

CAN UBC STOP

THE OIL FLOW?

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

THURSDAY / 27

PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

7 P.M. @ IKB RM 192
This joint SASC-U.S. Consulate General Vancouver lecture will feature guest speaker Juley Fulcher. Free



FRIDAY / 28

BOOKSTORE OPENING PARTY

9:30 A.M. - 5 P.M. @ UBC BOOKSTORE
Rejoice, for Bookstore construction is no more! UBC is going all out, celebrating with free coffee and pastries until 11:30, dance and music performances, spin class, prizes and more. The opening party goes until Saturday. Free



SATURDAY / 29

SHARING SCIENCE CONFERENCE

10 A.M. - 4 P.M. @ BEATY BIODIVERSITY MUSEUM
This one-day interdisciplinary science communications conference will feature lectures from a variety of professors on topics such as journalism, arts and more. Come and share your science! Free



ON THE COVER



When molasses isn't being used as a replacement for crude oil for this divestment metaphor, it's sitting in a carton, never being bought in the baking aisle. Photo by Carter Brundage.



Want to help run this paper next year? Run for an editorial position! For details, visit ubyssey.ca/about.

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



AMS executive chef Ryan Bissell says he's all about high-quality, fresh produce.

PHOTO STEVEN DUFREE/THE UBYSSEY

Good eats, best burgers with chef Ryan Bissell

Jessica-Christin Hametner Staff Writer

Foodies around campus are certainly curious about what new delicacies the New SUB will have to offer when it opens in 2015. While there will still be burgers, noodles and cookies, Ryan Bissell, the executive chef of the AMS, is hoping to create a positive impact by being a leader of sustainable and organic food services on campus.

Having grown up in the Okanagan Valley, and later moving to Vancouver to attend culinary school, Bissell has been a part of Vancouver's culinary scene since 2005. His talent for cooking has led him to cook across the world in the Caribbean, Toronto and Germany.

Bissell is intrigued by the New SUB. However, being able to impact people's lives with good food had proven to be his biggest inspiration yet.

"I will have an influence in the new food program for the AMS, so the new restaurants, the new Burger Bar, Pie R Squared and all these kind of places," Bissell said. "I am working with the store operators to influence change for the better."

While he does not have any control in the current SUB just yet, he is busy planning his involvement for the new building by creating student food that is fun and high-quality. Focusing on using fresh, local and handmade produce inspired by Pacific Northwest cuisine, Bissell is a self-confessed advocate for sustainability

and someone who cares for his community.

"The SUB feeds thousands of people a day, and what an opportunity to have really high-quality products that are accessible for people," Bissell said. "You really feel good about feeding thousands of people quality food at a price that they can afford every single day."

Bissell has worked at such Vancouver establishments as C Restaurant, the Boathouse Restaurant and Joe Fortes. What makes Bissell different from other chefs is his approachability and raw passion for cooking. After having completed his apprenticeship at the Westin in Whistler, Bissell has been learning the art of cooking by craft ever since.

"[Cooking] is not something you can stop learning — it's something you have to continually grow on and keep trying new things and practicing. It's a never-ending process," he said.

It is exactly this process he now continues at UBC. Being engaged in UBC's community by interacting with a range of different students and clubs, Bissell understands what students want and need.

"To be able to have some influence over what students eat is phenomenal for me and a great step for my career, and I am really excited about it," he said. "I get to do what I love doing, working with local farmers and products and bringing that to university in such a high-level scale."

One particular thing UBC students can expect food-wise in the New SUB is a new burger joint. It just so happened that one of Bissell's creations was voted Fraser Valley's best burger for three years in a row by Surrey Now while he was working at Uli's Restaurant in White Rock. The winning burger combination was a ground steak patty with harrissa — a Moroccan spice — along with cheddar cheese, guacamole, corn salsa and a secret house-made barbecue sauce.

For those who fancy a bite to eat, take note — UBC just might become the future home of Vancouver's best burger.

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THE UBYSSEY

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GRANTS »



PHOTO STEVE CONRY/FICKR

The Trek Home grant, previously given to out-of-province domestic students as an incentive to come to UBC, is being replaced with a new summer orientation program.

Orientation program to replace travel grant

Sarah Bigam
News Editor

Domestic students will no longer receive the Trek Home grant, but they will be able to attend an all-expenses-paid orientation event in the summer.

Destination UBC, an orientation event for Canadian and international high schools students living in Canada, begins this summer, expanding on a one-day event previously known as “UBC Welcomes You.”

The program runs from May 23 to 25 at UBC and May 9 to 11 at UBCO. Students in Vancouver will stay in Place Vanier or Gage residences and will have all their costs covered.

“The idea is to give [students] a little bit more time to get to know some of their classmates and really

get to know the campus well,” said Leanne Isaak, manager of student recruitment and advising at UBCO.

High school students who have received an offer of admission from UBC can also receive up to \$1,000 of reimbursement for travel costs to attend the three-day program.

This replaces the Trek Home grant, which offered a similar amount of money to all first-year domestic students outside of B.C. in order to cover the cost of a flight home.

“[The grant was] part of encouraging students to accept their offer at UBC and a lot of students didn’t really know that it existed,” said Isaak. “For many of them it was just money that was dumped into their account and they used to go shopping or whatever.”

Isaak said the Trek Home grant was reviewed a couple of years ago.

“[It was] determined it would be better if we could provide it for the students up front because we know that students are applying to more and more institutions and ... particularly if they’re coming from a further distance, [applicants] can’t necessarily come and check out the campus, so we thought this was a good opportunity for students, before they come to UBC, to ensure it was a good fit for them,” Isaak said.

Transfer students and students from the Lower Mainland or the Okanagan region are not eligible for travel reimbursement for Destination UBC, but unlike the Trek Home grant, students from other areas of B.C. are.

This year, there were 3,744 first year domestic students at UBC, including 3,113 from B.C. and 631 from the rest of Canada. Isaak said that typically means about 1,200

people in attendance and that last year, approximately 240 students at UBC Vancouver’s event from outside of B.C. were reimbursed for their flight.

Isaak said UBC should be able to accommodate all students who would like to attend the program.

Transfer students and students from the Lower Mainland will still be able to attend the main event program on May 24.

Unlike the Trek Home grant, which was paid in its entirety when the student began courses at UBC, 50 per cent of the maximum reimbursement will be mailed to the student as a cheque by the end of July; the rest of it will be paid in October 2014 if students pay their tuition and register in full-time studies.

Registration for Destination UBC opens on April 1. [u](#)

CLIMATE CHANGE »

Students seek alumni support for divestment



FILE PHOTO CARTER BRUNDAGE/THE UBYSSEY

The executives of UBCC350 hope alumni will withhold donations until UBC stops investing in fossil fuels.

Will McDonald
News Editor

A student group wants alumni to stop donating to the university until it divests from fossil fuels.

UBCC350, a student activist group that pushed for a student divestment referendum which passed overwhelmingly this year, also wants alumni to encourage the university to divest from fossil fuels.

UBCC350 alumni coordinator Alex Hemingway said around 100 people have signed their alumni pledge so far, promising not to donate to the university until the school has divested from fossil fuels.

The group has had the pledge on their website for more than two weeks, but they plan to launch a campaign to promote it soon.

“We’re just in the word of mouth stage right now ... but there is going to be a lot happening around the divestment issue,” said Hemingway.

Hemingway said the group doesn’t have the same resources to contact alumni as the university does, but still hopes the pledge will get circulated.

“What we want to do is keep the number ticking up as we pursue other avenues in building pressure for UBC to do the right thing on fossil fuels,” said Hemingway.

“Many [alumni] feel they don’t want to be donating to the university while it’s continuing to invest in these companies that are contributing to global warming so severely,” he said.

Hemingway is hopeful that the pledge will encourage the university to follow through on divestment.

“We’re actually proud of what UBC has done so far in trying to earn a reputation for sustainability,” said Hemingway. “[The university] really needs to take the next step and live up to ideals. If we’re going to be making improvements on campus, we can’t continue investing in these fossil fuel companies.”

Hemingway said he expects UBC’s Board of Governors will discuss divestment at their next meeting.

“From what we hear, it’s on their radar. So, we’re being a bit cautious,” he said. “We want to see what they have to say.”

“Ultimately, we’re not going to rest until they do the right thing here.” [u](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

New SUB name chosen

At last night’s AMS Council meeting, Council narrowly approved a motion to name the New SUB the AMS Student Nest.

Council approved the decision with 18 voting for, 16 against and two abstentions.

