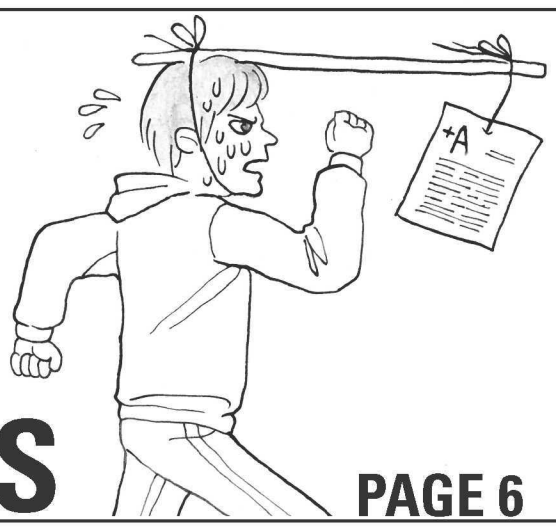
Ricardo $ SINCE 1918

NEW YEAR NEW GOALS



PAGE 6

This UBC student chose to go homeless for a week.

PAGE 4

THE UBYSSEY

JANUARY 04, 2011

- VOLUME 92, NUMBER XXVIII
- ROOM 24, STUDENT UNION BUILDING
- PUBLISHED MONDAY AND THURSDAY
- FEEDBACK@UBYSSEY.CA

ONE TERM DOWN, ONE TO GO

OUR ANNUAL TALK WITH UBC PRESIDENT STEPHEN TOOPE

PAGE 3

JANUARY 04, 2011
VOLUME XCII, N° XXVIII

EDITORIAL

COORDINATING EDITOR
Justin McElroy : coordinating@ubyssey.ca
NEWS EDITOR
Arshy Mann : news@ubyssey.ca
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR
Kalyeena Makortoff : kmakortoff@ubyssey.ca
SENIOR NEWS WRITER
Micki Cowan : mcowan@ubyssey.ca
CULTURE EDITORS
Jonny Wakefield & Bryce Warnes : culture@ubyssey.ca
ASSISTANT CULTURE EDITOR
Ginny Monaco : gmonaco@ubyssey.ca
CULTURE ILLUSTRATOR
Indiana Joel : ijoel@ubyssey.ca
SPORTS EDITOR
Marie Vondracek : sports@ubyssey.ca
FEATURES EDITOR
Trevor Record : features@ubyssey.ca
PHOTO EDITOR
Geoff Lister : photos@ubyssey.ca
PRODUCTION MANAGER
Virginie Ménard : production@ubyssey.ca
COPY EDITOR
Kai Green : copy@ubyssey.ca
MULTIMEDIA EDITOR
Tara Martellaro : multimedia@ubyssey.ca
ASSOCIATE MULTIMEDIA EDITOR
Stephanie Warren : associate.multimedia@ubyssey.ca
VIDEO EDITOR
David Marino : video@ubyssey.ca
WEBMASTER
Jeff Blake : webmaster@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
print advertising: 604.822.1654
business office: 604.822.6681
web advertising: 604.822.1658
e-mail: *advertising@ubyssey.ca*

BUSINESS MANAGER
Fernie Pereira : business@ubyssey.ca
PRINT AD SALES
Kathy Yan Li : advertising@ubyssey.ca
WEB AD SALES
Paul Bucci : webads@ubyssey.ca
ACCOUNTS
Alex Hoopes : accounts@ubyssey.ca

CONTRIBUTORS

LEGAL

The Ubyssey is the official student newspaper of the University of British Columbia. It is published every Monday and Thursday by The Ubyssey Publications Society. We are an autonomous, democratically run student organization, and all students are encouraged to participate.

Editorials are chosen and written by the Ubyssey staff. They are the expressed opinion of the staff, and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Ubyssey Publications Society or the University of British Columbia. All editorial content appearing in The Ubyssey is the property of The Ubyssey Publications Society. Stories, opinions, photographs and artwork contained herein cannot be reproduced without the expressed, written permission of The Ubyssey Publications Society.

The Ubyssey is a founding member of Canadian University Press (CUP) and adheres to CUP's guiding principles.

Letters to the editor must be under 300 words. Please include your phone number, student number and signature (not for publication) as well as your year and faculty with all submissions. ID will be checked when submissions are dropped off at the editorial office of The Ubyssey; otherwise verification will be done by phone. "Perspectives" are opinion pieces over 300 words but under 750 words and are run according to space. "Freestyles" are opinion pieces written by Ubyssey staff members. Priority will be given to letters and perspectives over freestyles unless the latter is time sensitive. Opinion pieces will not be run until the identity of the writer has been verified. The Ubyssey reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity. All letters must be received by 12 noon the day before intended publication. Letters received after this point will be published in the following issue unless there is an urgent time restriction or other matter deemed relevant by the Ubyssey staff.

It is agreed by all persons placing display or classified advertising that if the Ubyssey Publications Society fails to publish an advertisement or if an error in the ad occurs the liability of the UPS will not be greater than the price paid for the ad. The UPS shall not be responsible for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value or the impact of the ad.

FSC © Canadian University Press Rainforest Alliance
Canada Post Sales Agreement #0040878022

EVENTS

ONGOING EVENTS

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

AUDITIONS FOR BRAVE NEW PLAY RITES FESTIVAL • Call for actors for Brave New Play Rites Short Play Festival. Actors needed for short play festival which runs March 30, 2011–April 3, 2011. Non-union, non-paying but great acting experience with exciting new playwrights and directors. • *Auditions take place Jan. 9–10 , e-mail* bravenewplayrites@gmail.com *for more information.*

MAN RAY, AFRICAN ART AND THE MODERNIST LENS • A groundbreaking exhibition exploring the pivotal role of photography in changing the perception of African objects from artifacts to fine art. • *Ongoing til Jan. 23, Museum of Anthropology.*

SKATING AT ROBSON SQUARE • Free public skating rink, with skate and helmet rentals, skate sharpening and a concession stand on site. • *Ongoing til Feb. 28, Sunday-Thursday 9am-9pm, Friday-Saturday 9am-11pm, free.*

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 5

THE IMAGINUS POSTER SALE • Hate your dreary walls? Can't be bothered to decorate your walls with homemade artwork? Don't worry! The Imaginus Poster Sale is back! Browse through hundreds of posters of all sizes, and bring back some eye candy. • *Jan. 5-6, 9am-7pm & Jan. 7, 9am-5pm, SUB.*

