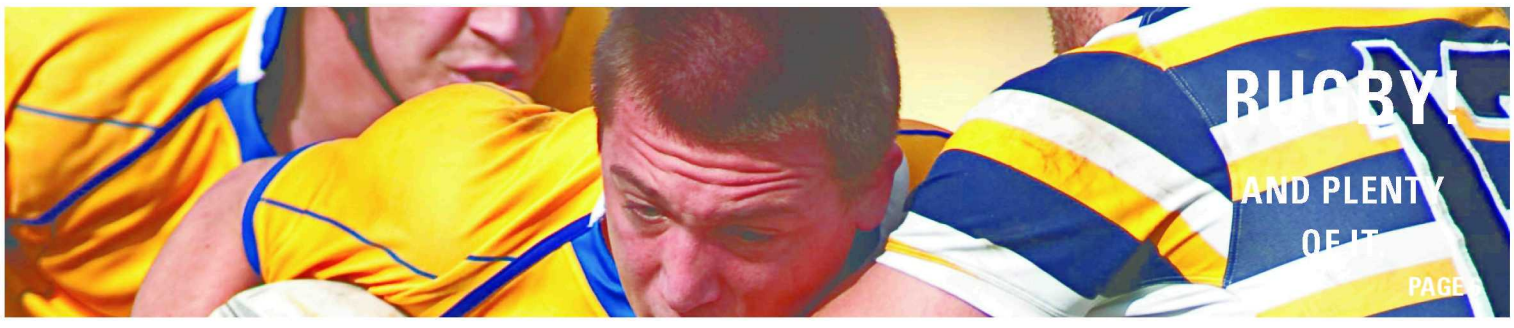

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THURSDAY 2010.03.25

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TUITION INCREASE ON THE HORIZON

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EDITORIAL

COORDINATING EDITOR
Paul Bucci : coordinating@ubyssey.ca
NEWS EDITOR
Samantha Jung : news@ubyssey.ca
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR
Sarah Chung : schung@ubyssey.ca
ASSOCIATE CULTURE EDITORS
Jonny Wakefield & Kathy Yan Li : culture@ubyssey.ca
SPORTS EDITOR
Justin McElroy : sports@ubyssey.ca
IDEAS EDITOR
Trevor Record : ideas@ubyssey.ca
PHOTO EDITOR
Gerald Deo : photos@ubyssey.ca
GRAPHICS ASSISTANT
Anthony Goertz : graphics@ubyssey.ca
PRODUCTION MANAGER
Virginie Ménard : production@ubyssey.ca
COPY EDITOR
Katarina Grgić : copy@ubyssey.ca
MULTIMEDIA EDITOR
Tara Martellaro : multimedia@ubyssey.ca
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR
Ashley Whillans : awhillans@ubyssey.ca

Room 24, Student Union Building
6138 Student Union Boulevard
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1
tel: 604.822.2301
web: *www.ubyssey.ca*
e-mail: *feedback@ubyssey.ca*

BUSINESS

Room 23, Student Union Building
advertising: 604.822.1654
business office: 604.822.6681
fax: 604.822.1658
e-mail: *advertising@ubyssey.ca*

BUSINESS MANAGER
Fernie Pereira : business@ubyssey.ca
AD TRAFFIC
Sabrina Marchand : advertising@ubyssey.ca
AD DESIGN
Chibwe Mweene : cmweene@ubyssey.ca

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Ahem. My name is Kai Green, and, like, this is my speech on Why All Anna Zoria Should Be Allowed into Kathy Yan Li Land. So like, right now for example. The Jonny Wakefields need to come to Jon Dehouwer and Virginie Menard. But some Justin McElroys are all, "What about the strain on our Trevor Record?" Well it's like when Ana Bernerd had this garden party for Kasha Chang and Austin Holm's birthday, right? Gerald Deo put R.S.V.P. 'cause it was a sit-down dinner. But some people, like Keegan Bursaw and Geoff Lister, came that, like, did not R.S.V.P. Tara Martellaro was like totally buggin'. Katarina Grgic has nothing going on today. Rebeka Ryvola had to haul ass to the kitchen, redistribute the food, and squish in extra place settings. But by the end of the day it was, like, the more the merrier. And so if Roel Moeurs and Paul Bucci could just get to the kitchen, rearrange some things, Samantha Jung and Larisa Karr could certainly party with Sarah Chung and Ashley Whillans. And in conclusion may I please remind you it does not say R.S.V.P. on the Statue of Liberty. Thank you very much.

Canadian University Press

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EVENTS

CLASSIFIED

The Power of Gnostic Meditation: A FREE Workshop Thursday, April 8, 2010, 7:00 -8:00 pm. Location: YWCA Fitness Centre 535 Hornby Street, Downtown Vancouver. Registration/information contact: 1-877-GNOSIS-1 or go to *gnosticawakenings.com/vancouver*. Timeless techniques to acquire wisdom and inner peace.

ONGOING EVENTS

UBYSSEY PRODUCTION • Come help us create this baby! Learn about layout and editing. Expect to be fed. • *Every Sunday and Wednesday, 2pm, SUB 24.*

MONDAY NIGHT COMMUNITY MUSIC & MEAL • Like to play music? Just want to listen? Looking for a sense of community? This is for all members of the UBC community who want to have a good meal and great conversation. All meals are home-cooked and are vegetarian-friendly. • *Every Monday, 6:30pm–8:30pm, Chapel of the Epiphany (6030 Chancellor Blvd), for more info e-mail* revnathanwright@mac.com.

NOON "FUN" RUN • Get healthy and come run or walk. Meeting outside the Student Recreation Centre, the UBC REC Noon Fun Run, hosted by the UBC REC & Health Promotions Department takes participants throughout many of UBC's most scenic areas on a course ranging from 3 to 5km. It is free and open to all students, faculty and staff. • *12:30pm–1:30pm, Student Rec Centre.*

STORM THE WALL 2010 • North America's largest campus intramural event. Be a part of the event that defines UBC. Men's, women's and CoRec teams of five will compete in a swim, sprint, cycle and run relay before storming over one of two 12-foot walls in the heart of campus. Individuals may also complete the entire relay themselves in the Iron Person categories. • *All day until Apr. 1, $40 team, $10 Iron person, for more info go to* rec.ubc.ca/events/storm.

THURSDAY, MAR. 25

MASKED OPERA BALL FUNDRAISER • Tasty cuisine plus entertainment by the Dal Richards Orchestra and the UBC Opera Ensemble put the "fun" in fundraising. Each ticket includes a delicious dinner on the stage of the Chan Centre and entertainment by one of Vancouver's best-loved bandleaders. Tickets are limited so don't delay! • *7pm, Chan Centre, $150 (includes $100 tax receipt).*

BAND WARS FINALS • The best band at UBC will emerge victorious Thursday night. A panel of industry judges will be on hand to score the event and deliver the verdict. Top Runner Up at 9 pm, Week 1 Winner at 10 pm, Week 2 Winner at 11 pm. • *9pm–12am, The Pit, free.*

SPARTACUS YOUTH CLUB CLASS SERIES • Presenting their third class in the series, *The Vanguard Party and the Fight for Socialist Revolution.* • *6:30pm, SUB 224, for more info contact* trotskyist_vancouver@shawcable.com *or call (604) 687-0353.*

THE DANCE CENTRE PRESENTS: *DISCOVER DANCE!* • *Discover Dance!* is a series showcasing diverse province-based companies, presented by The Dance Centre, BC's resource centre for dance. The series will be showcasing the brilliant footwork and breath-taking virtuosity of flamenco, along with an exhilarating performance by Flamenco Rosario. • *12pm, Scotiabank Dance Centre, 677 Davie St, $7 students, $10 adults, tickets can be purchased at* ticketstonight.ca.