The AMS had narrowed the choices for the name of the new building down to the AMS Student Nest and the AMS Student Hub.

Some councillors expressed concerns about the naming process, citing a lack of student input. The AMS received feedback on the naming from around 1,000 students.

“I think that this process was not done as best as it could have been done,” councillor Chris Roach said at the meeting. “I personally can’t support this motion just because I don’t think we’ve done it right.”

Other councillors argued the AMS needed a name for the building as soon as possible in order to develop branding for the building.

“I think most of us can agree that how we got down to these names was not ideal, but given our timeline, I don’t think it makes sense to go back to the beginning,” said councillor Paul McDade.

Construction on the New SUB is slated for completion in November, with the building opening on Jan. 5, 2015. [u](#)

SECURITY »

583,000 students’ data unsecured, report finds

Will McDonald
News Editor

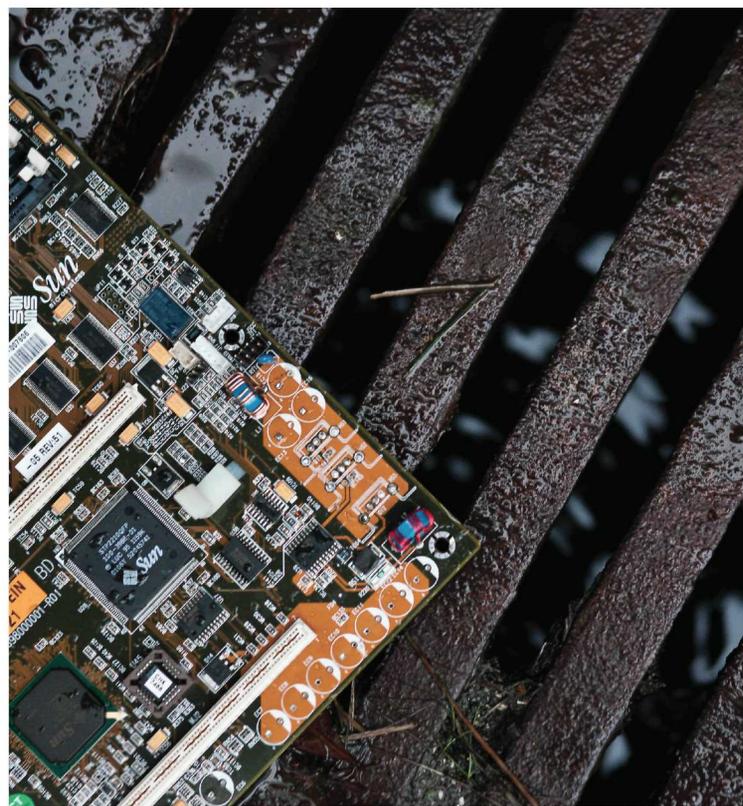
The government mishandled the personal information of 583,000 student loan recipients, Canada’s privacy commissioner has found.

A report from interim privacy commissioner Chantal Bernier issued yesterday says a lost hard drive containing the names, social security numbers, phone numbers, addresses or debt amounts of more than 583,000 Canadians who took out student loans from 2000 to 2006 was left unencrypted and without password protection.

“Our investigation identified a measurable gap in [Employment and Social Development Canada]’s implementation of its privacy and security policies in the day-to-day business operations of the Department,” the report read.

The investigation began in January 2013 after the hard drive was reported to have been missing for two months.

According to Bernier’s report, the hard drive was kept in an often unlocked filing cabinet in an open cubicle, contrary to ESDC’s policy. The report also found the hard drive was not inventoried, nor were “readily available” technological safeguards applied to the hard drive.



FILE PHOTO JOSH CURRAN/THE UBYSSEY

The lost hard drive contained the social security numbers of 583,000 students.

“ESDC’s failure to implement the appropriate safeguards to protect the personal information in question has created a significant risk for unauthorized access, use or disclosure — the very threats that the Government of Canada is entrusted to protect it from,” read the report.

There are currently three class action lawsuits pending against the federal government over the breach.

The hard drive was never located, but the report said there is no evidence that any of the information was used for fraudulent purposes. [u](#)

Write
Shoot
Edit
Code
Drink

COME BY THE UBYSSEY OFFICE
SUB 24. FOLLOW THE SIGNS

MCGILL »

Student leader no longer required to apologize for Obama GIF

Lauria Galbraith
The McGill Daily

MONTREAL (NUW) — The Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) Legislative Council has rescinded their decision to make a public apology about a GIF showing American president Barack Obama kicking down a door with the caption "Honestly midterms get out of here."

At a March 13 meeting, Council passed two motions regarding the apology sent by VP Internal Brian Farnan.

"The image in question was an extension of the cultural, historical and living legacy surrounding people of colour — particularly young men — being portrayed as violent in contemporary culture and media," Farnan wrote in his apology, sent in January to the university's 22,000 undergraduate students, according to the *National Post*.

"By using this particular image of President Obama, I unknowingly perpetuated this living legacy and subsequently allowed a medium of SSMU's communication to become the site of microaggression; for this I am deeply sorry."

The first motion at the Council meeting was put forward by services representative Élie Lubendo, and demanded a written explanation from the equity complaints investigation committee regarding its recommendation that Farnan make a public apology for the GIF, sent out over broadcast email in October.

"When the recommendation was given to us on Dec. 5, we were never given [an] explanation. What we were told was that this is the recommendation that we have," Lubendo said. "But they never actually



SSMU Council voted on March 13 to rescind their decision to apologize. PHOTO COURTESY KHOA DOAN/THE MCGILL DAILY

explained to anyone how they came to that recommendation."

VP University Affairs Joey Shea questioned the requirement of this motion, saying, "Perhaps the report itself was not thorough, but it is stated in the policy that the equity commissioner needs to present the report and provide an explanation and that is what he did."

President Katie Larson spoke in favour of the motion. "I think any way that we can encourage transparency, especially when we demand it so often of the University, is a good example to set among ourselves," she said.

The motion passed.

The second motion, jointly put

forth by Lubendo and the Black Students' Network (BSN), asked to reevaluate a previously failed motion that had asked SSMU to rescind their decision to make a public apology.

The old motion had asked SSMU to rescind their decision based on its effect on SSMU's reputation.

Lubendo argued to bring back the motion on the grounds that, "it has not only hurt the view of SSMU ... it has even hurt the view of equity itself."

"This has delegitimized our organization because people feel that we're look[ing] for something to do, we're raising complaints for the sake of doing it," said Delane Efua Boakye, a representative of the BSN.

Shea added an amendment to the resolved clause that changed the basis of why SSMU would rescind their decision. The new clause read that it was on "the basis that the public apology trivializes the legitimacy of equity and racism on campus." The motion passed.

Councillor Courtney Ayukawa voiced her concerns regarding the original complainant, saying, "I do want to reiterate that it is still important to me to validate the feelings of the people that filed that complaint."

MARIJUANA »

Club hosts fourth campus cannabis convention



The Hempology 101 club organized the conference. FILE PHOTO CARTER BRUNDAGE/THE UBYSSEY

Julian D'Souza
Contributor

The UBC Hempology 101 club hosted their fourth annual cannabis convention in the Student Union Building on Sunday.

Four lecturers spoke about various aspects of marijuana legalization to an audience of roughly 40 people. The event was organized through a joint effort with the International Hempology 101 Society.

Linda Balneaves, an associate professor at UBC's School of Nursing, began the session by presenting research on medicinal cannabis patients' experiences and difficulties obtaining their medicine. "People said that the social stigma around the recreational and legal status of cannabis really overshadowed its medicinal value," she said, citing unsupportive doctors as one of the primary examples. Despite the stigma, she found that patients perceived benefits of using marijuana outweighed the perceived harm.

Cherly Rose, whose daughter uses medical marijuana, was the second presenter.

"I don't believe that any parent or any person should ever have to fight for the right to be able to have their medicine," said Rose, the mother of Hayley Rose, who suffers from a debilitating form of epilepsy. "Hayley must have her cannabis three times a day," Rose said. "If she misses one dose, she will seize." She was one of the youngest Canadians to be given a medical marijuana prescription at 15, and according to her mother, has grown to be "one of the oldest, highest functioning and healthiest children in the entire world with this condition," now 21.

Next, cannabis activist and author Chris Bennett discussed

modern religions which use marijuana ceremonially or spiritually. "One thing I've really noticed when I look at these different cultures is how cool cannabis smokers are," he said.

To conclude the presentations, Jeremiah Vandermeer from POT TV and *Cannabis Culture* said 2013 was "off the hook in a lot of different ways," pointing to successes in Colorado, Washington and Uruguay as examples.

