

We Are Not The Worst!

By Patricia Cousins

The only consolation UPEI students have regarding the latest Maclean's University ranking is that UPEI did not place last - Ryerson did.

Universities are divided into three categories: Medical/Doctoral, Comprehensive, and Primarily Undergraduate. Within these categories, universities are graded on student body, classes, faculty, finances, library, and reputation. Each category has different sub-sections that have weighted scores.

How did we score?

Not that well. On the section for average entering grade UPEI placed 6th out of 19. The average of students entering UPEI out of high school is 78.7%. Proportion of those students who had 75% or higher 63.9%. In the category of graduation, (percentage of full-time second-year undergraduates who complete their degrees within one year of expected graduation), UPEI ranked 9th. About 72% of our students graduate within four or five years of starting university.

Ever wonder how many of our students, (first year only), are CFA's? (Come From Away)

The answer 20.3% which places UPEI in sixth position for this category. The number of UPEI students who receive national awards, 1.9 per 1000. (7th place)

With only 53.4% of our first year classes taught by tenured or tenure-track professors UPEI placed 17th in the Classes Taught by Tenured Faculty category. While our average class size for first and second year students placed us in 5th position, our third and fourth year classes tied with four other universities for 12th place.

Only 66.4% of our faculty have PhDs, a far cry from Saint Mary's 91.9%. UPEI did not place well in the Faculty category. None of our full-time professors have received national awards.

Finances. UPEI placed 1st in the operating budget section. UPEI spends \$9,646 per weighted full-time equivalent student. The University College of Cape Breton spends only \$3,451. (UPEI receives

\$8,271 per full-time equivalent student.) Approximately 1.56% of UPEI's total operating expenditures is devoted to scholarships and bursaries, (12th place). UPEI spends 3.87% of its total operating budget on student services, (13th), almost 7% less than the winner of this category, the University of Lethbridge.

Ever wonder how many books there are in the Robertson Library, well there is about 264 books per student. Brandon University has 436 books per student and while Ryerson has only 44.

Although UPEI spends 37.17% of its library budget on updating its collection, only 5.27 percent of the university budget is devoted to maintaining library services.

In the category of Alumni support, UPEI placed 9th, with 19.4% of alumni having made a donation/gift to the university over the last five years.

UPEI suffers in the reputational section of the rankings placing 18th, only one position higher than Nipissing.

Acadia (2nd)
Full-time 3,691
Part-time 468
Tuition: \$ 3,670

UCCB (15)
Full-time 2,747
Part-time 569
Tuition: \$ 3,210

Dalhousie (9**)
Full-time 9,364
Part-time 1,556
Tuition: \$ 3,395 (Arts)
\$ 3,895 (Science)

Memorial (6***)
Full-time 12,512
Part-time 3,502
Tuition: \$ 1,335

Mount Allison (1)
Full-time 2,319
Part-time 325
Tuition: \$ 3,665

Mount St. Vincent (11)
Full-time 2,267
Part-time 1,456
Tuition: \$ 3,355

New Brunswick (8*)
Full-time 9,700
Part-time 2,536
Tuition: \$2,610

UPEI (12)
Full-time 2,428
Part-time 477
Tuition: \$ 2,920

St. Francis Xavier (8)
Full-time 3,089
Part-time 568
Tuition: \$ 3,500

Saint Mary's (9)
Full-time 4,789
Part-time 2,017
Tuition: \$ 3,380

St. Thomas (10)
Full-time 1,883
Part-time 352
Tuition: \$ 2,420

* Fredericton and Saint John combined. 8th in comprehensive category

** 9th in medical-doctoral category

*** 6th in comprehensive category

All ratings taken from the November 25, 1996 issue of Maclean's Magazine

Visit the Maclean's World Wide Web site at <http://www.canoe.ca/macleans> or on Compuserve (Go Macleans)

Pot Club Promotes Some Peaceful Toking

By Brad Hetherington, The Martlett University of Victoria

Joints, grams, eighths and quarters are being sold openly and "legally" by a new organization intent on making Vancouver the "Amsterdam of North America".

David Malmo-Levine, founder of the Harm Reduction Club, has been selling pot publicly from his East Vancouver home since Oct. 19, when he officially launched the club at a rally on Commercial Drive.

Malmo-Levine, a long-time hemp and peace activist, says he's confident the police

will leave his pot-selling cop alone.

"They've got better things to do with their time," said Malmo-Levine. "We are all about harm reduction and responsible use and they know that." Located in the Drive's "green-light" district, the club offers membership to anyone who promises to use the herb responsibly. Members must promise not to use heavy machinery if impaired, must be over the age of 13, and must not disturb the club's neighbours. They also have to pay a \$10 membership fee.

After that, grams are only \$10.

Currently, the club has

over 300 members and is growing by 20 new members everyday. Such rapid growth has forced it to buy, on average, a quarter pound of marijuana everyday.

"We try to buy organic," said Malmo-Levine, "and we always test before we sell."

As a non-profit organization, the club gives 10 per cent of its earnings in trust to their lawyer. "[This] is intended to cover any legal costs should the club get busted," Malmo-Levine said. "After all, that's what it's all about."

The club's founders are always careful to promote the peaceful, non-harmful aspects

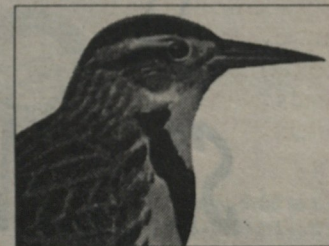
of the club. They also provide an extensive library of activist literature, videos, and Cypress Hill CD's available for members' enjoyment.

"We are calling for an end to the parasitic corporate monopoly that is denying people access to the most important plant on earth," Malmo-Levine said.

He said that hemp's uses are limitless and that it can be substituted for a variety of uses ranging from paper products to fuels to building materials. But what about all those annoying crank-calls and glazed-eyed pot-heads hanging around his home from 10 a.m. till 4 a.m. seven days a week?

"It's a short-term nuisance for a long-term solution," Malmo-Levine said. "We've already won just by resisting."

MISSING



Many of Canada's migratory birds are disappearing. To help save them, call 1-800-26-PANDA and ask about adopting a kilometre of migratory bird flyway.