FRIDAY, MAR. 26

INTERNATIONAL NIGHT • Are you ready for a night of cultural immersion, music, performance, and a riotous dance party? Then join us for the English Language Institute's International Night. There will be cultural displays, an international food fair, performances and demonstrations of unique talents, and to top it all off, a DJ will spin tunes to guarantee groovy moves on the dance floor. • *7pm, SUB Ballroom, $3, bring two pieces of ID to purchase alcohol.*

ASIAN CANADIAN INDIE MUSIC FESTIVAL • On behalf of the Asian Canadian Cultural Organization, we are pleased to announce that we will be holding an Asian Canadian Indie Music Festival, in which we bring in a diverse range of talented local Asian Canadian performers to showcase their talents! All proceeds support the Downtown Eastside Womens' Centre. • *6:30pm–9pm, Thea's Lounge, Koerner Graduate Student Building, $11.*

CFI VANCOUVER PRESENTS: A TALK WITH PAT O'BRIEN • Pat has been involved in virtually every production aspect of film, television and live theatre. He is a former President of the British Columbia Humanist Association and is now an Ambassador for Atheist Alliance International. • *7:30pm–9pm, room 182, IKBLC, $4 students, $5 regular, free for CFI members.*

SATURDAY, MAR. 27

EWB UBC PRESENTS: BRIDGING THE GAP • Bridging the Gap is an upcoming conference put on by the Engineers Without Borders Vancouver chapter. Discussion topics will include Aid vs Trade, Agriculture Value Chains, Microfinance, Connecting to African Culture and Climate Change and Development. The conference will close with a keynote address from Dr Hans Rosling, professor of International Health in Stockholm, Sweden. • *8am–5pm, Life Sciences Institute, $35 students, $70 professionals, lunch included.*

INDIAN DANCE WITH SUDNYA MULYE • Sudnya Mulye tells stories of India through the classical dance style Bharata Natyam. Join her at the Art-Starts Gallery, where kids and families will explore culture and tradition through dance, movement and expression. • *11am & 1pm, Art-Starts gallery, 808 Richards St (at Robson), free.*

TUESDAY, MAR. 30

AMS VOLUNTEER CONNECT FAIR • Come to the fair at the SUB South Concourse to check out volunteer opportunities. Over 30 organizations and on-campus clubs are participating in this fair. • *11am–3:30pm, SUB South Concourse.*

BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY • Grab your trusty steed and cruise up to campus for a big, warm, friendly Bike Co-op greeting. The weather is turning from great to greater so how better to celebrate spring than on two wheels? Bike checks will be available at our commuter station tent to make sure you're riding safe, along with free coffee and breakfast goodies! • *7:30am–11am, University Blvd.*

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 31

US HEALTH CARE REFORM • The UBC School of Population and Public Health presents *US Health Reform (This Time for Real?): Prospects and Lessons for Canada.* Students, staff, faculty and the community are welcome to attend this free public lecture by Dr Elliott Fisher, Director of Population Health and Policy at the Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice. • *5pm–6:30pm, room LSC2, Life Sciences Centre, with a wine and cheese reception 4pm–5pm at the atrium, RSVP to the reception at* sylvia.froese@ubc.ca, *for more info go to* spph.ubc.ca.

THURSDAY, APR. 1

THE FATE OF URDU: MUSLIMS, LANGUAGE POLITICS, AND COLONIAL HYDERABAD • This talk examines the work of Muslim writers, literary critics and intellectuals in the southern city of Hyderabad. There they founded the first vernacular university of modern India, Osmania University, using Urdu as the medium of instruction in all subjects from History and the Humanities to Medicine and the Sciences. The work of these intellectuals allows us to rethink the place of Muslims within the history of Indian nationalism and the trajectory of the national language question in modern India. • *4pm–6pm, Asian Centre 604, 1871 West Mall.*

FRIDAY, APR. 2

BLOOD BASH • What happens when you cross Tarantino, vampires and Shakespeare? You get Taranampspeared in the most GORIFYING Halloween Party of April. So dress up as your favourite bloody characters (i.e. Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Hannibal Lecter, Freddy Kreuger, etc.) • *19+ event, 8pm–12am, SUB Party Room, $5 in advance, $7 at the door, to purchase tickets call Andrew Lynch at (604) 839-4316 or Geneviève Bolduc at (604) 338-2805.*

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NEWS

EDITOR SAMANTHA JUNG » news@ubyssey.ca
ASSOCIATE SARAH CHUNG » schung@ubyssey.ca

RESULTS OF UBC'S TUITION PROPOSAL SURVEY

55% of domestic undergraduate students said that the proposed 2% tuition increase would create some financial pressure, but they could manage.
32.6% said it would seriously impact them, and they would have to consider delaying their studies or not returning to UBC.
84.9% of domestic undergraduate students said tuition at UBC was too high.
41% of international undergraduate students said that the proposed 4% increase would create some financial pressure, but they could manage.
48.4% said that it would seriously impact them.
84.9% of international undergraduate students polled said that tuition at UBC was too high.

Tuition increase pushes forward

Board to finalize April 8

ROEL MOEURS
rmoeurs@ubyssey.ca

On Tuesday, the UBC Board of Governors' (BoG) finance committee unanimously voted in favour of a two per cent increase in tuition fees for domestic students and a four per cent increase for international students despite opposition.

The tuition proposal still has to be approved at the full board meeting on April 8, but there was little criticism from BoG members at the meeting on Tuesday.

Students who are taking a full courseload in Arts or Science will pay $89 more in total tuition fees in 2010/2011 under the current proposal. This $3 increase per credit is, according to UBC VP Students Brian Sullivan, a normal adjustment to the increased cost of living and current inflation.

The proposal has encountered strong opposition from students. Students from UBC Okanagan (UBC-O) came to Tuesday's meeting to voice their concerns.

In a survey conducted by UBC, half of undergraduate students indicated that the current tuition levels were already too high, and one-third said that this increase would mean postponing their degree or not returning to UBC. 7142 students responded to the survey.

> Those [survey] levels are five to ten times greater than usual, which is appalling and extremely concerning.
>
> **MICHAEL DUNCAN**
> BOARD OF GOVERNORS REPRESENTATIVE

Among international students these numbers were even higher, and at UBC-O, which would have the same increases, 90 per cent of students polled were opposed to the current proposal.

These numbers came as a surprise to members of the BoG. "I have a hard time understanding this," said Sullivan.

Michael Duncan, AMS BoG representative, said he was "shocked" by the results. "Those [survey] levels are five to ten times greater than usual, which is appalling and extremely concerning," he told *The Ubyssey* in an e-mail interview.

"I would like the administration to present possible reasons why these results are so and have a detailed plan to deal with the potential student financial difficulties."

Newly elected AMS President Bijan Ahmadian, who is currently serving out the remainder of his term as BoG representative, argued that the results were due to campaigning by advocates of lower tuition.

> I don't believe that, for $89, anyone will postpone their degree.
>
> **BIJAN AHMADIAN**
> BOARD OF GOVERNORS REPRESENTATIVE

"This time around, there was serious campaigning," he told *The Ubyssey*. "[Former AMS VP External] Tim Chu...was telling people that if you don't want your tuition to increase, you should go and respond to the survey in a certain way. I don't believe that, for $89, anyone will postpone their degree—I don't think anyone buys that."

"The position of the AMS has been that as long as it corresponds to the cost of living, we're OK with it," Ahmadian explained. "In the past 16 years, we've never had a formal policy to either reduce tuition or to support a tuition freeze."

