

Meincke, continued

some small item that I missed, but frankly, I cannot think of any concerns that I have expressed in public that I have not first made known to some government person at one time or another.

For example, each year when the Association of Atlantic Universities Report on Financing of Maritime Universities becomes available, I send copies with covering letters to each member of the Legislaturé. In these notes I have offered to discuss the material and answer any questions.

This year I had an excellent question from the Honourable Gordon Lank and sent him a great deal of additional information with copies to the Premier, the Minister of Education and others who might be interested.

There is no doubt that we had a serious problem communicating about the great success of our Office of Research and Development and the important role it had in this University. Two reports a year have been sent to what we thought was the proper office.

In the last year of the three-year agreement, most of the Deputy Ministers were invited out for a briefing and given reams of material on the

activities of the Office, we heard, once again by the grapevine, that when the Cabinet met to consider the continuation of funding, no one apparently knew what the office was doing.

That, of course, was just rumour, because we had no official communication except that we had to do some major last minute lobbying to keep half of the office for 1984-85.

This year I have sent a letter and a copy of the full Report of the activities in the office directly to the Minister I think is responsible, and copies to all who might be interested. It will be most interesting to see what happens.

However, formal communication is often not the most effective communication. That is why I have invited the full Cabinet or groups of ministers out to UPEI on a number of occasions. We toured the campus, especially the decrepit athletic facilities and Main Building, and discussed our concerns.

We also started, a few years ago, the practice of inviting individual cabinet ministers to small, informal lunches and dinners to discuss areas of mutual concern.

These encounters were kept deliberately small and informal. The minister brought along his or her key

people and we usually had two or three people who either knew the minister well or were active in the areas of interest of the minister.

It was my impression that these meetings were most successful and it was unfortunate that we were not able to meet with all the individual cabinet ministers.

I think you and your readers will agree that much has been done to try to communicate with the Provincial Government.

If you are reporting the Premier's view correctly, more effective methods of communication must be found.

However, it must be kept

in mind that the University is not a government department and it must keep a certain distance so that it can maintain a proper degree of independence and autonomy even though a large portion of its funding comes from government.

Although students, faculty, staff, members of the Board

and the public can all play very important roles in improving such communication, it is essential that the Government receives clear, consistent and coherent messages.

Yours sincerely,

Peter P. M. Meincke
President

The SU executive jobs defined

Article 8 — POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE

A) The President shall:

- 1) Be the chief executive and official spokesperson of the UPEISU.
- 2) Be responsible for the integration and direction of all activities of the UPEISU.
- 3) Call all meetings of the UPEISU, Council, Executive and proposed dates for all General Meetings.
- 4) Be bound to call a Council meeting within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving a petition signed by five (5) per cent of the student body or two-thirds (2/3) majority in Council requesting such a meeting.
- 5) With the exception of Emergency Meeting, publish the agenda at least forty-eight (48) hours before a meeting and include any material pertinent to articles in the agenda.
- 7) Present a report of specific aims, goals and objectives as put forth by the Executive, to the first Council Meeting.
- 9) Be a member of the UPEI Senate.

B) The Vice-President Academic shall:

- 1) Be responsible for the co-ordination of all research activities undertaken by the UPEISU on behalf of its students.
- 2) Assume the duties of the President according to the terms of this Article in such events as the resignation, absence, or impeachment of the President.
- 3) Be a member of the UPEI Senate.
- 4) Be responsible for the academic issues of all sub-

organizations.

5) Be responsible for the yearbook.

6) Be responsible for the newspaper.

C) The Vice-President Operations shall:

- 1) Be responsible for the campus radio.
- 2) Be responsible for external and internal advertising.
- 3) Be responsible for the Social Committee, Orientation, Fall Fest, and Winter Carnival.
- 4) Co-ordinate the staff and operations in the UPEISU Building.
- 5) Be responsible for the operational issues of all sub-organizations.

D) The Treasurer shall:

- 1) Be a member of the Board of Governors.
- 2) Be responsible for the financial administration of all UPEISU funds.
- 3) Submit a financial statement of UPEISU funds and submit reports at the last Council Meeting of the end of the first and second semesters.
- 4) Submit the results of the yearly audit at the first Council Meeting in the fall.
- 5) Each month, submit an estimate of revenue and expenditures from operations for the proceeding month to Council.
- 6) Present a yearly budget by the end of October.
- 7) Ensure that a clear and accurate account of all financial transactions of the UPEISU be kept.
- 8) Permit students to have access to the financial records of the UPEISU within twenty-four (24) hours of request.

VOTE

Stever

Zakem

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