NEWSLETTER # 4

November 2003

a great small faculty makes a great small university!



Have you seen this button popping up around campus?

Are you wondering what it stands for?

The UPEI Faculty Association is currently negotiating its first collective agreement with the university administration. In effect, the Faculty Handbook will be completely re-written. Now is the time to establish a good foundation for our future.

This button signifies that:

- a university is first a community of scholars;
- our work at UPEI is as valuable as that done at other Atlantic Canada universities;
- UPEI faculty and academic staff expect fair remuneration for their work;
- academic freedom for our faculty must be protected;
- maintaining excellent programs requires an investment in quality working conditions for faculty and academic staff.

We deserve an equitable agreement that brings us parity with other Atlantic Canada faculties!

WEAR IT WITH PRIDE! WE ARE BUILDING OUR FUTURE NOW!

To get yours, contact the Faculty Association Office (0438) or speak to your UPEIFAcommunication representative who will be coming to see you soon.

Report on bargaining

Negotiations for a first collective agreement for faculty, librarians, sessionals and clinical nursing instructors has continued over the last few months. There have been some significant developments in the past few days, and a new issue of the "Bargaining Bulletin" will be in your mailboxes very soon. Watch for it!

A second bargaining unit for the UPEIFA

On September 30, 2003, the PEI Labour Relations Board approved the application of the UPEIFA to be the bargaining agent for professional veterinary service providers at UPEI. Individuals within this group recognized the need for the rights and protections that can be accorded under union certification, and conducted a very successful card-signing drive. After some discussion with the UPEI administration over the details of the application, the two sides submitted a joint memo of understanding, and the Labour Relations Board accepted the application without a further vote.

The members of the new bargaining unit are full dues-paying members of both the UPEIFA and of CAUT, and are subject to all of the benefits, rights and responsibilities therein. A key responsibility is the negotiation of a first contract, separate from the one currently being negotiated for faculty, librarians, sessionals and clinical nursing instructors. This process will start very soon.

Please join with the executive in welcoming these new members to the ranks of the UPEIFA.

To contact the UPEIFA

President: Dr. Larry Hale – Biology Department; 566-0551; lhale@upei.ca

Office Secretary: Ms. Susan Gallant – Main 214; 566-0438

Chief Negotiator: Dr. Jim Sentance - Economics Department; 566-0498; sentance@upei.ca

Website: www.upeifa.org