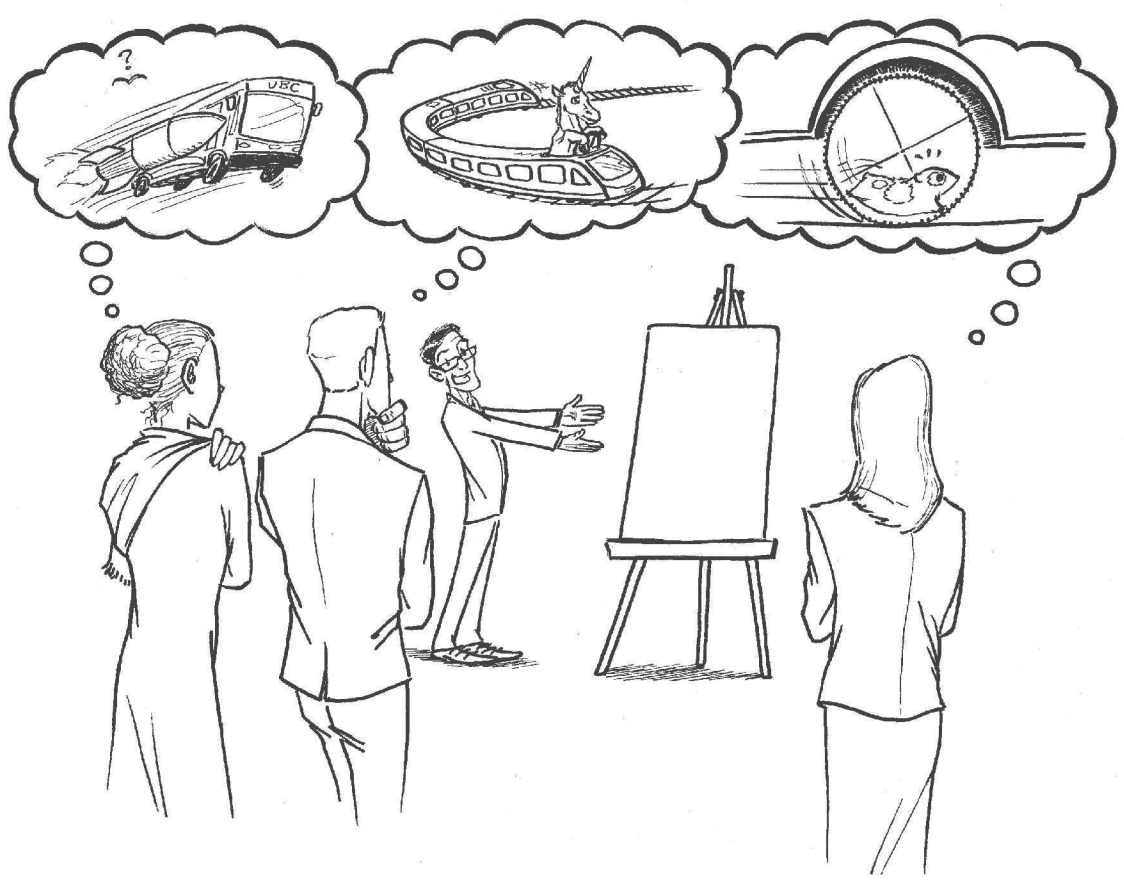
Nevertheless, other students indicated that this increase might be too much. "$89 dollars might not seem much for some people, but to a student, that is a week's worth of groceries," said Carolyn Cody from the UBC-O Students Union (UBC-SUO), "I think it's irresponsible."

One thing all parties did agree on was the need for increased and cooperated lobbying of the provincial government. UBC, the AMS and UBC-SUO have all indicated a willingness to work together and make sure that students can benefit fully from Policy 72, which is in place to make sure that students with financial problems are still able to attend UBC.

Cody said that the student representative from UBC-O will vote against the proposal when it comes to the full BoG in a few weeks.

Ahmadian, despite voting in favour of the increase last year, abstained on Tuesday due to a conflict of interest, as he is currently serving as both AMS president and BoG representative. He indicated he will most likely abstain from the next vote as well.

—with files from Samantha Jung



Throw up your hands and raise your voice....Monorail! Monorail! **ANTHONY GOERTZ ILLUSTRATION/**THE UBYSSEY

How do you want to get to school?

Students weigh in on transportation consultation

LARISA KARR
lkarr@ubyssey.ca

You may have seen the open-ended signs that read "If it were up to me buses would be located..." These signs are part of a month-long transporation consultation organized by UBC Campus and Community Planning (C+CP) in order to determine the most desirable location for a new bus loop at UBC, and students are weighing in.

The consultation will consist of an Ideas Fair, in which students and faculty are encouraged to create and present ten-minute proposals for how to improve transportation around campus. There will be two $1000 and two $500 prizes for the most creative presentations at the Ideas Fair.

After plans to complete an underground bus loop were scrapped last fall, due to =TransLink's inability to fund transportation projects, Campus and Community Planning decided to consult the UBC community in order to determine how public transit on the UBC campus could be improved.

> We are going to talk the ideas through with the campus community and present different ideas. We have to start somewhere."
>
> **JOE STOTT**
> DIRECTOR OF PLANNING FOR C+CP

"We needed an open consultation plan. With the Ideas Fair we're going to ensure that there is a high level of participation ranging from faculty to staff," said Tracy Bains, C+CP's Manager of Communications and Consultation.

Joe Stott, Director of Planning for C+CP explained the steps to be taken following the completion of the consultation. "Over the summer, campus planning will pick the best ideas out of the submissions and go through it with some technical analysis," Stott said.

Later in October, the top ideas from the Fair will be reviewed and considered along with feedback from Translink.

"The prize money is just to generate interest. We are going to talk the ideas through with the campus community and present different ideas," said Stott. "We have to start somewhere."

The AMS will not participate in the Ideas Fair, but will be involved in the Public Transportation Council on April 15, said AMS VP External Jeremy McElroy.

The Council will be a collaboration between the UBC Community and TransLink. It will discuss the constraints and trade-offs of installing different transit methods including bus rapid transit, light rail rapid transit, rail rapid transit and combined technologies.

Two of the factors TransLink will take into consideration when planning the line will be peak-hour demand and latent demand. UBC transit consultants determined that while the regional peak hour generally is around 7:30am to 8:30am, UBC Vancouver's peak hour occurs from 8:30am to 9:30am. The new transit system would have to accommodate those different peak times.

> While the regional peak hour is around 7:30am to 8:30am, UBC Vancouver's peak hour occurs from 8:30am to 9:30am.

Students are excited to be given the opportunity to have a voice in the process. "Even though I lived on campus for four years, I am participating in the consultation because I know how difficult it can be to commute back and forth," said fourth-year Commerce student Abhi Ramlugan. "I did a project similar to this in one of my classes and I'm looking forward to working on the project."

UBC's Ideas Fair will take place on Tuesday, March 30 from 6pm to 9pm in SUB 207.

Your new undergrad presidents

This year marred with controversy, late announcements

SARAH CHUNG
schung@ubyssey.ca

Students wait for results—which were supposed to be released on Friday. **GERALD DEO PHOTO**/THE UBYSSEY

LI WINS BY LARGE MARGIN

Amanda Li won the Engineering Undergraduate Society (EUS) presidential race by a large margin over competitors Julian Ritchie and Sina Sahami.

"I was completely ecstatic. It was pretty unbelievable hearing that I had won, and then more unbelievable hearing the number of voters and the margins," said Li.

Li hopes to "work off the momentum" the EUS has seen through outgoing president Lin Watt's term.

But she also sees a need for change. "Internal organization... needs a bit of work on its efficiency and effectiveness before it has the capacity to do more," she said.

She plans to increase space in the soon-to-be-built Engineering Student Centre, which is set to replace the current Cheeze.

MORE PEOPLE SHOULD HAVE VOTED: SHARMA

After the incomplete ballot count announcement last Friday, the Science Undergraduate Society (SUS) Elections Committee announced the final results via Twitter on Monday.

Sumedha Sharma, running unopposed, was acclaimed president by a huge margin of 241 voters voting 'Yes' and 48 voting 'No.'

Despite her win, Sharma said she was disappointed by the voter turnout.

"I am really disheartened about the poor voter turnout...and this is exactly the kind of apathy I want to address because it does speak volumes about how connected students feel to their undergraduate society, among many other things."

Sharma said she plans to reform the SUS by connecting the society more with the UBC administration and faculties "to build a cohesive executive team." She also wants to create more executive jobs within the SUS to "create more avenues for student involvement."

Another one of her goals is to install lockers and computers at the Adula Ladha Centre.

PLATT WINS BY MARGIN

The Arts Undergraduate Society (AUS) election results were the most controversial of all: Brian Platt beat Ryan Trasolini by a single vote cast by the Elections Adminstrator in order to break the tie. The remaining candidate, Mike Silley, came in third, but was only 13 votes away from Platt.

However, a letter from Trasolini, later published on the *Radical Beer Faction* website, claimed that the ballot count was inaccurate and thus, he should be the president elect.

According to Naylor, a recount was conducted and no error was found, and Platt remains president.

Platt will focus on creating an "Arts community," which he aims to achieve by creating or supporting events set up by Arts clubs.

