

Atlantic Canada schools top list

Rankings continued from Page 1

focus on undergraduate education), comprehensive (wide range of undergraduate and graduate programs, as well as a significant amount of research), or medical doctoral (broad range of Ph.D. programs and research, as well as medical schools).

Guelph topped the list of comprehensive universities, while the University of Toronto took first place in the medical doctoral category for the tenth year in a row.

Riley said he believes the success of Maritime schools is partly historic. "A lot of the Atlantic Canada institutions have really stayed focused on the fundamentals. At St. FX the undergrads are the absolute priority, and I think we do a good job of creating an environment where the contact between the faculty and the students is strong," he said.

"Interestingly enough that tends to recruit people who are both strong teachers and active researchers," he continued.

Riley also notes that because of the Ontario double-cohort, many students who would have normally applied to Ontario schools have

headed east. That gave St. FX a "bumper crop" of frosh this year.

The release of the Maclean's rankings always causes a stir, as universities and student groups challenge the accuracy and methodology of the survey.

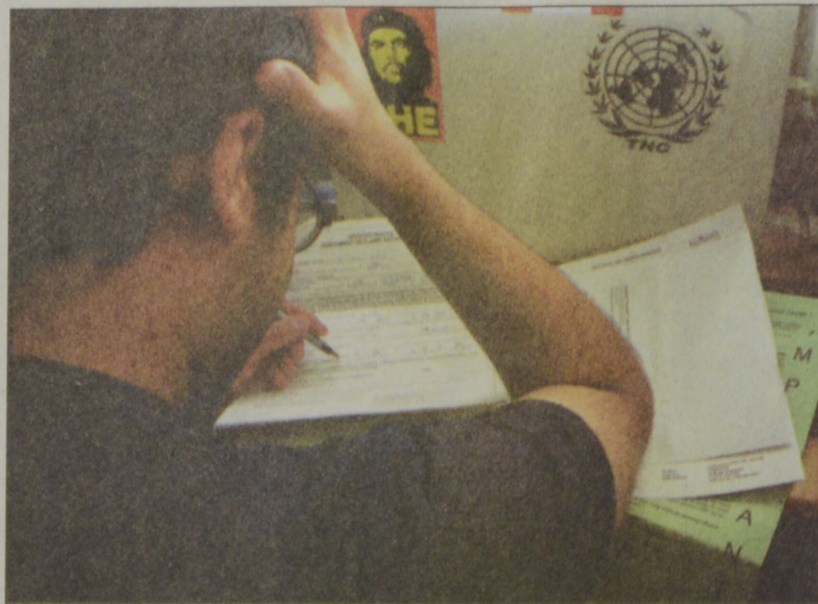
Riley is quick to point out problems in the rankings. He thinks the reputation side is a "little problematic," but said that despite the guide's shortcomings, it can at least act as a guide for students.

"I'm in the university world, and it's very difficult to form an opinion [on some other campuses]. I'm asked to rate Lethbridge - I may have some impressions of Lethbridge, but it's hard to say my opinion is really all that well-founded."

"Where ever the university fits in to the rankings, it at least gives you some kind of sense where you are nationally," he explained.

Forty-seven Canadian universities were considered in the study, which took into account key factors like class sizes, quality of faculty, finances, library services, and reputation.

"A couple of years ago we were down at sixth or eighth place; we were less keen about the ratings then," joked Riley. "Now we tend to gloss over the blemishes."



Meg Folkins/The Brunswickan

Filling out student loans can be a very daunting task.

Loans continued from Page 1

Wright's mom, Barb Clogg-Wright, said it was difficult to watch her daughter struggle because of poor health.

"She's known she was going to go to university ever since she was a small child and her dreams have been shattered," said Clogg-Wright.

"It seems like such a tragic waste, I mean, she's [an] extremely bright, articulate young woman who desperately wants to be upfront and pay back these loans."

Wright can speak English, French, German and Chinese fluently and wishes to return to university to finally finish her degree and be able to pursue her dream job.

"I would like to take [UNB's] diploma in adult education for two years... get their certificate in English as a Second Language and roll that into their new degree, [the Bachelor of Integrated Studies]."

Wright said she owes more than \$30,000 in student loans and said she couldn't afford to go back no matter how much she wants to.

"I would [love to] be able to be a productive member of society," said Wright. "I would like to have a mortgage and have a house, and have credit cards and be Canadian... I'm thinking the only place where I can make money is back in Asia."

