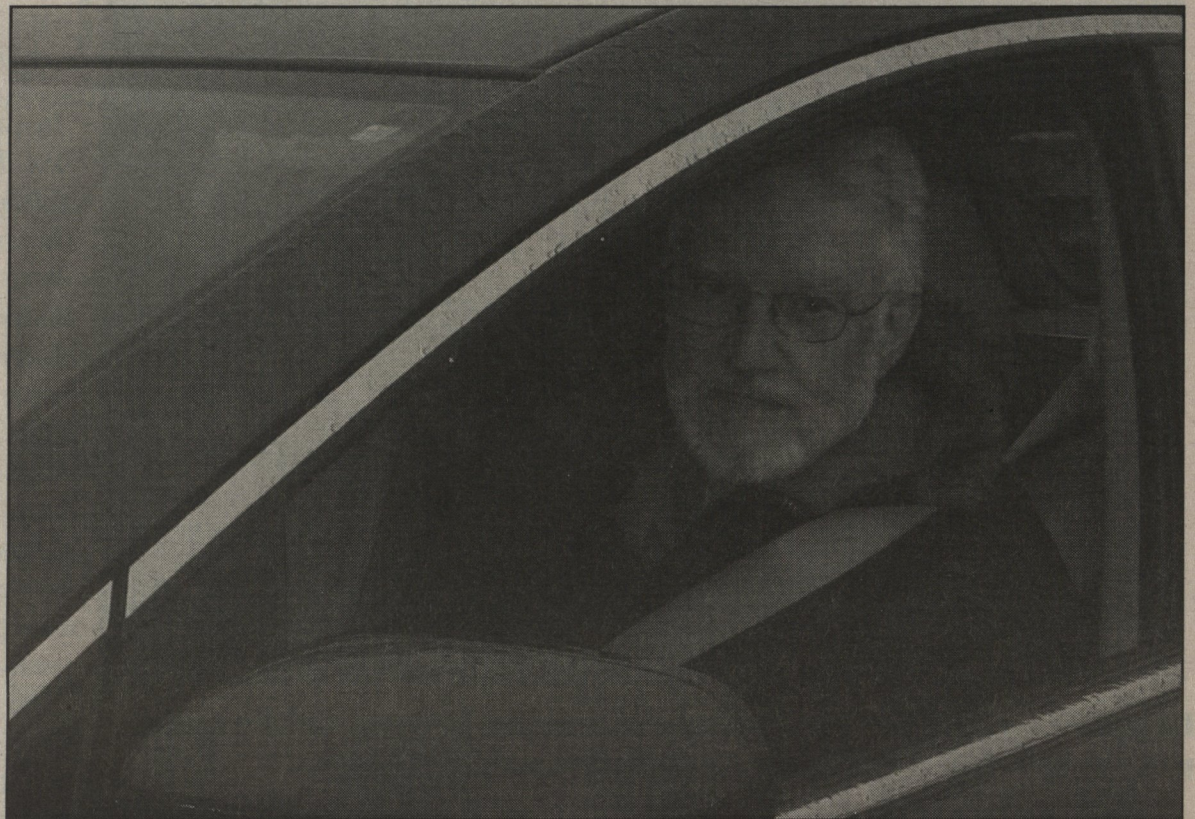
"As far as enforcement

goes, they hand out tickets and sometimes tow the vehicles, but it hasn't seemed to deter. They can't be everywhere at once."

Buck said that although there is talk of increasing the tickets from \$10 to \$20 for next fall, he thinks the real solution is to reconfigure UPEI's parking lots.

"Ideally, we would have gated parking lots students could access with their students ID cards."

Buck said despite the frequency of the problem, he hasn't yet been late for class. "Through luck, I find another spot. That, and I've learned to modify my schedule, to leave earlier to accommodate time I spend looking for a spot."



David Buck says every day he drives to his designated parking spot only to find it taken by another car, forcing him to find another space, sometimes at the other end of campus. Yeo photo

What do you think of the public transit fee?

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It's good in principle, but I think there should be a way to opt out for those who can't use it.



Amalia Peripoli
4th year Psychology

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There's people who live off campus with cars who shouldn't have to pay the fee.



Samantha Sharpe
1st year Psychology

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I live in Georgetown, I travel, I pay for parking. Why should I pay for a bus I'll never take?

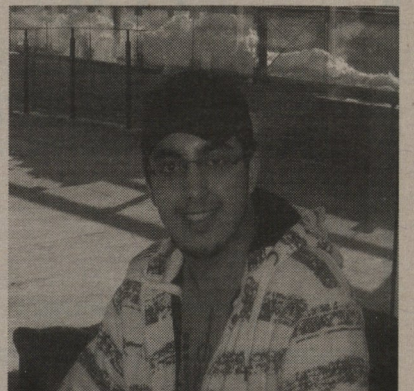


David Collins
3rd year Business

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I think it would be better spent if students were charged \$25 for printing instead of the bus.



Mohammed Altheiban
2nd year Business

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