ETHICAL HUMAN BEHAVIOUR • Part of the SFU Philosphers' Cafe, moderator Dr. Roman Onufrikchuk will debate if there could ever be a universal standard for ethical human behaviour and who would be its arbiter. • *Jan. 6, 7pm, False Creek Community Centre (1318 Cartwright Street), $5.*

THURSDAY, JAN. 6

THE RUFFLED FEATHERS WITH JULIA AND HER PIANO AND GUESTS • Be entranced by the smooth and gentle vocals of songstress Gina Loes as her band The Ruffled Feathers entertains you with guests like Julia and Her Piano, Katie Schaan and Thomas Kolb. Treat yourself to a mellow night of sweet, sweet indie music. • *Jan. 6, 8pm-1am, The Media Club (695 Cambie Street), $10.*

FRIDAY, JAN. 7

ENGINEERS STORM THE PIT! • Celebrate your return to school (or drown your sorrows) with good friends and good music at the Pit Pub! • *Jan. 7, 7-10pm, Pit Pub.*

BETA ANIMAL HOUSE • Adopted from the 1978 classic, "Animal House" has been Beta's dynamic social gem. So sport your toga and start 2011 off the right way. • *Jan 7, 9:30pm-3am, Beta House, $10.*

SATURDAY, JAN. 8

STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SLC) • The SLC is UBC's largest student-run conference, providing more than 1100 delegates with the opportunity to develop their leadership skills through engaging workshops and speakers. • *Jan. 8, 8am-6pm, The Chan Centre, $30/50.*

MONDAY, JAN. 10

HIP HOP KARAOKE (HHK) VANCOUVER • Love karaoke? Love hip hop music? Well look no further! Welcome to HHK Vancouver, where you can spit out the soulful beats of your favourite hip hop tunes without being ridiculed! So if you're down with being trippy, then grab a mic and shimmey some rhymes like a dawg. Peace! • *Jan. 10, 9:30pm-2am, Fortune Sound Club (147 East Pender Street).*

TUESDAY, JAN. 11

BETTER SEX YOGA CLASS • Intune Holistics founder Stephanie Lafazanos will teach how the practice of yoga can improve your sex life. • *Jan. 11, 7:30pm, The Art of Loving (1819 W. 5th), $30.*

THURSDAY, JAN. 13

STYLUS PHANTASTICUS: MYSTERY AND EXOTICISM IN 17TH CENTURY TRIO SONATAS • A programme of virtuoso Trio Sonatas from the 17th century, featuring leading musicians from Canada and the West Coast. The programme will include music by composers such as Schmelzer, Rosenmüller, Reinecken, Erlebach, Legrenzi, Leclair, Rebel and Clérambault. • *Jan. 13, 5-6:30pm, Green College, free.*

FRIDAY, JAN. 14

UBC'S GOT TALENT • Be a part of history in the making—UBC's very first campus-wide talent showcase! Watch participants as they perform their way into your hearts on the world renowned stage at the Chan Centre. Don't have a ticket yet? Just go online and claim one. Need more incentive to make it down to the show? UBC President Stephen Toope and AMS President Bijan Ahmadian will sing a duet if all the seats are claimed! • *Jan. 14, 8-10pm, Chan Centre for the Performing Arts. Tickets are by donations at the door, book online at www.talent.ubc.ca.*

THE AUS PRESENTS: MARDI GRAS • What other way to end an awesome week dedicated to everything arty-farty but a Mardi Gras dance party! Dig up your old love beads and put on those glowsticks and face paint because it's going to be awesome. With winner of the CiTR DJ contest, Vinyla Xtrax, opening up the show, followed by Hood Internet, be sure to come early to dominate the dance floor. $2.50 ciders and beers. • *Jan. 14, 8pm-12am, SUB Ballroomm. Ticket info unreleased. 19+ event.*

SATURDAY, JAN. 15

GREAT PIANO CONCERTOS • Piano students of Corey Hamm present an evening of piano concertos by Barber, Rachmaninoff and Liszt. • *Jan. 15, 7-9pm, UBC Music Building Recital Hall, free.*

Wanted:
AWESOME EVENT LISTINGS
events@ubyssey.ca THEUBYSSEY.ca

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

UBYSSEY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Deadline is January 7th, 2011. Nomination forms are available in SUB 23. This is not an editorial position. Members of *The Ubyssey's* Board of Directors are responsible for overseeing the finances of the newspaper. Responsibilities include attending a monthly board meeting, tending to buisiness as it arises, and overseeing personal projects.

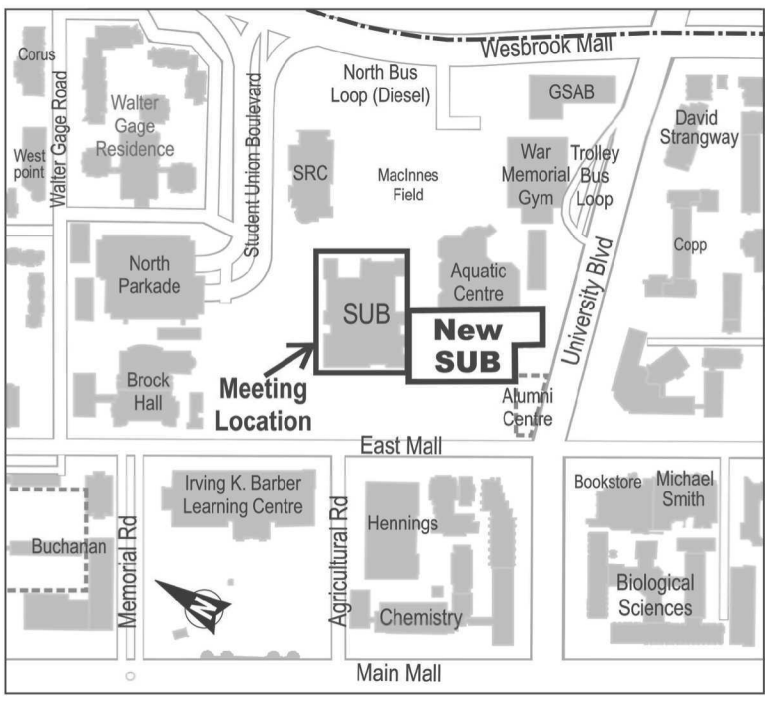
LSAT MCAT GMAT GRE
Preparation Seminars
• Complete 30-Hour Seminars
• Convenient Weekend Schedule
• Proven Test-Taking Strategies
• Experienced Course Instructors
• Comprehensive Study Materials
• Simulated Practice Exams
• Limited Class Size
• Free Repeat Policy
• Personal Tutoring Available
• Thousands of Satisfied Students
OXFORD SEMINARS
604-683-3430
1-800-269-6719
www.oxfordseminars.ca

UBC a place of mind — THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA — CAMPUS + COMMUNITY PLANNING

Public Open House
New Student Union Building (SUB)

You are invited to attend an open house to view and comment on the new SUB. The proposal is for a new four-storey building to accommodate AMS and student services including offices, retail and food service space. Representatives from the project proponent, design team and Campus + Community Planning will be available to provide information and respond to inquiries about this project.

