
Campus News

WHY UPEI?

By Kheng-Wee

Everyone is curious as to why I decided to study in UPEI instead of the universities in Ontario. "I am closer to the lobsters here than I would be in Ontario," is my answer to their question "why UPEI?" There are many replies to that question and my search for those answers brought me to four "away" students.

Sean Wang, a first year Business student, is from Beijing, China. He came to PEI this year on August 24th. He first heard of UPEI from the study guide "Study In Canada." He was inspired to come to PEI because "I heard that the Island is small and beautiful." He had no idea as to what to expect of the Island before he came here. Fortunately upon his arrival, he took a liking to his new home. "The university," he said, "is very good. The buildings are pretty and I love the sport centre. The people on campus are very kind."

Raymond Leong is also a first year Business student. He is from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. He arrived here on September 1st of this year after spending a year in Ontario. He heard about this university via the guidance department in his school. His reason for attending UPEI instead of a university in Ontario is rather different from mine; "It has a lower TOEFL entry requirement, therefore it is less competitive," he answered. "Besides, there are advantages to study in a small university because students can have better integration with professors. Even though UPEI is not as big as other universities in Ontario, it has a lot of facilities and it is well equipped." Raymond prefers the Island to Ontario as he said "the people are friendly, they are always willing to help and they care. The air is clean, the views are very nice, and the beaches are so beautiful."

Clyde Bryan, who is from Anguilla, West Indies, is a third year Biology student. He has been on this Island for three years already and he is still enjoying his stay here. He wanted to come to Canada "because," he explained, "Canada has a relatively high standard of education." My next logical question for him was "why UPEI?" "PEI is a small Island, and I am from a small Island myself. I felt that my adjusting to life style here would occur much more readily than my country's larger campuses." The Island's unique trademarks, as mentioned before, are its friendly people. "Social problems associated with large cities is very limited on this Island," Clyde added his statement onto PEI's trademark list. As for UPEI, he thought that "it is a terrific university with a lot of potential of becoming more terrific."

Last but not least, I talked to Jim Li, a math and computer student. Like Sean Wang, he is also from Beijing, China. He has been here for four years. Jim went to Beijing's Foreign Language University when he was in China. While he was there, he met Professor MacIntyre, who is currently with UPEI's English department. Professor MacIntyre introduced this university to him and after a year, Jim found himself in PEI.

All the "away" students heard about University Of Prince Edward Island through different sources. And because of these sources, they decided to come here and experience the life and knowledge that the Island has to offer. If you are wondering what life and knowledge "lobsters" can offer me, you'll be surprised!!