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University of Prince Edward Island

Wondering Where The Student Union Is Since 1969

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## CASA Says It's OK to steal our money

By Rachel Furey  
OTTAWA (CUP) -- Pat

FitzPatrick still hasn't been charged with any crimes eight months after a national student organization alleged he embezzled almost one third of its budget.

Last January members of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations told the Canadian University Press they were pushing to lay charges against FitzPatrick in Ottawa and New Brunswick. They alleged he misappropriated close to \$40,000 in student funds.

The association's national director said Ottawa police agreed to investigate two charges -- writing a fraudulent cheque and theft of \$2,225. Staff Sgt. Tom MacKay says the Ottawa po-

lice never received any complaint.

Peter Nogalo, a former student councilor at Carleton University, which was a CASA member at the time, said he is shocked the association hasn't pressed any charges in Ottawa.

"They had a responsibility to their members to follow up on the issue," he said.

Alex Usher, then CASA national director, said recently that no charges were laid in Ottawa because "it would have cost more to pursue them than we'd have gotten [from winning the case]."

MacKay said it would not cost CASA anything to file a case. He added CASA had the option of taking the case to small claims court where no lawyer is needed

and there is only a \$45 fee.

The new national director of CASA, Matthew Hough, said he wants to drop the issue.

"We've done what we could [and] I'm not going to lose any sleep over it," he

said.

Most of the \$40,000 is alleged to have been misappropriated in Fredericton, where FitzPatrick served as vice-president of the University of New Brunswick student council. Fredericton re-

gional police did conduct an investigation and the file has been turned over to the Fredericton Crown Attorney's office. According to New Brunswick law, until the Crown Attorney's office determines the likelihood of conviction, the police cannot charge FitzPatrick. The file has been in the Crown Attorney's office for about a month.

Paul Hawkins, Crown Prosecutor for the Province of New Brunswick, admitted that cases of this nature normally don't take this long to process, but he said there have been some unrelated delays such as employee vacations.

The Regional Crown Prosecutor's office in Fredericton said that if there are charges laid they will be

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For those students who were wondering, this is what money looks like.

## Women Pay More for Education

By Samer Muscati

OTTAWA (CUP) -- Increasing tuition fees cost women more than men because women take longer to pay off their student loans, says a federal study.

Even though women borrow similar amounts as their male counterparts, they still have a harder time paying back their loans since they graduate into lower paying jobs, says the Statistics Canada study.

"There will be more hardship for women if tuition fees keep rising," said Rose Beatty, Director of Education for the Canadian Federation of University Women, a federal lobby group on education and human rights issues.

"It will be tougher for women to get a university education and it will require more perseverance."

Since women work in lower paying jobs, it takes them on average longer to pay off their loans -- meaning greater interest charges and more debt. This places an unfair burden on them, says the study.

The overall wage gap between the sexes in Canada remains substantial -- women working full-time in 1994 took home an average of just seventy cents for every dollar earned by a man, a decline of two cents from 1993. Stats

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## Candidates to Heat Up the Pit

Tom R. Beveridge

With the support of the UPEI Student Union, time has been provided for students and the general public to hear the current Liberal Leadership Candidates debate their issues and potential policies on campus. On September 18, starting at 12:30pm in the Pit, candidates will present themselves and their ideas. A moderator is being sought, and will be screening questions from the audience to avoid repetition. Following the question and answer period, each candidate will be given two minutes to sum up their position in closing comments.

Every student is encouraged to attend this event, as they will be affected by the policies and decisions made by these candidates. Each student may wish to consider questions or concerns so that they can use this opportunity to further debate. An example of a current concern is the possibility of lowering tuition, or having the tax on text books increased.

The event will be very informative for everyone attending, and should not be thought of as a dull experience. Ian "Tex" MacDonald, currently Mayor of Charlottetown, has already

confirmed to speak. Rather than simply having an information session, Wayne Cheverie and Keith Milligan, both currently sitting in the PEI provincial cabinet, have been invited to take part in a debate. With all the candidates present, the rhetoric will surely heat things up in the Pit. This event will provide students and the general public with insight into how PEI may be governed in the future.

*Ed. Note: Check out the editorial section for a letter from Tex MacDonald.*