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12. Many faculty deplore student passivity and apathy, attributing these to the Island way of life. Few expect to see significant change in the near future.

13. Considerable diversity exists among faculty regarding student-faculty relations. On the other hand, some faculty regard students as social or intellectual inferiors and see the academic community as an essentially exclusive one, with only a few exceptional students eligible for admission. On the other hand, a few faculty regard students as social or intellectual equals and deplore the separation in evidence. Students, for the most part seem to regard themselves as social and intellectual inferiors; what seems significant is that many avoid non-essential contacts with faculty and fail to see themselves as becoming social or intellectual equals. Of course, the roles played in the classroom tend to support and perpetuate this view.

In view of the generally pessimistic nature of expressed opinions, the committee undertook to provide an on-campus location available to students and faculty for social interaction. The coffee shop in use last year, despite its cramped facilities, poor decor, noise and untidiness, served as such a central location. Accordingly the Student Union was approached by the committee to open the student lounge as a place of interaction. Thanks to their efforts, this was accomplished as of March 8. The first week saw moderate use made of the facilities - some focussed interaction (i.e. poetry-reading, folksinging) will be needed to enliven the atmosphere further. It is hoped that all faculty who feel concern for the quality of academic life at U.P.E.I. will undertake to contribute suggestions to the committee in the future.

Dr. Dan Weiner