"The Liberal leader Justin Trudeau came out in a blaze this year not only admitting to smoking pot but also completely supporting outright legalization for all members of society, that's the first time that a leader of a major party in Canada has done something like that," said Vandermeer. However, he said the campaign against the war on drugs is far from over.

Activists Jordan Johner and Krista Sidloski, both Arts students, agreed more work needs to be done to educate the public and reduce the social stigma around pot. Corbin Manson, the president of Hempology 101 UBC, challenged stereotypes about stoners, pointing to his club's growth in just one year at UBC. "I don't think people can say that chronic or occasional pot users are unproductive members of society," Manson said.

Perhaps the best summary of the optimistic feelings of the convention around the rising tide of legalization was given by Ted Smith, author, prominent activist and general manager of the International Hempology 101 Society. "It doesn't matter anymore. [Prime Minister Stephen Harper] can't even stop it," said Smith. "I wanted to educate the public until they're ready to legalize it — they're fuckin' ready." [@](#)

UBC's Transportation Plan Public Open House - April 2 and 3, 2014

Add your voice to the development of UBC's Transportation Plan!

In 2013, we reached out to and heard from the university community on issues related to on-campus transportation, whether by foot, on wheels or by public transit. Your feedback has helped us identify opportunities to better address how we get around on campus, and draft a Transportation Plan for the Vancouver campus that will update and replace UBC's 2005 *Strategic Transportation Plan*.

Please join us at one of our upcoming public open houses to learn more and offer your thoughts and ideas about the draft Transportation Plan, and the planning process to date.

Date: Wed, April 2, 2014 Time: 4:00PM - 7:00PM Place: MBA House, 3385 Wesbrook Mall

Date: Thurs, April 3, 2014 Time: 10:30AM - 1:30PM Place: SUB Foyer, 6138 Student Union Boulevard

can't attend in person?
a quick online questionnaire will be available
from March 24 to April 4 at planning.ubc.ca.

For more information on UBC's Transportation Plan, please visit: planning.ubc.ca

For more information on the consultation process, contact: chris.fay@ubc.ca

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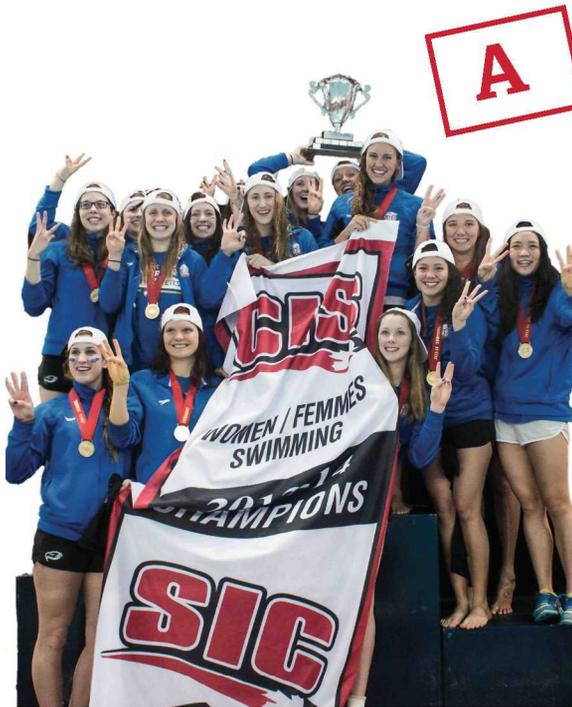
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UBC VARSITY SPORTS REPORT CARD: TERM TWO

By Natalie Scadden, Sports + Rec Editor and CJ Pentland, Managing Editor, Web



A SWIMMING

The women's swim team took their dominance to a whole new level this season, setting a new CIS record with a 397.5 point margin of victory over the Montreal Carabins to win their third straight national championship. The men's squad again finished second to the Toronto Varsity Blues, but were slightly farther behind this year. UBC men and women stood on top of the podium in all six relays throughout nationals, a sign of the program's depth.

Best Player: Every swimmer scored points, but Coleman Allen and Erika Seltene-Hodgson took home the male and female CIS Swimmer of the Year honours with seven and five medals at nationals, respectively.

Needs Improvement: Both teams won at the Canada West Championships, but it would be nice to see the guys match the girls' success and bring home a UBC sweep at CIS.



A MEN'S RUGBY (20-2)

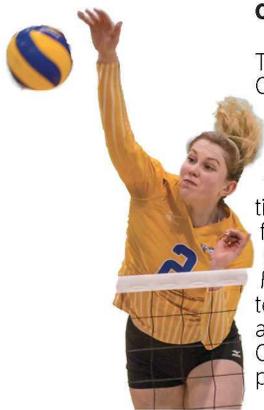
After many years of not creating much competition against their longtime rivals of Victoria and California, UBC has brought it all together this year to regain their status as a rugby powerhouse. A convincing 29-16 win over UVic brought the 'Birds the Wightman's Boot for the first time since 1997, and a dominant 40-3 victory over Cal saw them reclaim the World Cup for the first time since 2006.

Best Player: The team's coaches stress how their success combines from a whole team effort, and their recent win over Cal really was a strong showing on both offence and defence.

Needs Improvement: It's hard to pinpoint something the team has done poorly as of late. The main thing is probably just to stay healthy in the run-up to provincials.

A- WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL (18-4)

CW standing: 1st



The six-time defending CIS champions put themselves in position to win a record seven straight titles. Ultimately, they tightened up and fell flat in the final game at nationals, losing to the Manitoba Bisons, a team they had crushed a week earlier in the Canada West Championship.

Best Player: Lisa Barclay kept the CIS Player of the Year award in the UBC family for the fifth consecutive season. The outside hitter finished the regular season averaging 4.26 kills and 4.99 points per set — both the highest in the country.

Needs Improvement: Don't let the loss in the national final distract from the fact that UBC is still one of the best teams in the country. Hopefully this team can refocus and get back on top.

A- BASEBALL (18-5, 10-2 in conference)

NAIA conference standing: 1st



The T-Birds have looked unstoppable lately, winning 10 straight games to sit in first place in the conference. They've done it on the backs of outstanding pitching and defence, giving up just 15 runs over their past eight conference matchups.

Best Player: Infielder Kevin Biro has been on a tear at the plate, hitting .444 on the year to go along with a team-leading 19 RBIs and 44 total bases. On the hill, Connor Lillis-White sports a miniscule 0.59 ERA over 30.2 innings pitched.

Needs Improvement: Strong regular seasons have been the norm, but they have trouble carrying that over to the playoffs. They need to maintain this level of play to get back to the NAIA World Series.

B+ WOMEN'S HOCKEY (20-6-2)

CW standing: 3rd



For a lengthy stretch of the year, UBC was leading the Canada West regular season standings for the first time in team history and their 20 season wins were three higher than the program's all-time best. They pushed Saskatchewan to a do-or-die game three in the CW semifinals, but lost that contest 3-2 on the road.

Best Player: Tatiana Rafter broke UBC records for most goals (20) and points (38) in a season and won the first Canada West MVP award in team history.

Needs Improvement: They were dominant on home ice (13-0-1), but if they want to win a national championship, they're going to have to win big games on the road.

B MEN'S HOCKEY (11-15-2)

CW standing: 1st



After a less-than-spectacular first half of the season, the 'Birds used a second-half surge and a little bit of help to slip into the playoffs. They carried that momentum into a first-round playoff victory, but fell short against Alberta. The key to their success lay with their goaltending, which finally supported the high-flying offence.

Best Player: Cole Wilson solidified his status as a constant scoring threat, totalling 18 goals and 17 assists in 28 games. Second-year Neil Manning also continued to show signs of becoming a top two-way defenceman.

Needs Improvement: Winning a playoff series was a significant accomplishment since they were clear underdogs, but they never really had a chance against Alberta, the eventual champion. They have a long way to go to become legit contenders.

B- WOMEN'S BASKETBALL (16-6)

CW standing: 2nd in Pacific Division



They finished well enough in the regular season to earn themselves home court advantage in the first round. They won the first game of their best-of-three playoff series against Saskatchewan, but couldn't get it done in the next two, making an early exit for the second straight year.

Best Player: Last year's CW MVP Kris Young had another fantastic season, averaging 17.8 points, 7.0 rebounds, and 2.56 assists per game. Harleen Sidhu was a huge addition, averaging 15.5 points and 8.4 rebounds.

Needs Improvement: Consistency was an issue, and the bench needs to contribute more. Their entire roster will remain intact for next season, so hopefully they can build more chemistry and make a championship run.

