JANUARY 23, 2013 | VOLUME XCV| ISSUE XXXV
DO THE DOUGIE SINCE 1918

PICKED LAST

THE UBYSSEY

MIXED FEELINGS

Coaches and athletes react to the first stage of the sports review P5-6

SEAGULL SOARS

Theatre at UBC stages Chekhov's famous tragicomedy P8

CLUBS, SUBS, MONEY AND MORE

AMS election candidates make their platforms known at Monday and Tuesday night's debates. P4

WHAT'S ON // THIS WEEK, MAY WE SUGGEST...

THURSDAY / 23

THE SEAGULL
7:30 P.M. @ CHAN CENTRE
Following the tragicomic conflicts of an ingenue, playwright, writer and actress, this Anton Chekov play runs til Feb. 8. Featuring the talents of UBC's BFA students.
Students $10, rush tickets $5

FRIDAY / 24

CAN I KISS YOU?
7 P.M. @ TOTEM PARK BALLROOM
Date Safe Project founder Mike Domitzr wants to remind students to take a stance against sexual assaults. According to the Facebook event page, there will be "fun to be had, fun to be won, and fun to be shared."
Free

SATURDAY / 25

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ADVENTURE ARCHAEOLOGISTS
9:30 A.M.–4 P.M. @ IKB
Find out how explorers discovered the "Pompeii of Greece" and the Macedonian royal family tombs in this one-day continuing education course.
$75; to register, call (604) 822-1444

ON THE COVER

"I have never drawn so many sports on one page. Drawing sports is exhausting. Thinking about sports is exhausting. I will now retreat into my fantasy world where physical exertion is irrelevant." Illustration by Indiana Joel.

Want to see your events listed here? Email your events listings to **printeditor@ubyssey.ca**.

THE UBYSSEY
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OUR CAMPUS // ONE ON ONE WITH THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE UBC

STEVEN RICHARDS/THE UBYSSEY

Winnie is overwhelmed by the beauteous nature of UBC.

Winnie Code finds people exhausting, prefers Mars

Tara Chan
Contributor

One of Winnie Code's first leadership experiences was being in charge of her class pet for several years starting in kindergarten.

"Do you know how much pressure it is for a six-year-old?" she said.

Now, Code is making the transition from caring for small animals to running for AMS presidency. But don't use the word "running" — Code is "pro-walking."

Originally from a far, far away land called Ottawa, the third-year sociology major chose to make the perilous journey to UBC, nestled in the city of Vancouver, an exotic place where it rains all the time.

Running her campaign has been tiresome. Code finds being around other people very exhausting and believes that her dream job is to escape UBC to become the president of the new Mars colony instead. The only dealbreaker is that on Mars, she would not be able to walk to her workplace — and she is very pro-walking.

"People are very difficult, and it would be much easier if they were all controlled by one person — the president — who would also be authoritarian."

Code's biggest regret at UBC so far is not being president for all of her previous years here, to break the glass ceiling for herself. That way, people would be used to a female president by now and make the idea of running as a female candidate less of a novelty.

"I took this gender studies course and I found out that women aren't actually just half a person but a full person, so then I was like, 'Wow, I can be the first AMS female president.'"

She hopes the female student population at UBC can relate to her because she "look[s] up to Oprah, like every woman does." Other typical hobbies include counting gold, drinking rain and working hard, like any patriotic citizen.

"I [also] have a job, sort of like a regular person," she said. "I drink my wine out of bags like a citizen would. Also, I am a Canadian citizen. That's very important.

"I tend to go around and sign up for every single club that would give me free food because that is the best way to eat food for free, which is one of my biggest goals in life," said Code. "So I just sign up for whichever club and then immediately mark all their emails as spam."

The main issue Code is concerned about is the massive deficit the AMS is currently running. She thinks it is the worst, and says it needs to be corrected by cutting the budget. Areas that need severe trimming? CiTR, Sprouts, furniture, *The Ubyssey* — the works.

After all, Code said, she can't be voted in solely based on her "good looks and sweet-talking."

If elected as president for the country of UBC, Code would celebrate with style.

"I would probably go home and take a nap, because we can't really spend too much right now and I already own a bed. I might drink my bag of wine, probably alone in the dark, listening to Sarah McLachlan."

As our potential future leader, Code wants all her ruled citizens to remember in their hearts that "Winnie and wine go together like beer and pickles for breakfast."

> **I would probably go home and take a nap. I might drink my bag of wine, probably alone in the dark, listening to Sarah McLachlan.**
>
> **Winnie Code**
> AMS presidential candidate, on what she would do if she won the election

Some invaluable advice she hopes to pass down to next year's candidates running for president is to not run. "I don't want anyone else to run. [I am] very pro-walking at this point. But I mean, that's just beside the point."

Once president, Code would like to make a whole bunch of laws so that she can walk around UBC as what she believes to be the first woman to be AMS President forever until she shrivels up and continues her reign in the next world.

This is the second of four profiles on the AMS presidential candidates. Despite Code's avid protestations, she is indeed running as a joke candidate in this year's AMS elections.

Know someone at UBC who's done something interesting? Think they deserve to be profiled in Our Campus?

Email all candidates to printeditor@ubyssey.ca.

ATHLETICS »

PHOTO CARTER BRUNDAGE/THE UBYSSEY

Managing director of athletics and recreation Ashley Howard spoke about the review process at a press conference on Tuesday.

Initial sports review gives 16 teams varsity status

Sarah Bigam
News Editor

Sixteen of UBC's 29 sports teams have secured their varsity status in future years.

UBC released the initial results of its sports targeting review on Tuesday. Men's football, rugby and soccer; women's field hockey, ice hockey and volleyball; as well as both men's and women's basketball, cross-country, rowing, swimming and track and field will all remain varsity teams.

Notably absent from the list are women's soccer, men's hockey and men's volleyball.

Managing director of athletics Ashley Howard said at a press conference that the remaining 13 varsity teams and five AMS sports clubs will now have to submit a plan outlining how they will better meet the review criteria in the future if they want to be considered for varsity status.

This second stage of the review will end in late February.

According to a press release, "a number of other teams are expected to be added" at the end of this stage.

UBC also announced $500,000 in additional funding to varsity sports, for a total increase of $800,000 beginning in April 2014.

The university maintains that this review is necessary to improve the quality of UBC varsity sports, and that in order to make this happen, some teams will likely lose varsity status even if all 29 current teams met the criteria.

"We've decided alongside our strategy for sustainability is one for excellence," Howard said. "So there is a budget factor there, and at some point we do draw the line and say we cannot go further if we want to maintain our conditions for excellence."

The final number of teams that will receive varsity status was not announced, but VP Students Louise Cowin cited sports reviews at other universities that resulted in the number of teams with varsity status being cut to "a number in the mid-teens."

Howard said today's decision was not based on maintaining an equal number of men's and women's teams.

"That wasn't necessary in the end. The teams that were put forward were put forward based on the discussion the assessment team had and their grading of them against the criteria," Howard said.

Cowin and Howard both said the decision also had nothing to do with alumni threatening to pull future funding from UBC due to the review.

"We were aware that this was not a process to make friends quickly," Cowin said. "There is still tremendous support among alumni." Howard said these alumni are choosing not to be vocal in the media.

No decisions have been made yet on which conferences the confirmed teams will compete in or whether or not teams that receive "competitive club" status will be able to use the Thunderbird brand.

NEWS BRIEFS

FILE PHOTO KAI JACOBSON/THE UBYSSEY

Toope will leave UBC on June 30.

Toope to leave UBC for job at U of T's Munk School of Global Affairs

UBC President Stephen Toope has accepted a job as the director of U of T's Munk School of Global Affairs.

Toope, who announced his resignation from the role of UBC president last year, will start his new job in January 2015.

"The Munk School has built a reputation around the world for its thoughtful and insightful examination of international issues," said Toope in a press release. "I look forward to joining its outstanding researchers and students in working to understand and tackle global problems."

When Toope announced his resignation, he said his future job would involve international law and international relations. Toope's resignation takes effect June 30.

"The months ahead will be important on so many crucial issues for UBC," Toope said in a press release. "My entire focus will be on UBC until the end of my term."

WEED »

Hempology 101 SUB booking privileges suspended

Will McDonald
News Editor

The AMS has suspended Hempology 101's SUB booking privileges in response to a vaporizer session they hosted on Jan. 10.

The Student Administrative Commission (SAC) issued the punishment after talking to the club at a meeting on Monday.

"Running a club, especially a newer club, can be a slightly daunting process, and everyone makes mistakes," said SAC vice-chair Nina Scott. "This was an unfortunate one. We're happy to work more closely with them ... and help them make sure something like this doesn't happen again."

The club's booking privileges have been suspended until the end of April.

"It's not like we're kicked out of the SUB entirely, just that we essentially are denied privacy for a semester," said Hempology 101 treasurer Corbin Manson.

The club will still be able to host events outside the SUB.

"What they do off campus on their own time with their own financial means in their own group is completely up to them. We have absolutely no interest in silencing them or taking any extreme punitive action," said Scott.

FILE PHOTO CARTER BRUNDAGE/THE UBYSSEY

Hempology 101 will still be allowed to host a hemp convention in March.

Manson said that although the club's booking privileges are suspended, the AMS will still let them host the hemp convention they have planned for March.

