UWO going to Firestone to teach economics course

Studying while holding a full-time job will be a little easier for Firestone Steel Products of Canada Ltd. employees in September. The reason — the University of Western Ontario is going to Firestone.

For the five women and seven men who have already applied for the eco-nomics extension course the hassle of getting to Western's campus for night courses will be eliminated. The course will be taught on factory premises on Firestone Boulevard one night a week.

A similar experiment started in 1975 at the General Motors diesel plant on Oxford Street is a success and will continue in September.

Tom Guinsburg, dean of the faculty of part-time and continuing education, said the advantages to Firestone employees are many. Not only will the students be able to take classes at the plant and avoid the sometimes intimidating campus atmosphere, but they'll get special attention.

"The advantage of small classes is that the education people get in these contexts is probably better since there is better access to professors." Some mature students have never

taken university-level courses so the smaller the class the more attention each student gets. For individual assistance with study skills, Western's stu-dent services office will be at the disposal of Firestone employees, said Guinsburg.

Firestone personnel training co-ordinator Rick Kennedy said the employees gave a "sort of hodge-podge of reasons" for wanting to take the course. Self-improvement, a desire to gain a broader perspective, working toward a degree and career enhancement were some of the reasons cited.

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Part-time students

Special bursaries available

The Ontario Special Bursary Plan, part of the Ontario Student Assistance Program, helps meet the education costs of needy part-time students who have little or no post-secondary education.

The Ontario Special Bursary

 encourages people, in serious financial need, to take courses at the post-secondary level to improve their job skills and earning ability; and

•helps especially needy students to continue their programs of study at Ontario postsecondary institutions.

The plan provides assistance to students taking up to 60 per cent of the normal full-course load. Course load is usually defined in college and university calendars.

For example, if a normal full-course load is five courses, three courses would be 60 per cent; if a normal full-course load is 30 credits, 18 credits would represent 60 per cent. After beginning on a part-time basis, students are encouraged, where appropriate, to attend full-time.

If you are eligible, you may receive a bursary to cover the costs of tuition and other compulsory fees, books and equip-ment, and local transportation costs. You may also receive assistance to help cover extra costs,, such as babysitting to a maximum of \$10 per week. The total maximum assistance allowed is \$1,200 per academic year.

You can get more information on the Ontario Special Bursary Plan and other OSAP plans from the Financial Aid (Student Awards) Office of participating institutions in Ontario or from:

Ontario Special Bursary Plan Student Awards Branch Ministry of Colleges and Universities Mowat Block, Queen's Park Toronto, Ontario M7A 2B4