

UPEI Asked to Consider a Four Year Nursing Program

by Laura Kilfoil

Reports recommend that a Bacalorate Nursing degree program come to UPEI. Prince Edward Island is the only province without a Nursing bacalorate degree program. It has been stated that by the year 2000 A.D. such a degree will be needed as entrance to the nursing profession. The students who have a university degree have an advantage over others. Islanders who want this advantage must leave the island to obtain such a degree. However, at present the government is asking UPEI to consider a nursing degree program and how best to implement one. If the Senate and Board of Governors agree to implement this degree program it would take more than three years. One report says that 1991 or 1992 would see the first

students emmitted and our first graduates around 1996. The PEI school of nursing would probably operate until 1994.

Three and one-half years ago Senate recommended to the UPEI Board of Governors to undertake a feasibility study recognizing the establishment of generic bacalorate study for nursing program. Senate wanted to invite a study for a bachelor's degree including financial and curricula aspects. The Board agreed but it was difficult to organize the study. The Minister of Education asked the Maritime Higher Educations commission to do the study. The commission appointed Dr. Heather Frazer - Davey, a professor at Dalhousie University to complete

the study. After one year she finished the report and the bottom line was that there are advantages over the existing system, UPEI would be a good home for this program. What was not provided were statistics for understanding if there are enough nurses with the job situation and turn over rates such as retirement are. A study was completed on the Nursing situation on PEI by hospital staff member Judith MacIntosh. She concluded that enough positions were available for a program to go ahead with about thirty six graduates from a four year program. This would allow about two-hundred to 225 students. She also found that the money that is spent supporting the PEI school of nursing plus

payments to other provinces to teach out nurses looks to be compatible to finance out program. So these reports show that it is good, needed, and affordable. Dr. Heather Frazer-Davey also mentioned in her report that more men would be likely to enter the nursing program at the university level. Armed with these two reports the government both accepts and will begin discussion with the university.

President Eliot, said on this issue that, "Personally I have a strong set of reasons to suggest the day for the bacalorate degree is needed for three major reasons. 1) If a B.A. is entry document for Canada then our nurses will be frozen out or have to go somewhere else. 2) New skills for nurs-

ing education say that nursing should be experienced in areas of discipline at university with much

more science. 3) What the B.A. Degree is more than needed for promotions anywhere in Canada. If we have enough students, 200 plus, a good share of why, it could have adequate finance is pace, and staff support - it seems a very good thing to do. We should always be ready to comtemplate changes and additions!!!"

Possible problems perceived with passing this question through senate and Board of Governors. Would be that we are to be adding yet another professional degree when we were established at least in theory as a liberal arts institution.

Reading Effectiveness Course

by: Sally Whittaker

Are you having difficulty getting through your reading list? Focusing your attention on the material? Remembering what you've read?

You are not alone...Many students experience the same difficulties as they try, sometimes in desperation, to keep up with their studies.

An option to this student struggle is the Reading Effectiveness Program, a 6-week course in the art of effective reading and study skills, sponsored by student services. It begins on January 10, 1989 and is an excellent choice.

(you may want to consider this non-credit course as you choose your courses for next semester!)

Susanne Manovill, circulation supervisor is instructor for the program. She has done extensive research to find the best teaching materials and methods for her students. Recently she acquired two computers which will be used by her department, starting in January. The computer-assisted effective reading instruction features a software package which is suitable for university students.

Student Benefit:

Many students benefit from taking the course...and results are

positive.

"It appeals to three groups," said Mrs. Manovill, sitting in her tiny office tucked away behind the circulation desk at Robertson Library. "... These include remedial students, average students, who want to be more effective and students who want to deal with the heavy load of grad school."

One such graduate is Rick Gavin, who is in the Bachelor of Education Program. He found that the course skills assisted him with all the additional readings he is required to do.

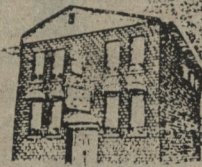
"It helped me do 15 readings in one night for the instruction of communications course," he said.

Gavin added, that the training assisted him to improve his over all reading speed, scimming and scanning techniques for studying textbooks, and studying for exams.

I am impressed with the program as well as a freshman student who has returned to school, after a 10-year absence, it was difficult to adjust to the rigorous demands of tutorial assignments and papers and exams again.

The program provided me with a systematic approach to reading text books, and other required readings. Critical reading skills make me aware of the author's hidden agenda and the exercises increased my reading speed substantially. Really, it's much more than a reading course. Mrs. Manovill has developed a wonderful treasury of materials on study habits and how to facilitate the learning process.

I recommend this program highly!!! Students interested in pre-registering may do so - at the circulation desk, at the library.



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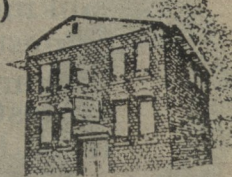
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