"[That] is the most important event of the year, so I'm really happy that they still are going to be giving us space for the big convention," said Manson.

Scott said SAC plans to work with Hempology 101 to help the club improve their public image on campus, and that neither campus security nor the RCMP are seeking any legal action against them.

"We absolutely don't want to take away their right to free speech. Whatever they want to say is fine by us, and we want to help make sure they get their message across and they're portrayed in the light they want to be," said Scott.

Manson said SAC encouraged his club to set up tables in the SUB to help spread their message.

"A table is a great way to do education and outreach because it's so visible," Manson said. "We want to do things centred around hemp and cannabis education and also just wellness in general.

"We've got a meeting coming up on Friday and we'll be able to hash out more concrete plans as to how we want to approach tabling."

Manson said the club is working to organize their March conference and to improve their image after the vaporizer session.

"We're going to be lying low for a little bit now that all of this has played out. We're going to be looking at how we can move forward. As a club, we still have some repurposing, maybe, that we need to be doing before we can have anything concrete happen."

HOUSING »

Orchard Commons set to open in 2016

PHOTO STEVEN RICHARDS/THE UBYSSEY

The Orchard Garden is moving to a new location to make room for construction.

Niklas Agarwal
Contributor

An open house on Monday showcased the new Orchard Commons, one of many new mixed-use hubs set to open around UBC.

The site will cost an estimated $125.9 million, with construction expected to start this summer and finish by the summer of 2016. The Commons will be the home of the new Vantage College program.

Vantage College will be a program for international first-year students who meet the academic requirements for UBC, but not necessarily the language requirements.

Jana Foit, the lead architect of the project, said the goal of the Commons is to get students immersed in UBC life.

"It's really to get them immersed in the culture and the community and to make sure they have every opportunity to speak English," Foit said.

The Commons will have 1,048 beds dedicated to Vantage College students. Two single rooms will share one bathroom similar to the həmʾləsəmʾ and qʾələχən houses in Totem Park. However, Foit said that if the college does not meet its set enrolment targets, the residence may open up for other UBC students. All other amenities will be open for other UBC students.

The building itself will feature two residence towers, a dining hall with 350 seats, classrooms, study spaces, offices for staff, a convenience store, child care facilities and end-of-the-line facilities for cyclists.

Alannah Yip, a third-year engineering student, questioned the location of the Commons. "It seems like it's its own college and I don't see why it is in the middle of campus," said Yip.

The Orchard Commons will be located on the northeast corner of West Mall and Agronomy Road. The site is currently occupied by the Orchard Garden, a community garden and outdoor classroom run by students in the Faculties of Land and Food Systems and Education. The garden will be moved to the Totem Park field.

Julia Ostertag, an Acadia Park resident involved with the Orchard Garden, has been working with Campus and Community Planning to establish a new home for the garden.

"It's been difficult trying to find a permanent site. A lot of back and forth. There was a lot of uncertainty," said Ostertag.

"We lose that proximity to campus [in the new Totem Park field location]," said Ostertag. "It was always the goal to have a site that is permanent, so we're happy with that. However, it has been sad."

ELECTIONS »

War of the words: Debates part one

This week saw the first round of debates in the 2014 AMS elections. Candidates running for president, VP finance, VP academic and university affairs, VP administration, Senate and the Board of Governors squared off at debates on Monday and Tuesday night. The next time candidates face off will be Monday night's Great Debate, which starts at 5:00 p.m. on the second floor of Hillel House. For more recaps, check out http://ubyssey.ca.

Presidential candidates talk budgeting, new SUB

Hopefuls Harsev Oshan, Jackson Chen, Tanner Bokor and Winnie Code running for top office

Sarah Bigam
News Editor

Tanner Bokor, Harsev Oshan, Jackson Chen and joke candidate Winnie Code faced off tonight at the first presidential candidates debate of the 2014 elections.

Aside from Code, all candidates agreed on their support for a Broadway line to UBC, the betterment of campus culture and that communication between the AMS and students needs to be improved.

In Chen's opening statement, he said he would support the U-Pass, and suggested that the AMS move Block Party to a nightclub. "The costs are almost the same," said Chen.

Bokor emphasized increased transparency of the AMS in his platform.

Candidates were first asked what they thought was the single most important issue facing the president's office in the upcoming year, and what concrete actions they would take toward this.

Oshan said that to improve student culture on campus, the AMS needs to reach out to student groups like the UBC Party Calendar.

"The problem with AMS communications is it's a top-down approach — come talk to us if you have a problem," Oshan said. "The AMS needs to start being that enabling force behind student action."

PHOTO CARTER BRUNDAGE/THE UBYSSEY

As joke candidate Winnie Code cracked wise, the other candidates cracked up.

Bokor pointed out the disconnect between the AMS and many student groups. "As the AMS has grown, so has campus, and we have groups no longer integrated with us," he said. To fix this, Bokor proposed creating a student assembly where groups could discuss issues and resources.

Code said the most important issue is the deficit, which is a predicted $800,000, and that the AMS should save money by cutting funding for all clubs and construction.

"So far the New SUB looks very good — it's very mod, it's very contemporary, you don't need walls."

The second question was what candidates thought was the most important relationship they would build or strengthen.

Bokor said the AMS needs to take a "holistic approach" and engage with as many people as possible through positive relationships with the media and government, as well as the university.

Chen said he would focus on the AMS's relationships with clubs. He said he felt this relationship was lacking in his past role as a VP for the Chinese Students and Scholars Association.

"Club leaders don't even know we can reach out to the AMS ... [but] the AMS should be like a beggar: I want your help, I want you to know."

An audience member asked how candidates plan to get the AMS to reach out more to students.

Oshan said that with the opening of the New SUB next year, "students would automatically want to know more about the AMS because they would feel a sense of ownership."

Chen agreed, saying that if he himself wasn't running he would vote for Oshan.

Bokor said he wanted to improve the process for students looking to get involved in the AMS. He said most people start by joining AMS committees, but these have few spots and are poorly advertised. He said he would advertise meetings, offer more training and professional development for clubs and make VP offices more accessible to students.

Code said UBC should start hosting wine gardens, because they are cheaper than beer gardens.

Finally, current AMS president Caroline Wong asked where the candidates would begin making cuts if the fee restructuring referendum isn't passed, leaving the AMS facing a $800,000 deficit.

Oshan and Chen could not say where they would start cutting. Chen said the AMS should use revenues from student housing to solve the university's deficit. The AMS does not operate student housing.

Code had many ideas of where to make cuts: *The Ubyssey*, CiTR, Sprouts, furniture, Safewalk, and AMS archivist Sheldon Goldfarb's $23 printing budget.

Bokor said he would look into scaling down or canceling events like Block Party or FarmAde.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS »

Four BoG candidates fighting for two spots

Will McDonald
News Editor

Board of Governors candidates Ilana Shecter, Spencer Keys, Chris Roach and Nina Karimi focused on tuition, safety on campus and how they would handle themselves on the Board at Monday night's debate.

Keys, a previous AMS president, said his experience in lobbying would make him successful.

"In essence, the role is being a lobbyist, and lobbying isn't easy, but it's not rocket science," said Keys.

Roach focused on his experience in student government, including past work he's done with Board members, which he said would allow him to immediately become an effective student representative, rather than taking the first few meetings to learn how the Board works.

"I won't have to sacrifice two or three meetings, 20 to 30 percent of my potential time, to start working on student-driven issues," said Roach.

Karimi said her experience in residence life gave her a perspective none of the other candidates have, and that she would push for student representation on Acadia Park planning.

"I think that knowledge is power and if you come with that, it starts to fade away that you're a student," said Karimi.

Shecter's main platform points are supporting UBC's divestment from fossil fuels and creating a safer campus by collaborating with AMS resource groups and other students.

"One of the main concerns I have as a student ... are whose voices are being silenced," said Shecter.

While all of the candidates agreed the BoG reps have to be an effective voice for students, some of the candidates had different ideas of what that meant.

"I think that we really have to think about the ways that we frame our problems," said Schecter. "The truth of the matter is that we're living in a climate emergency."

"This is not a place to be a loudmouth and be this radical. If you want to get change done, it has to happen ... really constructively," said Karimi.

Karimi said she would advocate for what students want on the Board, including lower tuition. She condemned past BoG reps for voting in favour of tuition increases, saying she would either vote no or abstain on a vote to increase tuition.

Keys said affordable housing and tuition would be his top two issues to focus on. He said how students present information to the Board is the key bringing about change.

PHOTO CARTER BRUNDAGE/THE UBYSSEY

Ilana Shecter, Spencer Keys, Chris Roach and Nina Karimi are competing for two student spots on UBC's Board of Governors.

"If you say it's about w or accessibility, BoG reps are going to ignore you," said Keys. "If you say ... it is about maintaining the accountability of the university ... then you start to actually have a different conversation."

Shecter said creating safer spaces on campus would be the most important thing to work on. She said the university needs to consult with the AMS resource groups and take a more holistic approach to campus safety, rather than focusing on lighting and design-based solutions.

Roach said he would focus on giving students a voice in campus planning decisions, as well as affordable tuition, alternative student housing funding models and plans to make campus safer.

SPORTS REVIEW »

PHOTO CARTER BRUNDAGE/THE UBYSSEY

Randy Schmidt, Louise Cowin and Ashley Howard spoke to the press on Tuesday afternoon following the online release of the initial sports targeting review results.

