

UPEI students left in the cold with new parking deal



A multitude of spaces are left tragically un-parked following the new parking plan in 2007. Ryan Miller photo

By Ryan Miller

UPEI Students looking for a cozy parking spot with a short walk to class are being forced to the outside with the new parking deal implemented in 2007.

The new parking system was applied in the new scholastic year as part of the new faculty collective bargaining agreement put in place following the strike. The new plan warden off a portion of Parking Lot B - the area in front of the KC Irving Chemistry building - as 'designated parking,' and only faculty and staff from the KC Irving building, AVC and other non-student organizations on campus are permitted to park in this

area. Students are granted the area behind the designated spaces, characterized by large concrete blocks in a Berlin wall-esque separation.

Designated parking in Parking Lot C - the area surrounding the classroom centre - is available to all faculty and staff, without restrictions.

Students will be permitted to upgrade to designated parking permits after October 1st. Although the deadline is well past, the designated parking areas remain comparatively empty, as many students balk at the \$50 upgrade fee.

Whereas a regular full time permit goes at a cost of \$80, with a \$40 fee for each additional vehicle, the designated parking is available at a cost of \$129, with a charge of \$65

per additional vehicle. Neither pass guarantees a parking spot, although the available brochure advertises that passes available at the CARI centre are available at a cost of \$82 per student and that there is usually "ample parking" available. The brochure neglects to mention the considerable distance from the parking lot at the CARI centre to most of the buildings on campus, which many students feel is too much - particularly in poor weather conditions.

Michael Deighan parks in CARI. "Yeah, it's pretty far," said Deighan, a 3rd year Engineering major. "It's pretty shitty that they [the faculty] get the best spots, especially since the spots cost more there and they get [to pur-

chase the passes] first."

A notification passed to University officials indicates that information would be presented to students through ads in the Cadre, signage at parking kiosks and in the accounting office, as well as having information proliferated by security officers on campus. To date, the Cadre is yet to be contacted with information regarding the parking plan and the news was not communicated to many students. Deighan had not heard of the plan until the Cadre approached him to ask his opinion.

"I really though it was the same price," he stated. "I still went for the CARI pass because at least I knew there were parking spaces there."

Parking Fees for Academic Year 2007-2008

Rates	First Vehicle	Each Additional Vehicle
General Full-Time Students	\$80	\$40
General Part-Time Students	\$50	\$25
General Full-Time Faculty and Staff	\$120	\$60
General Part-Time Faculty and Staff	\$50	\$25
Designated Full-Time	\$129	\$65
Designated Part-Time	\$65	\$33
Reserved	\$172	N/A
Daily Parking Permit	\$7.75	N/A

CARI Parking: Students -

\$82

Staff/Faculty - \$126