B- MEN'S VOLLEYBALL (15-7)

CW standing: 2nd



They looked dominant for much of the season and snagged second in the ultra-competitive Canada West, but fell short when it counted in the first round of the playoffs to Brandon. In game one, UBC was up two sets to none before falling in five sets, and they could never quite turn it around after that.

Best Player: Setter Milan Nikic and outside hitter Ben Chow were a formidable offensive duo this year, and both were rewarded with All-Canadian honours. Chow finished fourth in the CW with 3.78 kills per set, while Nikic racked up an average of 10.51 assists per frame.

Needs Improvement: This is two straight seasons where UBC has been on the brink of making nationals but came up short. Quite simply, they need to step up at crunch time.

B- SOFTBALL (13-13)

NAIA conference standing: 6th



It's been a season of streaks so far for this team (L5, W5, L3, W3, L5, W5), but they've scored more runs than they've let up, winning their last five games by a total of 48-4. Off the field, they've had to deal with some adversity after being named the only team sport that will lose its varsity status in 2015.

Best Player: It's tough to say without updated stats, but Yasmin Bains and Cass Dypchey seem to be driving in the most runs, while Alana Westerhof leads the pitching corps.

Needs Improvement: Nine games have been decided by a single run, but they've only won three of them. They need to finish stronger and head into the postseason on a high note.

C+ MEN'S BASKETBALL (11-11)

CW standing: 4th in Pacific Division



After struggling with injuries early on, they were mostly healthy for the stretch drive, they couldn't quite pull it together come playoffs. They forced a game three in the opening round against top-ranked Alberta, but the team's youth and inexperience playing together led to an early playoff exit.

Best Player: Fourth-year Tommy Nixon stepped up his game this year, leading the team in scoring with an average 14.2 points per game on 45.2 per cent shooting to go along with a team-high 44 steals.

Needs Improvement: Most of their roster returns next year, and B.C. high school provincial MVP Mindy Minhas also joins the team, so the talent is there. It will come down to staying healthy and locking down their defence.

Divestment Drama

The university, and much of the world, is split between those who think it is unethical — or financially unwise — to keep investing in energy companies, and those who think such investments are the only way to make such companies clean up their act

By Jenny Tan

When you enter the new online documentary video game *Fort McMurray*, created with actual video footage from Fort McMurray, Alta., scenes of doom greet you. The sky is an immutable block of grey, save for immense columns of smoke forming bridges from the factories to the sky. As you speed along the highway, the dark prevents you from seeing anything but the glare of the headlights of incoming traffic. Two pillars of light speed toward you and suddenly the immense bulk of an oil tanker truck is illuminated by your headlights, filling your entire field of vision through the windshield. Just as fast as it pounded towards you, it disappears, and is quickly replaced by another one. You learn later that Highway 63, the only highway between Edmonton and Alberta's massive northern oil fields, suffers from harsh prairie winter conditions, is only one lane wide in either direction and carries some of the heaviest and most dangerous loads in Canada. Locals call it the Highway of Death.

...

When I first meet Alex Hemingway, he looks me in the eye and gives me a firm handshake. If UBCC350, the student group of which he is a member, wanted to portray themselves as a professional group and shake loose the granola image that so often

defines environmental activism, they could not have sent a better representative. With two master's degrees from the London School of Economics under his belt and a PhD in the works, Hemingway is a credible representative for the group agitating for UBC to clean up its investment portfolio.

UBCC350 wants UBC to divest from oil companies — in other words, to sell all of its shares in oil companies and to desist from buying any more such stocks in the future. The idea behind the campaign is this: as UBC moves to become a sustainable institution, it should not profit from the oil industry while striving for sustainability in other areas of its operations. UBCC350 successfully lobbied to have an advisory question on divestment placed on the recent AMS referendum, and almost 7,000 students agreed it is “unconscionable to fund our education with investments in fossil fuels that threaten our future on this planet and [that] UBC should immediately forgo further investments in fossil fuel companies, and divest from all existing fossil fuel holdings.”

The divestment movement is not unique to UBC. The idea of divesting from oil companies began in the U.S. and has spread across campuses in North America. The idea of divesting from companies as an act of protest also has roots beyond the current climate change debate. In the 1980s, students rallied for divestment in protest of the apartheid movement in South

Africa. Divestment has also been used as a tactic more recently, with activists boycotting Russian vodka in protest of the country's homophobic laws.

UBC has just over \$2.5 billion in its investment portfolio, and 12 per cent is invested in energy companies, according to UBC's Investment Management Trust's 2013 annual report. The two largest funds in the portfolio are the UBC endowment fund and the staff pension plan, each of which make up two fifths of the portfolio. UBC owns only the endowment fund; the staff pension plan is comprised of contributions from employees and government and is directed by a board of faculty members and advisers. Interest from the UBC endowment fund pays for scholarships, professorships, teaching support and other operating expenses.

...

Everyone in the meeting room is dressed to impress. The two twenty-something men standing by the refreshment table are wearing suits and ties, giving them an air of formality. The juxtaposition is odd. We are in a meeting room at a community centre downtown, hardly the most formal venue in the city.

The seemingly incongruous combination of venue and attire makes sense given the context. These people do, after all, spend their time managing the trillions of dollars of the one-percenters,

and of the rest of us. These are chartered financial accountants, bankers, fund managers and investors, gathered to hear about a United Nations program to encourage sustainable investment, the UN Principles of Responsible Investment (PRI) initiative.

UBCC350 and UN PRI both want to achieve sustainability, but their methods are markedly different. In an interview with *The Ubysey*, Fiona Reynolds, UN PRI's managing director, said divestment is the last step they advise shareholders consider — only to be taken when all else has been tried and has failed.

Two key groups make the decisions in every major publicly traded company like Enbridge, the Alberta energy giant: shareholders and the management team.

By purchasing shares, shareholders own a portion of the company, and therefore have a say in how the company runs. The more shares you hold, the more votes you get at the annual meeting where the company makes important decisions. Shareholders are essentially the employers of the chief executive officer (CEO), chief financial officer (CFO) and other members of the management team. The stick waved by shareholders in front of the management team is this: make money for us and do as you're told, or we'll fire you. The carrot to the management team for maximizing the profits of a company come in the form of payment and bonuses.

“UBC should immediately forgo further investments in fossil fuel companies, and divest from all existing fossil fuel holdings.”

—Partial text of the AMS referendum divestment question, on which more than 7,000 students voted yes



In most cases, however, the management makes all the decisions itself, and only comes under fire if it fails to make the company money or becomes embroiled in major scandal.

The UN group essentially encourages shareholders — like UBC — to engage with the management teams of companies in which they invest, encouraging them to act more responsibly and sustainably. The threat if management refuses to play ball is implicit rather than explicit, but still hangs over any negotiations: if you're really not listening to us, we'll fire you.

However, like most organizations, the theory of who has control over the operations of a company doesn't always play out in real life as predicted on paper. Apple CEO Tim Cook demonstrated this earlier this month. During a board meeting, shareholders told Cook they did not want him investing their money in activities promoting sustainability. Cook balked and effectively told shareholders to sell their shares in Apple if they disagreed with his vision of corporate responsibility to the environment. Shareholder engagement, in this case, failed, and divestment became the only option.

But while trying to change corporate behaviour as a shareholder may not always work, critics say divesting from oil companies altogether, as UBCC350 advocates, seems to be throw the baby out with the bathwater. Without any shares, anyone advocating for change in corporate behaviour might as well be a fly in a tent: the buzzing of the fly may be annoying, but its presence is of no real consequence.

...

If divestment loses former investors their clout with a company, is it still worth doing not just to inflict financial pain on the corporation or industry, but because it's a wise financial move for institutions? Hemingway brought up the concept of a "carbon bubble."

To understand this concept, we can think of Wile E. Coyote. During my childhood, I watched Wile E. Coyote try to chase and trap Roadrunner, his efforts always in vain. Many episodes ended with the iconic cliff scene: Roadrunner speeds along in front of Wile E. Coyote and, defying gravity, races straight across an immense gulf between the faces of two cliffs. Wile E. Coyote is in hot pursuit. He runs straight at the gap. He races past the edge.

And then, of course, the fantasy ends. Wile E. Coyote inevitably pauses, looks down, and realizes that, unlike Roadrunner, he cannot defy gravity. He looks at the camera, blinks twice and waves. He plummets downward, and all viewers see of the aftermath is the dust cloud ballooning across the bottom of the canyon when gravity is done pulling Wile E. Coyote toward his doom.

