

# Don't Blow Your \$40 To The Wind

Since September there have been numerous allegations of elitism and graft within the UPEI student union. A common understanding has to be reached between the Student Body and the council if any effective action is to be taken on behalf of the students by this council. Otherwise you the students are blowing your \$40.00 to the wind. The causal factors lie neither within the student body as a whole nor the S.U. council. This trouble evolves from the connecting factor between the two.

As of last Sunday night I was ratified as speaker of the UPEISU in simple terms this means that it is now my job to take on the role of an impartial Council member with no vote in the Assembly and to try and promote cohesion and liaison between council and the student body. Let me make myself clear. I am neither representative of council or the student but am the means of mediation between the two.

This is one position I especially enjoy as it provides me with the means of bringing to light any issue or complaint on the part of any member of the UPEISU who has paid his \$40 union fees be he council member or student. I hope to be able to extend the allowance to any other elements which come into contact with the SU.

Another relevant privilege of this position of Speaker gives me the ability to pass the buck in the true democratic form. Within the ability lies the weakness of the position of speaker which I wish to expose for all to see. There are two basic postulates of successful politics in a competitive western society. (1) Keep all the information about you to yourself. (2) Find out as much as you can which can be used as a weapon against the other guy.

Well I myself am responsible to the personnel board and the student Judiciary Committee. If you have any dissent with my actions I too am impeachable. This goes to show there is nothing in the SU that isn't replaceable and it is with this that I appeal to the students, if you don't like some-

thing and wish to change it, voice your opinion. Tell me and I'll make sure it goes through proper channels where action can be taken on it. If you have a legitimate complaint be it about the SU, faculty, Senate or the President himself I'll see that you have an answer to your dissent I don't profess to be god and then I can only do this to the best of my ability but this ability is at your disposal.

There are several students now working on the UPEI Student Bill of Rights which is now in the process of being amended. Attempts will be made by the union to get the Bill of Rights recognized by Senate and the Board of Governors thus providing the student with legitimate rights in the eyes of the university

community and population at large. If you have complaints voice them! If you have suggestions on legislation which you wish enacted, speak out! If you want anything out of your \$40, ask for it, otherwise clam up and take what somebody else hands you. Here is your opportunity. If you want it use it.

I hereby renounce any position or stance verbal or written which I have taken other than the preceding paragraphs. I hereby pass the buck ..... to you, the student, the one who pays your \$40. "SPEND IT yourself, and get the most for your money. It might take a while to get this show on the road but its your show whether you are council or students.

Student Union dues amount to almost \$60,000 per

academic year. You are paying for a lawyer, business manager, executive and council including myself. Get your money's worth and make these factions function in your interest. Any information is yours for the asking be it a legal or financial matter, or for that fact any other business concerning the UPEI SU or University structure itself. Student union business is your business.

The following is the present UPEI Student Bill of Rights as it presently stands. If you feel that you are not getting your share of what it provides for you let me hear it. If you have any suggestions for amending it speak out loud and clear.

Charles M Mills



## Present Bill of Rights-It Can Be Improved

### PREAMBLE TO THE BY-LAWS OF THE UPEISU

(called the Student Bill of Rights of the UPEI SU)

### ARTICLE I - RIGHT TO GOVERN

The Student Body, incorporated under the name, UPEISU, is authorized to elect a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Comptroller, and Communications Officer, who thereby assume the power to administer, legislate, judge, and to nominate another member or group of members of the UPEISU to do so in their stead. Students have the right of referendum and recall as regards their government. (ie. one man, one vote)

### ARTICLE II - DUE PROCESS

No student shall be penalized by UPEI the UPEISU, or any bodies within them for any alleged violation written or otherwise, without access to a fair and just hearing.

### ARTICLE III - ACADEMIC RIGHTS

Each student shall have equal opportunity to ful-

fill those academic requirements established by the UPEI and made public to the membership of the university community. No student shall be penalized academically for the omission or commission of an act unless clearly defined as such a requirement.

Attendance records shall not be employed as criteria for academic achievements. Students shall have the right to appeal their academic records, and accusations and/or penalties for academic misdemeanors.

### ARTICLE IV - RIGHTS OF REPRESENTATION AND INFORMATION

Students shall have the right to participate as members in the university community in such a way as to make an effective contribution towards its government and its well-being. The student has a vital concern in the administrative and academic affairs at the UPEI he has the right to participate formally within the governing bodies of UPEI. He has the right to any information which affects him as a student.

### ARTICLE V - FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION

Students shall have the right to organize for the pursuit of common interests. Official recognition will be given to an interested group when its constitution is ratified by the UPEISU Council (hereafter called the Council). Once adopted, it shall not be transgressed, unless amendments be made in accordance with established procedures. No representative member of the UPEISU shall be permitted to participate in any recognized body which functions in camera unless the representatives of the UPEISU agree to function in camera.

### ARTICLE VI - RIGHT OF PUBLICATION

The freedom of students to publish without prior censorship shall not be abridged; nor shall the freedom of the students press be illegitimately obstructed by any other means.

### ARTICLE VII - FREEDOM OF SPEECH

Freedom of speech shall be ensured at all times in compliance with civil law.