Date: Tuesday, January 11, 2011 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
Location: South Foyer (by Design Cube) **- SUB, 6138 Student Union Blvd**



For directions visit: www.maps.ubc.ca.

For more information on this project, please visit the C&CP website: www.planning.ubc.ca

Please direct questions to Karen Russell, Manager Development Services, karen.russell@ubc.ca

This event is wheelchair accessible. For more information about assistance for persons with disabilities - rachel.wiersma@ubc.ca

NEWS

EDITOR ARSHY MANN » news@ubyssey.ca
ASSISTANT KALYEENA MAKORTOFF » kmakortoff@ubyssey.ca
SENIOR WRITER MICKI COWAN » mcowan@ubyssey.ca

Toope looking towards the next five years

JUSTIN MCELROY
coordinating@ubyssey.ca

GEOFF LISTER PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY

In 2006, Stephen Toope was appointed the 12th president of the University of British Columbia. In his first four years as leader of this billion-dollar institution, Toope has dealt with overhauling the university's finances, the effects of a global recession, a multitude of land-use plans, along with the day-to-day running of a university with two campuses and 45,000 students.

In late 2009, UBC approved *Place and Promise*, the first strategic plan enacted under Toope's presidency. In June 2010, the Board of Governors approved a second five-year term for Toope, to begin in July 2011. Just before the break, we spoke to Toope in our annual interview to look back at some of the challenges of his first term and some of his hopes for his second.

Ubyssey: Being a university president is a tough job, it's an exhausting job. Why come back and do it for another five years?

Stephen Toope: I think largely because I'm feeling that with the completion of the strategic plan *Place and Promise*, it's clear where we want to go, and I think I have the opportunity to really drive that plan, so I'm excited about that. It seems to me a really remarkable opportunity.

And I have to say UBC is extremely well-positioned over the next few years to become stronger and become more influential, become more successful in undergraduate and graduate teaching. So it seemed like a good time to be here.

U: There's no real training for the job of university president. What are places that were sources of frustration in your first term that you're better prepared to contend with now in your second term?

Toope: If there's anything that surprised me about UBC and where I had to spend more time than I expected to, it would be on what you might describe as systems: internal systems, finance, student information systems, alumni systems.

They weren't as strong as I hoped they would be, and so I've had to spend a lot of time working with members of the executive and lots of people across the university in trying to make them more effective, more transparent, provide the sort of information we need.

I'm hoping I won't have to spend a lot of time on that in my second term, that's one of the reasons why I was keen on giving myself a second term.

I probably felt 2.5 years in that I was really able to start to focus where I needed to be focusing my energies, and not doing some things that I thought I really shouldn't have to spend a lot of time doing.

U: When you came here, were you aware that the question of how UBC would be governed would become such a large issue?

Toope: I think we have to put this in perspective. The question of governance per se has not really arisen at UBC. If you think of governance of the university as a whole, we still have what is the traditional bicameral structure, which is the senate, focused on academic matters, and the BoG, focused primarily on finance and property matters. And that continues and nothing has changed and there's been no challenge there.

U: But you're overseeing the change from the administration of a university to a university that oversees a city, while allowing that city a certain amount of sovereignty.

Toope: I was going to say that I think the governance of land is the specific issue that has arisen, and interestingly even there the change has been less dramatic then one might think. I remember the first question I was asked by any journalist when I came here was "how does it feel to be mayor of UBC?" And I said I don't think I'm mayor of UBC, I think I'm president of a university, I'm not really mayor of a town.

In a sense, I still feel my primary role is president of a university. So we are going to figure out in the medium-term what an effective governance arrangement is for the lands, and I would make a distinction between purely academic lands where students live, where classes are held, where research labs take place and housing, which involve some people from the university, but some people outside the university.

And yes, we are going spend really concerted time and effort to get that right, so people feel there is democratic accountability, and we are effective and efficient in managing these lands.

I'll be very honest with you; when I came here, my gut instinct was it would make a lot of sense for UBC to be part of the City of Vancouver. It's turned out, for all sorts of reasons, that it wasn't going to go that way, in large part because it was never something Vancouver particularly coveted.

U: The biggest complaint that people have about UBC's role in this is they're both the landowner and the people deciding the future use of the land. Do you dismiss those criticisms out of hand, or is this a valid issue?

Toope: I'd say a couple things. First of all, I don't think we should look at the current situation with the provincial government as a defining feature. We happen to be in a very strange period, there has been a remarkable transition, not a lot of stability. That's going to change, and I think the government has a very important role to play.

U: Would you like them to play a larger role than they are right now?

Toope: I'd like them to play the role they're supposed to play, which is to approve anything that is put forward from the BoG in this interim arrangement, and they will do that, I'm sure. Remember, so far all we have is an interim period, we don't have a final governance arrangement.

U: An issue a lot of students had around the recent land-use consultation was the area known as Gage South. There seemed to be a general criticism that UBC wasn't willing to have a honest debate, and they didn't really want to talk about it. Is that a valid criticism?

Toope: No. And I'll tell you why. First of all, it's important to remember that when the BoG made the decision they did around the UBC Farm—and everyone's forgotten that, it was last year's story—but it was actually a big issue, and appropriately so.

I personally did not agree with the land designation as future housing reserve, I was delighted that the BoG made the decision to change that designation, but it did say at the time we have to find a mechanism to ensure transfer of density from that land, which is 24 hectares—a big piece of land—to other parts of campus. And when the detailed technical work was done on that, it seemed apparent that there would have to be some transfer of density to the Gage South neighbourhood, because that was always designated as a neighbourhood.

