

NEWS

How to Find Out About Campus Closures or Delays

Students, Staff and Faculty are advised that if a decision is made at any time to close, or delay opening, the UPEI campus, details will be made available as follows:

Radio Stations - Announcements will be made on local radio stations by 7AM if possible. Stations contacted will be: CFCY/Magic93, CHTN, CBC Radio, and C102 (Summerside).

UPEI Hotline - A recorded message, by 7AM if possible, will be made on the UPEI hotline. To access this information, please call 894-2882.

UPEI Website - An Urgent Notice, in red, will be posted at the top of the news and events bar of the UPEI website - www.upei.ca

Campus Notice - An all-campus e-mail notice will be sent to staff and faculty on the Campus Events distribution list.

Student Services... Did You Know?

The new Options pilot is being developed in response to students inquiries on how they can remain connected with UPEI during their period of dismissal and how they can improve their academic situation while not enrolled in academic courses.

Building on the supports and services offered to UPEI students, the Options program will guide students through the process of building their own academic and career portfolio. Students will be engaged in a learning process that will involve self reflection, assessing personal abilities and challenges, critical thinking, exploring career interests, and developing the academic and professional tools to succeed. Students will be matched up with a university mentor as well for further support and connection on campus.

UPEI Delivers MEd Program in Alberta

The University of Prince Edward Island's Faculty of Education is spreading its wings across Canada. In February, UPEI will deliver its Master of Education program (MEd) in Leadership in Learning to teachers in Fort McMurray, Alberta. The program provides experienced educators with the knowledge and skills required to become effective educational leaders. Meanwhile, 19 students will be graduating this spring from the UPEI MEd program they have just completed in Grande Prairie, Alberta.

Four years ago, UPEI was approached by a School Board superintendent in Alberta who was interested in having a Master of Education program offered for teachers in Grande Prairie. The school system had been unsuccessful in getting universities in Alberta and the United States to offer on-site Master's degrees. Dr. Gerry Hopkirk, Coordinator of Graduate Studies in the UPEI Faculty of Education, worked with the Alberta school system to plan and deliver the program.

"Due to the small size of the Faculty and the University, we have the creativity and flexibility to respond to alternate approaches to program delivery. The Registrar's and Comptroller's offices were very supportive in helping our Faculty of Education to successfully implement this program," says Dr. Hopkirk.

UPEI organized the schedule so that Alberta teachers could complete the Master's program without having to leave their jobs. Unlike most distance education programs, which are solely web-based, this one was offered on-site and in person. Courses were taught on weekends and in the summer when UPEI professors could fly to Alberta. At other times, students and professors remained in touch through email and other internet media. "This program is a win-win for all concerned - Fort McMurray school systems, Alberta teachers, and for UPEI," says Dr. Graham Pike, UPEI Dean of Education. "We are delighted to be able to offer our Master's degree in other locations across Canada."

Comments from the Grande Prairie program evaluations show that the participants were equally delighted: "Thank you [to UPEI] for the opportunities given to me for personal and professional growth. The professors have been wonderful, enthusiastic mentors," said one graduating student. Another stated, "The instructors were truly outstanding and showed their passion for learning and teaching. Their compassion and grace are contagious. Our class has been truly blessed."

Since the beginning of the program, a significant number of the participating teachers have been appointed to leadership positions within Alberta. A graduation ceremony will be held in the early spring in Grande Prairie. Courses are scheduled to begin in Fort McMurray on February 26. UPEI will be working cooperatively with the public and Catholic school boards in Fort McMurray. The program will take two years to complete.

For further information please contact the Dr. Gerry Hopkirk, Graduate Studies Program Coordinator, UPEI Faculty of Education, at 566-0622.

New Minor in International Development Studies

Broaden the horizons of your knowledge in International Affairs with a truly multi-disciplinary course of study:

New Minor in International Development Studies,
Coordinated by Professor Wimal Rankaduwa

Core Course: IDS 201: Introduction to International Development Studies, Tue., Thurs., 2:30 - 3:45PM. This course examines important theoretical and empirical issues of international development using an interdisciplinary approach. It focuses on a critical analysis of comparative development experience of developing and developed countries, various theories, policy alternatives and strategies of development, and the role of national and international organizations in international development.

IDS 201 may be taken alone, or as the basis of a minor made up of selected courses from Asian Studies, Business, Economics, Education, Modern Languages, Political Studies, and Sociology/Anthropology.

For further information contact: Dr. Wimal Rankaduwa at 566-0487, wrankaduwa@upei.ca or the Registrar's Office at 566-0439, registrar@upei.ca

Farmers' Market Parking Restrictions

Students, faculty and staff who have been parking in the Farmers' Market lot should be aware of the following information - Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) has recently reviewed the usage of the Farmers' Market parking lot. This was due to safety concerns caused by people, primarily students, crossing Belvedere Avenue at the Farmers' Market entrance. This area has three lanes of busy traffic conflicting with the main entrance to the University and there is no signalized or marked pedestrian crossing. It was felt that a serious mishap was very likely to occur unless measures were taken to restrict the use of this parking area. AAFC has recently posted notices informing users of the parking lot of that restriction.

Wondering what to do next? Why not choose a career in *health and community work?*



Holland College offers you the marketable skills you need for employment. Our most recent graduate survey indicates 97% of 2004 Health and Community Studies graduates are employed.

Application Review Date for September 2006 is February 28, 2006

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The deadline to present proof of other health insurance to the Student Union Office is:

Jan 31st, 2006