Advocates of the carbon bubble theory suggest that the stock prices and returns of oil companies are analogous to the run and fall of Wile E. Coyote. Look at the amount of carbon reserves oil companies count as assets that scientists agree cannot actually be used, they say. According to two papers published in the scientific journal *Nature*, three quarters of all known fossil fuel reserves must stay in the ground to avoid crossing the threshold to catastrophic climate change. Once the stock market becomes fully cognizant of this inconsistency, investors will rush to sell the overvalued stocks. At that

“The university consulted widely with leaders in the responsible investment field. These leaders did not favour divestment.”

—UBC Investment Management Trust press release

point, share prices plunge. The lucky ones will sell their shares at a loss as prices fall. The unlucky ones will remain unable to find buyers for their shares at decent prices and the weight of their immense loss will add to the cloud of dust that rises from their collective fall.

If this were to come true, it would be the obvious financial move for UBC to divest sooner rather than later. But assuming that continuing to invest in energy companies is in fact a smart financial stance for the university to take — the prevailing view among many on both sides of the divestment debate — what should the folks in charge of UBC's money do? Is it even possible that the divestment of public institutions will lead to concrete change in the behaviour of companies?

Suppose divestment campaigns successfully persuade UBC and other public institutions to divest from oil companies. This divestment will not directly harm the companies very much, given the size of investments from private individuals and corporations. However, suppose other investors are persuaded that oil companies are undesirable investments for financial and environmental reasons. More investors sell their shares. Such a large amount of shares of oil companies would become available on the market that share prices would fall significantly. Remaining shareholders, alarmed by the falling value of their shares, might then put fierce pressure on company management teams to develop more sustainable practices and appease the market. If they continue placing pressure on management until the public is satisfied with the degree of sustainability of the company and purchase the company's shares again, that could result in real change.

“The financial divestment is important in the sense that that's the mechanism through which people can take joint action and through which the stigmatization can happen,” Hemingway said.

I, however, am skeptical. In 1972, Stephen Ross, an associate professor of economics at the University of Pennsylvania, laid out his economic theory of agency that has since, with great fecundity, become the foundation on which many analyses of social and market issues have been conducted. He termed it the “principal-agent problem.” The mathematical proofs in his paper reinforce a point that one can intuitively grasp: having someone else do work for you is difficult if they do not have the same incentives as you. Ross attempted to prove in his paper that given a very specific type of personal preference and a complex compensation scheme, one might be able to convince someone else to do a task with as much earnestness and effort as you would. However, the corollary of Ross's theory naturally holds as well: most of the time, you can't.

Imagine you have been hired by College Pro Painters. You are assigned to paint the garage of someone you don't know. All your supervisor is concerned about is that you finish the job by 4 o'clock, and all you know is that you are paid by the hour and that you are meeting friends at the Norm afterward. Are you going to finish the job as efficiently as possible? Probably not. If you can extend your work all the way until 4, you'll maximize your profits.

Similarly, the primary objective of any corporate team is to maximize profit. When profits are high, shareholders receive large cheques in the mail and

their bonus is correlated with the size of their cheques. Unfortunately, sustainability and profits are often orthogonal goals.

For UBC's part, Roger Polishak, director of manager relations and investment operations for UBC Investment Management Trust Inc., declined to be interviewed for this article. He simply provided a link to a statement from the summer announcing a “responsible investment strategy.”

“In adopting its new responsible investment strategy, the university consulted widely with leaders in the responsible investment field,” the divestment portion of the press release read. “These leaders did not favour divestment.”

...

I sit down with Hugh Neary, a UBC economics professor who has always reminded me of Santa Claus. I wanted to hear Neary's opinion not just as an academic, but also as a father with dependents and a pension that would be directly affected by university divestment — and unlike Santa Claus, he has a very real mortgage.

His response surprised me. His primary concern with the divestment movement was not the risk of a drop in his pension, as I had expected. I had probed Hemingway on the topic in great detail in preparation. But only about 10 per cent of UBC's portfolio is invested in energy companies. Divestment would protect UBC and its employees from the popping of the carbon bubble, and some studies have shown minimal to no impact on return given divestment.

He sat in his chair and looked at me, holding his glasses in one hand and shaking his head slightly as I repeat Hemingway's assurances. No, the potential drop in his return wasn't his primary concern. Instead, he gave an example that illustrated his fundamental doubt of the divestment movement. Look at Walmart, he said — so successful it opened 37 new Supercentres in Canada in 2013. Despite its reputation for poor treatment of workers, among other accusations, people still shop at Walmart because of its cheap prices. If knowledge of a problem did lead to people taking

action at their own expense to mitigate the problem, Walmart would have much quieter aisles than it does now.

This is the crucial puzzle we must solve in order to succeed in responding to climate change. How do we persuade ourselves to resist the siren song of short-term personal gains and long-term detriment? The success of the divestment movement hinges on our ability to translate knowledge into action. If we know more about the consequences of our actions, will we really give up some of our personal gains for the sake of future good? Will we accept lower profits? Drive less? Buy fewer clothes? Eat less meat? Or will we only change the way we act if we personally benefit from it now?

Hemingway pointed out that the ultimate goal of the divestment movement is increasing public awareness; divestment itself is only a means to that end. The crucial assumption of the divestment movement is that lack of knowledge is the largest barrier preventing action on climate change. I don't think that's true. Climate change is known to the vast majority of people. The example shows us that the largest barrier is not lack of knowledge, but our unwillingness to change our behaviour despite knowing the consequences of our current lifestyle. Increasing public awareness is only the first step that has already been done well; the challenge now is to convince ourselves to accept the uncomfortable knowledge we have and act on it.

The sun is just beginning to set as Hemingway and I finish our conversation. For close to an hour, I had grilled him on the ambiguity of the actual impact divestment would have on climate change, the amount of risk to its return the university would face and technicalities of the finance industry. Hemingway answered my questions with clarity and precision and, at some points, frank acknowledgement when he had no answer. At one of those points, he looked at me and said that, eventually, we have to make a choice between questioning and researching, and actually choosing a course of action.

And at some point, we do. For to not make a choice is to have made one as well. ☺

OPEN HOUSE

Early Public Input Opportunity

Proposed Redevelopment on the LUTHERAN CAMPUS CENTRE SITE

The B.C. Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada is proposing a new development on the existing Lutheran Campus Centre site to serve the entire UEL Community.

Prior to making a formal application for an amendment to the OCP and the Land Use, Building and Community Administration Bylaw, we invite you to an **OPEN HOUSE** for an early opportunity to view the proposal and offer comments.

Proposed Development:

A two story community assembly space on the east portion of the site with a generous public open plaza to the southeast corner. To the west, a five storey mixed use component with retail / cafe on the ground floor and market rental housing above. All parking will be underground with access from Westbrook Mall.

DATE: Thursday, April 3, 2014
TIME: 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
LOCATION: STE 300-5755 Dalhousie Road (UEL community space in the Village)



Representatives of the Lutheran community and the architects will be available to answer questions and provide information.

Please direct questions to Rev. Cliff Reinhardt at 604-874-2213 or visit our website at lutherancampuscentre.com.

这份通知包含可能影响您的重要信息。

请找人替您翻译。

T-BIRDS 5-ON-5

MOST COMMON UBC NAMES



MATT SPILLMAN

Baseball



EMILY O'NEILL

Hockey



MATTHEW CHEONG

Rugby



EMILY DVORAK

Rowing



MATTHEW PIASECZNY

Track & Field

1. If you had been born the opposite sex, what would your parents have named you?	Matty. They're unoriginal.	Shaquille.	Nadine. Its a beautiful name. Nadine Cheong fits so nicely and has a nice ring to it.	He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named.	Karolina.
2. What TV show character are you most like?	Harvey Spectre from <i>Suits</i> . Never wrong, sarcastically funny and drop-dead gorgeous.	Guy Fierri from <i>Diners, Drive-ins and Dives</i> , because food is my best friend.	Johnny Bravo. He knows how to talk to women. I wish I had his confidence, muscles and hair — in that order.	Kim Possible, because I fight crime in my spare time. If you want to page me, it's OK.	Mike Ross from <i>Suits</i> . I like to think I have almost as good of a memory as him.
3. What's your guilty pleasure?	Playing <i>MLB: The Show</i> every night before bed, usually naked.	Buying a dozen donuts and taking a single bite out of every one.	Anything with Meryl Streep. <i>Osage County</i> is just so beautiful.	Creeping you on Facebook.	Candy. I could live off of Skittles.
4. What would be your porn star name?	Mattastrophe.	Boner Garage.	Jim Deal. "Do the ladies want the real deal?" would be my tagline. POV only.	Diamond, because I shine bright like a diamond.	Hard to say. An online quiz gave me "Sheila S-e-x-y," though.
5. What does UBC really stand for?	The University of British Columbia is all I've known it to be — or more notably "the U".	Unnecessary Budget Cuts...	Universal Brunk Club. #UBCBadBoys	Ultimate Beer Challenge.	University of Beautiful Cars. Gotta love all the luxury sports cars with Ns on them.