You can't have an infinite giving up of space, and then no counteraction on the other side, and that's what the board said.

Having said that, I think this was a big win for students...instead of Gage South being designated as it was previously, it's instead being pulled off the table, it's now an area under review, and we're going to have a robust consultation process, and we now have to figure how Gage South relates to any transit considerations...So I actually think it's a win, and people should take wins when they get them.

U: Over the past two years, we've had one AMS President who has been very bellicose with UBC, one has been very eager to work with the university and see the two as close partners, and both have been fairly roundly criticized by student council. What do you think is the appropriate relationship between UBC and the AMS?

Toope: I actually think I shouldn't have a view on that. The relationship is what the student government thinks it should be. I've now worked with five AMS Presidents, not just two, but the last two years have been intriguing because they have been quite different from the first three years.

The first three years, there were times when people had both strongly positive and strongly negative [views] about different issues...I think that's just in the nature of political relationships, and the AMS is a political entity. At various times, it's going to take various approaches. I think that's perfectly reasonable, and frankly, I just deal with who I have to deal with. It's a student decision who they elect, and will be the AMS' decision how to deal with the university

U: Final question: Most university presidents only go for two terms. Do you expect a third five-year term?

Toope: Absolutely not.

U: So is it the case the goal of the next five years is to see the promise of *Place and Promise* fulfilled?

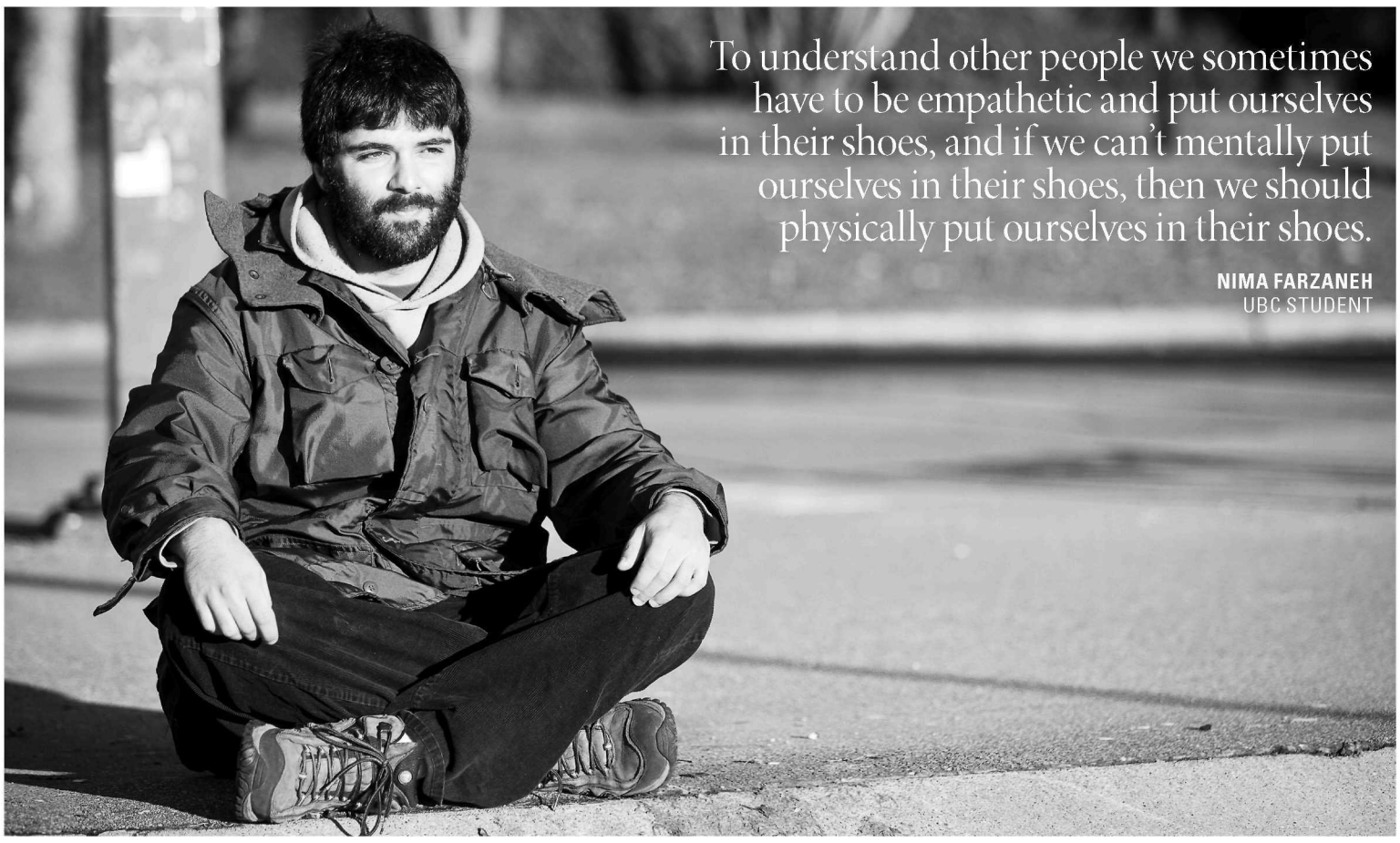
Toope: Couldn't have said it better myself. *Place and Promise* actually builds on previous iterations, it is not a radical departure, and that was purposeful...I think there can be a tendency among some university presidents to feel they're completely reinventing the wheel, and they have to establish their imprint. Universities are long-term institutions, they've survived in many ways unchanged and changed right from the medieval period. I don't think I'm reinventing a university.

What I do think is UBC has particular promise because of its location, because of the cultural attributes that we have, because of the strength that's been developed over the last number of years in the research area, because of the fantastic students we're able to attract nationally and internationally, you put all that together, and we really do have an opportunity to be Canada's leading university with the greatest resonance in the international milieu. And that is UBC's promise. U

Student spent a week on the Vancouver streets

Nima Farzaneh went without money nor showers

ARSHY MANN
news@ubyssey.ca



Farzaneh spent a week sleeping on the streets. He wore the same clothes every day and didn't shower. **GEOFF LISTER PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY**

While most students were enjoying hot meals and clean clothes courtesy of their parents, Nima Farzaneh was sleeping on the streets of Vancouver.