UBC coaches react to initial sports review results

With review far from over, many questions remain unanswered

Natalie Scadden
Sports + Rec Editor

Many of UBC's coaches gathered for a meeting on Tuesday morning expecting to hear Ashley Howard announce the initial results of UBC's sports targeting review.

Instead, they discovered the fate of their teams the same way the rest of us did: by reading their email.

"It was an eerie — well, maybe eerie's not the best word. It was an interesting environment, I guess," said one coach. "Ashley came in one minute to 10:30. It was weird because she didn't announce it to the group, she just kind of talked about things in general. And then as she was talking we got an email and then we read the email. So it was just kind of an interesting way to do it, is all I'm going to say about that."

As of today, 16 of UBC's 29 sports teams have been deemed safe, securing their varsity status beyond 2015.

> **Right now it's nice we're through, but it's a tough day for everybody whether you're in or you're out. It's difficult to see your colleagues and your peers on the other side of the ledge here. I don't think there's a person in the room, administrator or coach, who feels good about it.**
>
> **Mike Mosher**
> UBC men's soccer head coach

Perhaps the most notable absence from the list is women's soccer, a team that is consistently in the playoff picture each year. It's especially surprising given the hiring of Andrea Neil, one of Canada's all-time best soccer players, to take over coaching duties a year ago.

"I would say for me that's probably the biggest surprise of what unfolded today," said Mike Mosher, head coach of the UBC men's soccer team. "I would've probably had [women's soccer] in the top eight just given the popularity of the game."

In the past five to 10 years, soccer has overtaken hockey as the sport with the highest participation rates in Canada, which Mosher said was mainly driven by the increased participation of women and girls.

Mosher's own team, which won its second consecutive CIS national championship in November, is safe, but that didn't make this morning much easier.

"Right now it's nice we're through, but it's a tough day for everybody whether you're in or you're out," he said. "It's difficult to see your colleagues and your peers on the other side of the ledge here. I don't think there's a person in the room, administrator or coach, who feels good about it.

"It leaves an empty feeling when you see your buddy beside you and they're not included right now. I mean, these are people you work beside every day, and they put the same amount of effort and passion into what they do as I would, and now their program and their livelihood is in jeopardy. That's not a good feeling for any of us."

Graham Thomas, head coach of the women's hockey team, expressed similar feelings. "I didn't really even have a chance to smile and get excited for our program because it's a tough process," he said, "especially for us with our neighbours here. I feel for them right now." The men's hockey team was another notable absence from the list of safe teams, as was men's volleyball.

Thomas arrived at UBC in 2012, and in his first season led UBC to the greatest turnaround in CIS history. But prior to that, the women's hockey team had little to brag about, having made the playoffs just twice since 2000.

"We're definitely not content with the success," said Thomas. "We want to keep going forward. It's our goal now to show UBC and prove to them and everyone that they made the right decision as far as keeping us."

CIS women's hockey recently became a pilot program for high-performance development in Canada, which Thomas admitted might have helped his team retain their status.

"To be honest with you, I don't know where we would be," said Thomas. "I think that even though we've taken a huge leap and we've turned the program around ... I'm not quite sure which way they would've gone or what would have happened if we weren't having this pilot project and selected to be in that."

On the other side of the spectrum, coaches such as Maria Gallo and Rob Ragotte weren't all that surprised that their teams were left off the safe list.

Ragotte fulfils the role of student-athlete-coach of the Nordic skiing team. As it is only a small team, Ragotte expected this outcome and doesn't see it as a problem. "I don't think that I had much of a reaction just because it seemed pretty straightforward," said Ragotte. "Nothing is set in stone yet — we have to sort of play it [by ear]. We'll be finding out more information soon, I assume."

The first stage of questions coaches were asked to answer in the review focused on the past five years, which haven't been very successful for the women's rugby team. However, Gallo took over head coaching duties this season and won the Canada West Coach of the Year award, which shows they are making significant improvements.

"We've had some obstacles to go over on our own terms, but I'm optimistic for stage two, which is said to be the appeal process," Gallo said. "We have an opportunity to present more so to the future of the program. That's where I'm going to invest a lot more energy, looking to see how I as a head coach can change the program, and how we can obtain some more fundraising opportunities."

Gallo also mentioned the importance of rugby sevens becoming an Olympic sport. "We could eventually be generating Olympians at UBC, which doesn't happen with the 15s program," she explained.

According to Tuesday's press release, "a number of other teams are expected to be added" to the varsity list in February at the end of the review's second stage.

But what is unclear is what it will mean for teams that don't get added and thus fall into the competitive clubs tier. The university has not made a decision yet as to whether those teams will be able to use the Thunderbird brand, or if they will still be able to compete in the CIS.

"Not even the head coaches know the answers to those questions," said Gallo. "We're supposed to have one-on-ones with [Howard] in the next couple of days between stage one and stage two, so that's definitely a question I'll be asking."

The question of varsity status may have been secured for 16 teams, but many questions await answers for the 13 teams left in limbo.

13

STAGE ONE "UNSAFE" TEAMS

Alpine skiing (m+w)
Baseball (m)
Field hockey (m)
Golf (m+w)
Hockey (m)
Nordic skiing (m+w)
Soccer (w)
Volleyball (m)

16

STAGE ONE "SAFE" TEAMS

Basketball (m+w)
Cross-country (m+w)
Field hockey (w)
Football (m)
Hockey (w)
Rowing (m+w)
Rugby (m)
Soccer (m)
Swimming (m+w)
Track and field (m+w)
Volleyball (w)

SPORTS REVIEW »

‘Once a Thunderbird, always a Thunderbird’

Growing Twitter movement urges UBC fans to #SaveUBCHockey and #SellOutTheDoug

Natalie Scadden
Sports + Rec Editor

PHOTO CARTER BRUNDAGE/THE UBYSSEY

Kevin Smith and other members of the UBC men’s hockey team attended Tuesday’s press conference. Their team was not guaranteed varsity status.

When UBC released the initial results of its sports targeting review yesterday morning, many varsity athletes were left in shock.

“It was obviously bittersweet and challenging,” said Laura Thompson, a fifth-year swimmer. “It’s kind of out of our control at this point.”

Thompson’s team is safe, and deservedly so — the women’s swim team at UBC has the most CIS national championship titles — 18 — of any varsity sports team in Canada. But for the president of the Thunderbird Athletes Council (TAC), there was never going to be an easy way out.

“I’m kind of struggling personally in that regard, just with how I can lead the TAC through this, because obviously it’s going to have a major impact on how our meetings are every day when certain teams know that they are through and certain teams aren’t through.”

Not only does Thompson have to lead a group of athletes whose community and livelihoods are threatened, she also hopes to help the swim team bring home their third straight CIS championship banner. But first things first — the Canada West Championships are happening this weekend in Calgary.

“I had a very strict conversation with my coach,” Thompson said. “I can’t really let what’s going on here affect my performance because at the end of the day it is all about athletics, and winning CanWest is the number one thing for us.”

> **It was obviously bittersweet and challenging. It’s kind of out of our control at this point.**
>
> **Laura Thompson**
> UBC swimmer and Thunderbird Athletes Council president

For hockey player Nate Fleming, whose team is on thin ice, the goal is to keep the program alive. With a 7-12-1 record, the men’s team has struggled this season, but made a turning point over winter break when they beat North Dakota, an NCAA Division 1 powerhouse with a roster containing 15 NHL draft picks and a $3 million budget.

“We are worried, but we have to just keep our focus on the season and make a push for the playoffs,” Fleming said. “We have a good enough team and we played well against [CIS No.2] Alberta this weekend. If we make the playoffs, we can make a push and anything can happen.”

Fleming also hopes team alumni and some community groups will step up and show their support. There’s already been a noticeable movement on Twitter encouraging UBC fans to #SaveUBCHockey and #SellOutTheDoug for the Thunderbirds’ upcoming home games this weekend.

As a fourth-year student-athlete, the changes won’t affect Fleming personally, but they would affect a lot of his teammates. “[I’m] also surprised, not just about us, but the women’s soccer and men’s volleyball,” he said. “Those are pretty major programs, and UBC’s such a big school, so I just assumed major programs like that would be safe.”

Without varsity status, Fleming doesn’t see how men’s hockey could carry on here. “It takes such a big budget to run the program. I just think it would be impossible to do. I’m sure a lot of younger players would have to leave and find another school to play for.”

Although she is graduating soon, Christina Donnelly was similarly concerned about her younger teammates who are scared and wondering if they need to start looking elsewhere. As one of few two-sport varsity athletes at UBC, Donnelly has a unique perspective on the sports review, and is likely the only Thunderbird in both an individual and team sport that didn’t make the first-stage safe list.

“I was more shocked for soccer than for skiing. I think I’m still just in a bit of a state of shock,” Donnelly said. “I just think the entire thing hasn’t been transparent at all and a lot of people haven’t been well-informed, and that’s been one of the biggest problems of the whole thing.”

While her soccer coaches insisted the team stay positive and realize they haven’t officially lost their varsity status yet, the alpine ski team is less optimistic. “It’s got quite a smaller chance of going through stage two,” Donnelly conceded. “Whether or not we’re going to exist past 2015, I’m not really sure.”

Part of the reason for this, Donnelly said, is that alpine skiing is a student-run and student-coached team, and those students are usually high-level athletes who could have gone somewhere else to ski, but chose to come to UBC. If it loses its status as a varsity sport, UBC may be less likely to attract high-level competitive skiers.

