

# Student Union Elections Underway

By: Aimee Arsenault

Nominations for the upcoming General Election with the UPEI Student Union opened on Monday March 1st. Every position on Council is up for grabs including those of the Executive: President, Executive VP, and VP Activities. It promises to be a tight race.

"This election should be interesting," said Brandon MacKenzie, Current SU President. "This is the first time that we will be using our new online voting system in a general election and we are

expecting that the subsequent increase in voter turnout will have an affect on the campaigning. Now that I know the amount of work that goes into these positions, I have to wonder if there's any insanity on the part of those who choose to run for the Executive," he jests.

The Union is proud of their online voting system and the strides that it has made to decrease student apathy toward the elections. Last semester's by-election saw the largest voter turn-out in Student Union history - surpassing that of even past general elections. This is a promising indication that in this

election a vast majority of students will exercise their democratic rights.

In past years, the race between candidates has seen the campus covered in posters and this year inevitably will be no different. The extent of the coverage is an indication of the importance of the exposure of the candidates. In an effort to ensure that students are well informed about the choices available to them, the candidates are invited to speak at the General Meeting of the Student Union. Candidates for Executive positions are eligible to participate in a debate

hearing questions from the floor and current councillors. Students are encouraged to come out to this meeting as it is extremely helpful in decision making.

This year it will be held on March 17<sup>th</sup> in the Courtyard of the Student Centre at 12:30pm.

Campaigning begins on March 8<sup>th</sup> promising for an interesting few weeks. Voting will take place online on March 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> and is accessible from your online account.



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Date: Thursday, March 4th  
Where: Kelley Building, Room 210  
Start: 12:15 p.m.

Pizza and pop will be available. Please confirm your attendance on the sign up list on Albert Ferris's office door, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Kelley Building. For more information, call Leslie Murphy at 1-800-565-7198, extension 23 or visit our web site at [www.cmans.com](http://www.cmans.com)