

# UPEI may limit enrolment

by Padraic Brake

HALIFAX (CUP) — The March 13 Prince Edward Island budget includes a 6.9 per cent increase for post-secondary education next year, but according to UPEI president William Eliot, that will only "meet inflation and give a little bit more."

Eliot said, "The increase will certainly not restore per student funding to the levels that it was ten years ago."

The province has followed the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission funding recommendations four out of the past five years.

"The provincial government has always acted upon the recom-

mendations of the MPHEC," Eliot said. "We may have problems with the recommendations though."

Lisa Murphy, president of the UPEI student council, said, the MPHEC has been recommending the "bare maintenance" for operation of universities. "Over the years it has a cumulative effect."

Eliot said UPEI will have to look at other ways to ensure a quality education for its students. "We don't have too much further to go before we will have to implement enrolment caps."

He said the university may only have "one year to go" before it acts.

Murphy described implement-

ing enrolment caps as a "band aid solution."

"Enrolment caps serve as an example of where we are," she said. "The way to handle it is to lobby the provincial and federal governments to increase funding."

In the last federal budget, the government eliminated \$4.4 million in transfer payments to the province.

"Education itself is becoming so insecure," Murphy said. "It's being left up to a few weeks of wrangling between the federal and provincial governments."

If UPEI does implement enrolment caps, it will join six other universities in the Maritimes that have announced limits on the

numbers of students it will allow into their universities next year.

Dalhousie's Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences has raised academic entry requirements and put a cap on the total enrolment for next year.

The dean of the FASS, Rowland Smith, said, "It is the best and the least we can do with classes that are growing unacceptably large."

The PEI budget also increased the maximum amount a student could receive in provincial student aid bursary from \$1950 to \$2200.

"The increase in the bursary program was adequate," Murphy said. "We (the student council) were quite relieved that at least that was increased."

The cost of living accommodations and tuition fees for a student at UPEI totalled \$5278 this year, according to a study done by Memorial University. The increased student aid bursary means students may receive a maximum of \$5560 in Canada Student Loan and provincial bursary.

Murphy said there is "still a way to go."

## York rejects sexism advice

by Philip Sewell

TORONTO (CUP) — York law school administrators are stewing over a report which says the university should take steps against sexism, and some students are crying foul.

Osgoode Hall's faculty council has rejected a gender equity committee's recommendations on employment equity, and plans to amend the committee's 30 other proposals.

"The amended recommendations are a joke and everyone knows it," said one Osgoode student, who requested anonymity for fear of reprisals. "Why should we trust the good will of the law school?"

"They've taken the teeth out of them," another student said. "They've changed all the firm recommendations to recommendations in principle."

The 255-page report said female students, staff and faculty are constantly threatened and sexually harassed.

The university established the committee — of staff, faculty and students — last fall, as part of a settlement with a group of female lawyers, researchers and students who complained of "systematic discrimination in the hiring, promotion, and terms and conditions of employment for female professors" at Osgoode Hall.

The group had lodged a complaint against the university with the Ontario Human Rights Commission two years ago, after Associate Law Dean Mary Jane Mossman was passed over for the position of dean.

"How about some guarantees instead of just vague promises," says a third student.

Although copies of the report have been circulating at Osgoode and elsewhere, it has yet to be officially released. The employment equity section is particularly hard to come by.

"Faculty council's actions aren't surprising when viewed in light of the overall hostile environment at Osgoode," says one female Osgoode student. "Mature women students get it pretty bad ... people who are sensitive to racism and sexism get it pretty bad," she adds.

The report says the school's atmosphere alienates and intimidates women and visible minorities.

"We are convinced that it is not rare for women (and, we believe, minority men) to feel marginalized, insulted or ignored ..."

"It appears many faculty members are unaware that a problem exists at all."

The report surveyed four Osgoode classes taught by female instructors. It found 74 per cent of men's hands were recognized and 77 per cent of women's. While in eight classes taught by male instructors, 64 per cent of men's hands were recognized, but only 39 per cent of women's.

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