"I'm seeing that I am forced to leave my country and go back to another country because taxes are lower, because I can have a good job without a degree, because I speak English, and because I know the system over there. Due to my experience, I can do things inexpensively [in Asia]. You can bargain for things, and if you live in the Chinese way, it's very inexpensive."

According to Wright, she'd be able to make almost double what she would make here in a month: \$2,300 as opposed to \$1,100. However, she'd have to leave her family, her boyfriend, and Canada behind.

"I feel like I've been backed into a corner and overseas is the only place where I will be able to make enough money to pay off my student loans."

Clogg-Wright said it's difficult to see the emotional stress the large student loan debt has had on her daughter.

"She feels like a failure and it's shattered her self-image of what she knows she could do, she would be able to do, but hasn't been able to

do."

"It seems to me that for someone with her abilities, her brains, her ambition and potential, there should be more to life than just surviving," explained Wright's mom.

Clogg-Wright said it's not just her daughter who is struggling with loans, it's a Canadian problem. She also has a son who attends the University of Waterloo, works three jobs and has both a line of credit and student loans.

"I think we're going to have a whole generation of young adults who can't afford to live," said Clogg-Wright.

"Something needs to be done to give the young people some hope. If you go to university and you're looking at building up a loan and you know when you come out that your life is over before it's begun, essentially, where does that leave you?" Clogg-Wright asked.

She said the Canadian student loan system needs to be reviewed and each loan should be reviewed on case-by-case merits.

"There is something intrinsically wrong with the whole student loans system," said Clogg-Wright. "They've got to sit down and review it... this tossing out student loans to everybody and putting them under pressure is no good."

Wright's mom said she didn't know what the solution to the student loan problem was, but hoped her daughter's case would be considered.

"She's not trying to diddle the system; she just needs time to get back on her feet."

Last week, Wright found out her student loans went to a collection agency. For the past year, they have been calling her mother asking for money. Now, they are asking her to pay back \$19,000 immediately or face court action.

Wright, who spent two years at Hangzhou University in China learning Chinese, one year at the University of New Brunswick and was too sick to finish her year at the University of Toronto, wishes for a second chance.

"I hope that I can find some sort of agreement with the government about my student loan situation," she said. "I can't get a degree, I can't become a productive member of society, I'm just so trapped."

NEWS SHORTS

Compiled by Sean Patrick Sullivan

Former writer-in-residence wins Governor General's Award

Douglas Glover, a former Writer-in-Residence at UNB, has won the prestigious Governor General's Literary Award for English-language fiction.

Glover captured the \$15,000 award with *Elle*, a fictionalized account of Marguerite de Roberval, who was cast away on an island in the Gulf of St. Lawrence after getting pregnant on a voyage from France in 1542.

Elle beat out numerous established authors, including Margaret Atwood's *Oryx and Crake*.

The Canadian author, who now resides in New York, is also the author of five story collections and four novels.

Elle was published by Fredericton-based Goose Lane Editions. It is available on their website and in local bookstores. See www.gooselane.com.

UNB boosts enrolment

Enrolment on UNB's two campuses has increased by close to 900 students over the last two years, UNB president Dr. John McLaughlin said last week.

As of October 1st, there were 9,007 students at UNB Fredericton and 3,017 at UNB Saint John, an increase of almost eight per cent on both campuses.

The university attributes the increase to the UNB's growing reputation, an increased demand from students, and aggressive marketing campaigns.

"Competition within the region continues to be strong, but UNB's enrolment gains have surpassed all other Maritime universities," said McLaughlin.

No gay pride float for Saint John

Saint John's mayor said no to having a gay pride float in the city's annual Santa Claus parade.

The Port City Rainbow Coalition had applied to enter a float they say would have brought a message of tolerance and acceptance to the city. The float would have featured three scenes of children in households with gay parents.

Mayor Shirley McAlary has said the float would be inappropriate.

"It's a Christmas Santa Claus parade. There's no activity, no sexual activity of any kind in a Santa

Claus parade," she told the CBC last week.

The parade went without the float on Saturday.

She said the rejection was based on the float making a political statement.

Danny Jardine, head of the Port City Rainbow Pride Committee, had said the float has no more to do with sex than a church float with heterosexual couples.

"We're not going to be standing there making out on the float," he said.

UNB places 8th in Maclean's ratings

UNB Fredericton has tied for eighth place overall among comprehensive universities in *Maclean's* magazine's annual universities rankings issue.

The rankings, which measure

everything from class size to incoming marks to library services, are based on a wide-reaching amount of data.

York University also placed eighth.

Prolific writer to read at UNB

Critically acclaimed New Brunswick writer Raymond Fraser will read from his latest novel *In a Cloud of Dust and Smoke* on Wednesday, Nov. 26, at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton.