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Global BC The Province It starts here. THE VANCOUVER SUN

Nick Adams
Staff Writer

A group of UBC engineers are taking off to Fort Worth, Texas, for a competition in which they will fly a remote control wooden airplane at maximum capacity — probably until it crashes to the ground.

This competition, officially known as the SAE Aero Design West but commonly referred to as the Heavy Lift Competition, is one that hard-working UBC students pour an absurd amount of their already few minutes of spare time into. According to one club member, his uncounted hours amass to over five hundred since this September.

"At the beginning, every Saturday I'd show up to the meetings and do some work," said Antonio Peralta, the chief design officer. "But once you start building planes and getting everything integrated, it gets pretty hectic. I remember during reading break we were pretty much in the lab every single day for 12 hours."

Not all clubs at UBC require this amount of work and devotion. But then, not all clubs make lightweight planes fly through the air holding more than the average textbook-jammed backpack.

"The hardest part is integrating the size constraints," Peralta said. SAE International sets strict regulations for their competitions, and for good reason — limiting the size of the planes forces engineers to design more efficiently and effectively, a

real-life translation to the world of aircraft design.

The planes weigh in at about seven pounds; in the past, the UBC Aero Design team has loaded theirs to about 30 pounds. "It's a heavy lift competition, so whoever can lift the most wins," Peralta said.

The beauty of such a competition must certainly lie in its juxtaposition of complexity and simplicity: complexity in the delicate, tedious task of creating an object that can lift over three times its weight and the simplicity of a spot on the podium. They're taking elementary school Popsicle stick bridges to a whole new level.

But the team doesn't get caught up in the complexity of the competition, and they have a track record to prove it. They've finished in the top 10 for the past seven years. It doesn't seem, however, that they've gotten there only through long hours in the lab and forsaking their spring breaks.

"We've conducted ground schools where we fly trainer airplanes," Peralta said. This is all part of the effort to help teach anyone interested in joining about airplanes. The team is very inclusive of other departments, and their current group reflects that. "We've got Arts, Sauder, Forestry, Science and Engineering," Peralta said happily.

If the club piques your interest, take a look for them at Imagine Day next September. It could be the flyest decision you've ever made.

MUSIC »

Dan Mangan + Blacksmith ready to go back to school



Singer-songwriter Dan Mangan likes to ponder the big questions in life, like whether it's a good idea to put a plant on a radiator. IMAGE COURTESY JONATHAN TAGGART

Lauren Dixon
Contributor

It has been almost nine years since Dan Mangan donned his cap and gown, smiled, and tried not to blink while cameras captured the graduating class of '05. Now, he's back for Block Party next month under the moniker Dan Mangan + Blacksmith. Although he has returned to UBC since he graduated with a degree in English, this particular visit is different — the Juno award-winner's college dreams are about to come true.

Each calendar year, Mangan attended the Arts County Fair at Thunderbird Stadium. The yearly last-day-of-classes event was cancelled in 2007 due to financial concerns. Block Party was its successor.

“I attribute a lot of any kind of lyrical prowess that I have to all of those all-nighters that I pulled at UBC writing essays, and half the time completely bullshitting everything.”

Dan Mangan

“I remember always begging Shea Dahl, who used to book it, to let me play, and I never did. Now I have my redemption — to come back and play at Block Party,” he said.

UBC was never part of Mangan's plans. Fresh out of high school, he just wanted to get out and create music. His parents were supportive, but were clear that he had to go to university before jumping into the music scene headfirst. “I kind of begrudged them for it but quickly realized when I was in school that that was where I should be,” he said.

Spending most of his university days in the Buchanan buildings, Mangan said he learned how to question things, and not to take them for granted. He left UBC having read a small library's worth of books and believes his background in literature has been crucial to his songwriting.

“I think I attribute a lot of any kind of lyrical prowess that I have to all of those

all-nighters that I pulled at UBC writing essays, and half the time completely bullshitting everything. It's all process.”

While in the studio recording the much-anticipated followup to their second album, *Nice, Nice, Very Nice*, the band made the decision to add “+ Blacksmith” to Mangan's former singer-songwriter title. “I feel as though the band deserved some kind of formal recognition for all of the work they have put in over the years, and it kind of stuck with me for a long time,” Mangan said.

He looks back and sees an important part of his past rooted in the singer-songwriter genre — “introspective nerdy folk rock music,” as he calls it. Looking forward, he believes change is important. “It feels like there has been an evolution in terms of the sound in my head and what I want to hear, and I guess Dan Mangan + Blacksmith is a nice way of saying, OK, this is a new era and a new thing.”

There is a chance Block Party-goers will get to hear a teaser from Dan Mangan + Blacksmith's new album. “I have a feeling we will probably play one or two new songs. I would be surprised if we didn't. At the same time, we recorded these songs a while ago and now we have to figure out how to actually play them again,” he said.

Block Party will be the first show Dan Mangan + Blacksmith have played in over seven months. “You spend too much time on the road, you start to itch to be home. And when you spend all that time at home, you do tend to itch to be on stage again,” he said.

Indeed, Dan Mangan is looking forward to coming “home” to UBC for the seventh annual Block Party. [u](#)



Kenton Loewen, centre, and his band the Crackling aren't too fond of warm and fuzzy things. IMAGE COURTESY THE CRACKLING

The Crackling burns with post-apocalyptic flame

Rebekah Ho
Contributor

With a name drawn from the sounds of burning fire, the Crackling is bringing its flame to the stage for this year's Block Party on April 8.

Kenton Loewen, the folk-rock five-piece band's frontman, compares their music to reading a Cormac McCarthy book — dark, haunting and beautiful.

“It's post-apocalyptic,” said Loewen. “There's this dark essence to the human soul, and there's this odd hope inside of these terrifically horrible things happening, and that sort of describes a way of what this music does and how this music works.”

The Crackling's first album is called *Keep Full Ambitious*, was named after a phrase used by Loewen's grandfather throughout his childhood, and as a gesture of constant love. *Mary Magdalene*, the Crackling's most recent album, comes out on April 23. The album cover features Jesus pouring wine at Mary's feet.

“I think *Mary Magdalene* was a deeply misunderstood character, a deeply respected character [and] a deeply hated character. She was enigmatic and confusing for several reasons,” said Loewen.

The premise of the album is to flip Christianity on its head and also to place women in a central position of power.

“Once again we have created a thing where people are comforted by the fact that that's an option rather than dealing with our own lives, and I'm really inspired with dealing with my own life and dealing with the people in my life and being entirely hands on about that experience in a way that's real,” said Loewen. “The whole Jesus

figure and the disciples — I find that whole picture quite ridiculous, questionable, hilarious and wonderful to destroy and take apart.”

“There's this dark essence to the human soul, and there's this odd hope inside of these terrifically horrible things happening, and that sort of describes a way of what this music does.”

Kenton Loewen
The Crackling frontman

Loewen's writing process is far from conventional. It is chaotic, which comes through in the honest music the Crackling produces.

“I'm a terrible writer. I'm a mess. I'm all over the place and up all night and drinking and breaking things and acting fucking mental,” said Loewen. “It's a cathartic experience, but at the end of it the day, it's usually these bits and pieces and morsels of music [that makes it feel] like a worthwhile process.”

“Experiencing the world is going to affect you. You either do something with it or you don't do something with it, and I choose to do something, because I can't just leave it in my head.”

The Crackling came to UBC earlier last January to perform as part of the Gallery Lounge's live music series. The Crackling is only one of Loewen's projects; he has also played drums for Dan Mangan, Mother Mother and the Gordon Grdina Trio. For Block Party, Loewen will be drumming with Blacksmith, Dan Mangan's band. He sees music as an open invitation, and even more so, a challenge to question our experiences.

“You know when you're watching a Hollywood movie, and the music comes in at the right time, and the lighting comes in at the right time, and everything comes in at the right time, and you feel manipulated, and it's supposed to be this powerful moment, and you're supposed to feel this shit... Fuck all that,” said Loewen. “I like [that] the idea of the music allows you to have your own question and your own experience.”