"I think we should put on a few keystone events a year and they should be packed. There should be a lineup to get into an AUS event," he said.

Platt said that the AUS has done a poor job at making UBC a "lively campus" and he thinks that creating a fun environment will make people feel more connected to their university.

VICTORY FOR KIM FOR HKIN

Ellen Kim was elected as the new Human Kinetics Undergraduate Society (HKUS) president.

Results for HKUS were extremely delayed. "I actually only found out at around 3pm [on Tuesday] that I won," Kim said.

Kim served as HKUS VP Admin for two years and pushed for the need to connect with commuter students and running non-drinking targeted events during that time.

Next year her goal is to make HKIN to become a greater "presence on campus." She plans to do this by running more interfaculty events and increasing volunteer outreach.

FOR YOUR INFO

Brian Platt beat Ryan Trasolini by a single vote cast by the Elections Adminstrator in order to break the tie.

TRANSPORTATION CONSULTATION 2010

I ___(verb)___ around campus. If it were up to me, the buses would be located at ___(place)___ so that I could ___(phrase)___.

We're holding an Ideas Fair to hear what you have to say about where to put the buses and better ways to get around campus—on foot, by bike or whatever. This is a chance for the whole community to come together to discuss this important issue.

Present your idea on your own or as part of a team in under ten minutes to the UBC community and a panel of judges. Or you can simply attend and join in the group discussions after the presentations are made.

The most creative and innovative presentations will win prizes of $1,000 and $500.

ATTEND OR PRESENT

IDEAS FAIR
Tuesday, March 30, 2010
from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in SUB 207
Dinner provided.

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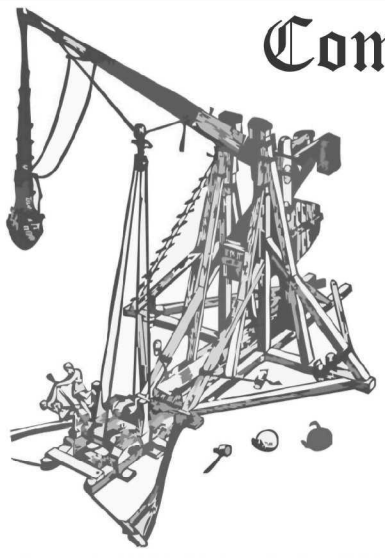
To attend or present, please register online before Wednesday, March 24, 2010 at **planning.ubc.ca**



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University of Ottawa rejects Ann Coulter

Students protest against the conservative US pundit

LEN SMIRNOV
The Fulcrum

Spectators await the arrival of US conservative pundit Ann Coulter. **COURTSEY OF MATT STAROSTE**

OTTAWA (CUP)—Chaos erupted on the night of March 23 as hundreds of protesters clashed with police to prevent Ann Coulter, the radically conservative US pundit, from speaking on the University of Ottawa campus.

The dozens of spectators who had been admitted into the school's Marion Hall auditorium were eventually told that it was "physically dangerous" to proceed with the event and were evacuated from the building.

"It is an embarrassing day for the University of Ottawa and their student body that couldn't debate Ann Coulter and chose to silence her," said Ezra Levant, a Canadian conservative activist who was to introduce Coulter at the event. "Never in my whole life [have] I thought I would have to tell people how to get out of a university safely."

The speaking event was part of Coulter's three-city Canadian tour, organized by the International Free Press Society and the Claire Boothe Luce Policy Institute, an American organization supporting conservative women in politics. Coulter was scheduled to speak on political correctness, media bias and freedom of speech.

She is perhaps best known for making controversial comments including calling for Islamic countries to be invaded and all Muslims to be converted to Christianity shortly after 9/11.

Students and local residents began lining up in front of Marion Hall several hours before the event. Shortly before the scheduled speaking time, though, the building's fire alarm was pulled and the speech was delayed.

After groups of people began to chant lines such as, "No more hate speech on our campus" and "Coulter go home," and crowded the doors to the building, Levant announced to those present in the auditorium that the event was canceled, citing security concerns.

> I'm upset that a bunch of punks... that obviously aren't from this country, they're Arabic or whatever—they ruined it for everyone else.
>
> **FRANCES LADOUCEUR**
> OTTAWA RESIDENT

While Levant indicated it was protesters who pressed against the doors to the building, witnesses outside claimed that police blocked the entrance to Marion Hall. A group of activists, including several members of the Student Federation of the University of Ottawa (SFUO), took credit for the protest.

"We support a positive space on campus. We don't tolerate hate speech," said Social Sciences student Taiva Tegler, one of the organizers of the protest.

The audience inside the auditorium consisted largely of Coulter's supporters, but several protesters were able to get inside by registering earlier with event organizers.

"I think it is very disgraceful that there are so many people here that support a woman who has made very homophobic, racist (and) sexist comments," said graduate student Samantha Ponting, one of the protesters who gained entry to the event.

"By allowing her here on campus, it has created an unsafe space. That's why we closed the event," she said.

Coulter's supporters were upset with the cancelation of the event. Ottawa resident Bob Ward has followed Coulter's work—which has included several *New York Times* bestsellers and numerous television appearances—for five years and had registered for her speech weeks in advance.

"I think the University of Ottawa really should be quite embarrassed by what's happened here tonight," he said, suggesting that the university should apologize to Coulter and invite her back to campus.

Frances Ladouceur, another Ottawa resident, was unable to get into the event after the protesters pulled the fire alarm.

"I'm upset that a bunch of punks...that obviously aren't from this country, they're Arabic or whatever—they ruined it for everyone else," she said. "It is a communist university and I will never send my children [here]."

Francois Houle, the University of Ottawa's Provost, sent a letter to Coulter on March 19 in which he warned her of Canadian hate speech laws and encouraged her to "educate (her) self, if need be, as to what is acceptable in Canada." Houle also noted that "promoting hatred against any identifiable group would not only be considered inappropriate, but could in fact lead to criminal charges."

The letter was leaked to *The National Post* and *newsmax.com*, a conservative American news site. Coulter responded to the administrator's comments in an e-mail to the *Ottawa Citizen* on March 22.

"I see that [Houle] is guilty of promoting hatred against an identifiable group: conservatives," she wrote. "Not only does this promote hatred against conservatives, but it promotes violence against conservatives."

Coulter drew criticism a day earlier at the University of Western Ontario where she told one Muslim student to "take a camel" if he didn't have a magic carpet, a reference to an past comment she has made. Levant praised the speech, which drew 800 people.

"It was a tremendous civil debate," he said. "It was a great night for democracy. A great night for freedom."

Levant also classified Coulter's trip to Ottawa as a success for exposing the importance placed on Canadian values of free speech and characterized the night's outcome as a "teaching moment for the entire country."

Lars Hedegaard, president of the International Free Press Society, has promised to bring Coulter back to the U of O campus in the future. Coulter is scheduled to speak at the University of Calgary on March 25.

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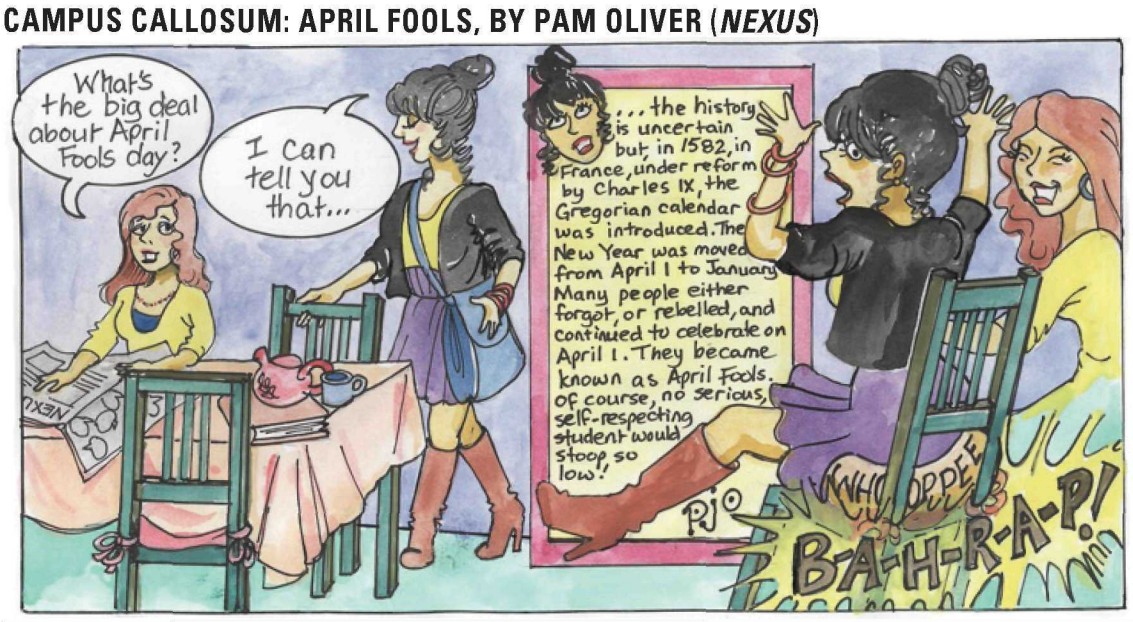
CAMPUS CALLOSUM: APRIL FOOLS, BY PAM OLIVER (*NEXUS*)