The free reading will be held at 8 pm in the East Gallery of Memorial Hall. The public is welcome to attend.

The author of 12 books, Mr. Fraser is a prolific and well-established poet and fiction writer. *In a Cloud of Dust and Smoke* has been praised by poet and critic Fred

Cogswell as a beautiful novel, written from the heart. His novel *The Bannockburn Musicians* was a runner-up for the Governor General's Award.

A native of Chatham, N.B., Mr. Fraser now lives in Fredericton. His work has been widely published in journals and anthologies and has been publicized by CBC radio and television.

The reading is sponsored by the Canada Council for the Arts and the UNBF department of English. For more information contact Edith Snook at 506-458-7397.

ELECTIONS & AGM TODAY!

THE BRUNSWICKAN

Transphobia in Canadian society

Transgender continued from Page 1

showing up for the event," Starlight said.

"I have more allies than actual trans members in the planning committee itself," she added.

Louis Julig, a student union executive at Simon Fraser University, is planning to attend the event, like last year.

"It was an incredibly powerful event," Julig said. "It was like the Parade of the Lost Souls—only real."

Not everyone shared the student union executive's response to the event.

"There were angry people—people that just were mad that we exist and that we were visible," Julig said.

According to Dr. Michael Botnick, instructor of sociology at the

University of British Columbia, discrimination against transgender persons is practically approved by society. As well, Botnick said, Canadian laws don't codify transgender rights.

"It's one of the last bastions of 'acceptable' discrimination," the instructor said.

Botnick said it should make no difference to people if a person is transgender.

"I don't walk around asking people: 'Are you heterosexual?'" Botnick said. "It's none of my business."

"Transgender" is an umbrella term used to describe people who cross socially constructed gender boundaries. Transphobia is the irrational fear and hatred of people who transgress conventional gender and sex rules in the mainstream two-gender system.

Dr. Richard E. Lee Optometrist

406A Regent St. 458-1580

(2 buildings past Harvey's Hamburgers)

New Patients Welcome

THE BRUNSWICKAN

Staff meetings - Wednesdays @ 12:30

Come out and write a story for us!

Produce Plus

1217 Prospect Street, beside Rogers Video

Now Open Daily

Welcome to Produce Plus! We offer a variety of fresh, locally grown produce. We are proud supporters of our local growers.

Some of the local favorites we offer: Potatoes, Cabbage, Turnip, Squash, Honey, Fresh Apple Cider and of course Local Apples from Keswick Ridge

Fruit baskets are also available upon request

5% Student Discount, must show Student I.D.

Specials This Week

Prices in effect from Sunday November 15th to Saturday November 22nd

Organic Maple Products	Half Price
Organic Dried Herbs	Half Price
4lt water	\$0.99/jug plus dep.
Minute Maid/ 5 Alive Juice	\$0.99/bottle plus dep.
Spanish Onions	\$0.49/lb.
Red Onions	\$0.79/lb.
White Onions	\$0.79/lb.
Sweet Onions	\$0.99/lb.
Plum Tomatoes	\$1.69/lb.
Romaine Lettuce	\$1.49 ea.
Et-Tu Caesar Salad Kits	\$2.00/pkg.
Assorted Gourmet Croutons	\$2.00/pkg.
Large Seedless Florida Oranges	\$0.79/lb.
Assorted Fruit To Go	4/\$1.00
Renees Regular Dressing	\$2.00/bottle
Assorted Craisins	\$2.00/pkg.
Fried Noodles	\$1.00/pkg.
Bananas Everyday	\$0.59/lb.

Fresh Products From Mike's Bakery Now Available

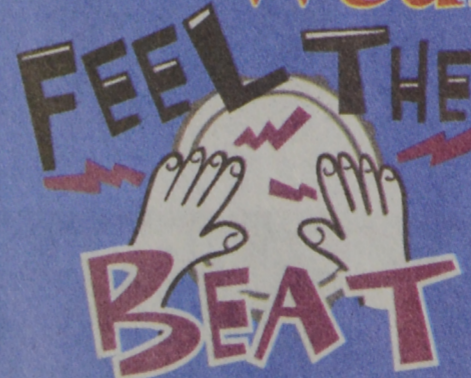


The Capital

LIVE THIS WEEKEND

Naked Days

Wednesdays



LIVE HIP-HOP DJ & Freestyle
Come on out
Open Mike/Open Tables



Great Performances Each Week

349 King St, Piper's Lane, 459-3558, capital@nbnet.nb.ca