

The MAPUS Connection

Mature and Part-time Students

BY JANICE MUIR

Catch that turkey trivia! Thanksgiving may be officially over but for the movers and shakers at Mapus, and of course everyone else, it was refreshing to enjoy inspired hearty cuisine with family and friends rather than chasing assignment deadlines. At least for a brief moment anyhow. Who said we couldn't be thankful?

This year's Mapus executive committee is relatively new and still struggling to get on track. Regular biweekly executive meetings have been tentatively scheduled for discussing the various university and education issues that pertain to the membership. Dates will be posted on the bulletin board in the Mapus lounge so that any member who wants to attend is given an opportunity. The next executive meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 19 at 9:30 a.m..

At the same time, the executive wants to know how it can best serve you, the student. To do this, the Annual General Meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday October 21 at 4:30. We hope that many of the students taking part-time evening courses can attend a late afternoon meeting. Refreshments will be served.

If you have some spare time and would like to help out, we would be glad to meet you. There are currently positions open, including the Student Council Representative for MAPUS. This is an elected position which means that nominations must be in to Paula's office prior to October 18. If the office is closed, a note with your name, phone number and e-mail address slid under the door is sufficient. We will be in touch. Voting will take place during the Annual General Meeting.

The number of part-time students registered for the fall semester represents approximately seventeen percent of the total student population. Coupled with the number of students more than 24 years of age means that there are a lot of Mapus members attending UPEI. Certainly, I had the pleasure of meeting a few since the last column was published. It seems my request for ideas and suggestions has resulted in an entire portfolio. Well, all I can say is that I am working on it.

There is a limited amount of time to get in on a good thing. The Atlantic Provinces Association for Continuing University Education is once again offering the Outstanding Adult Learner Award. This award is open to adult students who are studying full or part time towards their first undergraduate degree.

Applicants must be Canadian citizens or have landed immigrant status and also have completed the equivalent of one year of university study to be eligible. One applicant will be selected from UPEI for submission to the Regional Selection Committee. Consideration will be on the basis of academic success, contributions to the university or community at large, financial need, family considerations or any combination of these. The deadline is October 15. Applications can be picked up at the Continuing Education Extension office in Main Building.

Don't forget to check out the Canada Study Grants that are available. These grants provide assistance to students with permanent disabilities, high need full and part-time students with dependents and for women in doctoral studies. Human Resources Development Canada has compiled an information guide that details the eligibility requirements. Find out more by contacting the provincial Student Aid Division or using the Internet address http://www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/student_loans.

The Mapus lounge in the Robertson Library 106A is open to all mature students 24 years of age and over and all part-time students. Why not drop in sometime? The room is always open and we'd be happy to see you. This meeting area is also a great place to come and find out what information and resources are available, and to find answers to questions you may have about university life, courses and various other topics.

Finally, in case you missed it, the MAPUS lounge was certainly the "heart of all that happens" recently. The Open House activities were very popular with the mature and part time student population. The three day event provided a wonderful opportunity for students to meet others and the refreshments were delicious. A special welcome to the Management Development Program participants who attended with Isabel Christian, program coordinator. It was great to see all of you there.

For those of you who may not be aware, Paula Gauthier is the MAPUS part-time resource person who, with the assistance of Elizabeth Statts, diligently worked to make the event a success. These ladies deserves a lot of credit for taking care of the extras that are so often forgotten in times such as these.

And our thought this week comes from Mary H. Waldrip. She says the world hasn't yet been inherited by the meek. It is just being supported by a lot of them. What do you think?

The Mapus Connection column is dedicated to promoting the ideas, suggestions and concerns of mature and part-time students. For submissions, please contact Janice Muir at <JMuir@upe.ca> or (902) 853-4042.

CHEAP PIZZA.



2' x 1' 24 Slice
PARTY PIZZA

(Any 3 Ingredients)

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FOR PICK-UP ORDERS!

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only

+ taxes
or \$14.11
delivered
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