> **I think I’m still just in a bit of a state of shock. I just think the entire thing hasn’t been transparent at all and a lot of people haven’t been well-informed.**
>
> **Christina Donnelly**
> UBC women’s soccer player and alpine skier

“The varsity status changes the game,” said Donnelly. “It’s not necessarily that there wouldn’t be people around to be on an alpine skiing club, but I don’t think that level of organization or knowledge of the sport to be able to run a team would be around anymore.”

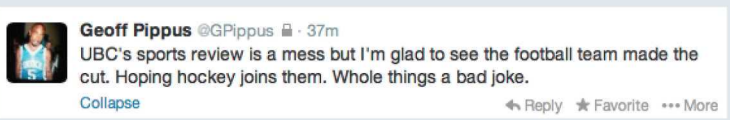
Donnelly, who like Thompson is a part of the TAC executive, feels the review process has been disruptive to the athletic community. “I think in the early stages, everyone was kind of on the same page, kind of against the review,” she said. “Then when people started looking more into it, it really got divided. The teams that had a good chance of going through and felt safe were really for the review, and teams that really felt vulnerable obviously were very against the review.”

Tuesday’s announcement and the ensuing stage two announcement in February may divide the athletic community even more. But Thompson urged everyone to stay positive and remember one simple thing: “We’re all Thunderbirds still. Once a Thunderbird, always a Thunderbird.”

STRAIGHT FROM THE ATHLETES

Liam Murphy-Burke, men’s rugby

@UBCWHKY is the official account for UBC women’s hockey



Geoff Pippus, men’s basketball

Nate Flemeing, men’s hockey

SWIMMING »

Eriks twins swim side by side for UBC

Reyhana Heatherington
Senior Lifestyle Writer

PHOTO KOSTA PRODANOVIC/THE UBYSSEY

Initially, UBC swimming head coach Steve Price said he could only tell Colin, left, and Keith Eriks apart in the pool by their different goggles.

It was a photo finish that had onlookers seeing double.

At a recent swim meet in Toronto, two UBC varsity swimmers were neck and neck in the same preliminary event heat. They also happened to be twins.

"We came within a 10th [of a second] of each other," Colin Eriks recalls, "so it was pretty awesome looking at the board and seeing that we were right with each other.... The finish looked pretty awesome."

Colin and Keith Eriks are first-year swimmers on the UBC varsity team, and have always trained under the same coach since they began swimming as young children. The 18-year-old athletes have had the benefit of living with a built-in competitor for their entire lives.

"I think it's pretty cool that I've had someone that I've always been racing since I was six," Colin says.

The competition also continued for the fraternal twins outside the water as high school students at Point Grey Secondary School.

"We like to compete with each other marks-wise," says Keith, a Science student. This competition may have contributed to them ending up on the swim team in their hometown.

"It helped us get in to UBC, obviously, because we always wanted to be better than the other one, so we pushed each other and our marks got higher," Keith maintains.

Colin and Keith are second-generation UBC athletes. Their mother, Sari Fleming, competed as a varsity volleyball player during her days at UBC, and her 1978 team is in the UBC Sports Hall of Fame after completing an undefeated season.

> They already are, to a certain extent, leaders whether they know it or not in terms of their work ethic and their try factor.
>
> **Steve Price**
> Head coach, UBC swimming

Steve Price, the UBC swim team coach, says the internal competition between the twins is palpable during training.

"They feed off each other," Price says. "I definitely notice that if one raises the bar, the other one tries to go back up in a healthy sort of way."

Colin, an Applied Science student, began to focus on swimming around age 12, and says he was drawn to the commitment the sport required compared to more seasonal games he played throughout his childhood like soccer and baseball.

"The other sports are maybe two or three months a year while swimming is like 11, so I guess it's nice to have something to do all the time," he says.

Over the winter holidays last month, the UBC swim team travelled to Palm Desert where they completed 18 training sessions in 10 days with only New Year's Day off. While the Eriks brothers had the advantage of swimming at the UBC pool facilities since the age of 13, their new rigorous schedule is still an adjustment.

"The demand at every practice has been higher than what I'm used to," Keith says. "There's no days where you can relax in practice."

To ease the transition for the first-year swimmers, coach Price allowed several young local swimmers, including Colin and Keith, to train with the UBC squad in their final year of high school. While they were still with the Vancouver Pacific Swim Club, the brothers had the opportunity to become familiar with some of their UBC teammates. Now, Keith says he looks up to fellow backstroker, fourth-year Mitch Benkic.

While Price hesitates to classify the twin swimmers after only one semester as their coach, he has noticed that they are "both pretty calm individuals." Colin is more of a middle-distance swimmer while Keith usually competes in middle-distance and shorter sprint events, and Price does have a sense of their different racing methods.

"Colin's a little more cerebral in how he approaches his swims," Price says, adding that Keith is more likely to "really fire it up and go after it."

Next month, both brothers are aiming to make finals at the CIS Swimming Championships in Toronto by achieving top-eight finishes, which would score valuable points for UBC. Keith's events are the 100m and 200m backstroke while Colin focuses on the IM and butterfly.

While Colin pauses for a long moment when asked to describe what sets him and his twin apart and Keith is similarly stumped, Price sees this connection manifest in the pool.

"When we coach these guys, they can give each other a look and that's enough communication between them," he says.

Though the brothers are fairly quiet — like many rookie athletes — Price says Colin and Keith have already established their influence among the varsity swimmers at UBC.

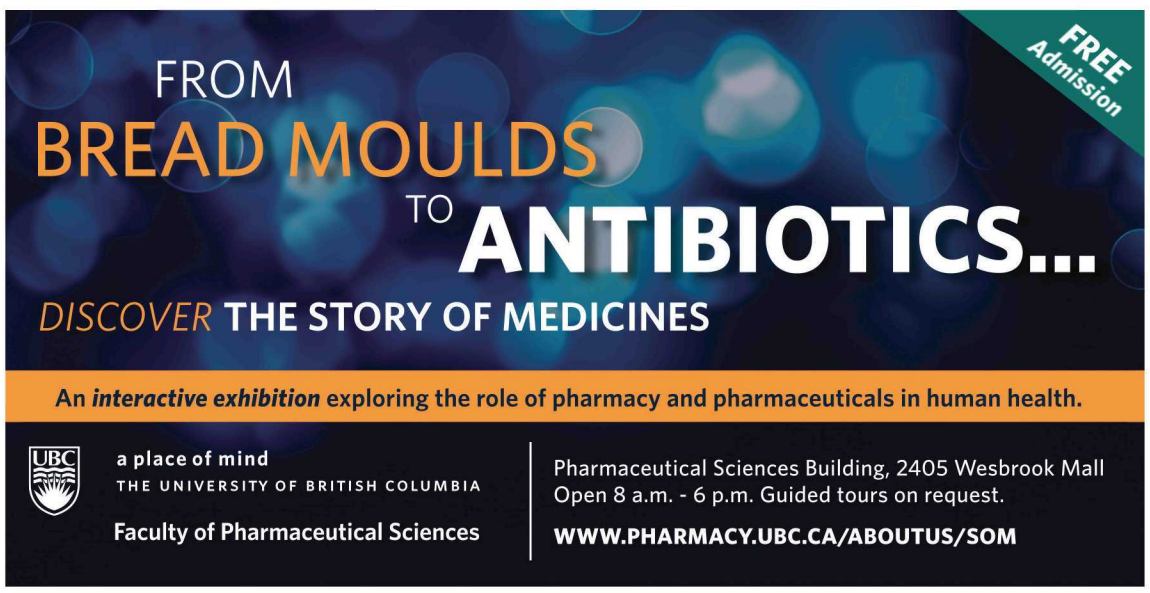
"They already are, to a certain extent, leaders whether they know it or not in terms of their work ethic and their try factor," Price says. "They come every day to the pool, they never miss [training]. They really bring a great quality that way."

While different haircuts help Price distinguish the twins now, that wasn't the case when the Eriks brothers first began swimming at UBC.

"Quite honestly, the only way I could tell the difference between them in the pool was that they had different goggles," Price remembers with a chuckle.

While the brothers continue to spend much of their time training together, they live in different dorms on campus, where they get a much-needed break from each other.

"A little bit of separation is good," Keith says with a laugh.



PROCRASTINATION STATION

GRAMMY GRIPES

Do award categories put limitations on the music industry?

What's in a label?

Twenty-eight years ago today, Little Richard, James Brown and Elvis Presley were among the first inductees into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. The "rock and roll" classification was by no means rigid — after all, James Brown was "the Godfather of Soul."

So do we really value the labels? Are the Grammy Awards' genre-blurring collaborations just an audience-grabbing stunt for live television, or can they influence the music business as a whole?

In a revealing conversation with *Interview Magazine*, Kanye West told 12 Years a Slave director Steve McQueen about being put in a box as a rap artist, and how he finds it "marginalizing."

As polarizing as West is, his influence in the music industry is undeniable. Despite an insatiable desire for wider recognition and leaving the awards with a gramophone in seven of nine years from 2004 to 2012, West has never won an award outside the rap and R&B categories.