A UBC student working on his second bachelor's degree, Farzaneh decided to voluntarily spend a week homeless.

"I was actually taking the bus to UBC [when] this idea just popped into my head," said Farzaneh. "We're really grateful for everything that we have, and with Christmas coming up, I thought that it's the most important time for people to be with their families.

"[I thought] maybe I should try it for a week, maybe I should give up my Christmas dinner, maybe I should give up my birthday—my birthday's on the 28th of December—just to see what people go through. Maybe that way I would personally appreciate things more and maybe I could share my experience with others."

Armed only with a sleeping bag and the clothes on his back, Farzaneh depended on the kindness of strangers in order to get by, and spent much of his time getting to know the people who call the streets of Vancouver their home.

"They treated me very well. They treated me as part of the community. That was actually one of the things that I was always worried about, they may think a newcomer is coming in and who is this guy and they may give me a hard time," he said.

"A lot of the times, when I'd see someone panhandling or even doing drugs, like smoking crack in an alley, I would ask them if it was okay for me to sit next to them, and I've never been rejected when it came to that.

"I brought myself a pillow and a blanket, and any time they said it was okay, I would throw my pillow on the pavement, sit on the pillow and put my blanket around me and...just listen."

Farzaneh recalled one man he met at a 24-hour Blenz on Hastings St.

"When I was there [at the Blenz] it was a bit cold, so some of the homeless people would come in and warm up."

One person sat down with him and spoke for two hours.

"He was crying, saying that his heroin addiction, has caused him to depart his entire family," said Farzaneh. "There was such a great big distance between them that he created a separation that he was ashamed of."

"He said that about two or three years ago his brother passed away, and he did not go to the funeral and this is where he started sobbing again, because he wanted to go, but he was too ashamed to go."

Farzaneh thinks that if more people simply had more conversations and interactions with those who are homeless, then many of the stigmas could be eliminated.

"A lot of the problems that people say have to do with homelessness and impoverished people is that they're lazy and they're all addicted to drugs and they could get jobs if they wanted to, but they choose not to and a lot of them are mentally ill.

"[But] I think that is actually true across any kind of income level or any kind of...there are very wealthy people who are addicted to drugs, but they're not on the streets.

"Rich people are lazy and poor people are lazy. There are liars, cheaters, criminals all across the spectrum."

Farzaneh, who took 120 pages of notes during his week on the streets, is now planning on sharing them on his blog, *godpeasant.wordpress.com*, as well as having them translated into Farsi and French.

"My philosophy is that in order to understand other people we sometimes have to be empathetic and put ourselves in their shoes, and if we can't mentally put ourselves in their shoes, then we should physically put ourselves in their shoes."

UBC a place of mind THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA CAMPUS + COMMUNITY PLANNING

Public Open Houses

You are invited to attend an Open House to view and comment on 2 new development proposals:

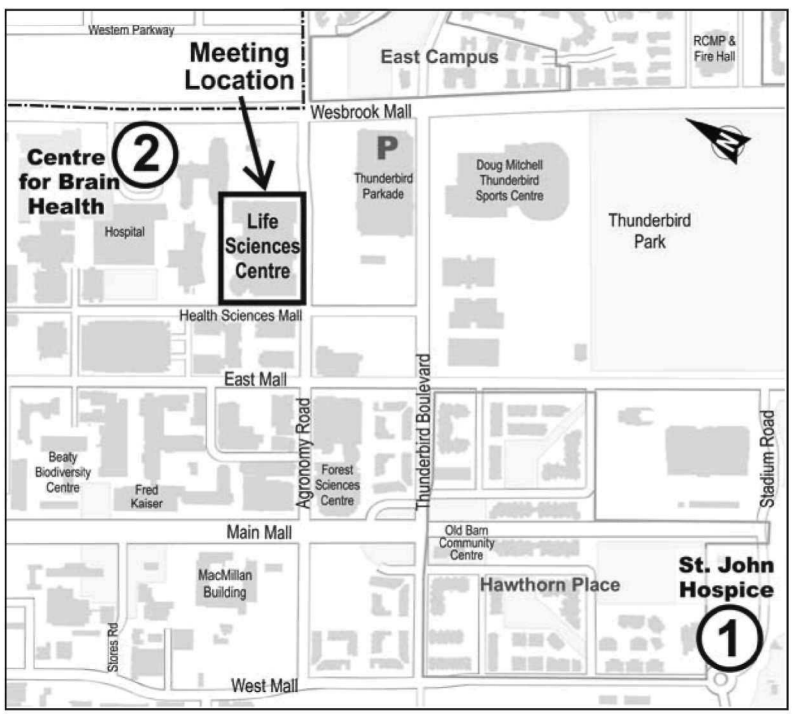
1 - St. John Hospice: 2-storey 1,243 sq.m (13,378 sq.ft) building to accommodate a hospice facility and academic offices.

2 - Centre for Brain Health: 5-storey 10,027 sq.m (108,000 sq.ft) building to accommodate outpatient clinical areas, research labs, lecture theatres, and academic offices.

The project proponents, architecture team and Campus + Community Planning staff will be available to provide information and respond to inquiries about these projects.

Date: Monday, January 10, 2011 4:30 - 7:00 PM

Location: East Atrium - Life Sciences, 2350 Health Sciences Mall



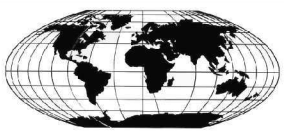
For directions visit: www.maps.ubc.ca.

For more information on this project, please visit the C&CP website: www.planning.ubc.ca

Please direct questions to Karen Russell, Manager Development Services, karen.russell@ubc.ca

This event is wheelchair accessible. For more information about assistance for persons with disabilities - rachel.wiersma@ubc.ca

Teach English Abroad



TESOL/TESL Teacher Training Certification Courses

- Intensive 60-Hour Program
- Classroom Management Techniques
- Detailed Lesson Planning
- ESL Skills Development
- Comprehensive Teaching Materials
- Interactive Teaching Practicum
- Internationally Recognized Certificate
- Teacher Placement Service
- Money-Back Guarantee Included
- Thousands of Satisfied Students

OXFORD SEMINARS
604-683-3430/1-800-269-6719
www.oxfordseminars.ca

YOUR OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER
BE A PART OF IT
coordinating@ubyssey.ca

Arshy, Arshy was no starfish
He liked the AMS and being stylish
But what he liked the best of all
Was having lots of helpers on the ball
So if you want to keep him merry
Just come down to SUB basement, not dreary
And make your contribution greatly.

