

Let me warn you immediately, this is not a real editorial. It is masquerading as an editorial in a cheap attempt to fill space and attract attention.

It also has some serious housekeeping to do.

First, or *primo*, I remind all potential letter writers that letters to the editor must be typed, submitted on Mondays, and most importantly, **signed**.

I address that comment to the person who dropped off a letter last Friday in regard to one of our writers. May I suggest that you come see us personally if you have a serious complaint?

Personal attacks upon persons will not be printed in the pages of the *Gem*, for legal purposes.

In another vein, such letters more often serve to alienate rather than help.

If letter writers feel they would rather not sign their names to a comment, that's fine ... as long as someone on the paper, and traditionally that's been the editor, knows the writer's identity.

Confidentiality will be strictly respected, we assure you.

Another bit of business. The results of the survey we took last Friday will be published next week. We received over 100 replies to our questionnaire, but we want more, and not only from frequenters of the Library.

This week we'll go into other buildings, such as Duffy and Kelley, to quiz students there. We also want replies from faculty.

(By the way, we will not, as some have suggested, fudge the results if we don't like them. This is a university, for the love of Plato. We're above that kind of thing.)

Ha.



(Photo: Hartinger)

Maybe someday I'll be
President ... sigh ...

LETTERS

Search Committee responds

Dear Editor:

If a woman were to become President of U.P.E.I., she would want to know that she was there because she was the best, not because she was a woman.

Despite the recent complaints in this newspaper of the university's "Women's Studies Group," there is no woman on the short list on this occasion because that is the way it worked out.

No other reason.

Chose best

The Search Committee for President picked the six best candidates as it saw them, according to such criteria as educational philosophy, administrative experience, degrees, research and teaching experience, probable fit with the Island and with universities of this type, community involvement, potential as a fund raiser, leadership style, and others.

Sex had nothing to do with it; neither did ethnicity, religion, or class for that matter.

As for the suggestion that the Search Committee was trying to reproduce itself in the short list, the Committee has ten members and ap-

parently only four of them — according to the "Women's Studies Group" letter — achieved cloning in this fashion.

This suggestion is too silly to merit further comment.

Perhaps the "Women's Study Group" might have contacted the Search Committee before going public with these groundless worries.

The Committee has met every individual and group who have requested a meeting, but the "Women's Study Group" has never made a request, not even during the formative stage on criteria.

Nor did they make a single nomination to increase the number of women candidates, of whom there were only three out of a total of thirty-three.

Nor did any of their group or any other women offer to be a member of the Search Committee either from the Senate or from the Board, though Senate nominations were open to the whole university.

Did not contribute

The "U.P.E.I. Women's Study Group" choose not to participate but to complain, and it has carefully chosen a

narrow window of complaint — too late to affect the choice of a Short List and too early to have accurately assessed the candidates so chosen.

Yours Truly,

Search Committee for
President
UPEI

From the Information Office

In response to questions recently directed to it, the Search Committee for President of the University of Prince Edward Island offers the following remarks on its activities to date.

The Search Committee was elected according to the regulations contained in the University Act: five members were elected by the Board of Governors and five by the Senate. In the latter case, membership in the Committee was not limited to Senators; all faculty and students were eligible for nomination.

The Search Committee made wide appeals for nominations and applications for President and for criteria to be used in assessing applica-

tions. All contributions thus received were given serious consideration. Any individual or group who asked to meet with the Committee was welcome.

As a result of this process, the Committee's criteria covered a wide range of concerns but emphasized several in particular: an educational philosophy stressing a balance between the liberal arts and sciences and professional programs; experience in upper-level administration of a university or an institution of comparable complexity; a leadership style stressing consultation and effective delegation of decision-making; qualification in, or demonstrated sympathy for, the basic university functions of teaching and research; and probable compatibility with U.P.E.I. and the Island at large.

The Committee believes that the responsibilities of the new President will include dealing with the following special concerns: building a sense of community, dedication and excellence with the University; addressing constructively the serious problems of funding and budgeting which will confront U.P.E.I. for the foreseeable future; and enhancing the relationship between the University and the Island

community.

The Search Committee received 33 applications. As required by its mandate, the Committee made all its decisions by majority vote.

Accordingly, the short list consists of those candidates who, in the judgment of at least six members of the Committee, are most likely to provide the leadership required by the Island University during the next several

years.

Candidates for the office of President will be interviewed on campus in January and February; their lectures each Monday evening are open to all. When the interviews have been completed, the Committee will again stand ready to receive comments from all interested parties before making its final recommendation to the Board of Governors.

The Netted Gem

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Ever valiant, ever objective, ever right, ever untruthful — that's us. And who is "us"? Us is Katy Baker, Robert Bodrog-Goodland, Glen Boswall, Kaberi Dasgupta, Carol Doiron, Lori Anne Heckbert, Ross Hartinger, Jim Lai, Ron Lewis, Brian Linkletter, Brian MacLeod, P. Stahl MacIntyre, Jonathan Orlovski, John Pendergast, Nancy Ross, Carolyn Ryan, The Shadow, Bob Stanley, Phil Stanyer, Jill Warburton, Dave Yorston, and Michael Zinck.

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Views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Student Union, the staff, or anyone in particular. We reserve the right to edit copy for space, style, or legal reasons. Letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced, and submitted before noon on Mondays. All letters must be signed by their author(s), but names may be withheld upon consultation with the editor. Phone 892-4121, extension 387. Staff meetings are Mondays at 6 p.m. All students are welcome to join the staff.