Still, genre-crossing collaborations are often the highlight of the award show each year, even serving as political platforms. Past alliances included Radiohead with the University of Southern California marching band, and Lady Gaga and Elton John's seamless mashup of "Speechless" and "Your Song." But perhaps the most unexpected odd couple was Eminem and Elton John, who came together in 2001 to make a public statement after Eminem's homophobic lyrics outraged many listeners.

This year, Kendrick Lamar will perform with fellow nominees Imagine Dragons, and Stevie Wonder will join Daft Punk, Pharrell Williams and Nile Rodgers on stage.

When rap music was finally included at the 31st annual awards, the category was not televised. Will Smith and DJ Jazzy Jeff boycotted the awards, Smith saying that "the real Grammy award is the chance to appear on the Grammy Awards show with its audience of 100 million Americans." Of the 82 award categories this year, only about 10 will make the live broadcast.

On a recent Jimmy Kimmel Live appearance, LL Cool J, the 2014 Grammys host, said he never followed the music charts. Then he described how the acceptance of rap has impacted mainstream measures of success.

"Now you'll hear about rappers who have 10 Grammys and 90 Grammys," he told Kimmel. "If they were giving out Grammys when I started, I might have that many as well. But I have two. And nine nominations."

Not like he's keeping track or anything.

This year's Best Record of the Year nominees include Robin Thicke's "Blurred Lines", the top-selling song of 2013 in the United States. The Song of the Year nominees list reads like a Top 40 list of overplayed radio tracks.

This year, it seems as though mass download choices, rather than genre, have affected who ends up with the coveted hardware at the end of the night. Maybe next year West will have broken out of his box.

–Reyhana Heatherington, Senior Lifestyle Writer

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THEATRE »

Avian angst

UBC at Theatre gets existential in Chekhov's *The Seagull*

PHOTO COURTESY TIM MATHESON/UBC THEATRE

BFA student Thomas Elms stars in *The Seagull*, a Russian tragicomedy set in the late 19th century that traces the trajectory of suppressed desire.

Olivia Law
Staff Writer

The opening night of the first production of *The Seagull* in 1896 was a famously massive failure. One of the actresses was so intimidated by the hostility of the audience that she lost her voice, and Anton Chekhov, the playwright, was so embarrassed that he left the audience and spent the last two acts behind the scenes.

By contrast, it's clear that the cast and crew of Theatre at UBC's production of the iconic play are excited to show the fruits of their work to audiences. MFA student Kathleen Duborg, who herself acted in *The Seagull* during her undergraduate years, wanted a production that would test her directorial skills.

"As an actor, I usually immerse myself deep in the story of my own character, but directing such a large ensemble, I had to balance between the large world of the overall picture and also the details of human nature that Chekhov writes so beautifully," said Duborg. "So my idea was to bring these people together to define as a family, ensuring a balance between the individual emotions [and] what is driving the scene. You should be able to tell why the characters are doing what they're doing, not sitting there questioning everything."

The Seagull is a slice-of-life dramatic comedy set in the 19th-century Russian countryside. Like many of us, the characters are dissatisfied with different aspects of their lives: some desire love, some desire success and some desire artistic genius — yet none of them seem to be able to attain happiness.

The performance relies upon an ensemble cast of diverse, fully developed characters. The importance of a tight-knit cast was key to Duborg; fortuitously, the cast of 13 BFA acting students have been working together for between two to three years.

Natasha Zacher, a third-year BFA student who stars as Nina in the play, believes the closeness of the class has made their group dynamics stronger, both on and offstage.

"All of the roles are really substantial — it's definitely a family affair," Zacher said. "The characters all treat each other like family, which is really interesting considering that our ensemble has spent so much time together over the years — we all really do know each other so well and it's been really delightful to play on these relationships."

> **[Chekhov] really noticed the willfulness of human temperament, and the little kindnesses, which aren't particularly dramatic, but enable us to live our lives day to day.**
>
> **Kathleen Duborg**
> MFA direction student

The Seagull is a play that provokes reactions. A four-act comedy with dark undertones and melodrama, Duborg believes that anybody can find something within the work with which to relate.

"Chekhov hit on something that I think still stands 150 years on," she said. "He looked at the ridiculousness of human nature, which is something that we all can recognize. Up until this point, everything along these lines was kind of hidden, these little tendencies which we all have weren't really talked about in theatre or in opera. He really noticed the willfulness of human temperament, and the little kindnesses, which aren't particularly dramatic, but enable us to live our lives day to day."

The particular realism of the text proved compelling for Zacher. "The rehearsal process was very exploratory for this particular play. Kathy had a vision of what she wanted to achieve from us, but we also got to make a lot of decisions for our characters. There was lots of improvisation and physical work, which not only helped us develop our characters' stories, [but] made rehearsals a joy to come to."

Even though the play is set in 1895, it feels immediate and real for the cast and crew. Sian Morris, a third-year BFA visual arts student, was in charge of designing and sourcing costumes. "There was so much research involved," she said. "I looked into and learned a lot about Russian traditions, and went over into French fashion, which influenced my designs a lot."

The Seagull will be Morris's first show designing costumes, and she recognizes the importance of communicating the vision of the cast and crew. "We built a personality for each character, going back and forth with Kathy about her decisions and opinions. The director and cast were so helpful and this whole process really was a sharp learning curve."

Design aside, Duborg always finds herself returning to the text. "The small things and passions are what make people live life. I think Chekhov saw this, as he was diagnosed with tuberculosis at a young age, so he recognized this thing about human beings. It's all about love, which is fabulous.

"That's why people come to the theatre," she continued. "It invites them in, they feel really alive on the inside. We have a level of honesty from Chekhov which is very difficult to achieve."

The Seagull runs from Jan. 23 to Feb. 18 in the Telus Studio at UBC's Chan Centre. For more info, visit theatre.ubc.ca.

Bittersweet truth

The myths and misconceptions of wine tasting

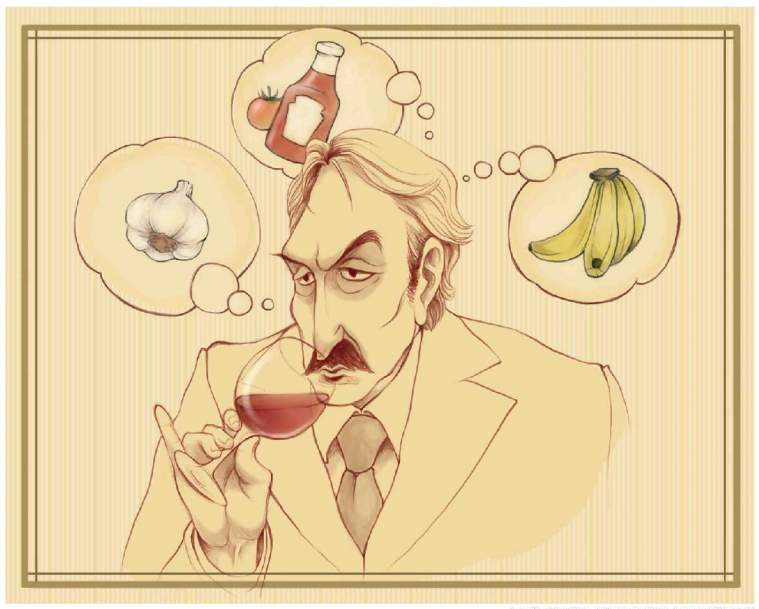


ILLUSTRATION INDIANA JOEL/THE UBYSSEY

People who whine about wine connoisseurs may be missing the point.

JOSHUA DECOLONGON
Wine

Having been seasoned by the drinks industry for a little over two years, I can confirm that, yes, wine tasting is sometimes a seemingly arrogant activity.

At the risk of sounding like an English 110 paper: wine really is an enigmatic art, capturing both the essence of the vineyard and the guiding hands of the winemaker in forms we can smell and taste, not unlike the filmmaker or musician, who is a creative crafter of sight and sound. But you can't play wine on the radio or sample wine before your YouTube video buffers, so that's where it becomes a little bit more exclusive.

"Blind tasting," or determining the identity of a wine whose label is unbeknownst to the taster, is perhaps one of the more clichéd images of wine douchebaggery, but it's something that alcohol aficionados are trained to do. While it's mostly a parlour trick to determine the minute details of a wine — a Cos d'Estournel from the region of Saint Estèphe in left bank Bordeaux vintaged 1982, for example — it's more important to determine where a wine lies on the scales of quality and commercial importance. It's a fundamental ability for the world-renowned and amazingly difficult master of wine and master sommelier examinations, but we can't forget that on the other side of the spectrum, wine tasting can be a fun and drunken non-serious hobby.

Wine reviews often describe fruits, which isn't weird. We all know what apples, pears, cherries and blueberries smell like. But eyebrows are raised when connoisseurs refer to "freshly baked baguettes," "cat pee" and — if I may borrow this last one from a friend — "leather chaps of a sweaty cowboy after he wrestled his friend in a blackcurrant patch."

These descriptions might seem like they've been uttered by a Freudian case study, but these particular outlandish aromas are legitimate: yeasty bread-like aromas come from broken-down yeast cells in Champagne; cat pee is a pungent aroma commonly found in Sauvignon Blanc from New Zealand; and leathery scents with brushes of smoked oak are common in aged Rioja from Spain.

