

Student Union Web Site Revamped

FOR YOUR VIEWING PLEASURE

By Mark Cameron
Contributor

With the 2004-2005 school year getting on its way, it's important for new and returning students alike to have an idea of what is going on in the campus community. One thing that will make this so easier is the brand new Student Union web site, which is slated to be on-line very soon.

The new web site has been in development all summer, according to Student Union President Clare Henderson, who says "the student union wanted to take the time and consideration to do this right—the internet has changed the way we operate and most students are internet savvy, thus we wanted to make a site to accommodate their needs throughout the school year."

The changes to the student union web site come after much thought of how the original web site was serving the campus: "It's a reflection of the times," laments Henderson. "With the previous web site we were unable to update the site as well as we would have liked, and if information isn't changing on the web site to meet the students' needs it's not a resource, so it was time to make a change. And I'm very excited. I really do believe the web site will have a great impact on the university community. I recommend that all students use it as their personal home page."

Several new features will be included on the web site; one Henderson believes students will get much use of is the Used Book Exchange, a site for students to post and search for used text books on-

line. "It will be a welcome change to walking around campus searching the billboards for cheap books. I think the book exchange will save a few trees and a lot of walking," says the Student Union President.

Another feature, the *Tonight at The Wave* menu, will list the daily events occurring at the Wave. "No student should be heard saying on a Friday night *I didn't know what was going on at the Wave*," says Henderson. Also every councillor will have a block/form on the site, so students can contact them with their queries throughout the school year. The year is just beginning so make sure you keep a lookout for the new and improved Student Union web site.

UPEI's CO-OP Program

By Jamie McGuigan
Reporter

As the 2004-2005 year begins, so does another session of the co-operative education program at UPEI. The co-op program provides UPEI Business, Computer Science, and Physics students a chance to work during their school year or summer while earning course credit (students may enter the program in their second year of studies). However, this year there are several new changes to the program that those familiar with it may want to pay attention to.

The co-op program, which began in 1996, started as an opportunity for students to become acquainted with their desired field, as well as put their in-class knowledge to work in real world situations. "The program provides students with experience, allows them to explore different sectors, as well as earn money,

make career contacts, and gain confidence" explains co-op coordinator Ernie Doiron.

Returning students may notice some differences from previous years in the co-op program. Of course there is the fee increase of 5-6%, similar to the increase in tuition. Doiron contends that this money has been placed back into the program, having hired a new co-ordinator, whose sole function is the promotion of the program, and finding new businesses willing to host participants, with a focus on international opportunities. One 4th year co-op student, who asked to remain anonymous said, "There's really a lot of benefit in co-op, it's too bad they had to raise the price. Hopefully it doesn't keep new students away."

Another change is a difficulty in receiving student loans. As loans are given first to those in need, co-op students are sometimes overlooked as they have a "decent job" as compared to other students who may not be working. However, the process may not factor in costs such as rent, car payments and other bills, leaving deserving students with empty pockets. Recognizing this, Mr. Doiron is planning an information session with some people from student loans, allowing students a chance to voice their concerns.

For those interested there will be two information sessions on the co-op program September 17th and 24th, at a time and place to be named. The deadline for applications to the program is October 15th.



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&

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STUDENTS DURING THE 2004-2005 SCHOOL
YEAR!**

We wish you every success