

FROM THE EDITOR

Last week saw our first real flurry of letters to the editor, and controversial letters they were too. Not surprisingly, they have prompted some responses this week. Once again then, I find myself having to turn this page over to the opinions of our readers. It is pleasant, however, to have this kind of reader response, so please feel free to keep those letters coming.

Letters & Opinions

To the Editor,

This letter is in regards to a remark made last week in Campus Comment about Student Union fees being too high, especially when you don't get your yearbook for two years.

First, I'd like to say that I know this was only a passing comment, but in talking to students around campus I find that this is the general feeling. Everyone is mad because yearbooks are always late coming in.

Yearbooks are late coming in, but when for the last two years the sum total of staff on Nexus has been 3 people, what can you expect? In 77-78 one person was working on the yearbook. When this fellow became sick and production was delayed the Student Union fired him, so they had no one to finish the book. In September following, the members of the SU did a splendid job in finishing the book and it came out last May (hence books from 77-78 are available at the SU office). Finally, for all you students who are sitting on the edge of your seats waiting for Nexus 78-79, relax. You've got a bit of a wait. Last October, when Diane McGuirk was appointed as Editor of Nexus she had a meeting and 14 people showed up ready and willing to work, myself included. The next week she had 2 people, herself and ME. (All is vanity.) What happened all the rest of those students? All we can say is that they didn't like the idea of spending a bit of their free time to help out.

Diane and I felt like saying the hell with it, but we decided that we wanted a book, so we went at it. The first problem we encountered was with the publishing company. They forgot to send us our MSTC boards, so there was our first deadline shot because we couldn't do our colour section. Second problem, lack of photos. You can't do a Yearbook without photos.

So April came and the book wasn't finished. Pictures of senior week and Convocation along with some for Winter Carnival didn't get printed till August.

So there you have it. All you folks that are mad because yearbooks are late get off your butts and do something to help out. I mean 2 people out of 1500, get serious. Students at UPEI are not that busy that they can't give an hour or two out of their week to help out if they want a yearbook.

Respectfully Yours
Editor of Nexus 79-80
John Gallant

PS We are still looking for people to help out in production of this year's book. Come to the Nexus office, 4th floor Main, on Monday night. or call me at 964-2505.

To the Editor:

The main topic of the Student Union meeting on Sept. 28 was the recommendations of the Personnel Board. These recommendations have been the topic of some controversy on campus this week. The Personnel Board is purely an advisory board to Council and all their recommendations have to be approved by a majority of votes on council. For those persons who feel that they have been unjustly discriminated against by Personnel Board, remember that their recommendations were approved by Council's decision.

The Personnel Board in my opinion has done a good job of selecting candidates for the positions available on Student Union.

Another point which must be brought up is that many of the controversies have been brought about as a result of the system, not as a result of the Personnel Board's recommendations. The system is under revision at the moment and hopefully the revisions will better suit the needs of the student body as a whole.

the upei sun

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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.

The staff meeting is every Monday at 7 PM in The SUN's office, fourth floor Main, East end.

A sincere thank you and a helluva lot of gratitude to:

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staff

Before you criticize the Personnel Board's recommendations, think about the time that went into the decisions and put yourself in their position.

Sincerely,
Sharon Timmons
Vice-President
U.P.E.I.S.U.

To the Editor:

In last week's edition of the SUN 3 people wrote to you with their opinion of the Personnel Board and its operations. We would like to correct many of the false impressions they gave, especially for people who know nothing about Personnel Board and would not know the truth for themselves.

The Personnel Board consists of 5 members of the student body who conduct interviews for all non-elected positions with the Student Union, and then make recommendations to the Student Council as to who should be hired. For the set of interviews which we have just finished holding, there were only 4 members of the Board present, since one was still to be hired. Trying to think objectively, I would have to say that we 4 are as unbiased as anyone can be. In the selection process the criteria we follow are

qualifications, interest and enthusiasm of the applicants, as stated in the constitution. The decision making process is among 5 (4 in this case) so there is no way that someone could get away with recommending someone because "they know the Personnel Board", as Miss P.O.P. Bradley suggested. As can be expected, 4 people don't always agree on the same person, so our decision making process involves a lot of discussion until everyone agrees, so hopefully all pros and cons are brought out and weighed. Along with the Personnel Board, outgoing chairmen of Council committees, Boards, etc., are invited to sit in on interviews as non-voting members. These people give their opinions on the applicants, especially those they have worked with before.

This is not to say that the Personnel Board is infallible. That is why all Heads of Committees, Head Bartender, Campus Police Chief, etc., are told to report to Personnel Board if, perhaps, the best person was not hired, and they are not doing their job properly, so that we can review their performance, and, if necessary, recommend that they be relieved of their duties,