But no one is a "natural wine taster." Just because you can jump high doesn't mean you'll start winning basketball games right off the bat, in the same way that your ridiculous brilliance for math still means that you'll need to work hard to crunch those cosines and curves. Many wine experts suggest connecting aromas to memories, like that one Australian Viognier reminiscent of your childhood because it smells unmistakably of Froot Loops; that one wine that makes you gag because it smells like the basement of the SUB; or that Cabernet Sauvignon that makes your heart race because it smells like the cologne of the guy who makes your cheeks turn the colour of a rosé.

As with every passion, wine tasting is something that absolutely needs experience, practice and research. And thankfully, it's one of the few passions that often alters sobriety.

CULTURE VULTURE

Art
The students of UBC's 2014 visual arts graduating class are hosting a fundraiser on Friday, Jan. 24 for their annual graduation exhibition. *Marinate Me* will feature a silent student and faculty artwork auction, as well as live DJs and bzzr, followed by an afterparty at Fortune Soundclub. 7–11 p.m. at CBC Studio 700, 700 Hamilton St. Cover is $10.

wow
In the Jan. 13 edition of *The Ubyssey*, we asked whether the cryptocurrency Dogecoin would influence the future of currency in our Procrastination Station column. Readers may be interested to know that one week later, the Jamaican bobsled team received $30,000 worth of Dogecoin funding for their participation in the Sochi Winter Olympics. The funds were raised via a crowdsource campaign conducted by Liam Butler, head of the Dogecoin Foundation.

Juicing and boozing

Koerner's offers revamped menu for new year

JESSICA CHRISTIN-HAMETNER
Food

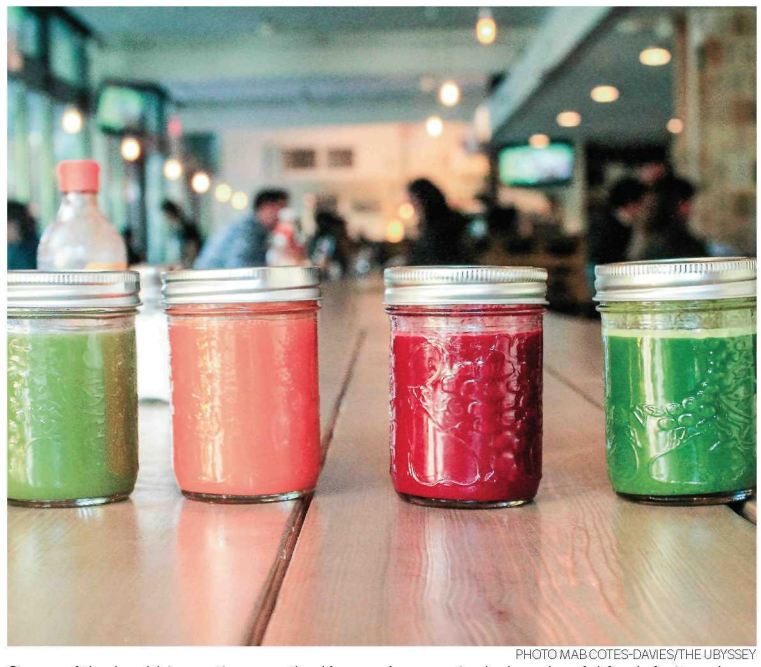


PHOTO MAB COATES-DAVIES/THE UBYSSEY

Some of the healthier options on the Koerner's menu include colourful fresh fruit and vegetable juice blends.

Over time, I have come to realize that wherever you are in the world, there are some pubs that are in a class of their own — pubs that have a certain je ne sais quoi. There is more to a pub than just a pint of Guinness and comfort food; they're a place to unwind with those closest to us. They're places with a welcoming ambiance, compelling us to return simply "because a man hath no better thing under the sun, than to eat, and to drink, and to be merry," as Ecclesiastes puts it.

I am comfortably sat on a stool, gazing at the newly refurbished Koerner's Pub. A few years ago, when I celebrated my first-year freedom with a friend and an apple cider, Koerner's was an outdated haunt in need of a revamp. Fast-forward four years, and the pub has made a style statement of its own. Streamlined, light and airy with cool concrete floors and lengthy wooden benches, it's hip, but still cosy.

After having been closed since May 2011, Koerner's Pub officially re-opened its doors to the UBC community on Oct. 15 of last year. Tim Yu, Koerner's Pub principal, explained the pub's new objectives for the coming months.

"We just wanted to open a pub that really felt like a place for students," Yu said. "We wanted to put together a food menu that we're proud of, so a lot of our food is sustainable. And then we're trying to do more cultural things like ... live music [on Tuesday nights], and we've got some plans for pub quizzes later on in the term."

While there are no major changes to the menu just yet, students can expect to find classic pub plates on offer such as fish and chips, or Koerner's organic burger, a popular item so far. But there are also healthier alternatives to chose from, suitable for vegans and vegetarians, that promise to taste good and fill you up.

"One thing we're most excited about is our juice program," Yu said. "We do fresh juices daily now. Some of the things we do here are perhaps a little less healthy, so we thought we'd counteract that a bit and bring some of the healthy lifestyle in that's important to students and also to us."

Koerner's Pub makes use of both worlds: comfort foods, but with a healthy twist. Serving only meats and poultry that are hormone free and naturally raised, and free-range eggs and Ocean-Wise seafood, it's a pub that is sustainable as it is modern.

The staff's student ethos and passion for feel-good-food have made it a success among the student community so far, and it's not difficult to see why.

"Koerner's has a bit more of a personal touch, because we're here every day and we really care, and because we're former students, that shows in the stuff that we do and we understand the student community," said Yu.

Sipping on the Brainiac — one of the pub's fresh pressed juices of pure vegetable and fruit goodness — I contemplated pubs and their je-ne-sais-quoi quality. Quenching my thirst, I thoroughly enjoyed the delightful blend of red beet, carrot, and apple fused with zingy ginger and cooling cucumber, giving me that needed boost of energy after a long day. And this is when I came to realize that, for me, a pub with that je ne sais quoi is a pub with a personal touch, much like the new Koerner's — perhaps the most exciting thing to hit UBC in years.

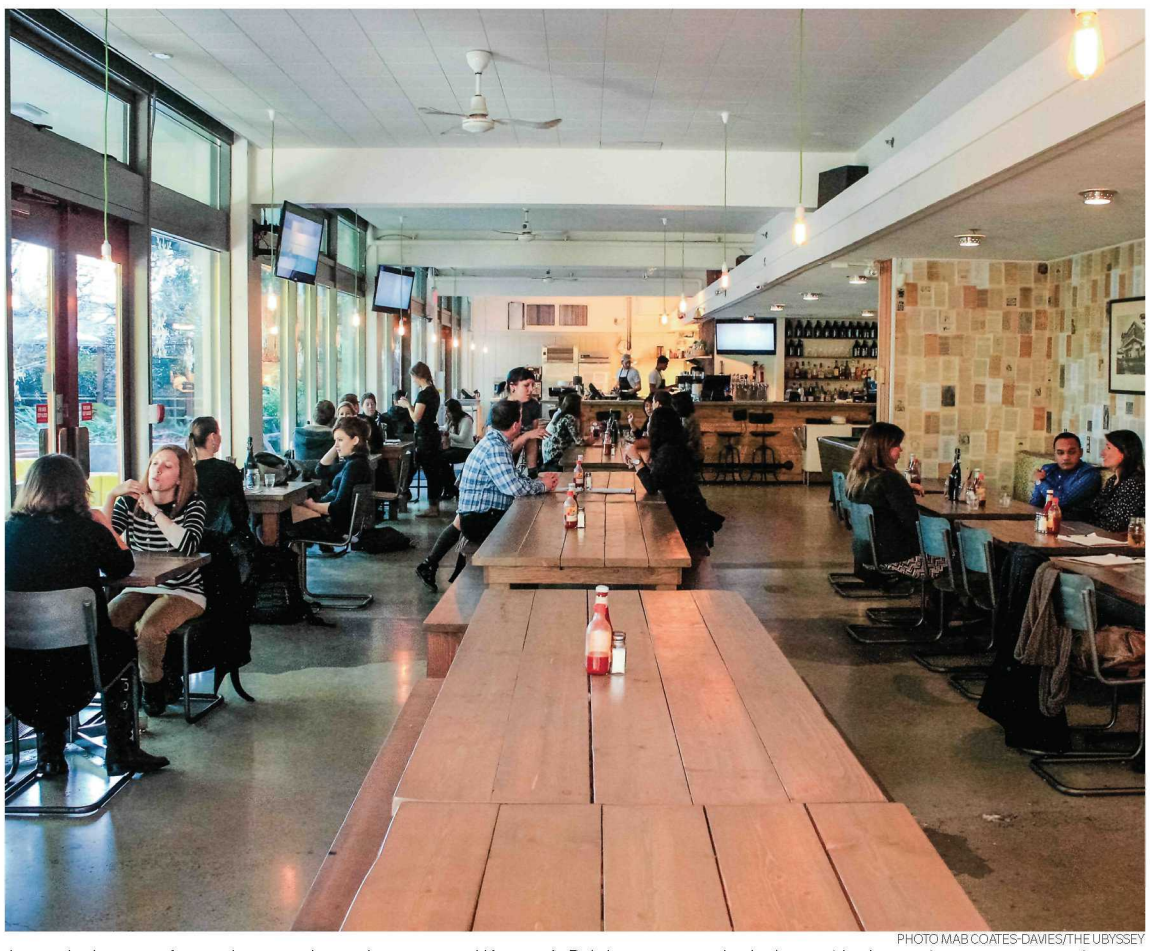


PHOTO MAB COATES-DAVIES/THE UBYSSEY

A popular hangout for graduate students, the renovated Koerner's Pub boasts a new look along with plans to increase community outreach over the course of the next semester.

