

Student Union to hire one for the shows

By Carolyn Ryan

There'll be an extra person in the Student Union office next year, taking care of the Panther Lounge operations and other social activities.

Council decided on Sunday to hire an Entertainment Director, who will receive a salary of \$13,000 plus benefits, to relieve General Manager Heather Love from "housekeeping duties" and to give next year's executive more time for more constructive projects.

"If we don't start to grow now, we're going to regress," said President Michelle Dorsey. She said Love's position is becoming fragmented by her many caretaking tasks such as counting cash and doing payrolls, and thinks the Student Union could benefit by using their General Manager, more as an advisor.

The Entertainment Director will assume many of the duties of the current VP Internal, but Lydia MacLaren, who worked on the executive job descriptions in the recently-passed constitution, points out that "the VP Operations' job description doesn't include any of these duties. We've been trying to push this position through for a year."

Love, who has presented the proposal to Council at each of their last three meetings, stressed the importance of continuity and experience

in a position such as this. Since many of the Student Union's services depend upon revenues made in the bar, "we can't afford to take too many risks," said Love.

The total cost to the Student Union will be \$14,932.64 Love says part of that will be recovered by profits from summer operations (a new move this year), part will

come from an increase in total fees as more students enroll at UPEI and pay their \$70, and part will be written off from the Capital expenditures fund.

The new employee will be hired by May 20, using a hiring board composed of the present executives, one executive member from next year, this year's regular

Hiring and Selection Board, Love, and one member from outside the Student Union.

Though some Councillors wondered if a salary of \$13,500 would be enough to keep a qualified person in the job for long, VP Internal Howard Beattie said the kind of person usually attracted to a job with students "isn't in

it for the money, but for the enjoyment."

"It's like an election," Love told Council, "where you have to take your chances and hope for the best."

The position will be renewed on a yearly basis for two years, and a permanent contract may then be offered, if the position fulfills its potential.

One impact of the unanimous decision to hire an Entertainment Director is that the positions of Campus-Police Chief and Head Bartender will be less extensive and may be paid less, said Love.

The new employee will be accountable to the General Manager and the executive.

Restrictions on paid SU staff defeated

By Carolyn Ryan

Two suggestions for limiting the involvement of some students in the Student Union in order to open doors to others have been rejected by Council.

President Michelle Dorsey brought forward proposals Sunday night to prohibit the hiring of people for more than two years in the same position, and to disallow paid Student Union staff sitting on Council, and got an unfavourable reception.

"It would penalize a lot of people," said Senator Randy Gass, and a number of other Councillors seemed to agree with him.

"I appreciate Michelle's concerns, but shouldn't we hire the best person for the job, regardless of years worked?" asked Board of Governors rep Steve Zakem.

VP Internal Howard Beattie

asked Councillors to "think of all the students who want jobs."

With frustration evident, he repeated Dorsey's comment about trying to banish the perception of Student Union people as "a little clique of the same faces every year," and said he couldn't understand Council's reluctance to take concrete steps to alleviate the situation.

Signs of a split in opinion among the executive were apparent, though, as Treasurer Ken Mutter, noting the poor participation rate in next year's Council elections told Councillors not to limit the response even farther.

Dorsey had cited a possible conflict of interest as a reason for prohibiting staff from Council positions, as Council decides on pay raises and hiring.

Yet Mary McCarville, arts rep and bartender, asked who was to represent the views of paid staff to Council, and noted that such contributions had served in the past to give inexperienced Councillors some idea of the duties and responsibilities involved.

Observer Heather Scott said such a move, in barring someone from public office on the basis of occupation, would go against the Canadian Charter of Rights, and fellow audience member Gerard MacDonald reminded Council that passing such a motion would require a constitutional amendment.

Mutter said he sees more potential for a conflict of interest situation arising when Council is deciding on donations to suborganizations, and wondered if barring staff from Council would set a precedent of

barring members of sub-organizations from deciding on issues affecting their groups.

Three paid staff, excluding the executive members, the Speaker and the Recording Secretary, now sit on Council.

Only two of this year's Campus Police force would be affected by a decision to limit their job length to two years, as Dorsey proposed to

exempt the CP chief and head bartender from the rule. No bartenders would be involved.

"Such a policy wouldn't be too detrimental, considering those statistics, so why not make it official?" said Dorsey.

