

# UPEI Business Students Enjoy Success

By Julie Clow

The business program at The University of Prince Edward Island has enjoyed a long standing reputation as one of the best programs the Maritimes has to offer. The Dean of Business, Professor Revel, credits success to several subtle attributes that make UPEI different from the other universities.

There is more individual attention available because of the size of the program and there is a strong emphasis on application of the materials taught.

Our national average in the CAS (the test you take to become a Chartered Accountant) is significantly above average and several UPEI business students are receiving offers from numerous firms and now have a choice to make that they did not expect.

As an example of this, J.D. Irving held interviews for positions available to business and engineering graduates from Maritime universities. This was the first time Irving has come to the Island looking for recruits. Fifteen UPEI students got interviews, which was a percentage higher than some other universities. Four of the Business students got call backs, which was the highest number of call backs from any single university. Two of the business students from UPEI have received offers for jobs from the Irvings, and the recruiters from the company said that they would definitely come back next year.

Dean Revel says that another reason the business program at UPEI has been so successful is their ability and

willingness to change the program when change is needed.

For example, this past fall UPEI introduced a new program the Business Internship Program which has been used and proven effective at other universities. It is not mandatory at UPEI, but suggested. The idea of the program is to offer students the opportunity to apply the skills they learn in the classroom to an actual work environment. Students are usually placed on the Island, but some have gone to other provinces and the United States.

The Dean says that in the future they hope to place more emphasis on recruiting top students from high schools and may attempt a student follow up on how UPEI Business graduates are faring in the business world.

# Canada's Economic Policy Full of Holes

By Stu Clark

(CUP) — Even though most Canadians are still waiting to enjoy the dividends of the country's economic turn around, the Bank of Canada will soon raise interest rates in an effort to keep the economy from growing too quickly, predicts a prominent labour economist.

Jim Stanford says the higher interest rate — which may only be a few weeks away — will dampen economic growth at a time when the country faces an unemployment rate of nearly 10 per cent.

Stanford made his prediction based on economic indicators that show the economy growing at a rate of 4 per cent. The Bank of Canada doesn't like the economy to grow by more than 2.5 per cent a year for fear of inflation — a fear that has led to the tight monetary policy critics say is responsible for the country's high unemployment rate and prolonged recession.

The study — which was sponsored by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives — challenges current orthodoxy that says cutting deficits and fighting inflation will lead to economic nirvana. Instead, it argues, these policies have stifled the economy and created a dismal unemployment problem.

The 51-page report shows that despite government budget cuts and an almost non-existent inflation rate, Canada was the only G7 country to see its Gross Domestic product drop between 1990 and 1995 — and a drop in GDP means a drop in standard of living.

Stanford contends Canada has lost ground to all of the

other G7 countries because of government economic policies that are based on mistruths such as the belief that lowering inflation rates and cutting government deficits will lead to low interest rates and a strong economy.

"While Canada was busy getting (its) fundamentals in order, other economies were busy improving their real standards of living," he wrote in the report, concluding that during the 1990s Canadian became almost 10 per cent poorer relative to citizens of other industrial nations.

Stanford's research will be used in putting together the Alternative Federal Budget, an annual event that has economists, union leaders and social action groups put together a complete budget for the federal government to show what alternatives exist to current policy.

This year's budget will set a target unemployment level of six per cent by 2000 by creating 400,000 new jobs a year for three years, says Bruce Campbell, executive director of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Campbell says the key to creating employment is to keep interest rates low — a policy that encourages borrowing and increases spending thus creating jobs.

Campbell says the budget will also include some specific job creation programs including a program designed for youths. Statistics Canada recently reported the youth unemployment rate in Canada is over 16 per cent.

The alternative budget will be released nation-wide in early February.

## Attack Turns Out to be Bogus

By Stefan B. Walther

(CUP) — The Lakehead University community was shocked last Oct. 7 when a 23-year-old male was discovered in bushes beside a campus footpath with two stab wounds in his lower abdomen.

At the time, he told police he was attacked by two assailants while walking home just after 8 p.m. Many people were questioned and two attackers were sought, reported police after the alleged crime.

"We have concluded our investigation and (the stabbing) is not of a criminal matter," revealed Detective Constable Bill Boote, an investigating officer in the incident.

Boote did confirm the unnamed victim was stabbed and treated for various injuries, indicating the wounds were self-inflicted.

Immediately after the crime, a cautious atmosphere was draped over the university campus as students deemed it unsafe, especially after dusk.

Safety practices were reviewed by administration leading to the erection of extra emergency phones, increased lighting and brush cut back in questionable areas on campus.

The stabbing really hit home for those who live in the vicinity of the university. The

stabbing occurred on a footpath used by many students living near campus walking to and from school.

"I definitely don't walk alone anymore," said Lillian Mendoza, a business student who, at one time, used the path on a regular basis. "I used to walk home... but now I try to get Foot Patrol."

Some good did come of the fake attack says Mendoza. She feels that the path, which was once dimly lit and shrouded by dense brush, is safer to walk on and she is glad the university finally made improvements.