ARSHY MANN | news@ubyssey.ca

THEUBYSSEY.ca

GAMES & COMICS

COMIC MASTER
BY MARIA CIRSTEA

SUSCOMIC.COM
BY MICHAEL BROUND

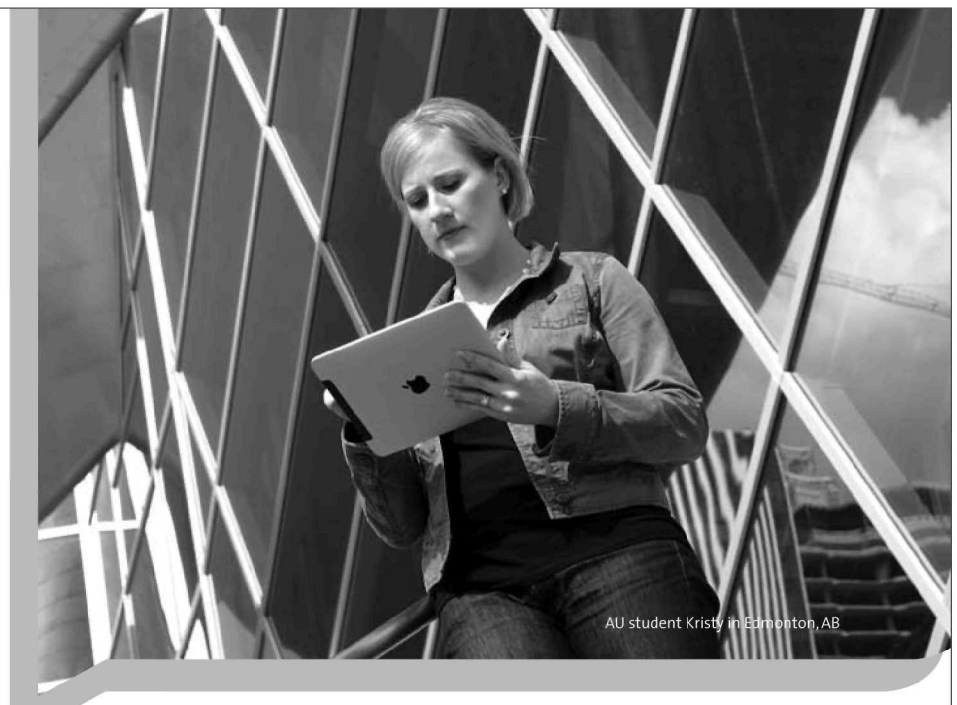
SUDOKU (EASY)

4	5			6			7	8
			1		4			
	1		5		7		3	
8	3						1	2
			7		2			
2	9						4	7
	6		9		1		8	
			8		5			
5	7			3			2	1

© 2008 PageFiller Ltd and Associates www.pagefiller.com

Think you can draw better comics?

production@ubyssey.ca THE UBYSSEY.ca



Finish.

You may not have done as well on your exams as you hoped, but with transfer credits from **Athabasca University**, you can pick up the classes you need to complete your degree. AU offers over 700 courses delivered online and at a distance, many with the flexibility of monthly start dates. Let AU help you finish your degree in record time.

Learn more at
www.athabascau.ca.

Athabasca University

date
JAN. 5 - 7

place
S.U.B. - 1ST FLOOR

hours
9 - 7

last day
9 - 5

▸ FINE ART
FANTASY ◂
WILDLIFE ◂
▸ GIANT-SIZED POSTERS
▸ MUSIC
FRAMES & HANGERS ◂
▸ FILM
▸ PHOTOGRAPHY
▸ 1000S OF POSTERS

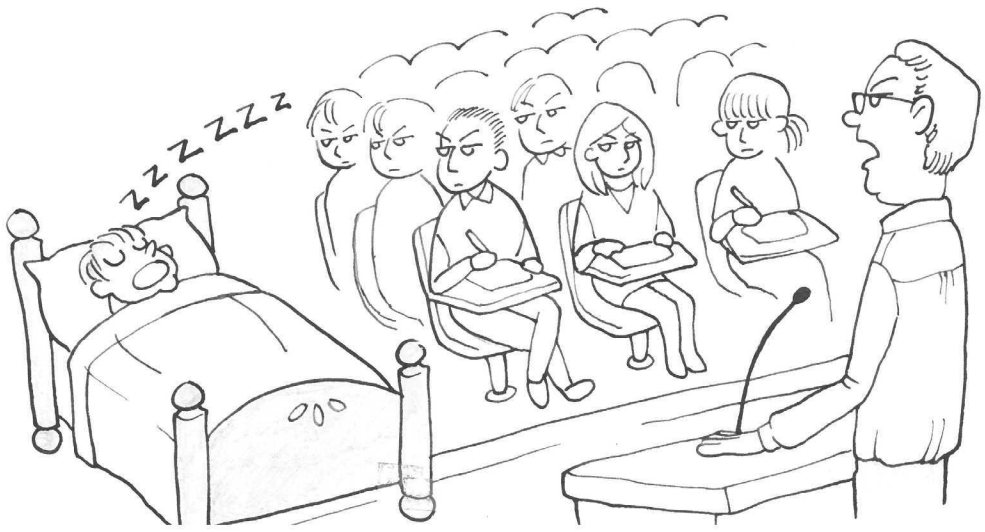
CULTURE

EDITORS BRYCE WARNES & JONNY WAKEFIELD » culture@ubyssey.ca
SENIOR WRITER GINNY MONACO » gmonaco@ubyssey.ca
ILLUSTRATOR INDIANA JOEL » ijoel@ubyssey.ca

BE IT RESOLVED

STUDENT LIFE

Wake up and make the most of your fresh start



GINNY MONACO
Senior Culture Writer

"Be more honest with strangers I meet. AKA: don't make up outrageous lies about what I'm majoring in, or which boy band I used to be a part of."

That is the first of Daniel Swenson's 11 Resolutions for 2011. The third-year English major, like so many others, is planning for self-improvement in the New Year.

Some of Swenson's other goals include "exercise more," "get naked all up on Wreck Beach's face (how am I a UBC student without having done that?)," and an emphatic "Buy. Less. Shit."