The tide of opinion was against her, however, and both proposals died in the voting.

Fresh Point of View

By Kaberi Dasgupta

1/2 + 1/2 = 1/4, or so I have just written. Time to take a break. My nails cannot take it anymore. Neither can my teeth.

There is something in the air, at least the air of the university campus. Some sort of feeling of stress and frantic activity. The sand is falling rapidly to the bottom of the hourglass. The numbers are flashing wilding on the digital clocks. The second semester is slipping rapidly away.

Actually, this feeling of foreboding was not as obvious during the first semester. Perhaps it is due to the fact that this semester's final exams will lack the

Christmas "goodwill" of last semester's exam period.

It may be due to the sudden realization that, according to the university calendar, one of the goals of the University of Prince Edward Island is to search for truth.

Thus, everyone is being bombarded with tests and exams.

More people have moved into the library.

More people are having nervous breakdowns....

Ten minutes. My break is over. Now let us see if my "fresh point of view" has thawed my mind. 1/2 + 1/2 = 1.

Truth is becoming rather mundane.

Has anyone ever noticed that ...

By Glen Boswall

— Sheena Easton makes horrible videos; but with the way she looks, you don't care?

— Your records pop and hiss even when you're playing them for the first time?

— "Super Dynamic Range" on a cassette tape means super dynamic hiss?

— The Hot 30 plays the thirty most obscure and antiquated videos in rock every week?

— You can really enjoy music or leisure time only if

you're ignoring your homework?

— Luba videos seems to like Luba?

— Canadian award shows simply exist?

— American award shows aren't much better

— An actra award is just a fat naked woman on a pedestal?

— We are all reaching the saturation point in MacDonald's and Burger King commercials?

— The new "fluorescent" line of womens fashions will not decrease the number of cars hitting pedestrians after dark; now, though, it will be deliberate?

— A Luba video has just come on Video Hits and proven what I said above?

— The "New Edition" makes Michael Jackson look tough?

— There is something incredibly silly about standing in line outside a club for one and a half hours, then leaving thirty minutes after you get in? (Mind you, I haven't quite put my finger on it...)

— There actually are people who would enter a contest to win a life-size promotional cutout of Hall

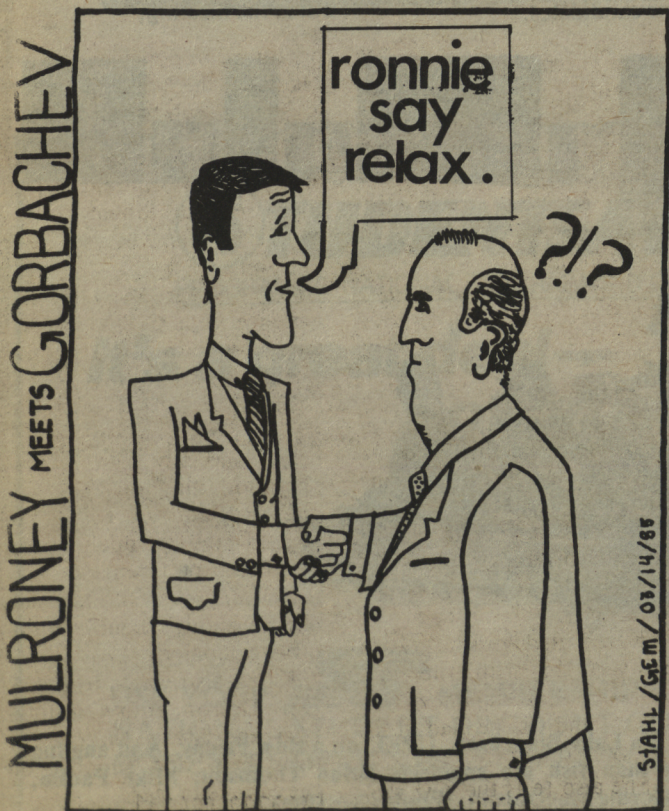
and Oates?

— If you stand completely still in a department store and listen intently, you'll discover that the Muzak has recently been switched from Guy Lombardo to the Sex Pistols?

— Muzak in an elevator is anything *but* soothing?

— If you put your ear to a telephone pole, you can hear it hum?

— Only an idiot would put his ear to a telephone pole (myself excluded, of course)?



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