

# A Lonely Student's Response to a Possible Professor's Strike

brad deighan

I am a lonely student. I am a lonely student because I am single - I am a single student. I say this because it is true - I am only a single student, and as such I would not want to speak for any student(s) other than myself. I am nothing more than a single lonely student, because I do not know what other students think about the possibility of a professor's strike, but I would like to find out. What I would not like is to remain a lonely student forevermore, and this vision haunts me at night, and I can't sleep - not even with my special blanky and my seventeen year old pet donkey. So I need a few friends to talk to, to help me out of my loneliness. We students need to talk about what is going on concerning the possibility of a professor's strike, and what role(s), if any, we students might consider taking.



While the issue remains unclear and the pressure continues to build, a large bunch of single lonely students are trying to do their school

work, and keep their heads in their books. The professor's must keep their thoughts on teaching, as well. Already over-loaded with work, they must now think about this dour possibility, while some also dedicate large amounts of time and energy to the actual negotiations. This only helps to distract them to a larger degree from giving us students the quality of education we are here for and which we deserve. We are already over-paying by far too much, and will be paying by far too much more if the professor's get what they want - the administration does not have any money for the professor's and someone will have to foot the bill.

Instead of money, there is the new Student Center which has failed to act as a central hub for campus and create a sense of community. It shuts down in the summer and over break, instead of keeping the campus alive with activity. There is also the Aquatic facility which is late and over-budget. There was a re-sodding of rugby field over the summer, which was ruined before it was used, and simply because it was not taken care of. Along with this, there are plans for a

new dormitory next year in light of the destitute condition of Marion Hall - at the same time, UPEI is having trouble keeping their dormitories filled, though the condition of Marion Hall may be a factor. This year the Kelley Building has seen renovations done inside, while the tradition of replacing its roof continues on every year. I also noticed work being done to the library's breeze-way, and the of the Duffy building, either on one of its outside walls or its roof. The administration has no money left, none to give to the professor's, and if the professor's do get what they're asking for, you can guess that it's going to be us students coughing up ever more money next year - we will be in no need to hold on to our already famine ridden wallets. We students have been caught between a piece of petrified wood and something really, really hard and angry.

But could it be that the administration may have guessed it would be the students paying for these problems in the end? I would almost say that I hope not, but then I would ask myself, what is the alternative? If the administration could have foreseen such a thing, then there is a blatant problem here in the form of disregard towards the student body. If the administration could not have foreseen this, then there is an even bigger problem - if the administration does not actually know how their actions are going to effect students in the future, then who does? How much foresight does administration really have here? I would like to know why they would see fit to expend so much money while facing such large and escalating problems with the faculty association, which has been going on for almost four years now, if I am correct.

But surely there are reasons for this expenditure. The administration is likely trying to "build" on cam-  
*continued on next page...*

## FLY FOR FREE TO LONDON

A Travel CUTS Exclusive!



Fly for FREE when you purchase one of the selected Contiki European tours.

**Space is limited - BOOK EARLY!**



**TRAVEL CUTS**  
See the world your way

Call Toll Free  
1-888-FLY-CUTS (359-2887)

[www.travelcuts.com](http://www.travelcuts.com)

This free flight offer applies to flights from Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Halifax, or St. John's for selected March tour departures. Add on \$100 to fly from Kingston, London, or Quebec City. Add on \$200 to fly from Fredericton, Moncton, Saint John, or Charlottetown. Fly for \$99-\$199 with selected tour departures in April and May (plus add-on fares if applicable). Other fares available from other cities. Must be paid in full by March 31/04 or immediately if booked within 45 days of departure. Weekend surcharges, taxes, and other government fees not included. Valid International Student Identity Card (ISIC) required. Other restrictions apply. Drop by for full details.

Travel CUTS is owned and operated by the Canadian Federation of Students.