LAST WORDS // PARTING SHOTS AND SNAP JUDGEMENTS FROM THE UBYSSEY EDITORIAL BOARD

A TRAITOR AMONG US

The Ubyssey has long had a special fondness for our university's dear leader, Stephen J. Toope. A distinguished human rights lawyer and now renowned administrator, Toope has brought a progressive perspective to an often staid position: president of a very old university.

Now, though, we are saddened to learn that our very own Toope has chosen the University of Toronto as his new home. We are forced to ask whether that J stands not for John, but for Judas. When we found out last spring that Toope would be stepping down this year — best to leave while he still enjoyed it, he explained — we understood. But upon discovering that our precious Stephen views U of T — that dastardly eastern rival which represents the antithesis of all that is good in this word — as superior to our own institution, our hearts have broken to extent difficult to reconcile with our previous love.

We knew Toope wanted to return to academia, and he is doing so as director of the Munk School of Global Affairs at U of T. But need we remind the professor that UBC itself has plenty of options for a return to academia? For a man who spent his term as president trying to improve UBC's academic standing in the world, to leave us for a competitor is nothing less than betrayal.

We put our faith — nay, our full trust, to say nothing of love, into this man, only for him to turn our backs on us for supposedly greener, if snowier, pastures out east. Suffice it to say that our too-short love affair (aren't they always) with Steve has ended.

It is still to early to properly digest our feelings on the matter. Indeed, perhaps Norman Rush put it best when he wrote, "I feel like someone after a deluge being asked to describe the way it was before the flood while I'm still plucking seaweed out of my hair."

Life with the knowledge that Toope will soon be academiating in Toronto while we slave away in the Vancouver rain is not something we can yet fully describe. But nor can we explain exactly what it is we are losing.

Only time will tell.

DEBATES ARE SNOREFESTS

So far, this year's AMS elections debates have left a lot to be desired.

On Monday, both VP external candidates missed their debating slots, which didn't make for much interesting discussion.

Although the presidential and BoG candidates had more lively debates, the moderator allowed for few questions, shutting out many audience — including our reporters.

Tuesday's debates had a different moderator, but less than impressive questions. At one point, the VP admin candidates were asked about the VP admin and university affairs portfolio, which doesn't exist. The moderator later asked the Senate candidates which other candidates in their race they would vote for, only to be cut off by the elections administrator before he had to issue slating violations.

We hope the final AMS debate on Monday will be better organized and give more audience members a chance to participate.

WHAT MAKES A TEAM VARSITY?

The results of the first phase of the UBC sports review were announced yesterday, with 16 teams being guaranteed varsity status. The number was surprisingly high, which suggests that perhaps more teams that originally thought reach the designed varsity criteria, but there were some curious omissions on the first list.

The teams who are safe don't really come as a surprise. Basketball, football and women's volleyball were locks from the start, and while some may raise an eyebrow at rowing, cross-country and track and field, those teams regularly produce national team members and achieve consistent success at the university level. But women's soccer, men's hockey and men's volleyball not being on the list has led to some furrowed brows and even some outrage.

The main takeaway appears to be that the varsity teams are the most well-rounded ones. While many of the teams left off the list have had recent success — men's volleyball, women's soccer, baseball, men's field hockey men's, skiing, softball and women's golf — they clearly lack in areas such as "fit with university tradition" and "community support and tradition" (although that still doesn't explain women's soccer, which is one of Canada's fastest growing sports and has a Canadian soccer legend for a coach at UBC).

And while men's hockey and women's rugby might have support and tradition, they lack recent success; men's hockey has only two playoff series wins in more than 40 years, and women's rugby is 5-15 over the past five years.

A few more teams are expected to be added, so some teams still have hope. But since these teams now have a better idea of how to meet the criteria, perhaps the second phase will also produce more varsity teams than originally thought.

KOERNER'S AIN'T ALL THAT KIDS

Though we appreciate our food writer's enthusiasm for Koerner's Pub and its reworked menu, we would — pardon the pun — like to add just a touch of salt to her verdict.

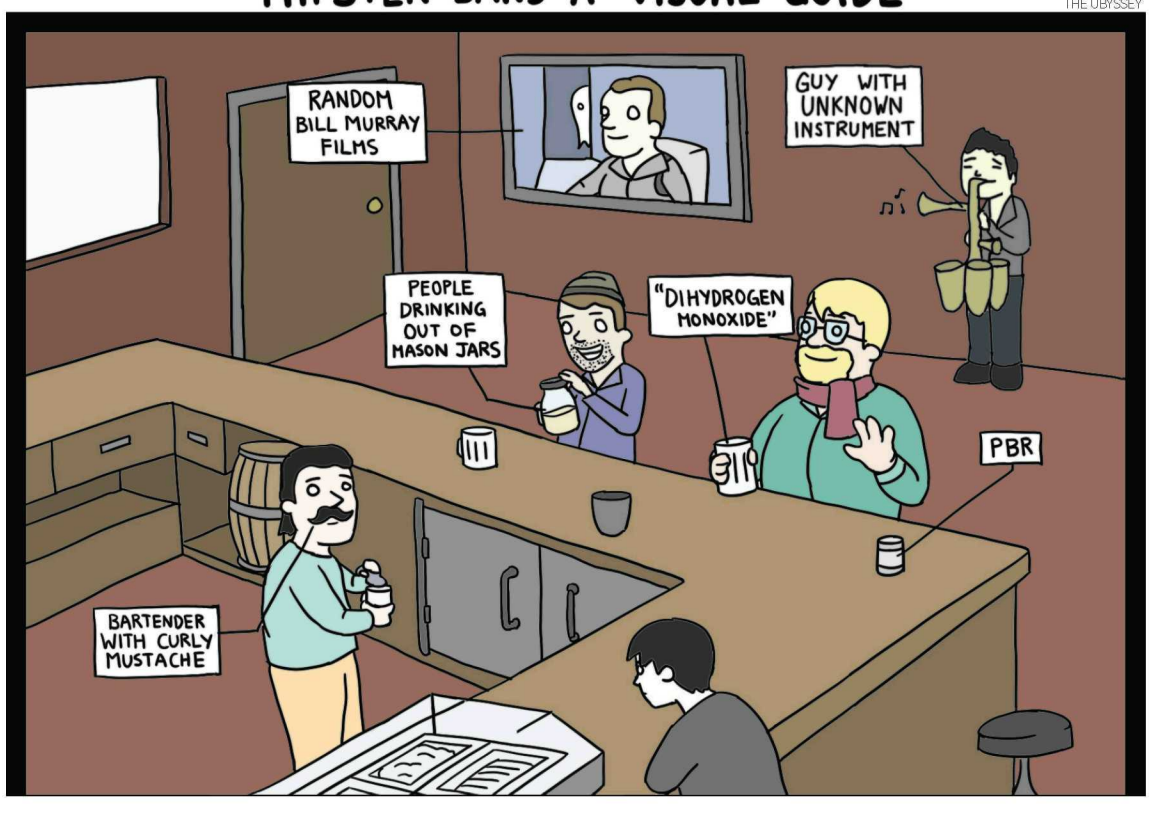
Before it shut down for renovations a few years ago, the atmosphere in Koerner's was convivial; though a bit crowded, the decor, the lighting and the space itself conveyed a traditional student pub sentimentality. It felt, you might say, "lived-in."

But the proprietors of Koerner's have marketed their establishment towards a more stylized, postmodern student mindset. The warm ambiance of the old bar has been replaced with a more sterile aesthetic. The drink menu, provided on clipboards, is filled with clever self-awareness: PBR is described as a "cheap and shitty lager," Jager Bombs are deemed "bad decisions" and water — which is served in a Mason jar rather than a glass — is referred to as "dihydrogen monoxide." And the televisions, for whatever reason, play Bill Murray films ad infinitum.

Being owned by the Graduate Student Society, it only makes sense that Koerner's would evoke a quasi-cynical attitude in its menu and decor. We only wish the pub wouldn't beat us over the head with the fact that we are poor, miserable students who, paradoxically, also need to spend a fortune on organic food and artisanal alcohols in order to justify our education.

HIPSTER BARS: A VISUAL GUIDE

ILLUSTRATION JETHRO AU/ THE UBYSSEY



Hempology 101 coverage is oppressive, stops progress

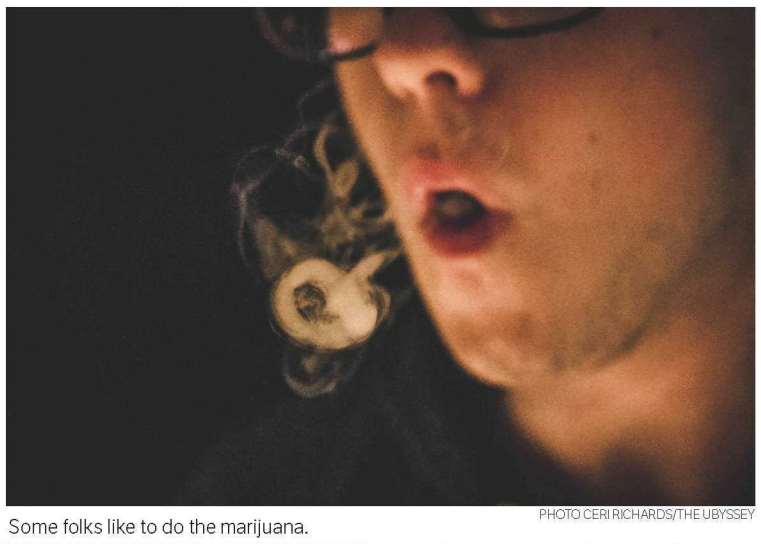


PHOTO CERI RICHARDS/THE UBYSSEY

Some folks like to do the marijuana.

