

THE REPORT

Many students would like to know what is contained in the report which the President's Planning Advisory Committee made public last week. This article will give a brief summary of the major points made in the report.

The Committee wrote, "We were to examine where the University has come from and to speculate about its wisest future direction, all within the context of fiscal restraint, uncertain governmental funding, and a diminishing college-age population".

The Committee's report began with a "budgetary picture". Faced with a rather large predicted deficit, the group reported that they were, "challenged with examining their present way of delivering services to see how to meet their goals (to educate, to research, and to serve the community) without doing them essential harm".

The Committee noted a shift in interest toward professional studies. They predicted a continuing movement of students into Business, Engineering, Computer Science, and Biology. They also reported a continuity of interest in Pre-Medicine, Home-Economics, Education, History, Literature, and Psychology. On the other hand the group noted a movement away from the traditional disciplines. The Committee said that UPEI, as a provincial university, had an obligation to respond to the declared educational needs of its constituents.

The Committee made the following recommendations for academic programs:

The Honors program is a very intensified study in a certain discipline.

Joint Major- eg. a student taking a joint major in physics and chemistry would be required to take a combined total of at least fourteen courses in these two disciplines.

Music- The report describes the Music Department as being "plagued by faltering enrollment". Because of this, the report proposes that the Music Department be transformed into a conservatory offering musical training to those of all ages.

The conservatory would retain one full-time director and have other instructors working on a commission basis. The report recommends that students in the music department be given assistance to relocate at other universities by the fall of 1984.

Administrative Reorganization- The Committee recommends;

- a) that Engineering and Physics become one department
- b) that Philosophy and Religious Studies become one department
- c) that Faculty from Classics and Fine Arts be transferred to other departments
- d) that Sociology and Anthropology become one department
- e) that the department of Modern Languages abandon German and Spanish and place primary emphasis on French
- f) that the Music Department be replaced by a conservatory
- g) that the Department of Economics become part of the School of Business Administration and Economics

The Committee consisted of Frank Ledwell (Dean of Arts), Ivan Dowling (Dean of Science), Joe Revell (Director of Business), and Dennis Clow (University Comptroller).

For a look at the report itself, try the library; there are ten copies on reserve.

| DEPARTMENT | RECOMMENDED FOR HONORS* | RECOMMENDED FOR MAJOR |
|------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Biology | Yes | Yes |
| Business | Possible joint with Eco. and/or Computer Science | NA |
| Chemistry | NO | Joint only (to be developed) |
| Classics | NO | NO |
| Economics | Possible joint with Business | Joint only (to be developed) |
| Education | NA | NA |
| Engineering | NA | NA |
| English | Yes | Yes |
| Fine Arts | No | No |
| History | Yes | Yes |
| Home Economics | NA | NA |
| Mathematics | NO | Joint only (to be developed) |
| Computer Science | Possible joint with Business | to develop one |
| Modern Language | NO | Yes, in French only |
| Music | (see separate commentary) | |
| Philosophy | No | No |
| Physics | No | Joint only (to be developed) |
| Political Studies | No | Joint only (to be developed) |
| Psychology | Yes | Yes |
| Religious Studies | No | No |
| Sociology/Anthropology | No | Joint only |

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those who were available, but that is not the issue.

The goals of the University as outlined in the calendar encourages "all members of the university community to accept a shared responsibility for its (the university's) environment". If we are to share the "responsibility" for the campus environment, we should certainly share in any designs which affect it. I understand that the Student Union was busy this summer. After all, the Barn is no doubt of central importance. Yet surely they were asked to some ideas regarding the future of the students they are elected and paid to represent. They are the students voice during those four months of the year. Where were they?

These questions are sincere. I can not believe that this same admini-

stration is so concerned about the public image of the campus (they take every opportunity to enhance its aesthetic value, even in these troubled economic times). They stand strong and recognize the importance of outdoor cafe. I mean after all, our summer conventioners appreciate these small gestures; the seedlings planted-- no doubt for posterity -- are a small price to pay for this image of serenity.

Restraint means reduced library hours and a non-existent operating budget. The President says, "Tighten your belt" and we will but...

J. MacDonald