

New director joins student services

Jenson hopes to guide U.P.E.I. students

Blaine Jenson originally wanted to go into journalism, but while attending Lethbridge Community College in Alberta, he realized that he really enjoyed working with people.

In 1987, he received his Masters of Education, College Student Services administration. For the next five years he was the Manager of Resident Life at the Lethbridge Community College, then the Manager of Lloydminster Student Services in Lakeland College in Alberta.

Two months ago, Jenson was hired as the Director of Student Services here at U.P.E.I. He is extremely excited about his position and feels there are great opportunities here at the university.

For the past five years, U.P.E.I. has not had a permanent, full-time Director of Student Serv-

ices, and Jenson hopes he will be able to provide guidance and leadership through Student Services.

Student Services helps students cope with problems while attending university. Some of the aspects they touch on are: day care, services of worship, career planning, residence accommodation and personal problems. Jenson hopes that he will be able to contribute more to the programs which are already in place, and help in creating new ones.

One issue which Jenson is already looking into is the location of Student Services, and how it can be made more visible to the students of U.P.E.I. At present, Student Services is located on the main floor of Robertson Library, behind The Pit. Jenson wants Student Services to form a committee so that incoming U.P.E.I. students are aware of what services are available to

them. He would also like to publicize Student Services and raise the profile of the department.

At present, Student Services is responding to the students' needs as they arise; however, Jenson wants to see the department become more pro-active. He would like the department to anticipate any potential problems which students may run into while in university. Within five years, he would like Student Services to provide resources for students to either avoid difficulties or to deal with them in an immediate and constructive manner.

Jenson considers himself an activist, and wants to help the students of U.P.E.I. as much as possible. "I don't want to build an empire, I just want to make sure the students get the skills and resources they need to do well, both in university and in life."

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