This charming specificity could actually help Swenson stick to his resolutions. Professor Richard Wiseman, a researcher at the University of Hertfordshire in the UK, studies the psychology of New Year's resolutions. In an experiment published in his book *Quirkology: The Curious Science of Everyday Lives,* Wiseman tracked the progress of 3000 participants in keeping up with their goals during 2007. While 52 per cent of those studied were confident of their success at the beginning of the year, only 12 per cent followed through on their resolution.

Wiseman found a gendered difference in successful techniques. Goal setting is more effective for men. Make small, measurable resolutions within a time frame to avoid being disappointed by unrealistic expectations.

As for you double Xs, tell friends and family about your goals. Wiseman's study showed women have more success sticking to a resolution if they have positive social support. Going public is motivational and keeps you from forgetting about your plan.

It's also important for women to realize that a setback doesn't necessarily mean failure (Wiseman uses the mildly pejorative example of a "chocolate binge," which doesn't herald the absolute end of a diet).

Wiseman also suggests that people be honest with themselves, much like Swenson's ninth resolution where he admits, "This is where I'm supposed to say 'drink less,' but that is not going to happen."

Beware of resolutions you failed to keep in the past. Wiseman suggests changing the approach and confronting an old problem in a new way. For example, "procrastinate less," can be turned into "cut out at least one TV show from my growing television addiction," (number six on Swenson's list).

Persistence is critical for anyone serious about making a change. Don't rush yourself, and remember that it's okay to miss a day at the gym.

As for Swenson, he's feeling optimistic. "I hope I get far! Because there is no way I am getting naked on Wreck Beach without working on my abs."

11. GO TO MORE THAN 50 PER CENT OF 9 AM CLASSES

5. STRIP DOWN AT WRECK

7. BE FRIENDLY TO STRANGERS

3. EXCERCISE. LIKE A LOT MORE. SAME GOES FOR STUDYING.

"This is where I'm supposed to say 'drink less,' but that is not going to happen."

DANIEL SWENSON 3RD YEAR ARTS

INDIANA JOEL ILLUSTRATION/ THE UBYSSEY

CAMPUS EVENTS

You have no homework, plenty of Christmas money, and are recently single following an inevitable holiday breakup. What is a student to do? While there isn't too much happening on campus the next few days, there are a few events that might pique your interest.

JANUARY 5-9: *EASY A* @ THE NORM, 7PM

Emma Stone delivers a tour-de-force performance as the emotionally-withdrawn Olive Penderghast, a young lady unjustly isolated by a society of post-consumerist anarchists. Michael Grady's breathtaking cinematography—which values pacing and visual austerity over the confusing bustle of colour and movement favoured by most coming-of-age parables—is sure to win the film a nod at Cannes, as is Lisa Kudrow's return-to-form performance as Mrs. Griffith.

JANUARY 5-9: *THE SOCIAL NETWORK* @ THE NORM, 9PM

After screenning the groundbreaking think-piece Easy A, the Film Soc unwinds with a lighthearted romp about nerds in love. The Social Network, a screwball comedy, follows the exploits of Mark Zuckerberg (Jesse Eisenberg), a romantically-challenged programmer nerd who writes the code that unlocks the secrets of love.

JANUARY 13: SKRILLEX

LA-based producer Sonny Moore, aka Skrillex will be performing for a sold-out audience at the Pit on January 13. Dubstep. Pit. You get the idea.

JANUARY 14: AUS MARDI GRAS

Continuing their grand tradition of throwing parties themed as parties you might actually want to attend (notable example: the No Pants Party), the Arts Undergraduate Society presents Mardi Gras, the bead-collectin'-est, girls-shouting-woo-est bash you'll see this week. Body shots for all!

JANUARY 14: UBC'S GOT TALENT!

After months of breathless speculation, it's finally here. Or, almost here. UBC's Got Talent takes place next week at the Chan Centre, and 16 acts have been chosen as finalists. Singers, dancers, Rubiks-cube wizards (we're serious) will take the stage to—if all goes according to plan—entertain. A sellout will result in AMS President Bijan Ahmadian singing a duet with UBC President Stephen Toope. We have no idea whether this will be a one-time oddity, a galvanizing force for campus spirit, or a hilarious trainwreck, but one thing is for sure—we'll be there.

OPINIONS

DO YOU CARE? WRITE US A LETTER » feedback@ubyssey.ca

EDITORIAL

LEADERSHIP RACES GIVE LEVERAGE TO STUDENTS

Student loan repayment rates are the worst in Canada. Funds for bursaries and scholarships haven't been substantially increased in years. UBC is undergoing land-use changes where the provincial government is supposed to be providing oversight, but thus far hasn't. Tuition has been capped at inflation for several years now, but the timeframe on that promise has since elapsed, and no new tuition policy has been put in place by the provincial government.

Simply put, there are large issues surrounding post-secondary education in our province right now and they will be resolved one way or another. That they be resolved with meaningful student input is the goal—but it won't happen automatically.

Campbell and James' departures and the ongoing leadership races are good news not just for the province, but for university students.

After doubling tuition rates and turning a spate of colleges into universities, the Liberals have stopped pretending to care about making changes to post-secondary education. The NDP haven't put forward any proposals of their own that would galvanize voters who care about advanced education.

The candidates from both parties, however, have to appeal for the youth vote if they hope to get in. It's a tremendous opportunity to change a stagnant conversation, but it's also a chance to prove that the youth vote is one that deserves to be listened to.

When it comes to politics, our generation is criticized for being constantly cynical and apathetic—an iPod listening, blog-reading, Colbert-watching caricature that can't be bothered to be care. Yes, "kids today" are more pessimistic about politics then their predecessors, but that's mostly a result of the times. You can cull your information sources to those you agree with, making it so you get whatever you want. As a result, we don't want to settle for second-rate politicians.

Until two months ago, Gordon Campbell and Carole James had been leaders of the two main political parties for what seemed like an eternity. They were forced to resign because their caucuses finally realized what most of the public had long since accepted: their leadership was stale, lacking in new ideas and less than inspiring. Yes, two leadership races can make things better for students—but only if they dispaly a real interest. U

ASK NOT WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR LOKO

Some have said that student protests in the UK, following a December vote to nearly triple tuition fees, represents an end to student apathy. That after being pushed to the brink, the 'screwed generation' is finally fighting back.