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YOU SAID IT

IN RESPONSE TO "NAYLOR BREAKS TIE, CHOOSES PLATT AS AUS PRESIDENT [MARCH 22, 2010]":

Further compounding the amazing closeness of the vote, Mike Silley, in last place, was only behind Ryan and Brian by 13 votes.

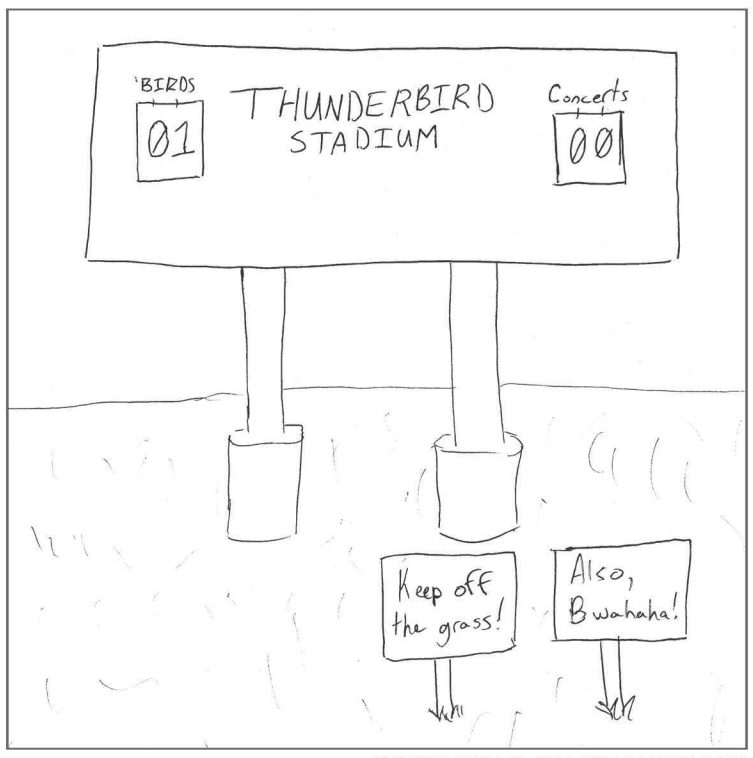
—Kyle Warwick [March 23]

How much money did the AUS spend on promoting and running this election?

—Blake Frederick [March 24]

I'm with blake. Down with democracy!

—Pea Zoop [March 24]



TREVOR RECORD GRAPHIC/THE UBYSSEY

EDITORIAL

STUDENTS: IT'S TIME TO STAND UP FOR YOURSELVES ON TUITION

On Tuesday, the Board of Governors (BoG) finance committee voted in favour of a two per cent tuition increase for students, pushing the the increases for next year closer to reality.

Students from UBC-O came all the way to our campus to voice their concerns. UBC VP Students Brian Sullivan announced the results of the tuition survey, which showed massive student opposition to the increases, particularly from international and UBC-O students—many claiming they would be unable to complete their degrees due to these increases.

While we're doubtful that a $89 increase will really stop students from attending UBC, the message was clear that students are tired of tuition increases. To them we say: turn this into a real movement. Those UBC-O students make it obvious that there are more than enough people who are devoted enough that it's a realistic aim.

Politicians ranging from NDP MP hopefuls to AMS executives are going to offer to fight the good fight on your behalf. But those ideologically opposed to them are not going to care about tuition if you only focus on voting. You need a powerful group to work for you at all times. If you begin large letter-writing campaigns, rallies and most importantly remain vigilant—not just when tuition increases are about to occur—you'll be able to accomplish far more than waiting for a few politicians to come knocking while on the campaign trail.

AMS VP External Jeremy McElroy has talked about creating a province-wide tuition lobbying group. Why don't students do this without relying on their student governments? The AMS will continue to go along with tuition increases that fall under 2.5 per cent for now—this could change in the future or it could not, but if you believe in lower tuition, it would be foolish to wait around for a more sympathetic executive.

Honestly, students don't really need them. They just need to get educated about the issue, then make their voices heard. For those who truly can't complete their degrees if tuition continues to increase, waiting around for a well-funded middle-man isn't an option.

HEALTH CARE HERE AND THERE

Watch out Americans, you just got *socialized!* With the passing of the Medicare bill, you're now locked into a mandatory payment system wherein you have to buy insurance or pay a progressive fee to maximum of just over $2000 annually. And who do you have to buy this insurance from? That's right, private insurers!

Did we say socialized? You skipped right over that pesky middle step of socialized medicine. That's right, you just got *privatized*.

Aw, America, we're just joshing. Baby steps. The health care reforms enacted by the US government earlier this week are, to quote Vice-President Joe Biden, "a big fucking deal." It's not public health care, but it does make it so every American, regardless of health or wealth, can afford to go to the hospital.

Here in Canada we've been raging socialists for a long time. According to the Canada Health Act, all Canadian citizens are entitled to fee-less medically necessary services. Of course, most of us pay monthly premiums, but those are just glorified taxes.

Still, our health care system is deeply flawed. There is no perfect fix. It's so flawed that we're exploring partial privatization in BC. Which would ensure that those who can pay for better health care would get it, and still get a little government support. Which would mean the government would be paying to assist people who can afford to buy better health care.

Aw, BC, we're just joshing. That would be ludicrous. Right?

TOO SEXY

KASHA CHANG & AUSTIN HOLM
toosexy@ubyssey.ca

DEAR TOO SEXY,

I'll cut right to the chase. I've been seeing this guy for the past month and a half or so. Everything's great—he makes me laugh, gets along well with my friends and the sex is fantastic (for me). There's just one problem: about 50 per cent of the times we have sex, maybe slightly less, he doesn't cum. I've asked him about it, and he says it's normal for him and that he isn't bothered by it. But especially since it's so good for me (and I mean sooooo good; like, multi-orgasmic), I feel kind of guilty. Also, this is a relatively new development. When we first started dating, he never seemed to have trouble cumming.

So my question is: Is this something I need to be concerned about? Is this a symptom of him losing interest in me? Are there any medical problems that could be contributing to this situation? And should I take him at his word that he really doesn't care whether he cums or not?

—Boyfriend's Lack of Cum Keeps Her Enquiring And Doubtful

HEY BLOCKHEAD,

As we've addressed in previous issues, communication is extremely important in relationships, with particular pertinence to sexual matters. So hopefully, if your boyfriend really did feel like this was a problem, he would tell you so openly and unambiguously.

Unfortunately, good communication isn't always the norm. But especially since you two seem to have a solid, healthy relationship, it's a good idea to assume he's communicating in good faith—since we don't have any significant evidence to the contrary. In other words, if he says he's not upset and doesn't seem upset, you should probably believe that he isn't upset.

Along the same lines, this issue likely isn't a sign that he's losing interest. If that's what's keeping you up at night, you should discuss that with him and give him a chance to allay your fears.

In the meantime, ask yourself if you are having sex more frequently than you were at the beginning of the relationship. Have you stopped using condoms since that time? If so, this may not be a new development in your sex life, but one that you have only recently noticed for statistical and pragmatic reasons.

