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*falling  
down  
(in front of boys)*

*tighten  
your  
nuts*

*shower  
with a  
friend*

*pages 8 and 9!*

JANUARY 14, 2010  
VOLUME XCI, N° XXXII

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

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

The Ubysey 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 Please include your phone number, student number and signature (not for publication) as well as your year and faculty with all submissions.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 Ubysey; 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 Ubysey 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 Ubysey 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 Ubysey staff.

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## CONTRIBUTORS

A freak fire wiped out the Masthead for this issue. Here's the gist of it, though: A fanciful scene was described involving Ashley Whillans and Joanna Reeder. There was an inside joke about Paul Bucci, with passing references to Justin McElroy and Gerald Deo. Somehow Sara Chung and Sam Jung were worked into the next sentence, because their names sound good together. Fabiola Carletti, Johnny Wakefield and Nichole Gall were lumped together in a potentially offensive aside about farm animals. Adeeb Tawseef and Austin Holm were described as New York drag queens from the sixties, and Kasha Chang showed up in a Velvet Underground reference. Bob Bobson is fictional, but I'm pretty sure Kristen Harris and Danielle Zandbergen are real. Trevor Record was accused of hating Catholics, and somehow Anthony Goertz was involved. Or wait, maybe it was Virginie Menard. Either way, one of them was a priest. And Tara Martellaro may have been an altar boy. It really gets blurry here. Katarina Grgić did something with a blender, and the whole thing ended with a clumsy hypothetical connection between Sarah Baldwin and several Hollywood actors. There was no satisfactory closing statement.

### FRONT PAGE GRAPHIC BY

*Stevaniano Albano & Paul Bucci*



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# 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.*

**KOERNER'S NIGHT** • Join us for open mic night every Monday. Listen to the different flavours of music, all while enjoying a nice cold beer or a competitive game of pool. • *Every Monday, 8:30pm onwards. Koerner's Pub.*

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

**DRIPPYTOWN: VANCOUVER'S COMIC ARTISTS ON DISPLAY** • Want a different take on Vancity? The collection features contributions from six local comic artists whose work provides a look at life in Vancouver. • *Continues until Jan 31, Rare Books and Special Collections in IKE, more info at [puddingsock.livejournal.com](http://puddingsock.livejournal.com).*

**UBC FILM SOC PRESENTS: A SERIOUS MAN** • Directed by the Coen Brothers, *A Serious Man* is a dark comedy about a man trying to find balance and direction in the world. • *Jan 13–17, 9pm–11pm, Norm Theatre, SUB. \$4 general admission, \$2 for members.*

**NOON "FUN" RUN** • Get healthy and come run or walk. Hosted by UBC Rec, the Noon "Fun" Run is about active participation, wellness and fun that takes students on a scenic course ranging from 3 to 5 km. • *Every Thursday starting Jan 14, Student Rec Centre (6000 Student Union Blvd).*

## THURSDAY, JAN. 14

**POETRYHAUS** • Part of Arts Week, a chance for students to share poetry in a casual atmosphere. With special guest appearances from Slam Vancouver, UBC Slam and UBC Improv. Coffee and snacks will be provided. • *5pm–7pm, MASS, Buchanan D.*

**BRANCHING OUT** • The Forestry Undergraduate Society (FUS) and the Students for Forestry Awareness (SFA) are hosting a symposium to provide insight into the implications of current forestry issues and perspective regarding how students can apply their education to adapt to and initiate changes in the sector. Listen to the panel discussion and get an opportunity to voice your opinions. • *6pm–9pm, Lecture Theatre 1005, Forest Sciences Centre.*

**HIP HOP** • One of the world's most popular dances for all levels! Wear loose baggy clothes and runners. No jeans/skirts! • *4pm–5pm, SUB Ballroom, drop in: \$8.*

**IAN FERGUSON** • An award-winning playwright and humourist whose commentaries have been widely broadcast on radio and television speaks on being Canadian. • *2pm, Lillooet Room (301) IKBLC.*