LETTER

Hello, fellow human being:

Your reporting of Hempology 101's civil disobedience is unfortunate. It smacks of misinformation and oppression. You know that whatever hurts others hurts you. So it is when the most progressive institutes do not support peaceful civil disobedience against unjust laws.

Those who oppose tyranny must creatively change bad laws by drawing attention to their cruelty and absurdity. If we are to have a society which reflects the will of the people on cannabis, we must challenge the present marijuana laws. We wouldn't be alone doing so.

Why, even the United Nations delegates are walking away from enforcing the militancy of the War on Drugs, because they see a need to stop hurtful action and to restore peace. At UBC, these vaporizing people are providing awareness you can't teach in a classroom. By harassing them, you slow the pace of change. Next time you think about the coffee vapour coming off the rim of your cup, think of the vapour that for a moment spread freedom through the halls of the SUB. Be glad that a few brave students are forging compassionate social change with a healthful herb and prompting political awareness at the university.

Let them, for a few seconds, while contained in a small spot, vaporize without fear of the police or suffering personal or career loss. I salute the courage of those who oppose oppression. We are all either for the Redcoats or for freedom. Make no mistake: this is a war on people, and Harper has prisons hungry for young occupants. You decide if you want to pass this war on to your friends and children. All should stand up for the activities of Hempology 101 as they march toward the dissolution of enforcement myths and the immorality of a bad law. Smart people should spotlight the corruption which serves the War on Drugs by showing support for the activities of Hempology 101.

Sincerely,
Carol Francey,
Social worker, Sensible BC educator and former UBC student

BE WARY OF UBC'S NEW MINING INSTITUTE

Last semester, several UBC students from the Social Justice Centre, organized under the banner of Not From My Camups, started raising questions about UBC's new federal government-funded international mining institute.

The institute — the Canadian International Institute for Extractive Industries and Development — is supposed to help developing countries grow economically by offering expertise on regulations and technical assistance on resource extraction.

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is providing the $24 million for the Institute. CIDA has been recently folded into the Department of Foreign Affairs, so as to align Canadian international development with trade policy. One of the institute's functions will be to, through an advisory centre, give developing countries' governments advice on their domestic extractive industry policies.

> **We are all either for the Redcoats or for freedom. Make no mistake: this is a war on people, and Harper has prisons hungry for young occupants.**
>
> **Carol Francey**

Other students and I met with UBC President Stephen Toope and members of the executive board of the institute last semester to share their concerns about what we saw as a clear conflict of interest: UBC hosting an institute, which will give advice to developing countries on their resource policies, funded by a government that wants to promote Canadian extractive companies abroad. The board responded that the institute will not work for Canadian companies, but for national governments on their request. Nevertheless, many countries where Canada and our companies have interest in, such as Colombia, have brutally displaced people to open land for foreign mining corporations.

Recently, students received a message from Toope assuring us that the institute will be independent from Ottawa and will work towards poverty reduction. However, Toope also shared the agreement between CIDA and UBC which states that the institute must get approval from CIDA for talking to the media, that Canadian investment will be a significant factor in what regions the institute decides to work in, and that the institute is accountable to the Canadian government.

Toope's message also argues that the institute won't promote any particular government foreign policy. However, it seems this institute is completely consistent with what Ottawa wants.

Simon Child

TWEETS OF THE WEEK

The monotony of everyday UBC life: getting lost, being bored and more

@AmiraLalani: This campus is such a beautiful maze. So lost. Help. #UBC @UBC_ISA

@grantennae: Today's #UBC #studentcar was a Bentley Coupe. Must be hard to study knowing that it's waiting to go for a drive.

@ManKan510: Eosc 116 .... You're kinda boring, sorry :(#ubc

@ArshyMann: What is up with #UBC and its weirdly intimate relationship to the entire cast of Corner Gas?

@davedDec: UBCsecure seems to not be a very secure connection #ubc

@ponymalta: UBC students should all have to take a required course that covers walking in crowded areas, forming lines & not milling around in doorways.

@SarahAislinn: "You look studious today" - Well it's about time, this would be my fourth year of this shit. #UBC

CATCULTY

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Global Lounge

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- un appui financier pour retourner faire certains stages pratiques chez-vous

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À l'Université d'Ottawa, le Consortium national de formation en santé (CNFS) contribue à offrir un accès accru à des programmes d'études dans le domaine de la santé, aux francophones issus des collectivités en situation minoritaire.

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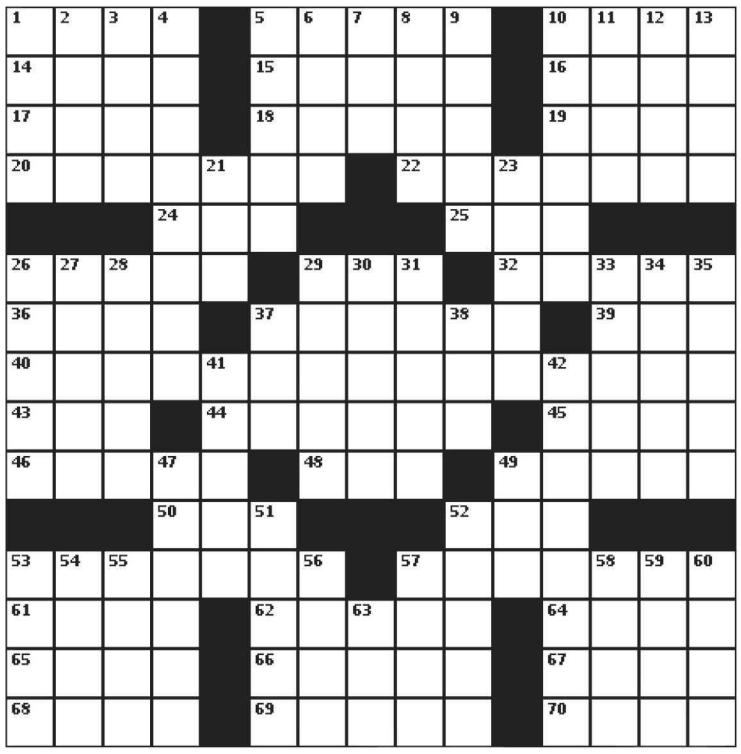
CROSSWORD



PUZZLE COURTESY BESTCROSSWORDS.COM. USED WITH PERMISSION.

ACROSS

1- Bric-a-___
5- Effluent system
10- It's a long story
14- Scottish body
15- Hackneyed
16- Woeful word
17- Voice of America org.
18- Take ___ at (try)
19- Light air
20- Embryonic root
22- Strong liquor from Mexico
24- Scot's refusal
25- Director's cry
26- Browned sliced bread
29- Climber's challenge
32- Uncanny
36- Mrs. Chaplin
37- Each
39- "You've got mail" co.
40- In spite of
43- Biblical high priest
44- Not explicit
45- Home to most people
46- Prefix with iliac
48- ___ Moines
49- Campaign tactic
50- Baseball stat
52- Cleaning implement
53- Fashionable
57- Dog-houses
61- Mother of Hermes
62- Collection of maps
64- Cupid's counterpart
65- The King ___
66- Ages between 13 and 19
67- Cpls.' superiors
68- Capital of Calvados, in NW France
69- Blue book filler
70- Drunkards

DOWN

1- Make indistinct
2- Parks on a bus
3- Not base
4- Portable power saw
5- Stagnant
6- Gaelic language of Ireland or Scotland
7- Intelligence
8- Coup d'___
9- Renaissance fiddle
10- Formal gesture of respect
11- Et ___
12- Audacity
13- Nick and Nora's pooch
21- House pet
23- Female sovereign
26- Musical sounds
27- Alley Oop's girlfriend
28- Caper
29- Plant pest
30- Hosiery thread
31- For ___ sake!
33- Bluffer's ploy
34- Ancient Greek colony
35- "Enigma Variations" composer
37- Corroded
38- Structural engineer's software
41- Tusks
42- Humidity
47- Keep possession of
49- Part of the Holy Trinity
51- Having wings
52- Unordered
53- Apple product
54- Granny
55- Team
56- French summers
57- Japanese syllabic script
58- Thus
59- Trent of the Senate
60- Flat sound
63- Bandleader Brown

Jan. 20 answers

Step one: get a press pass
Step two: write a review
Step three: become famous critic

Rhys Edwards
culture@ubyssey.ca

"We can be the generation that no longer accepts that an accident of latitude determines whether a child lives or dies. But will we be that generation?"

Bono

Bono thinks poverty and hunger are key global issues. What do you think?

Have you ever thought about what causes food insecurity in developing countries? Do you have a passion to make a difference?

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