

Luncheon to Raise Money for International Scholarship Does Just That

by Joel MEGGS

As part of International Development Week, close to one hundred faculty and staff from all over the globe packed the Rodd Royalty to hear Premier Pat Binns talk about PEI's role in International Development.

The event was to raise money for an international scholarship, which will be awarded to an overseas student who wishes to study in Prince Edward Island.

Vianne Timmons, Vice President of Academic Support at the university, said that so far over \$1500 had been raised toward this end.

Premier Binns' speech centred around the important role of agencies such as Farmers Helping Farmers, and how Islanders' involvement overseas helps raise PEI's profile. The work done by Islanders around the world has sparked interest in many who would like to come here on student exchanges.

"I have always believed in student exchanges. That's how I got here," Binns laughed. "So for those of you who think I should be somewhere else . . ."

Binns said that initiatives like the International scholarship provide an excellent opportunity for people to visit and gain valuable insight into PEI culture. And, Binns speculated, as that insight into PEI culture spreads, it is easier to lure people, including much-needed physicians, to the Island.

"PEI appears, upon first glance, to be a homogenous society, but it is more diverse than even I would have thought." Binns claimed that currently a full 30 percent of the Island's population was born "away." With the Island's increasing stature in the world community, that statistic is likely to grow.

President MacLauchlan thanked Premier Binns by inviting the richly diverse audience, made up of many international students and facul-

ty, to say thank-you in his or her own language. For almost ten minutes, person after person thanked Premier Binns in every language from Cameroon to Mandarin to Chinese to French to Finnish to Icelandic to Japanese to Polish to Slovenian, and on and on. It was quite the show of appreciation.

Timmons closed by reiterating the benefits of having international students add to the diversity of UPEI's student population. She remembered Dr. Phillip Smith, Dean of Arts, remarking to her that he would like to have his own children attend UPEI, but at the same time would like his children to gain exposure to other cultures. If there are more international students on campus, then "We don't have to send them away to have an international experience."

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In July 2001, the IWK Grace Health Centre will commence an accredited twenty-four (24) month training program leading to a Certificate of Orthoptics and Ophthalmic Medical Technology. Applications are now being accepted from individuals holding a baccalaureate degree with courses in any of the following areas: psychology, physiology, biology, anatomy, physics, statistics, research methodology. Work/volunteer experience in the health care field will be considered an asset. Candidates should possess good communication skills, sound judgement, emotional maturity and a demonstrated ability to relate well to small children and to adults.

Financial assistance may be available to qualified students.

Deadline for application is February 28, 2001

For further information regarding a challenging, interesting and rewarding career in the health care field, please write:

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EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS

Students, Faculty and Alumni are invited to submit nominations for the UPEI Faculty Association Awards for **Excellence in Teaching for Sessional Lecturers**. The awards are open to all University faculty members.

The deadline for nominations is noon, Friday, February 8, 2002. Information about the awards and nomination forms are available at the Faculty Association Office (Main Bldg. Room #214).

SO YA LIKE SCHOOL, EH?

If you do, it's probably because of the hard work and fantabulous teaching styls of your favourite professors.

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UPEI Student Union Faculty of the Year Award
(it's like a people's choice award, with more meaning)

Please submit all nominations—a letter of reference stating why this professor should win the award—in writing to Caolan Moore by Thursday, March 14th @ 4:00 pm.

(P.S. Find me at the Student Union office)