

dollars required, a transcript, and a one page write-up "on how you are going to approach team research." Candidates are also selected according to population dispersal.

"My goal is to have someone from UPEI to go next summer ... for me, it was the third summer that a UPEI student has gone [in a row]."

When I ask her if she intends to pursue international nursing after UPEI, she nods eagerly, silently.

"I would love to travel ... basically the whole world if possible. Vietnam is a very beautiful country, the hospitality was amazing ... it will have a special place in my heart as my first real overseas experience." Melissa sees herself working with Doctors Without Borders or in the Red Cross someday.

Melissa is still very active in WUSC, and describes the local committee on campus as "small, but mighty."

"We've accomplished a lot. We don't have a lot of members, but the financial resources and activism help some very important projects."

Melissa's favourite WUSC-related project, "a big passion of mine," is the student refugee sponsorship at UPEI.

The yearly process begins in February, when the Ottawa bureau (which has field offices in developing countries for recruiting candidates), sends the UPEI group ten dossiers which contain information about sponsorship candidates. The committee goes through them, chooses the ones which could be supported here, and then Ottawa lets them know which students will be coming. Another part of the process involves collaborating with the registrar's office to get the students enrolled here. Next, arrangements have to be put in place before the students get here.

Another WUSC project has been the "Students Against Sweatshops" program. With help from OXFAM, the group started last year in working with the UPEI bookstore in researching the origins of products sold there.

"There's a lot to consider: ages, hour limits, location, wages, benefits, the education of employees

... sometimes it looks nice on paper, but it's not as easy to follow up on and verify."

The group at the international seminar also had the opportunity to visit a Nike factory in Vietnam, which inspired a lot of skepticism among the delegates before going.

"But, not to say I saw the entire factory ... we were more impressed than we'd thought. They went all out to show us everything, but we also insisted on talking to the people." She shows me a picture of the large sewing room, which she says employed 2,000 people.

A draft of a UPEI code of conduct/ mandate is being compiled, which will then only need a signature for it to be put in place. This will be one of the first such mandates in the country.

Meetings for WUSC take place every Thursday, at 5 p.m., in the Main Faculty Lounge. Since all students contribute through their student fees, everyone is already a member and more than welcome to attend.

# University Considers Removing February Break

by Matthew DORRELL

The impressively titled Senate Task Force on Time and Space, co-chaired by Physics professor Dr. Doug Dahn and Philosophy professor Dr. Tony Couture, will be presenting students and faculty with a series of surveys this year.

The first of these questionnaires asks how best to allocate "study days," currently being used for UPEI's February reading week. Options include lengthening the Christmas break, creating a longer break between classes and final exams, or some combination of these two choices. Students may also choose to keep the current February break.

While the results of the survey are not binding in any manner, student participation in the survey is important. No changes will be made to this year's schedule, but the 2002-

2003 schedule will likely see changes, and this questionnaire provides students with an opportunity to make their opinion heard. The survey is open to all students, staff and professors who currently follow the UPEI schedule. AVC students, for example, will be unable to participate as they follow a separate schedule.

Changes to the schedule are being considered in order to harmonize UPEI's schedule with other Maritime universities, and to create symmetrical first and second semesters. An effort is also being made to accommodate out of province students and faculty, particularly at Christmas.

The survey can be found at [www.upei.ca/~regoff/tsquest](http://www.upei.ca/~regoff/tsquest) and the survey will remain open until Friday, October 26th.

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