

UPEI drops in Maclean's rankings

By Sarah Murphy

What is in a ranking? Maclean's has spoken, UPEI has dropped from 14th to the 18th rank in the magazine's annual university poll. But UPEI officials disagree and think the university should have had a better showing due to its unique character.

After much discussion with colleagues, UPEI President Wade MacLauchlan said that the survey's results did not reflect the quality and uniqueness of UPEI.

"The general sentiment in my discussing with colleagues is that this does not reflect either the absolute or the relative quality of UPEI. I entirely agree with this view, and with its corollary that we should do better," said UPEI President Wade MacLauchlan.

The method used to evaluate universities is not correct says MacLauchlan. "Any such comparison requires the matching of universities that have grown over time and are reflected in the umbrella term we give to society known as multiculturalism was 50

But recent events caught attention because their roots revolved around racism and are open. While much has been achieved in these areas, it is a couple of incidents for the record to rise up from the ground. Here is my spin on those incidents.

Joyeuse Hanukkah? It is a superior carpet because removed more

It was a Happy New Year in Quebec for different reasons. The book by Yves Michuad. Why? Well, a sado-masochistic long time separatist was trotted for lack of any sort of tact. Luck so many that he wanted to run for his provincial party, the Parti Québécois (PQ), in the downtown area during the election of Mercier. He became known as a separatist, which means that the country now. Why does it seem like a funny gag. In a December radio interview, I shared these events with the public. Michuad was getting angry.

when Senator Leo Kolber, with the Québécois of Jewish decent, was leading. Although adversaries they engaged

cent of final score, takes into account students' entering grades, the percentage of students with an average over 75%, and the proportion of out-of-province students. Although these considerations matter to UPEI, MacLauchlan feels they should not be given such weight.

"To be sure, these considerations matter at UPEI and we are proud of the calibre of the students we attract," he said. "However, as a provincial university, our mandate is not to run a country club. Our mandate is education and capacity building."

He noted that average entering grades at UPEI are already 78.1 per cent, adding that the university could refuse students with an average below 75 per cent as other universities have elected to do, but that would go against this university's mandate.

MacLauchlan's third point of the 20th century's first holocaust, the Palestinians. After all, they are their sisters.

FACT: In most elections, less than half the population votes.

OPINION: More people would vote if candidates cursed more during speeches.

FACT: In the 1968 presidential election, a pig named Pigasus ran for president.

OPINION: I bet if livestock ever get elected, the sex scandals in Washington would be more interesting.

FACT: 80% of the presidential elections in the past 50 years were won by the tallest candidate.

OPINION: Short people should not run the country. They should stick to working at the circus, riding little horses and repairing shoes.

FACT: According to an old wives'

(MRCC). Other points of interest include Maclean's look at class size, library holdings, and the university's reputation on a national and international level.

UPEI is not the only university disappointed and in disagreement with its ranking in the survey. Not very many people agree with the ranking, conceded a Maclean's spokesperson. But despite this, the publication is already gathering information for its 2001 edition.

BJ McCarville, UPEI Student Union President, does not agree with the results of the survey either and does not think much weight should be placed on the publication's results and analysis of Canadian universities.

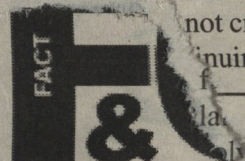
"You know I don't have a lot of faith in the Maclean's ranking anyway," said McCarville, stating that she believed their means of evaluation are not credible. "I think that UPEI is continuing to improve and I think their

should be an alternative ranking done by another reliable Canadian source."

McCarville commented on dissatisfaction with the survey in previous years. The rankings had been looked at more closely by the UPEI Senate in 1998. Its members were unhappy with the effects of the inclusion of the Atlantic Veterinary College's operation budget to that of UPEI as whole, as it made the university expenditure per full-time student the highest in the country at \$9755.

McCarville also believes that one of UPEI's strengths resides in its young faculty members and an excellent connection to the province.

Despite UPEI's disappointing showing, MacLauchlan said that Maclean's rankings are not without meaning but that it is important to maintain a perspective on what is being measured and how it relates to a particular university, including UPEI.



IN MEMORIAM

This is a tribute to a fellow student, Mike Coady. Mike passed away on December 31st, 2000 after a brave and courageous fight against a serious form of Crohn's disease.

Right to the end, Mike was courageous. During many hospital visits Wyle Hall, a fellow student, saw a man who continually exhibited an upbeat attitude and an interest in others. Whenever the visits were over he would send a visitor away with "Have a good night!" and a courteous salute.

Mike Coady was a student who got involved. He played an active role in the business of MAPUS. Mike served as our senate representative and if anyone had the opportunity to listen to Mike, they would quickly learn that Mike gave it his all!

"A shared memory binds people together in ways nothing else can duplicate."

I hope this quote will help to ease the pain of Mike's passing. It encourages us to remember Mike's smile, his ability to comfort others, and to get others involved. His determination in good times and bad is one of the shining examples of Mike's legacy.

OPINION
VICE PRESIDENT