Moreover, your boyfriend has probably grown more comfortable with you over the past few weeks, perhaps leading him to feel less pressured to make himself cum every time you have sex.

In terms of medical explanations, male anorgasmia, delayed ejaculation and male orgasmic disorder are all technical terms for an absence of subjective orgasm and ejaculation in men. Various statistical reports indicate that anywhere from 4 to 13.5 per cent of men have this condition. Given that your boyfriend orgasms 50 per cent or more of the time, and doesn't report any distress associated with this condition, he does not fit the criteria for diagnosis. However, the causes of this disorder may shed some useful light on your question.

...practices such as circumcision and overly rough, driving sex may sometimes dull sensory nerves in the penis.

First of all, it should be noted that all kinds of drugs, prescription or otherwise, can have a dampening effect on ejaculation in men. Antipsychotics, antidepressants and anticonvulsants are all common culprits, as well as the gamut of recreational drugs from alcohol to cocaine.

Psychological factors may also have an effect—feelings of pressure to perform are particularly culturally engrained in men, which is strongly linked to absent orgasm. Some sufferers report a sense that they must maintain control, and associated anxiety, as contributing to their inability to orgasm. Finally, practices such as circumcision and overly rough, driving sex may sometimes dull sensory nerves in the penis.

But if your boy is cool with not cumming 100 per cent of the time, you shouldn't worry about it either. The words 'orgasm' and 'ejaculation' are often used interchangeably for men, but they're not actually the same thing. Like love and marriage, you can have one without the other. So even if your man doesn't ejaculate during sex, he may still be experiencing the subjective, pleasurable feelings associated with orgasm (the reverse is also true).

We're culturally conditioned to view sex as a linear activity with discrete, necessary and sequential stages, but often sex is more free-form than that. It's entirely possible to enjoy sex without orgasm, and how individuals want to express themselves sexually is entirely up to them. Your partner's orgasm isn't a videogame achievement for you. It's something that's personal to them, and they get to decide if it's important to their definition of good sex or not.

Well, we're afraid that's it for this week. Questions sent to toosexy@ubyssey.ca *or the form at* ubyssey.ca/ideas *will be answered in column form, email response, or, if you're lucky, a series of haiku.*

STREETERS

WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR EARTH HOUR?

SPENCER RASMUSSEN
Econ/Poli-Sci 3

I'm going to be hanging out with some friends. I'll see if they're into turning off the lights for a little bit. Obviously it's not an initiative that is going to seriously reduce energy consumption, but it's an awareness initiative that I'm fully supportive of.

BRENDAN GUY
Forestry 4

I will actually be at a Forestry graduation ring ceremony, but there are talks of plans to turn off the lights for a little symbology. Just to make sure all the Forestry students know that we like to be sustainable.

TIFFANY KHUU
Enviro Science 2

I'm going to make sure that at home the appliances that aren't being used are off and the lights are turned off when we don't need them...I'm going to take shorter showers...cook a more vegetable-based meal...and tell all my my friends about it because I feel they need to know about it as well.

CHELSEA ENSLOW
Enviro Science 2

I actually don't have any plans. I guess I'm just going to sit in the dark for an hour. Maybe I'll read by candlelight...there are those clean burning ones.

Coordinated by Rebeka Ryvola and Tara Martellaro

LETTERS

RE: CLOTHES? MADE OUT OF GARBAGE? YAWN.

Hi Ms Kathy Yan Li,

I would like to start by making note that I find it doubtful that you have ever been to a fashion show in Vancouver before. That said, I wanted to comment on your "article" detailing the International Relations Students Association (IRSA) fashion show on March 20, 2010.

My name is Brent Matthies, I am a third-year Forestry Operations and Commerce student: the architect of the IRSA Fashion show runway and boyfriend of the director. I will try and be less of a bitch in my rebuttal than you were in your article, but that shouldn't be too hard.

First of all, this was poor journalism. There were no interviews with the director, any of the "70" volunteers, IRSA, the designers or any of the people who attended the show. YAWN, sloppy journalism I say. One person's opinion does not a good article make, unless of course you are a fashion critic who has attended a prestigious arts program and has a lot of fashion industry know-how. I will go out on a limb here and bet that this is not very likely. I can safely say this, as I have been to both BC Fashion Week (it closed half way through the shows due to funding issues) and Vancouver Fashion Week.

Vancouver Fashion Week was held in a carpet store, the waits between shows were a minimum of 20 minutes and it cost designers upwards around $1000 to enter the show. My boyfriend's efforts were pure and simple, to create a forum where people can express themselves for under $1000 (the whole show cost less than this and designers paid nothing), where young make-up artists and hairstylists can gain some positive experience for their résumé, where people can try their hand at clothing design and where he can give back to UBC something that it doesn't usually get—creativity spawned from the mind of someone who is willing to take a chance and try something new. Something not often found in an institution filled with people trying to take easy classes to boost their GPA and students who run to become president of some meaningless club.

On the other hand, let me analyze your contribution to the greater community, to human endevour, to new ideas and positive feedback. If you have taken any classes on how to manage people in organizations, you will already understand that these are important job skills. Instead, you ripped apart this event by attacking without getting sources or alternative opinions and by pointing out problems without looking for the causes.

For example, the UBC Style show (of course a well-versed fashion critic like yourself would have known this already so I apologize for informing you) was based on the style of show performance often put on by Canadian designer brothers Dean and Dan Caten of DSquared. If you have *YouTube* on your computer I encourage you to look it up. They rely on performance art and acting as an integral part of their shows. Given that the show was giving non-models, a chance to walk a runway I believe this was a very valiant effort. The show was meant to inspire some UBC pride and showcase a local campus store.

Overall, yes the event did have some bumps, I will admit. There were things to improve and had my boyfriend not had a full course load and work on top of volunteering to give people this platform to express themselves, he might have put on the Milan fashion show you were expecting. That being said, I doubt that any of the people who put their hearts and souls into making this event come together deserved your cutthroat and rather unwarranted opinion piece.

For the record, the dress was made out of plastic bags not ties. Something a real fashion critic would have noticed, or at least taken the time and effort to have found out by interviewing the designer.

Cheers,

—Brent Matthies

THERE IS NO PLACE ON UBC CAMPUS FOR HATE SPEECH

On Tuesday, March 9, UBC Lifeline brought the Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) to UBC campus. This is a graphic display juxtaposing contrived images of supposedly aborted fetuses with images of real genocide, such as the holocaust, Rwanda and the Kmer Rouge killing fields in Cambodia.

To begin, this is inaccurate. Abortion is a common medical procedure and having one is the choice of the woman. Genocide is the selective killing of a large group of people of a particular ethnic group or race. Abortion is simply not genocide. It's ironic, in fact, since studies throughout Europe and North America have shown a decrease in crime following the legalization of abortion. Thus, legalizing abortion reduces crime, and genocide is a crime in its most sinister form.

Secondly, the GAP display is offensive. It is disrespectful towards the survivors and victims of real genocide. It also greatly disrespectful towards women and their right to safe abortion. It is well documented that criminalization of abortion does not decrease the likelihood of a woman to seek an abortion. The result is illegal abortions, which can cause great harm and death to the women who seek them. Women and families are ruined as a result. The GAP display completely ignores the pain and suffering of women when abortion is illegal and instead exploits the pain and suffering experienced by victims of atrocities such as the holocaust.