**ARTS AND MASS VIOLENCE: NEW FORMS OF ENGAGEMENT** • The Liu Institute's Transitional Justice Network presents this dialogue about artistic research and practices relating to situations of mass atrocity, social reconstruction and social change. • *Panel discussion at 4pm, reception at 5:30pm, Liu Institute for Global Issues (6476 NW Marine Drive). Free registration online at [fluidsurveys.com/surveys/liuinstitute/register-tjn-arts-event/](http://fluidsurveys.com/surveys/liuinstitute/register-tjn-arts-event/).*

## CONTINUING STUDIES WRITING CENTRE USED BOOK SALE

The Writing Centre will be holding its gigantic annual book sale. There will be a wide variety of used books on a wide variety of subjects, from cookery books to classics of fiction, and lots more. All proceeds go to awards and scholarships in the UBC Writing Centre. • *Jan 14–15, 10am–4pm, UBC Writing Centre. All books are 50 cents each.*

## GO GLOBAL ONLINE APPLICATION WORKSHOP

Come to this workshop to go over the Go Global Online Application for Exchange & Study Abroad step by step. Helpful for students who have decided to apply to study abroad, but have not yet started the online application. • *11am–12pm, Upper Lounge, International West House (1783 West Mall). More info at [go.global@ubc.ca](http://go.global@ubc.ca).*

## FRIDAY, JAN. 15

**A CONVERSATION WITH MICHAEL IGNATIEFF AT UBC** • Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff is starting the new year with a cross-Canada campus tour to meet young Canadians in the lead-up to Canada at 150: Rising to the Challenge—a non-partisan conference being held in Montréal in March 2010. • *3pm–4:30pm, Norm Theatre.*

## SATURDAY, JAN. 16

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL VS. FRASER VALLEY CASCADES** • UBC Basketball vs. Fraser Valley Cascades Come out and support your UBC Thunderbirds as they continue their 2009-10 basketball season with a match-up against the conference rival Fraser Valley Cascades. Wear blue and BRING THE NOISE! • *6pm, War Memorial Gym Ticket, \$10 adult/\$5 youth/\$2 student.*

## UBC HOCKEY VS. ALBERTA PANDAS

Come out and support your UBC Thunderbirds as they continue their 2009-10 hockey season with a match-up against the conference rival Alberta Pandas. Wear blue and BRING THE NOISE! • *Thunderbird Arena, 7:30pm, \$10 adult/\$5 youth/\$2 student.*

## UBC BASKETBALL VS. FRASER VALLEY CASCADES

Come out and support your UBC Thunderbirds as they continue their 2009/2010 basketball season with a match-up against the conference rival Fraser Valley Cascades. Wear blue and BRING THE NOISE! • *8:00pm, War Memorial Gym, \$10 adult/\$5 youth/\$2 student.*

## FILMS AT THE NORM

The UBC Film Society presents: *Where the Wild Things Are* (G, 101 min) • *The Norm Theatre in the SUB, \$4 general admission, \$2 for members.*

## BACKSTORY: NUUCHAANULTH CEREMONIAL CURTAINS AND THE WORK OF KI-KE-IN

Please join us for the opening reception. Symposium: Talking about Thliitsapilthim, Nuuchaanulth Ceremonial Curtains • *Marris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery. For more information, please visit [belkin.ubc.ca](http://belkin.ubc.ca), free.*

## SUNDAY, JAN. 17

**GUTTERBALL BOWLING** • It doesn't matter whether you roll a strike, spare, split, or gutterball at this bowling tournament because you'll have a blast! CoRec teams of 4 to 6 participants sign up for a one hour timeslot. Sign up by Wednesday, Jan 13. • *6pm–10pm, Varsity Ridge Bowling Centre, 2120 W. 15<sup>th</sup> ave. \$48 UBC student team, \$100 UBC staff, more info at [amiu@rec.ubc.ca](mailto:amiu@rec.ubc.ca).*

## MONDAY, JAN. 18

**AFRICA AWARENESS WEEK** • Participate in the on-campus dialogue about African issues • *Opening Night, 6pm–7:30 pm, [africaconferenceweek.eventbrite.com](http://africaconferenceweek.eventbrite.com).*

