

The M.A.P.U.S. Connection

For Mature and Part-time Students

By JANICE MUIR

You are part of a trend! In fact, the increase in the number of mature and part-time students registering in universities across Canada is becoming the new phenomenon of the 1990's.

At UPEI, almost 30 per cent of the student population is considered to fall within these categories. This is really good news.

At the same time, these demographic changes are bringing a new perspective to campus life. Many of these students combine family, work and commuting commitments with the responsibilities of a full course load. Good time management and organizational skills are essential to be successful in this fast pace.

One of the roles of Mapus is to advocate changes and improvements that will meet the needs of mature students within the University environment. If you have any suggestions or a problem that we may be able to help you with, please let a Board member know or leave a note in the Robertson Library 06 Mapus Lounge. Remember that you are not alone in this endeavour. Many of us have crossed the same hurdles that you are facing and we would be more than willing to offer our assistance and support. We are also contacting other university mature student organizations to see what they are doing, and to find out if some of their initiatives could be implemented here.

On a different note, tax

time is looming on the horizon. We are hoping to have a Revenue Canada representative come and speak to students about what deductions are allowed and how to claim them. This is a good time to ask questions and to pick up the appropriate education claim forms. Watch for details.

The schedule for courses offered during the first and second summer sessions are available in the Registrar's office. Advance registration for these courses will take place from March 15 to April 30, 1999.

I have taken the thought "Cold Comfort" this week from G. N. Mohan Kumar from Edmonton. Having just immigrated to Canada and yet to experience a winter, he expressed his concern to a colleague at the university.

"Oh, don't worry," he said, "We get four seasons: early winter, midwinter, late winter and next winter."

The joke this week comes from <laughalot-owner@laughalot.com> It is about two engineering students who had thoroughly impressed their Professor in one of their core subjects. They had achieved the highest marks throughout the semester's continuous assessments. Being one to give credit where credit is due, the Prof made no secret of his two prize students, continually praising their achievements.

The weekend before their final exam (which was to con-

tribute 50 per cent to their final grade), these two geniuses felt they deserved a hard earned break and so went out of town to celebrate their pending success.

Having partied late all weekend (and then some), the two students overslept Monday morning, missing their final exam! Never lacking in will power, they were determined not to fail, having come so far, so well. Upon rolling into town, they appealed to the professor, and conveniently explained that they had a flat tire while out visiting and that it was not their fault for missing the exam.

The professor was very understanding and rescheduled their exam to the next day, much to the student's delight! They arrived at his office the next morning, where he sat them on each side of his desk facing opposite walls, while he worked on grading the other exams. They opened their examination books and were both pleased with the first easy 10 point question that came directly from a homework assignment. You could hear nothing but the quick writing of their pencils in the room, until they both flipped the page, almost at the same time, where the second question read ... "90 points: Which tire?"

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