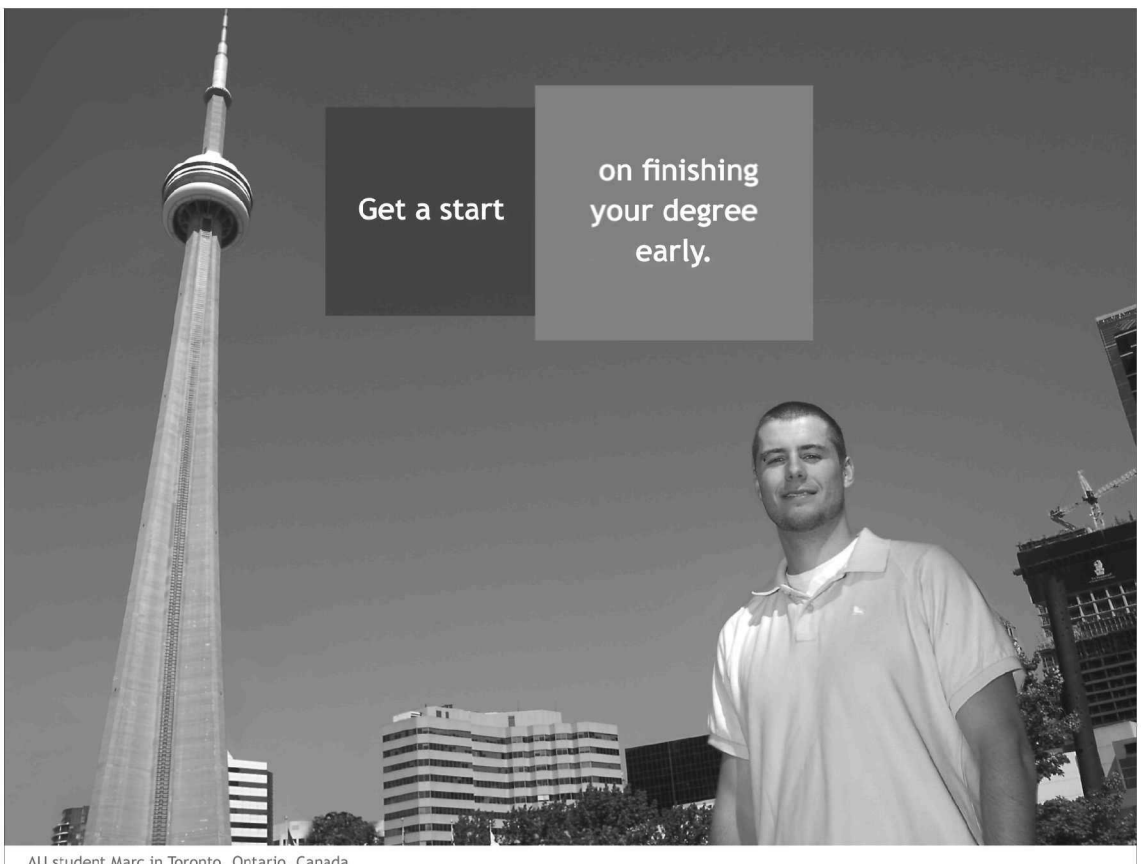
Last, but certainly not least, the GAP display is disturbing. I have always felt safe on UBC's Vancouver campus, but nothing about those images made me feel safe. Even prepared with knowledge of the display and its inaccuracies, I felt emotionally harassed by the visuals and sentiments. In my experience, the pro-choice movement never uses tactics like this. For example, graphic images of women dying from botched abortions are not forced upon the UBC community.

It is true that everyone has a right to free speech, but I feel it is my right at UBC to be protected from hate speech. The GAP message is that women who have abortions are criminals comparable to the Nazis. As a Jew and as a woman, I am deeply offended by this. I trust UBC to protect me from these types of messages on campus.

If the administration insists on allowing the GAP display to return to campus, there should be strict limitations. Viewing the display—just like whether and when to reproduce—should be each person's individual choice.

If you would like to get involved in the movement to stop this hate speech from being forced on us in the future, or to get involved in with other current reproductive rights issues, you can contact Students for Reproductive Rights at *srr.ubc@gmail.com*.

—Justine Spencer



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Ancient forests and new advocates

Old-growth advocates plan new protests as Earth Day passes

ANA BEDARD
Contributor

Canada is among the last of the developed nations that logs its old-growth forests. In the US, the vast majority of logging takes place in second-growth stands, while Europeans log second- and third-growth forests. Southwestern Australia halted the logging of its old-growth forests six years ago, as did New Zealand in the year 2000.

Enter the Ancient Forest Alliance (AFA), a recently launched lobby group that works to change this.

THE HANDCUFFS COME OFF

The AFA advocates for the protection of old growth forests and ban raw log exports. They held their launch event this January in front of Greater Victoria's largest douglas fir, where they outlined their approach to environmental advocacy.

Unlike similar organizations, the AFA announced that they will not seek charitable status. This hurts the group's ability to fundraise, but relieves them of what co-founder Ken Wu calls "the handcuffs of charitable status."

Organizations with charitable status cannot support or oppose any political candidate running for public office. Charities are also limited by what is called the "ten per cent rule": only ten per cent of the charity's resources can be spent explicitly calling for law or policy changes. Without these limitations the AFA can exert as much of their resources as they see fit to call for governmental policy changes.

The AFA will also be able to publish which politicians support policies to protect old-growth forests, and which politicians maintain that old-growth forests in BC are not endangered. The handcuffs are off and the gloves are on.

The AFA wants the BC Liberals to pursue policies that protect remaining old-growth stands. Wu maintains that BC's policies surrounding company rights to log old-growth forests will have to change soon. He said that the supply of large and readily accessible old-growth trees in southern BC is almost exhausted.

TOP An old-growth tree stump in the Walbrand Valley.
BOTTOM AFA co-founder Ken Wu beside a giant spruce. **COURTESY OF T.J. WATT**

THE UBC CONNECTION

Several of the core members of the AFA—Ken Wu, Tara Sawatsky and T.J. Watt—previously worked for the Western Canada Wilderness Committee (WCWC), an organization that was instrumental in getting UBC's Ancient Forest Committee (AFC) up and running.

Monika Dean, the current head of the UBC AFC, said the WCWC helped them create strategies to inform the public about the urgency to protect old-growth trees and train AFC members for campaigning. They also helped fund trips to Tofino so that students could see first-hand the wilderness that the UBC AFC wants to protect.

It's a high priority for the UBC AFC to keep them going on the Tofino trips, but they are expensive. Students not only get to see what an old-growth forest looks like, but also learn about how to run a political campaign and talk to the media.

The AFA intends to do much of its lobbying very near UBC at the Vancouver-Point Grey, which is also Premier Gordon Campbell's riding. "The AFA plans to work very closely with the students and community old-growth protection groups—including the UBC and Point Grey Ancient Forest Committees. We also want to start new [Ancient Forest Committees] on other campuses and swing ridings," said Wu.

LOGGING, OLD GROWTH & CLEAR-CUTTING

The AFA has formulated several specific calls for the BC Liberal government. Their first call is not all that surprising given their name—they're calling for the immediate protection of at risk old-growth forests. Their second call is for the BC Liberal government to ensure a sustainable rate of second growth logging.

When asked if the AFA had formulated a concrete definition for 'sustainable rate of cut,' Ken Wu says.

"A sustainable rate of cut involves reduced rate of cut. You slow down. It means that you're not going to run out of mature trees and be left with young trees that are not ready to harvest. It means a longer rotation of 200 or 400 years in coastal forests. It would mean a loss of conventional clear-cutting jobs, but it doesn't necessarily mean a loss of jobs in the logging industry. We advocate more labour-intensive selective logging combined with value added manufacturing."

They will face some opponents. "Clear cutting is done for a reason," says Wayne Lintott of the Interior Logging Association, who claims that clear-cutting is not solely a profit-driven practice. He gives clear-cutting in the interior of BC as an example because, like in Hope by Manning Park, the mountain pine beetle is devastating wood crops. The trees which he was referring to are second growth trees. Lintott likened the logging industry to farming. "We can replant. It regrows. It's a sustainable industry."

Dave Lewis of the Truck Loggers Association challenges the unthinking use of the word "old-growth." The definition of "a previously untouched tree" is an unrealistic one, he explains, given the first nation's use of trees and the forest-thinning effects of large fires.

"The forests typically referred to as 'old-growth' are 600 to 700 years old and are at the end of their lives," he said. "They have decaying and falling over trees. Naturally these forests typically revert from large Douglas firs to a hemlock and cedar mix."

"The way to regenerate the douglas firs that people so prize is for there to be a burn—but burns are unsafe and not publicly tolerated. Harvesting mimics the effect of the burn."

According to Lewis, old Douglas firs typically regenerate in full sunlight and in mineral soil, which are the typical conditions to be found after a large forest fire.

