

# Recommendations of the Presidential Search Committee

## Short list of candidates published

By Shannon Younker

One thing has been constant at UPEI through the past ten years. Since 1985, Dr. C.W.J. Eliot has been President of UPEI.

In July, 1995, President Eliot's term will be over. For the past twelve months UPEI has been looking for a new Chief Executive Officer and Head Academic. In November of 1993 the Presidential Search Committee was appointed by the University Senate and Board of Governors. This committee was chaired by Jean Margaret Munro of the School of Nursing and Dr. Philip Smith of Psychology. The two student members were Paula MacFadyen and Patricia Embleton.

The short list of recommended candidates was released by the committee on inter-campus mail Wednesday, September 14. These candidates are:

Dr. Roger Barnsley, Vice President (Academic) and Professor of Psychology at St. Thomas University,

Dr. J. Colin Dodds, Vice President (Academic and Research) and Professor of Finance at St. Mary's University,

Dr. A.T. (Tim) Easley, Dean of the School of Natural Resources and Principal of Frost Campus at Sir Sandford Fleming College, and

Dr. Elizabeth Epperly, Associate Professor of English and Chair of the L.M. Montgomery Institute at UPEI.

This list represents the results of nine months of work by the committee. By January 1994, committee members were requesting

suggestions and advice from the university community at large. In the spring, various town hall meetings were held for different

constituent groups on campus -- students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

While the numbers in attendance were not high, Dr. Margaret Munro, committee co-chair was happy with the results. She explained that students who had concerns, comments or ideas probably went through the Student Union and faculty members through their representatives, so the few people who made suggestions were speaking

for many. She was also pleased that the same recommendations came from many different groups across campus, suggesting that UPEI

has a concise idea of what they want in a new President.

The characteristics of a good President, suggested by committee members and the university community at large, are academic and administrative leadership, the ability to work well with government while still representing the position of the University (especially important at UPEI where such a large proportion of our funding comes through government), good communication skills -- especially with students, and the ability



Dr. Elizabeth Epperly

to represent UPEI in public. Dr. Munro mentioned that the University community should be able to look at the President and say "Right,

I'm proud to be associated with the same university as this person".

Also important is vision. Dr. Munro says "Not only should the new President have a vision for where universities are going in the twenty-first century, but he or she should have a vision for where this university is going. The new President should also have the skill to engage the rest of us (the university community) in that vision." Not surprisingly these characteristics also describe Dr. C.W.J. Eliot.

More than forty people either applied or were nominated for the position of President of UPEI. The four candidates that have survived the competition this far will be on campus in late September and October. The Presidential Search Committee is finalizing an itinerary that will allow students and others in the community to meet each of the candidates in both formal and informal settings. There will be a presentation by each candidate which will be open to the general public.

The final recommendation will be made to the University's Board of Governors in November. The Board of Governors will be making the final decision, depending on various schedules, by the beginning of 1995.

The X-Press would like students to let us know what you want in a new President. Drop us a message in our mail slot or through e-mail ([XPRESS@UPEI.ca](mailto:XPRESS@UPEI.ca)). All suggestions will be passed on to the Presidential Search Committee.

### Letters continued...

Dear Editor:

I am writing to clarify some things reported on in the article and to come forward on the source used in "Registration day: whose business is it?" which was in September 13th issue of the X-Press.

The article reported an incident which took place on registration day in the field house. The issue was which companies were legitimately present at registration.

Each year the Student Union is approached by many businesses and groups to set up in our building, the Pit, the Breezeway in the Robertson Building, at Frosh week and at mass registration. All of the businesses that approach the S.U. are given a chance to present who they are and what they have to offer students. Our policies on these requests are different for each of the five locations.

The policy on groups setting up at registration day is by far the most exclusive of these in that we do not, under normal circumstances, allow for-profit businesses to set up. We usually let non-profit groups like the Boy's and Girls Club to set up provided that there is enough room for campus student groups, i.e. MN, Psychology Club, and Debating Society.

This year we were approached by the UPEI Purchasing Department to have a space

for Island Tel. The reason they wanted to set up was to allow students to sign up for their local service instead of having to go to the Island Tel building on Belvedere Avenue. We were also approached by Unitel to have a space to market their long distance service. We wanted to experiment with having Island Tel present to make things more convenient for students but we did not want to take sides in the competition between these two rivals. The bottom line on this is that we were hoping to provide an extra service to students.

The other two incidents involved two other businesses in Charlottetown. The first one was in the morning with Little Christo's. They were giving out cards at the front door of the sports centre. Employees of the sports centre pointed out their presence to us and asked us if they should or should not be there. I spoke to the Little Christo's representative and asked him if he would be willing to pay for the insertion fee to have his discount card inserted in the handbook under the same arrangement as the student SMT discount and the student magazine subscription offer. The offer was declined and the representative left.

The second incident took place in the afternoon. The Student Union booth was

vacant for about thirty minutes at noon while the members of the student union executive working at the desk went for a quick lunch break. During that time students could just walk up and take a handbook from the stack left on the table. I returned to the booth at approximately 12:45 to find someone inserting Playhouse flyers in our handbook. This was being done without our consent. I asked the person to stop and suggested that they were not authorized to be there. We were busy that afternoon so I'm not sure if the guy left or not but we did not let him work from our desk.

The Playhouse approached us about a week before registration to put inserts in the packages given out to all Frosh. We turned them down because most first-year students at UPEI are not of legal drinking age. We were not contacted by the Playhouse before registration about having an insert in the handbook and this is no fault of the Student Union. During the last three weeks of August there were four people in our office daily 9-5.

Beyond this we have some major concerns with the ethics behind what took place on registration day. The Playhouse in our minds was essentially breaking the law. In our eyes they were giving out tickets for free beer.

Moreover they were not discriminating between the people above 19 and those below.

Finally, there is also a campus policy that the only bar allowed to advertise on campus bulletin boards, and be promoted on campus etc. is the Panther Lounge. The three exceptions to this are the Yearbook, the X-Press and, in other years, the Student Handbook. The Student Union decided for reasons based on the GST that it was not worthwhile selling ads for the handbook this year. Besides that, the Student Union stopped selling advertisements of any kind to the Playhouse in 1992 when they did not pay for advertisements bought in September of that year and previously.

I hope this helps to demonstrate that Shannon's article was in fact researched and truthful. I found that it also questioned Student Union policies on this situation and we will be examining this along with the Registrar's office to come up with a set policy on business at registration day. We will be interested in the feedback the X-Press receives from the Student Body from this article. If you want to contact me directly my E-Mail address is:

**AMACPERSON@UPEI.CA.**  
Andrew MacPherson  
UPEISU President