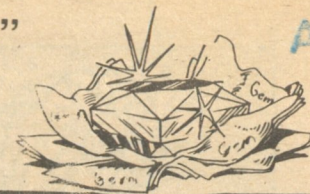


# THE GEM "jewel of the isle"



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## To The Freshmen

President Speaks

To the Freshmen of 1986

Last year I was a freshman, and I can report that at the University of Prince Edward Island freshmen are welcome and made to feel at home. I can also report a year later that first year can be an enjoyable experience, that learning is fun, particularly if you want to be here and want to work.

Though you may think our cases to be different, yours and mine, there are clear similarities. First, I had to want to be here. That basic desire is part of the motivation we all need to succeed, especially when progress is hard and temptations strongly attractive. Be glad that you are here; assume that the University can satisfy your appetite for higher education; and have a feast! Second, I have had to work. It has been as new for me to be President as it will be new for you to be freshmen, and there is only one way to learn the ropes — work at it. And begin soon, for the days slip easily by and before we know it we are planning for, or fleeing from, next year.

Several years ago I would have added a third requirement to those of want and work — know what you want to do. But age and perhaps experience have taught me that we cannot all know at all times where we are going, and that it is neither witless nor shameful to admit to uncertainties about future plans. If you know what you want, that is excellent, but be ready to appreciate new possibilities, even to change your mind. As for me, it would have been foolish to arrive as President with my plans already drawn. Only now do I know some of the material that those plans must include. If you don't know, relax and look around — it may be your pleasant fate to find your future tomorrow.

Finally a word of warning. Like all sophomores, I think I know the answers that a freshman needs and I have a wish to tell my story. By all means give me and other guides a look of respect, a nod of assent. But then hurry on and be yourself.

With every good wish for a happy and rewarding time at UPEI.

Yours sincerely,

C.W.J. Eliot  
U.P.E.I. President



## In search of Funding

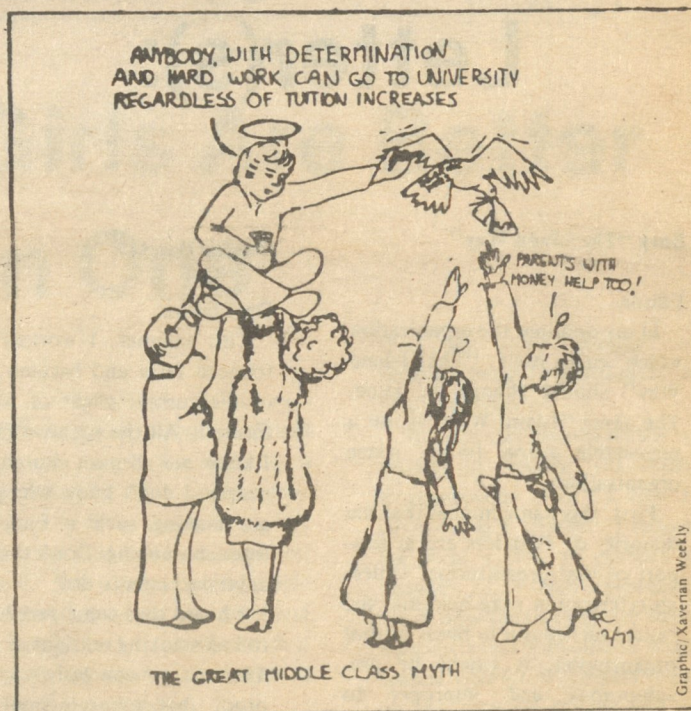
A recent study by the National Consortium of Scientific and Educational Societies shows enrolment in Canadian universities has increased by 24 per cent since 1977-78, while per student expenditures declined 18 per cent in that period.

### NOTICE TO ALL UPPER CLASSMEN:

During this year's freshmen orientation week we are getting **Playfair** — which is described in the schedule in this paper. Anyway, we need about 20 volunteers to help the Playfair people with the freshmen.

Playfair is Monday, September 1. You would be needed from 1:45 - 3:00 for warmup, then from 3:00 - 4:30 for the actual Playfair. It's a great way to get involved in orientation. If you are interested or would like more information please call me at 894-4906. Thanks.

(Orientation co-chairman)  
Michelle Cottreau



### Another President Speaks

Dear Freshmen and Returnees,  
For better or worse, the academic year is upon us once again. My fellow executive members and I believe that this year can and will be a great one. Of course, the year's success will depend much more on the enthusiastic participation of our 1800 full-time and 750 part-time students than on the efforts of any few.

"The Student Union is you, the students". This tired but true statement will be familiar to most returning students. It traditionally is included in a speech or a letter for publication at this time (far be it from me to break tradition).

While possibly overused, the statement is certainly an accurate description of the philosophy of the Student Union.

The Union exists primarily for the benefit of the students of U.P.E.I. Without active, supportive members, the Student Union would be doomed to failure. There are dozens of opportunities available to a student who wishes to be such a member. By participating in the government of the university, joining the staff of The Gem or CIMN, expressing your opinion on current affairs to Student Council members, critiquing the endeavors of the Union, or partying in the

Panther Lounge, you will be improving the health of the Student Union as well as enjoying yourself.

Discovering your interests both within and outside of your curriculum should be one of the most exciting and rewarding experiences of your time spent as a student here. If the Student Union can help you accomplish this, the year will be a success. There is much, then, to be done in the next eight months, but for now, let's all just concentrate on having a good time during Orientation week '86.

Rob Kelley  
S.U. President

### Who is this man?



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