

EDITORIAL

Faculty In-fighting

WHAT SHOULD The Gem allow into print and what should it censor? In last week's issue we printed a rather critical article by psychology Professor Rahman. It dealt with a sexual harassment survey conducted recently on campus by two other persons in the psychology department, Don Mazer and Beth Percival. Rahman criticized the content of the survey and this week, Mazer and Percival write in in defense of it.

The Gem is delighted to be able to show students a little of the faculty in-fighting that goes on all the time. The administration of the university, and that of any university, tries to keep this kind of thing within the ranks, but occasionally a pro-

fessor goes through the media.

Presenting dissenting points of view is a role the Gem is glad to take on, but we have to watch out for libel. And the letter written by Mazer and Percival is getting a little personal. Professors, it seems, are intensely protective of their reputations.

The original article has been printed, and it has been responded to. I do not think this paper should print more letters calling into question the ethics of either party.

We would, however, like to get letters from students regarding what they think about research concerning sensitive subjects like sexual harassment. When does the science stop and the

voyeurism begin? Three weeks ago we printed a news item about a women posing as a sexual education counsellor calling students at McMaster University asking about their penises. Is it that easy and are people that unsuspecting that they will answer any question no matter how personal?

This is not some guarded way of stating an opinion on the survey done at UPEI. About that particular survey I have no opinion one way or the other.

You can write to The Gem either in the form of a letter to the editor or, if you really have a lot to say, in the form of a personal opinion essay. The staff box on page 4 describes how to go about it.

The Smokey Pit of Despair

THE SMOKING DEBATE held in The Pit Tuesday failed to bring up one thing; UPEI is segregated enough now. Communication between students of different faculties or cliques is almost nil. Students here seem to see themselves as, 'Chem Students', 'Pol Sci Majors' or 'On The Hockey Team'. As well, there's frosh, sophomores, juniors and seniors, and 'Student Union People', 'part-timers', and 'arties.' Among Frosh there

are even divisions based on which high school you graduated from.

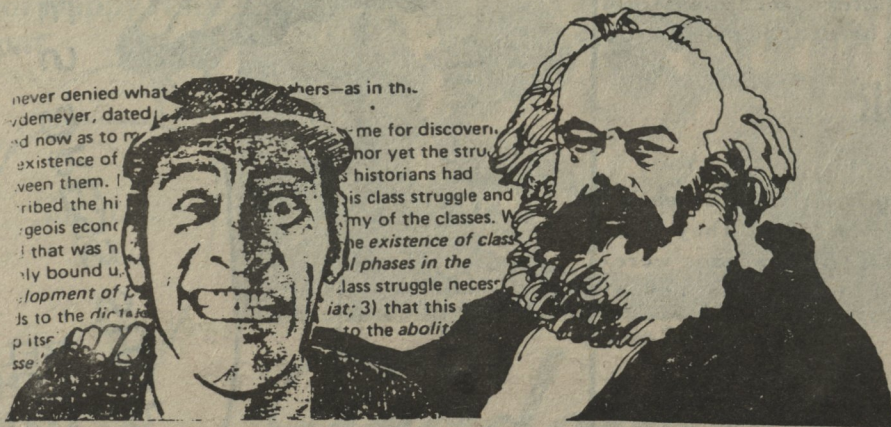
All these divisions students categorize themselves by are especially peculiar considering how small UPEI is.

The Robertson Library Lounge is the one place everyone on campus congregates at one time or another. Even if they the various groups don't talk to each other, they at least are in the same room and have

some contact. To divide up the students still further into 'smokers' or 'non-smokers' by dividing up The Pit can do nothing but further this segregation. And this segregation would be more than just a category students have in their minds; it would be a physical barrier.

To build a wall in The Pit behind which to hide the smokers is ridiculous. If a ventilation system as proposed at the meeting can truly make the air acceptable for the majority, I think this is the only choice to be made.

—Derrick Webber



Graphic/The Peak

THE GEM

"The press is a gang of cruel faggots"

—Hunter S. Thompson
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for Rolling Stone magazine

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This week's contributors:

Laurie Reeves, Sean MacIntosh, The Engineers, and the History Society

Anyone can contribute articles to The GEM: announcements, letters, or just plain ideas can be dropped off at the Barn, sent through VAX MAIL to GEM, or stuck on our door down in the basement of the utility building. If you have something special you would like printed, though, please check with us first.

We cherish typed and double spaced submissions and submissions on computer disk or through VAX mail. For legal reasons, all submissions must include the author's name and phone number. However, names will be withheld from publication on request.

Deadline for submissions is Monday, 5:00pm

The GEM is published by the University of Prince Edward Island Student Union. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the GEM staff, the UPEI Student Union, or of anyone in particular.

We reserve the right to edit submissions due to space or taste limitations.

Our office is buried in the UTILITY BUILDING, Rm.01. Phone 566-0629 or 566-0530 or send VAX mail to account GEM.