

PROPOSED NEW STUDENT UNION BUILDING

The Student Union has been pressing for a new building for a long time. A proposal for a new Student Union building was presented to the members of the Presidential UPEI Space Committee on December 15th 1989 by the 1989/1990 UPEI Student Union Executive Committee on Space Needs. In this paper, Ms. Lisa Murphy, UPEI Student Union President at the time, had outlined various needs that were not being fully met by the current Student Union building. The proposal also stated the various issues which would be satisfied if a new building was to be build. The goals of this new complex would be "to provide a centrally located gathering spot for students, other members of the University community and individuals from the community at-large. The complex would provide social, recreational, educational and cultural activities which are not formally provided through the Academic curriculum or other University services". The proposed site for this new building will be adjoining the Dining Hall. A referendum was taken in order for the Student Union to gauge the students interest in the proposed new building. The Student Council passed the motion for developing a new complex, although only over 200 students had voted on this issue.

A building fund was established in 1979 by the Student Union. Currently the fund stands at over \$200,000.00. A \$10.00 fee will be charged to each student in order to contribute to this building fund starting in the fall. The Student Union hopes to start building within 10 years, which means students that will be contributing to the fund will not see the construction of the building until perhaps the year 2000. The Barn is the only wooden structure on campus; therefore, in order for the Barn to meet the Student Union desired needs, cost of renovating would be astronomical. This was one of the constraints that was considered in determining the need for a new student building. The Barn's estimated square footage is 5,250. The new complex is estimated to be 22,850 square feet. Therefore as seen above, this substantial increase in size would better met student needs.

Anyone seeking information regarding the new student complex should contact the Student Union.



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