"This was meant to be the first post-ideological generation. This was meant to be the generation that never thought of anything bigger than our Facebook profiles and our TV screens," said a 15-year-old student rounded up in a police kettle during the protests. "[These protests] show that we're as ideological as ever before."

Down south, a grassroots protest movement is taking hold amongst young people as well. Except they're not interested in increased accessibility to higher education, or against austerity measures that hack the safety net to pieces. No. They want to get blackout drunk.

On November 16, it was announced that Four Loko, the caffeinated malt beverage that sparked international controversy after several underage Central Washington University students were hospitalized after drinking it, would be reformulated to remove the taurine and caffeine that earned it the catchphrase "blackout in a can."

Since the ban, Lokoponents have expressed their outrage the only way any one knows how to any more: Internet parody. Sites like freeloko.com popped up, as well as numerous petitions and outpourings of support. Memes of Four Loko cans standing in front of tanks in Tiananmen square. You get the idea.

We'd like to think that these protests are mostly a reasoned criticism of underage drinking, and how a legal age of 21 encourages binging, no matter what the liquor of choice. But it's probably not. So, young Americans, try a little harder next time. We know you can get upset about issues. Let's see if you can harness it to a cause a little less crazy than Loko. U

BRYCE WARNES GRAPHIC/THE UBYSSEY

OPINIONS

Burn, baby, burn: Resolutions for the Teenage soul

PAUL BUCCI
Contributor

I don't do New Year's resolutions. Being a critical, cynical, post-postmodern boy (CCPPMB), I hate Christmas, stopped believing in rock 'n' roll, and certainly don't subscribe to such crass mainstream ideas such as "New Year's resolutions." As a friend quietly reminded me, you can change your life at any time. Why wait for an arbitrary date to set that change in motion?

That being said, I've still got a column to write, and being a CCPPMB with no beliefs in anything, including having beliefs about beliefs, I believe I'll check my ego and promise to change my life.

Resolution Number One: Stop being a CCPPMB.

Damn, that feels good. I'm so tired of constant skepticism and intellectual one-upmanship. I find that I grow more intellectually the less I care about being the most intellectual. I was never more boring than when I was worried about how bored I was.

In fact, I'm going to scale back the skepticism as well. I'll focus more on clarity of thought. I'll focus on saying "Yes" before I say "No." Who cares if someone believes or says something stupid?

I used to refer to myself as a "constant pilgrim." It was a trumped-up way for me to explain that I didn't really care whether or not there was a God, and I was willing to listen to people's ideas about life, the universe and everything. I'll try anything once. Right?

Yes. Going back to those core ideals. Trying to believe in things again. Exploring art, truth and beauty.

Resolution Number Two: Drink less, but drink more with friends.

No more drinking a bottle of wine or two while re-watching old Futurama episodes. What happened to that fantastic metropolis I imagined Vancouver to be while I was still back home in lowly old Abbotsford? They keep telling us that this is a "world-class city." I'm sure that Terminal City is No Fun City not just because of bars that close early, but because there are legions of CCPPMBs re-checking Reddit a thousand times waiting for something interesting to happen to them. At least that's what I've been doing.

So no more! It's time to take to the streets in the middle of the night looking for secrets. It's time to walk down railroad tracks hoping to find others doing the same thing. It's time to see how far I can run for the sheer joy of running, rather than feeling hung-over and fat and stopping after 20 wheezy steps! That's my new year's resolution: bringing back a hopeful, joyous, teenage Paul Bucci to slay the CCPPMB I've become. Who's with me? U

UBC Dairy Centre transparent model of animal research

KATY PROUDFOOT
Perspective

Over the last few months, UBC has been under public scrutiny over its use of animals in research. Animal advocacy groups are asking that the university be more forthcoming about animal research. Most research at UBC is publicly funded, and people want to know how their money is being used.

As a graduate student in the UBC Animal Welfare Program, I am very interested in the discourse between UBC and the groups that have expressed these concerns. This discussion has also made me reflect on my own involvement in animal research. All of my research has been conducted at the UBC Dairy Education and Research Centre in Agassiz, BC. I have always felt comfortable sharing the details of my research, and often bring people to the Centre to see the facilities and the animals. This feeling of openness and 'transparency' is a common value among individuals working at the Centre.

The Dairy Centre functions as both a research centre and as a commercial dairy farm. Financial support for the research comes from both the dairy industry and a government agency funded by taxpayers—the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC).

The Centre's research answers questions relevant to dairy producers, addresses public concerns of animal use in agriculture, and helps support the growing need for a sustainable food supply.

This information is then used to provide science-based recommendations to dairy producers across Canada and abroad.

All parts of the research process—from data collection to results—are shared with dairy producers, visiting scholars and the public with a fully open-door policy. The Centre is a regular host to school tours, open houses, picnics and this year's Slow Food Cycle Tour. Scientists from the Centre also travel widely to share research findings around the world.

The open-door policy provides an opportunity for dialogue between dairy producers, public visitors and scientists such as myself working with the animals. At a time of public concern over the appropriate use of animals in research, I believe that the Centre can serve as a model of 'transparency' by allowing this dialogue between the public and a publicly funded university. U

Wanted: Letters. Under 300 words. Sent by noon the day before the issue in which you want them to appear.

feedback@ubyssey.ca

U THEUBYSSEY.ca

OUR CAMPUS

UBC | FACULTY OF LAW
This is a LEED® Registered Project.
Construction is required to meet the green building guidelines of the CaGBC LEED® Canada-NC Version 1.0 Rating System & Addendum.
Strict adherence to the following is required:
• Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan
• Construction Waste Management Plan
• Construction Indoor Air Quality Management Plan
• Site Disturbance Boundaries
• VOC Limits on Adhesives, Sealants and Paint
• Urea-Formaldehyde free wood and agri-products
SUBSTITUTION OF MATERIALS, FIXTURES, OR EQUIPMENT IS NOT PERMITTED WITHOUT THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGER.
REFER TO PROJECT MANUAL SECTION 01810 – GENERAL LEED REQUIREMENTS.
INQUIRIES
CHRISTIAN MENARD,
LEED COORDINATOR, ITC.
778-945-1176
PROJECT SCORECARD AND LEED® REQUIREMENTS AVAILABLE IN CONSTRUCTION OFFICE.
UBC PROPERTIES TRUST
First Aid - 3 Short Blasts
Site Evacuation - 1 Long Blast
Proceed to Muster Point
SIDEWALK
CLOSED