

Sexual Harassment at UPEI

by Vivian Huizenga

Since sexual harassment seems to be a common subject in past issues of the Gem, surely there would be some appreciation of up to date facts about sexual harassment at UPEI.

Data has been scrupulously collected and analysed as part of a joint research project by Dr Beth Percival and Dr. Don Mazer in the Psychology department at UPEI. They have been working on the project for the past year. Featured at the most recent faculty seminar held Friday, January 29 were Profs Percival and Mazer who released some of their findings on sexual harassment at UPEI.

The project itself is a momentous task. The amount of work gone into it so far has been phenomenal and it isn't completed yet! Those who have taken a statistics course can really appreciate the complexity of such a project. There are rumors of literally mountains of data downstairs in Memorial.

Two students who must be thanked for working during the summer months analyzing data were Brenda Wilson and Katie MacInnis. Subjects for the study were randomly selected from student, staff and faculty populations at UPEI.

The questionnaires were sent out during the winter term of 1986 and contained questions about 36 different kinds of incidents. These were classified into four categories, incidents that took place in class, with

faculty, with staff and with students.

Data collected were how common is sexual harassment at UPEI, kinds of incidents, attitudes and descriptions. Of the 34 incidents described as sexual harassment, 85 percent of males and 89 percent of females have had at least one experience and on the average, students have had 5 or 6 of these different kinds of experiences.

The researchers were surprised to learn that the most common incidents occurred in the incidents among women and men.

So what is sexual harassment really anyway? Defining sexual harassment was not easy says Mazer. Subjects involved in the research actually played a role in clarifying a definition. Of the 34 questions aimed at defining sexual harassment, only 2 were not considered sexual harassment by the majority. Those two were sexual explicit jokes in class and sexually explicit language in class. Mazer went on to say that 48 percent of the respondents felt these 2 suggestions were indeed sexual harassment.

Well, maybe this is just all part of the "sexual dance". C'mon, people have to start somewhere! The key elements to remember are UNWANTED or PRESSURE for sexual activities. In other words, not respecting or considering the feelings of others.

Some interesting findings are that there seems to be equality of opportunity. e.g between students. Women harass men as much as men harass women. While women experience more harassment than men in all categories the difference isn't large and isn't statistically significant. Women do experience more opposite sex harassment than men, while men experience more same sex harassment than women.

In preliminary analyses of faculty the researchers discovered that women in business experience more harassment and men in business experience less harassment than women and men in arts or science.

Most common incidents
Women Students
(N=136)

1. Sexual "looks" from other students (65.4 percent)

2. social "teasing/jokes" from other students (65.4 percent)

3. Faculty "put down women" in class (63.2 percent)

4. Faculty tell "sexual jokes" in class (48.5 percent)

5. "Social pressure" from other students (47.8 percent)

6. "Unwanted touch" from other students (43.4 percent)

7. Faculty "put down men" in class (33.1 percent)

8. faculty "put down homosexuals" in class (31.6 percent)

9. Sexual "looks form staff" (29.4 percent)

10. faculty use "obscene language" in class (27.9 percent)

11. Unwanted "kiss/fondle" from other students (25.0 percent)

12. "Pressure for sex" from other students (25.0 percent)

Men Students (N=74)

1. Sexual "looks from other students (60.8 percent)

2. Sexual "teasing/jokes" from students (56.8 percent)

3. "Social pressure" from other students (54.1 percent)

4. Faculty tell "sexual jokes" in class (47.3 percent)

5. Faculty "put women down" in class (45.9 percent)

6. "Unwanted touch" from other students (44.6 percent)

7. Faculty "put down homosexuals" in class (33.8 percent)

8. Faculty "put down men" in class (31.1 percent)

9. Faculty use "obscene language" in class (29.7 percent)

10. Unwanted "kiss/fondle" from other students (24.3 percent)

11. "Pressure for sex" from other students (23.0 percent)

12. Sexual "looks" from staff (21.6 percent)

MR. JONES

BY BRIAN LINKLETTER



cont. from Page 8

area, racing for great prizes! Teams have to consist of 3 drinkers and one driver (these people don't have to be seniors-we challenge all the freshmen, sophmores juniors and anyone else who wants to, to come on out and crawl with us!). Registration will be going on all afternoon in the Panther Lounge during the Movie Pub and will continue until about 7:00 p.m..

The crawl starts at 7:30 p.m. and ends when the last team stumbles through the door. The pub goes on all night, and the winning team will be announced at around 12:00. Should be a time that we'll all remember - or will we? Rules will be available and a list of clubs will be given to you as you leave.

Seniors - get your teams together soon! This will be your last chance to do a UPEI pub crawl before you graduate! If you don't want to crawl, come to the pub anyway and meet some of the people that you'll be spending a week with in May! We hope that this will be an indication of the kind of enthusiasm and spirit that we're going to see during Senior Week.

If you haven't had the time or energy to do anything with us yet - this is your chance! Get involved now - before graduation time comes and you begin to wonder why you didn't enjoy your Senior year at UPEI. There are no excuses for having a bad time here at UPEI! That's all for now. See you next week!

-Doris, Rob, Les and Maryellen

cont. from Page 13

After Enman hit the front end of a 1-1 to put UPEI up 56-51. Dal raced up court still with hopes of winning the game. It was then that the UPEI defense came through again as it had all season. Stephanie Smith made a play that symbolized the way Lady Panthers had played throughout the game and the season.

With chants of Defense falling down all around them the Panthers pressed Dal into a turnover. Smith brought the crowd to its feet when she stripped Kathy MacCormack of the ball. She

then frantically tried to stop it from rolling out of bounds.

As the ball inched its way toward the side lines both Smith and MacCormack dove for it. Smith somehow managed to rip it away and pass it to Enman without travelling.

That proved to be Dal's last chance and when Bahadursingh hit both free throws after being fouled the Lady Panther bench erupted into celebration. The players danced and hugged each other on the floor as the dream of a perfect season was finally theirs.

READ THE GEM



OR ELSE...