

# letters to the editor

Dear Editor,

I have a complaint. For years I've been a fan of Subway. Lately, however, I have become frustrated with them.

In September I received, along with hundreds of fellow students, a student saver card from the University. I was pleasantly surprised to see a 15 percent discount on all Subway purchases. Unfortunately, after no more than a month had passed, posters appeared all over campus announcing a change to the Subway deal. It read: "a free pop and cookie with the purchase of any sub." It went on to apologize for the inconvenience caused by the change.

I was not too dismayed by the change because it was still a good deal. When I went to Subway for lunch a couple of days ago, however, I was informed that the deal was only good for a foot long sub. The posters stated "any sub", but when I pointed this out, I was still turned away.

I would think that University students make up a large percentage of Subway's business. If this is so, perhaps they should reevaluate their marketing methods. Students do not have enough time to deal with false advertising.

Frustrated and angry,

Kelly Robinson

Dear Mr. Peric

I might respond to you editorial on "Free Speech and Roseanne Skoke" by saying that it reflects a poor understanding of the concepts of rights and freedoms and is based on shallow and faulty reasoning. You might, then, respond by marshalling better or more evidence and different arguments. Or, you might respond by pointing out that I am a pompous over-educated denizen of an ivory tower whose point of view is irrelevant. I might then gather outside your offices with a number of like-minded faculty members to protest your attitudes toward our hard-pressed group.

If such an exchange were to take place, neither of us would in any way be trying to limit the other's freedom of expression, although we might be acting rudely and one of us might be using illegitimate ad hominem argument. We would, in fact, be engaging in exactly the type of exchange of views made possible in a liberal democracy by the guarantee of the freedom of expression and association. The

person who denies us the right to engage in this type of exchange of opinions, no matter how divisive the issue or how rude the exchanges, is the person who wants to limit these valuable rights and freedoms.

The good things at stake in the case of Roseanne Skoke's opinion and others reactions to those opinions are not rights and freedoms. What is at stake are the attitudes necessary for a healthy and stable liberal democracy. One such attitude is tolerance of differences among people and of views other than one's own. Another is a willingness to understand the facts and issues about public policy before trying to influence that policy. Both tolerance and understanding seem to be in short supply in Canada right now, exactly when we appear to need them more than ever.

Sincerely,

John Crossley,  
Associate Professor, Political Studies

## UPEI Student Union By-Election

by Tom Bevridge

This piece is being written prior to any results from the election, but some note should be made of this event taking place on campus. Nominations for the Student Union by-election opened on the 2nd of October and closed on the 17 of this month. At that time, there was a meeting of the candidates in the barn, with one person for Education Rep, one person for First Year Rep, and two candidates for the two Senate Rep position. Arranging any misunderstanding of the voting procedures, these positions should be filled by acclamation. The real contests are for the positions of Science Rep and Ombudsperson. There was enough interest to find three candidates for Science Rep and two people for Ombudsperson. An interesting point to this by-election -- the Ombudsperson position has not been filled at UPEI for four years now. It is great to see some real interest in a position that is supposed to speak up for the interests of students. This interest does not extend to the Arts faculty though, as there was one

who wanted to offer their name to represent them and fill the vacant Arts Rep seat on the Student Union.

A frustrating note to this election is the apparent student apathy. There seemed to be no interest from the student body that was present in the Pit during the Student Union's General Assembly and Candidates speeches. This disinterest may make it hard for the Executive and Student reps to know what the students want, or how they feel over certain issues. When the floor was opened for a question and answer period, only one student came forward, and he was a candidate running in the by-election.

Advanced voting was held in the Breezeway of Robertson Library on October 23 and 24 from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Regular voting took place on October 25 and 26 from 9:00 to 5:00 pm. Since I do not know how the vote turnout was, or who won, I congratulate the efforts to all the candidates. To those who were not able to fill a position during this by-election, there will be another chance in the General Election this spring.

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