Lewis believes that a longer rotation period could be good. He says a longer rotation time, particularly for trees in isolated locations such as cliff faces, make logging more economical, because the lumber per square meter becomes more valuable. Also, more land is protected in reserves than is available for harvesting this way. Lewis feels that it is in everyone's best interests—environmental activists and logging interests alike—to work together.

"We need to identify a reasonable amount of forest types in specific areas that we want to preserve and how we can best manage that," he said. "Imagine if we started to actively manage our parks. If people are saying that 'we love old douglas firs'—how cool would it be if when a park [like Cathedral grove] turns 400 years old and starts to decay we could replace it with a 200 year old park [in the same area with the same types of trees] and let that park grow for 200 years."

BEYOND LOGGING

How trees are logged isn't the only issue. The AFA is also concerned about BC's policies regarding raw log exports. They would like to see the BC Liberals shift the focus of the logging industry away from raw log exports and towards BC-based milling and value-added manufacturing.

To this end, the AFA wants the BC Liberal government to halt the export of raw logs to countries like the USA and Japan in order to promote log supplies for BC industries. Moreover, the AFA wants to see the BC Liberals assist in the retooling of local mills to handle second-growth logs rather than old-growth logs, and the building of value-added wood processing facilities in BC.

Finally, the AFA wants the provincial government to undertake new land-use planning initiatives based on First Nations land-use plans, scientific assessments and climate mitigation strategies. Wu believes that "old-growth forests should be an important part of BC's climate change mitigation strategy because old-growth forests can store as much as two to three times more carbon per hectare than second-growth forests."

"Our goals are doable," Ken Wu says confidently. "We're following a strategy that works. We're continually building grassroots support and educating the public. An educated public exerts the greatest lobby pressure on government."

The AFA will be in the neighbourhood very soon. On March 27, they're holding an *Avatar*-themed protest at noon starting at Canada Place. There will be speeches to follow in front of the Vancouver Art Gallery at 1pm.

It's going to be a busy week for environmental protestors, as the UBC AFC is also having a protest on Friday, March 26, on campus. They will be doing an "aerial art piece" where protesters will arrange themselves at noon in front of Koerner's Library in a configuration to be photographed from above. In the past, UBC AFC members arranged themselves into the shape of a pine tree.

CULTURE

ASSOCIATES JONNY WAKEFIELD & KATHY YAN LI » culture@ubyssey.ca

HAPPENING THIS WEEK: ACCO'S ASIAN CANADIAN INDIE MUSIC FESTIVAL

Most people don't associate indie music with Asian culture. The UBC Asian Canadian Cultural Association hopes to turn that idea on its head this Friday with its annual Indie Fest.

"We hope to debunk some common stereotypes that still exist regarding Asians," says Tina Kong, a member of the ACCO on the group's mission. The event features seven acts, showcasing Asian-Canadian talent across genres. It will be held at Thea's Lounge in the Koerner Graduate building, with all proceeds going to the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre.

—Jonny Wakefield

Interview with Boogie Monster

ANNA ZORIA
Contributor

With a debut CD coming out this summer and a follow-up tour across the West Coast, it seems like things are really looking up for Boogie Monster's duo of Ben Fussel and Tony Dallas. While Fussel provides ambient guitar and complicated riffs, Dallas backs him up with hyper-energetic drumming, resulting in one massive, crazed ride. Whatever they're doing, the kids around town are liking it. *The Ubyssey* caught up with them at the Antisocial Skate Shop on Monday to talk about their current state of affairs.

Meet Tony Dallas, surprised. **PHOTO COURTESY OF BOOGIE MONSTER**

UBYSSEY: How would you define Boogie Monster's style of music? Post-rock?

BEN: It has elements of that but I would say its more like, noise-rock and thrash. It's a noisy aesthetic but there's still a lot of riffs and hooks.

U: What are your influences?

TONY: We could be here for days. I virtually listen to everything I can, but I guess in terms of Boogie Monster, our influences lie in more progressive stuff, like "Fall Of Troy," for instance, or "Mars Volta."

U: How did you initially get into music?

BEN: I played violin as a kid I played in the orchestra and stuff. Then I started playing guitar in high school, and learning the music that I actually liked. I remember I was into Rage Against the Machine and At The Drive In. We're still into those bands, actually...it's why I do the stuff that I do.

TONY: Yeah, my dad was a drummer so I was always around music growing up. When he'd drive me around, he'd play his reggae tapes in the car so it kinda grew from there for me until I slowly just picked it up on my own.

U: What are the challenges of having only two band members? How do you work around that?

BEN: Getting the equipment up to speck is a big challenge, because a lot of stuff will just fail on us while we play. Also, I guess when you have two people there's over-compensation. We want to sound like there's more of us, so we play really loud. Other than that, I think it works.

U: Do you ever have trouble with unenthusiastic audiences?

TONY: I make an effort to get people going. With my friend's band, Fake Shark Real Zombie, I've gone to every show they've done since pretty much 2006 and have learnt how to get people hyped up. The idea is to get everyone loose, so its kind of like the sheep jumping off the cliff—if one does it, the rest of them follow.

U: What is the craziest show you played?

BEN: There was one time when I was playing and I felt someone grab on to my guitar and I couldn't see what was going on cause it was dark. I was trying to free my guitar and so I eventually pulled, and this girl comes flying by her hair, attached to my guitar. It was still stuck, and we were still trying to untangle it as I was trying to play. That was by far the craziest show we played.

U: Do you feel like things are picking up for you guys?

BEN: Yeah, our first official record is coming out and I feel like we've made a small name for ourselves in this city.

TONY: Hopefully it strings on to the future and bigger things come out of it.

SPROUTS RECIPE | LEEK, ONION AND POTATO SOUP

JON DEHOUWER
Sprouts

(Serves Two)

Ingredients:
2 large leeks
1 medium potato, peeled and diced
25g butter
450 mL water/vegetable stock
140 mL milk
Available from Sprouts: butter, milk, potatoes, leeks

1. Trim the leeks, discarding the tough outer layer.
2. Split them in half lengthways and slice them quite finely, then wash them thoroughly in two or three changes of water.
3. Drain well. In a large, thick-based saucepan gently melt the butter, then add the leeks, onions and potatoes, stirring them all around with a wooden spoon so they get a nice coating of butter. Season with salt and pepper, then cover and let the vegetables sweat over a very low heat for about 15 minutes.
4. After that, add the stock and milk, bring to simmering point, cover and let the soup simmer very gently for a further 20 minutes or until the vegetables are soft.
5. Now you can put the whole lot into a blender—leave it to cool a little first—and blend to a purée. If you have to blend the soup in batches, make sure you have a bowl at hand to put the first batch into.

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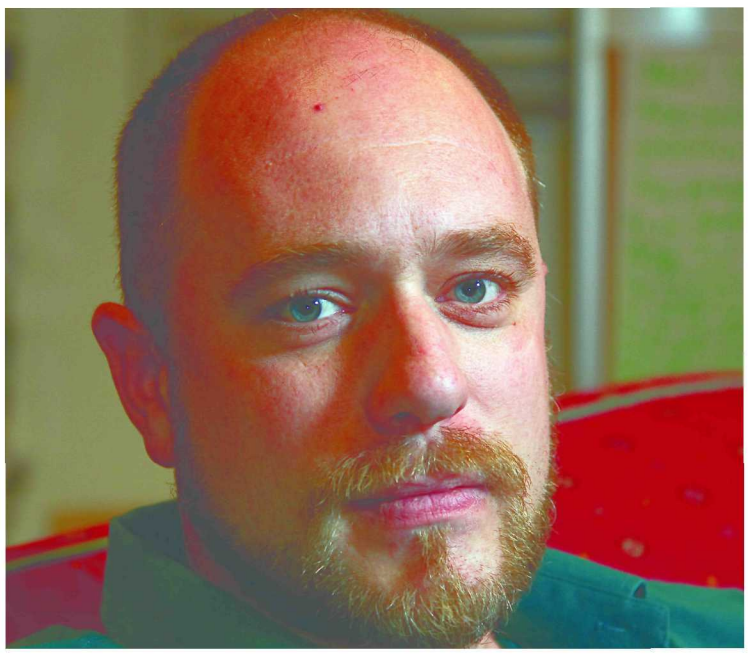

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