

University Community Should Make Decision on Fee Increase



dave macrae
editorial

Well, the big news is finally out. We all get to pay more for the privilege of attending U.P.E.I. - another \$100 per year for tuition and \$100 per semestre for residence. The latter figure works out to about \$380 per month for a two-bedroom apartment in Blanch-

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P.P. Replies

After reading the replies to my letter on the posters on campus, I have modified my position. I do not feel that these students should be kicked off campus. I feel instead that they should be first charged for sodomy and intellectual buggery.

To Mr. or Ms. B.G. who chose to emulate my style of writing, a famous man once said that "imitation is the lowest form of intelligence".

Next we have a letter signed - Hal Arturs Titus 2113. It's funny how someone could say they welcome criticism and then not leave a way that they could be contacted. "Hal" quotes famous scientists who said they had faith. Merely because they need this crutch does not mean that we have to put up

ard. That's a little exorbitant, even for Charlottesville.

Last semestre Dennis Clough was saying that, if by our strike action, we succeeded in raising the salaries for the Maintenance workers, then our tuition fees would go up too. Fine. Like most students, I was - and still am willing - to pay a couple of beers extra per course to give those guys a decent living.

If we can't get a bigger grant and we can't cut back

with those disgusting posters. "Hal" has done admirably in everything but justifying those posters. Who cares whether or not God exists. This is not the issue. Surely if He(It?,She?) exists, He would not put up with this commercial garbage.

I notice that "Hal" is somewhat of a masochist as most of the faithful appear to be. Why should we go around suffering and repenting? The only thing I am suffering about is those atrocious posters. I can only hope that Hal will repent about forcing these posters on us. I suggest that they should be hidden behind brown paper wrapping with the notation "for religious freaks and masochists only" incised.

Probably the most sickening letter in the lot came from the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship Executive. These wildly irrational statements such as "God is the highest level of education one can ever hope to achieve" are nothing but arrogant and unadulterated bullshit. I find it repulsive to see the Cadre publishing such a lie. I feel the IVCF should apologize to the student population for such an inanity. What do they know about God or education. By putting these posters up, surely they are not implying that they are educational. I am

on non-essentials, then we are going to have to pay more. Once again, that's fine (or at least we can live with it).

The key word throughout the last paragraph, though, was we. And we have not made any decision to increase tuition. How could we - we have no idea just what it costs to go to U.P.E.I. To that statement Dennis Clough will immediately protest that the budget is open to everyone. True, it is. Unfortunately, the budget which is open is just a bunch of numbers mean little to anyone. More importantly, even if we could read the budget and make sense of it, then it would be irrelevant since we couldn't do anything with that knowledge. Only two of our number sit on a body with any power. The rest of us cannot even watch them in action.

Some would argue that we should not have any input into such decisions since we are clients of the university. Others feel that we are shareholders in it and as such should run it. We are

surprized that the education faculty has not replied to the obvious slander. They talk about God teaching. I suppose we do learn from the myths of the past. In this way God can teach for we do learn from our mistakes - and God is a mistake.

in fact neither. Rather we are members of a community, as the administration themselves are so fond of saying. As such we should not run the university but rather take a part in running it like all the other members.

Hence whether or not we get a tuition increase is not really the issue. An increase may in fact be entirely justified. The issue, rather must be whether or not we have a voice in discussing how much the increase is to be and what trade-offs are to be made to keep them down. Unfortunately we have nothing to do with either.

But the consequence must be that until we students have some real power at the university, then the university has no right to increase tuition. Until we have some say in deciding what will or will not be cut, there can be no justification for this increase. Taxation without representation may be something or a cliché by now. But the cliché is as true as it ever was.

As for putting trust in God not being blind faith, this is exactly what blind faith is. Trust is only a flimsy to which no rational person would turn. Blind faith (or trust) was a characteristic of the Crusades.

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IF YOU FIND MISTAKES IN THIS PUBLICATION PLEASE CONSIDER THAT THEY ARE THERE FOR A PURPOSE. WE PUBLISH SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE, AND SOME PEOPLE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR MISTAKES!!

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