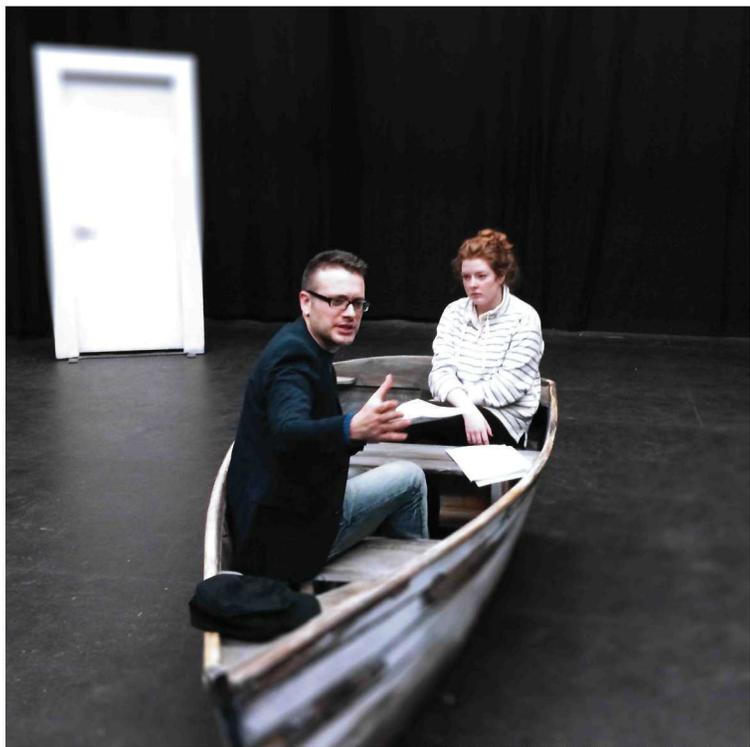
“The music's an invitation. It always has been.” [u](#)

BLOCK PARTY PROFILES

THEATRE »

Voyaging to stranger shores

Theatre and creative writing unite for Brave New Play Rites



Simon MacIntyre and Taylor Scott star in *Drifted*, one of a dozen new plays in the festival.

Hilary Leung
Contributor

Imagine bringing a play to life. Now imagine bringing a play to life with people you have never met in a few short months. Daunting? Yes. Impossible? UBC creative writing and theatre students beg to differ.

Brave New Play Rites is a collaborative festival that unites creative writing and theatre students together in order to script, stage and perform a variety of plays. Playwrights submit their work to the festival's organizers for a chance to meet with directors and actors and begin the creative process of breathing life into their plays. For some students, Brave New Play Rites is the first place their work has ever been staged; some of it goes on to be performed across the world by other compan-

ies. Now in its 28th year, this year's festival includes 12 new plays about a variety of subjects, including alcohol-induced revelations, a couple stranded on a boat in the Georgia Strait, a murderous Mexican vigilante and a global epidemic.

Sarah Ens, a creative writing major participating in the program, found writing the play a refreshing experience. "I've never written plays before," she said. "So that was kind of nerve-wracking, but also really exciting."

Ens' play, *Little Light*, is a twisted modern-day parable about the legend of Peter Pan. While it was scary for Ens to hand her manuscript over to the directors, she recognized that she had done her part. "It was their turn to make it their own thing," she said.

Seeing her play acted out in front of her aroused many emo-

tions for Ens. "I've grown attached to these characters and to these lines," she said. "It was really cool to see these actors take these characters really seriously. And when they read the lines ... it was really lovely. It was someone taking my work seriously and caring a lot about my characters."

Directors and actors play a significant role in the plays' creative processes. Ndola Hutton, the festival's stage manager and director of *Travel Weight*, and Angie Lopez, who acts in three plays, are as connected to the plays as the playwrights themselves.

"The most exciting part of directing was when you first get the script and you read through it," Hutton said. "You get all of these images and possibilities and what you can do and see it unfold. From there, it gets more and more exciting."

For the theatre students, collaborating with the playwrights has been a wonderful experience. "It was really great seeing all of the plays progress and taking the feedback from [the playwrights] and moving it forward," Hutton said. "Everyone had a really good time."

"As an actor, having the playwright in the room — you know, you're asked to play all sorts of characters and make up these stories about their past that aren't in the scripts," Lopez said. "So to have that person that you can turn to ask is really nice. And sometimes they say, 'It's up to you as an artist.'"

Despite the stress and difficulties that accompany a work of art being produced in a short period of time, it has been an extremely rewarding experience for Hutton and Lopez.

"The most gratifying experience for me was when every single one of my directors said '...and we have a show,'" Lopez said, laughing. ☺

Brave New Play Rites takes place in the Dorothy Somerset Studio on campus from March 26 to 30.

Post-coital conflict cultivates candid conversation

Love and sex a hot topic in *AFTER*



PHOTO COURTESY AFTER PLAY
The play features the stories of two couples — in their 20s and 30s — discussing their relationships after having just done the nasty.

Mariam Barry
Contributor

Let's talk about sex.

Not the courting, the foreplay or the action, but what happens after it. Romantic relationships can change after a couple's first experience of sex, and sometimes for the worse. Sex, rather than bringing down barriers, can reinforce them. What often ensues are trials of miscommunication, dishonesty and frustration, all of which stem from the struggle to reconcile emotional and sexual needs.

It is exactly the presence of these underlying issues playwright and UBC master's graduate Martha Herrera-Lasso examines in *AFTER* — a play centered on the complex conversations that unfold after sex. A joint production between Excavation Theatre and the dream of passion theatre company, *AFTER* episodically follows the evolution of two couples' romantic relationships. The action always takes place in ambiguous settings only identifiable with their compatibility as a place for sex, ranging from the bedroom and the bathroom to the kitchen.

All in different stages in their lives, the four principal characters — all in their 20s and 30s — face the same challenge of defining the line between love and lust.

"Everyone can identify with the characters onstage, as the topic of romantic relationships is univer-

sal," said Jessica Anne Nelson, the production's director.

As Nelson points out, it's all too easy to be swept away in the desire for a relationship. "[We forget to ask ourselves,] am I happy? Am I okay with being treated this way? Am I letting myself be used?"

Observed through a female perspective and in her 20s herself, Nelson, the founder of Excavation Theatre and a UBC theatre alumna, sees the internal conflicts of the female characters as the result of a bigger cultural debate about what is acceptable for a woman's sexuality. Nelson says females in the media are either hailed as perfect virgins or smeared as sluts, and these outdated dichotomies often lead to self-loathing or doubt concerning a woman's role in the bedroom.

Empowered by a woman in creative control, all members of *AFTER*'s production team are female, with the exception of the lighting designer. They are joined by a cast that features Stefania Indelicato, Al Miro, Jane Hancock and Matthew McLellan.

"More than simply to expecting to laugh, the audience should be prepared for the script's layers of intensity," said Nelson. "I hope this production will generate more conversation about how we treat each other." ☺

AFTER will play at the Havana Theatre (1212 Commercial Dr.) until April 5.



APRIL 2014 FREE PROGRAMS

April 2 Women & Queer Night
6-9pm. a safe space program about bikes!

April 9 Member Night Social
6-9pm. meet other bike-friendly folks!

April 23 Bike Recycling Party
6-9pm. strip bikes, sort parts, recycle! yay!

Every Tuesday Purple & Yellow Night
6-9pm. come hang out and fix bikes with us!

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volunteer opportunities



EDITORIAL CARTOON »



Alternative methods of getting over the wall: ladders, hang-gliders and moon boots.

ILLUSTRATION CJ PENTLAND/THE UBYSSEY

Why we interrupted the announcement of UBC's new president

LETTER

On Wednesday, March 12, 2014, five animal liberation activists and students disrupted the formal announcement of UBC's new president to raise consciousness about lab animal violence.

We see violence towards animals as an issue of justice sharing similar patterns with other ongoing and past injustices. Learning from other social justice movements (e.g. LGBT, women, civil rights and liberation, decolonization and eco-justice movements), we practice nonviolent direct action to demand that oppressive social structures and institutions end their domination and exploitation of nonhuman animals.

UBC is one such structure, systematically justifying and normalizing violence against animals in scientific research. Under pressure from activists and university faculty and students, UBC began publishing its annual animal use statistics in 2011. These statistics reveal that the number of animals used at UBC has steadily increased in the past years. From 2010 to 2012, an average of 75,520 animals were used annually in "experiments which cause moderate to severe distress or discomfort," while the number of animals used in experiments involving "procedures which cause severe pain near, at, or above the pain tolerance threshold of unanesthetized conscious animals" increased from 31 to 85.

