



## Where do S. U. funds go?

As soon as we register at this university each year, we are given the honour of automatically becoming a member of the U.P.E.I. Student Union, (whether you want to join or not). Our first duty as a member of the Student Union is to pay our dues, and for many students, this is the last time that they will here from the Student Union. This little ritual at the beginning of the year requires us to pay \$40.00 Student Union fees, \$6.00 for a year book (many of which are still sitting in the basement of Memorial Hall because they were never sent out to the Seniors from two years ago, and as for the one from last year, there is still no word on them) and we also get to pay \$8.00 for our Blue Cross medical plan. It is also interesting that we are required to pay these fees in full at the beginning of the year and not half each semester as we do with all other university fees (which causes a lot of problems for students who only go to school for the first semester).

Since we have all now paid our dues, I thought you might be interested in knowing where the money goes. We do pay Student Union fees, but we pay it to the business office and not to the Student Union. In fact the Student Union hasn't even seen one cent of the money that we payed during registration. From our Student Union fees, the business office collected \$56,320. (1408 students multiplied by \$40.00). From our year book fees they received \$8,448 and from our medical fees they received \$11,264 (if you are wondering why we don't have Blue Cross cards yet, it is because the business office is still holding our money). When you add up all these figures, it turns out that the business office is now holding \$76,032 of Student Union money.

Registration was completed on September 6 and it is now October 22, and still no word from the business office. At the current rate of interest

for that large amount of money, the business office has already made more than \$1,000 interest on Student Union money. I don't really understand the reason why, but when the business office does decide to give the Student Union our money, they give it to them in parts, and not all at once.

When the Student Union does get the money, this is what they tentatively plan to do with it (I say tentatively because there has not been a financial statement presented yet). The money for the year book will go to its fund, which will leave the Student Union with a mere \$56,320. From this will go payment to the Barn of approximately \$17,000 which will then only leave them with about \$40,000. From this amount, the largest expense that we have is salaries and honorariums. We have some full time employees such as a secretary and a person who cleans the barn (both of which are underpaid) but besides them, almost all the rest of the money goes to student employees.

Executive:  
 President - \$1,000  
 Treasurer - \$800.  
 Vice President - \$600  
 Comptroller - \$500  
 Communications - \$500

If these people do their jobs (which is still in question for a few of them) over the span of the school year, their salary amounts to almost nothing, considering the amount of time they must put in.

After the executive, the next highest paid member by the Student Union is our speaker, whose only job is to chair all Student Union meetings and interpret the Constitution. In fact the rest of the job description requires the speaker not to do things such as hold any other office. For this wonderful job, our speaker gets paid \$350. Our speaker speaker enjoyed the job so much that it is now being held for the second year by the same person.

There are quite a few other paid positions but all of the money is a mere tokenism, such as the paid people at CSUR, the CADRE, the photo club, etc. Most of these salaries, when put in terms of the amount of time spent it ends up many times being about 10 to 20 cents and hour.

What I am saying is that almost every person who gets a salary from the Student Union, gets money but it is really an immaterial amount. You do the job because you enjoy working for the Student Union, and not because you are out to make money. I must admit that there are a few exceptions. If you become a Campus Policeman, you can get \$10 for working at a Pig 'n' Whistle from 8:30 to 12:30. You may have to stay a bit

**IF YOU FIND MISTAKES**  
 IN THIS PUBLICATION,  
 PLEASE CONSIDER  
 THAT THEY ARE THERE  
 FOR A PURPOSE. WE  
 PUBLISH SOMETHING  
 FOR EVERYONE, AND  
 SOME PEOPLE ARE  
 ALWAYS LOOKING  
 FOR MISTAKES !!!



later than 12:30, but it still works out to over \$2.00 an hour. You could also become a bartender at the Pig, which means you would be part of the three way split of \$45. If you want to make money from the Student Union these are two good jobs to get, though it isn't quite that easy unless you know the right people.

So where else does Student Union money go. As you may remember from the Student Union executive campaign speeches, they want to run every Student Union function at a profit, or at least at a break even level. A line that has come from the Student Union recently is that if we didn't have a Student Union, there wouldn't be any more Pig 'n' Whistles. Well this is supposed to be one of those functions that is given to the students as a service. What it ends up being is a money making enterprise for the Student Union. They tell us that our Student Union fees help pay for it, yet they make money on just about every Pig.

Last year when the price of beer went up, the Pig's price went from 50¢ to 60¢ not to 55¢. There are still places down town where you can get a beer for 55¢ but at our Pigs (paid for by the Student Union) we have to pay 60¢.

We have a movie club this year that has been attempting to get more and better movies

than we have ever had in the past. This could be considered as a service to the students, yet the Student Union will only support it if they make a profit or break even.

We have lost money on our Fall Festival and our Winter Carnival in the past. Yet our enterprising Student Union executive plans to run each one of these activities this year at a break even level. These are functions brought to us by the Student Union, but we are going to have to pay a high price in order to enjoy them.

When we pay that much money at the beginning of the year to our Student Union, my feeling is that it should go towards providing services for the students. After we have paid this large amount of money why should we have to pay so much to participate in any of the functions. So we lose money on some things, so what. We the students have paid over \$56,00 to have functions provided to us, not so we can help enrich the Student Union coffers. If all these functions are going to operate at a profit, where does the rest of the Student Union money go. By the way, don't get discouraged. There should be more activities offered to you next year, because the Student Union is now drafting a bill that will raise our Student Union fees from \$40 to \$50 a year.

**If you'd  
 like to know  
 about us,**

**We'd like  
 to know  
 about you!**

Meet us on campus  
 October 31.



**CANADIAN IMPERIAL  
 BANK OF COMMERCE**