If researchers inflicted the pain or suffering these categories define to animals outside of university labs, they could be charged as criminals under Canada's animal cruelty laws. The arbitrary legal subjection of some animals to violence, while others are protected, demonstrates how our legal system fails when it considers and treats animals as human property. Animals deserve legal protection of their right to life as persons and must have their property status removed.

UBC's statistics are also consistent with the overall increase of animal use for science in Canada. From these trends, it seems the animal research community is not seriously trying to implement its guiding ethical principles of replacement and reduction in animal use.

Stephen Toope's administration did nothing to end animal suffering at UBC. Masked in the rhetoric of "transparency," "humane care" and "necessity," UBC defends the enslavement and abuse of animals through propaganda. For example, UBC extols only the virtues of animal research, vaguely mentioning Nobel prizes and claiming animal research is necessary to develop new medicines, when even mainstream media outlets concede rodents are far from ideal models.

Furthermore, UBC excludes rodents from the category of "small mammals," exploiting the fact that humans are less likely to empathize with them and more willing to accept the high numbers of rodents used and killed. Designating a specific category for rodents, against all established cladistics, and excluding them from the category of mammals serves to reproduce and normalize the animosity and violence toward rodents that exists in society at large.

We hope that in the next five years President Gupta will sincerely engage with these issues and consider ending unjustifiable violence against animals at UBC. We encourage all members of the UBC faculty, staff and student body who care about the sentient, conscious, nonhuman animals in our community to take actions and uphold our responsibility and accountability to their lives. We encourage students to think critically about the scientific norm, and whether it truly aligns with their values.

Sincerely,

Caroline Lemieux, Mavaddat Javid,
Darren Chang, Jackie Mac
UBC Activists for Animals



The outdoor pool has closed permanently, one of a number of athletics services from which Carla Turner feels she is not getting her money's worth.

FILE PHOTO GEOFF LISTER/THE UBYSSEY

Just what 'athletics' do I get for my \$200.94?

LETTER

Is anyone else sick of seeing this in their tuition fee summary:

Athletics and Recreation fee: \$200.94.

What is this fee for, and why is it so high?

I am not on a sports team, so I figured this fee was for the use of the aquatic centre swimming pools, sauna and other amenities.

Maybe I am mistaken, because every time I go to use the pool between classes it is being rented out for some sort of training. As an alternative to swimming, I thought

I should use the sauna to recover my costs, but the sauna has been broken for months. All there is available is a tiny steam room crammed with people. I don't like to lift weights or use treadmills because I get plenty of exercise riding my bike to school every day. If you ask me, these services are not worth the price.

My other thought was that maybe this fee pays the cost of being represented by sports teams, but lately I have been reading plenty of news about how many teams are being dropped from varsity status because of lack of funding. I was also disappointed to hear that the outdoor pool is being permanently shut down because there is no money to fix it.

I can only say that I do not understand why I am paying this fee, or where my money is going, because I am certainly not gaining any benefit from athletics and recreation at UBC. Perhaps this is an outdated fee that should be re-evaluated. Maybe students who don't use the amenities should be exempt from paying? It certainly would be interesting to know where the money I pay is being used, as I am seeing no direct improvements to my educational experience by continuing to pay this large fee.

Carla Turner
Fourth-year, Faculty of Land and Food systems

Pro-Palestinian student group condemns anti-Semitic graffiti



Anti-Semitic graffiti was discovered in Totem Park on March 16.

Solidarity for Palestinian Human Rights UBC (SPHR-UBC) sent the following statement to The Ubyyssey on Sunday night following our publication of an article about anti-Semitic graffiti in a Totem Park house lounge.

Solidarity for Palestinian Human Rights at UBC expresses its deep

concerns with the anti-Semitic act that took place at the Nootka House in Totem Park.

SPHR-UBC condemns, without ambiguity, all acts of anti-Semitism and rejects all forms of racism. Furthermore, SPHR-UBC calls upon the university to take all measures to find the perpetrators and ensure a safe environment for Jewish students, as well as all students vulnerable to all forms of racism.

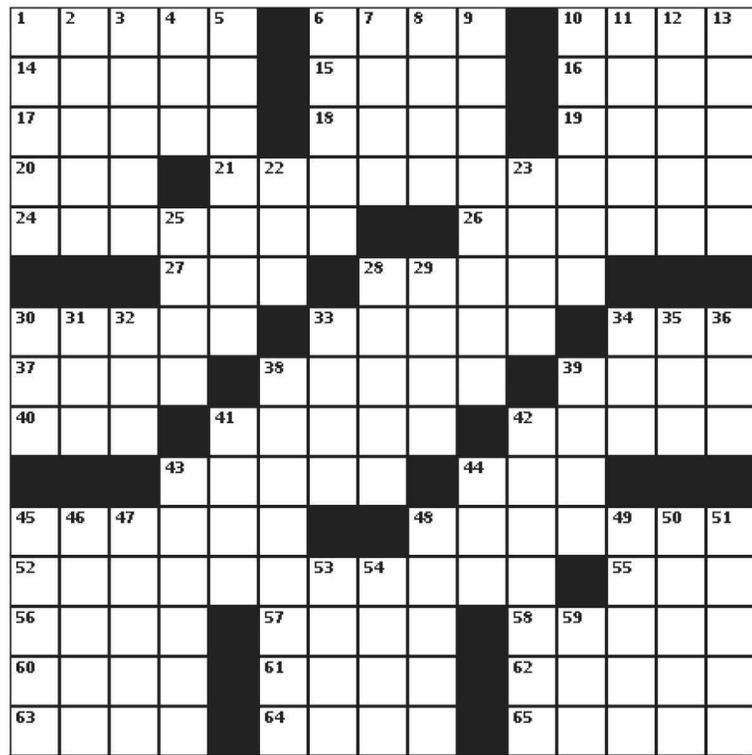
SPHR-UBC calls upon student groups on campus to actively work with the university administration and the AMS to ensure that all students, regardless of origin, culture, religion or race, can conduct their activities, academic or otherwise, without fear of being intimidated or discriminated against.



Have an opinion about UBC? Come to our opinion meetings Mondays at 12:30 p.m. and Thursday at 1 p.m., or email us at feedback@ubyssey.ca.

COME BY THE UBYSSEY OFFICE : SUB 24, FOLLOW THE SIGNS

CROSSWORD



PUZZLE COURTESY BESTCROSSWORDS.COM. USED WITH PERMISSION.

- war movie
 40- Isr. neighbour
 41- Fire starter
 42- Like most movies
 43- Recreation
 44- Sprinted
 45- Severe experience
 48- Droopy
 52- Using obscene language
 55- Stutz contemporary
 56- Melt together
 57- High level of satisfaction
 58- Bendable twig, usually of a willow tree
 60- Env. notation
 61- Must've been something ____
 62- Makes a loan
 63- ____ majeste
 64- Work without ____
 65- Rental agreement

DOWN

- 1- Circus employee
 2- Corpulent
 3- Like some vbs.
 4- Fond du ____
 5- Kuwait, e.g.
 6- Blow one's top
 7- Sly look
 8- "Le Roi d'Ys" composer
 9- Talking
 10- Workshop machinery
 11- Up in the air
 12- Scoundrel
 13- Stem
 22- Vane dir.
 23- Jutting rock
 25- Granny
 28- Nautical direction
 29- Skating area
 30- Connections
 31- Siegfried's partner
 32- Go astray
 33- Chemical used on trees
 34- Little one
 35- Dr. of rap
 36- Melancholic

ACROSS

- 1- Sheer fabric
 6- Building additions
 10- Metallica drummer Ulrich
 14- President Garfield's middle name
 15- Gather, harvest
 16- Tons
 17- Paris "thanks"
 18- River to the Ubangi
 19- Garment of ancient Rome
 20- End for Siam
 21- Shameful
 24- Reigning
 26- Indonesian cigarette
 27- Corroded
 28- Met highlights
 30- "Goodnight" girl
 33- Imitating
 34- NFL scores
 37- Asta's mistress
 38- As a companion
 39- When said three times, a 1970

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PUZZLES COURTESY KRAZYDAD. USED WITH PERMISSION.

MAR. 24 ANSWERS

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M	S	S	E	I	N	E	R	I	C	E	R		
R	O	S	E	S	E	C	L	A	T	E	D	I	S
O	P	E	N	E	R	K	I	D	N	E	S	T	
S	E	T	T	E	E	S	L	A	B	I	A	T	E
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17%

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