## TUESDAY, JAN. 19

### AAI CONFERENCE: AFRICAN ART AND POETRY: OPEN MIC PERFORMANCES

Africa has been the source of artistic inspiration for many, the geographical nature of Africa is an astounding piece of art in its own right. Join us in celebrating the artistic nature of Mama Africa through art from the motherland. This is a collaborative event with the Nyala restaurant and Caribbean African Association. • *6pm–12am, Koerner's Pub, Entrance by donation, suggested \$5.*

### FILM SCREENING: THE AGE OF STUPID

UBC Continuing Studies presents *The Age of Stupid*, the docu-drama everyone is describing as the wake-up call for climate change. After the film, a brief panel discussion, led by Brian Natrass of Sustainability Partners Inc, will examine potential forward steps in the fight against climate change. • *Doors open at 6pm; film at 6:30pm, followed by panel discussion. Woodward Instructional Resources Centre, Theatre 2, 2194 Health Sciences Mall. Tickets \$10 and are available at the door or call 604-822-1444 to reserve.*

## WEDNESDAY, JAN. 20

**ROMEO & JULIET** • "These violent delights have violent ends." Expect a brave and twisted approach to Shakespeare's iconic story of lovers in a dangerous time from MFA Directing Candidate Catriona Leger. Drawing from the traditions of Bouffon, Clown and Cabaret, this theatre-in-the-round production will tickle, thrill and tantalize. Audiences will experience theatre as it was meant to be – LIVE. • *Telus Studio Theatre, \$15 for students, runs until Saturday, January 30.*

## THURSDAY, JAN. 21

### HKIN SEMINAR SERIES: OLYMPIC GAMES IMPACT RESEARCH—HISTORICAL, CONCEPTUAL AND METHODOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS

This seminar will be given by Dr Rob Van Wynsberghe, who will be examining the theoretical and methodological underpinnings of the International Olympic Committee's Olympic Games Impact research program. • *12:30pm–2pm, War Memorial Gymnasium Room 100.*

### THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE—DISSOLVE

Being put on for Sexual Assault Awareness Month as their second event, followed by a Q&A with creator and performer Meghan Gardiner. • *7pm, Dorothy Somerset Studio (6361 University Blvd). \$5 deposit to be returned at performance.*

### SPARTACUS YOUTH CLUB CLASS SERIES

For the Unconditional Defence of the Chinese Deformed Workers State! For Workers Political Revolution! • *6:30pm, UBC SUB Room 224*

## SUNDAY, JAN. 24

### AMS ELECTION PRESENTS: HACKFEST BZZR GARDEN!

Meet the candidates running to be in your student government, one day prior to the opening of the polls! Mingle with your opponents and campaign to students who never go out to debates! Also available: samosas and \$2 beers! • *Jan 24, 7pm–11pm, SUB Partyroom.*

## MONDAY, JAN. 25

### GSS ELECTIONS ON-CAMPUS DEBATE

The Graduate Student Society is hosting an on-campus debate between all nominees for the GSS elections. Come meet your future executives and enjoy the

free food and beverages. One free drink ticket will be issued to all in attendance. • *Thea's Lounge, Graduate Student Centre (6371 Crescent Rd.), 5pm–8pm. More info at [elections@gss.ubc.ca](mailto:elections@gss.ubc.ca).*

## TUESDAY, JAN. 26

### ALLIES UNITE! COMMUNITY RALLY AND MARCH

Being put on for Sexual Assault Awareness Month as their third event. Gather for a rally and march around campus, followed with refreshments. • *4pm–6pm, Student Union Building.*

### GSS ELECTIONS OFF-CAMPUS DEBATE

The Graduate Student Society is hosting an off-campus debate at the BC Cancer Research Centre between all nominees for the GSS elections. Come meet your future executives and enjoy the free food and beverages. • *Diamond Family Lecture Theatre, BC Cancer Research Centre (675 West 10th Avenue, by Heather), 12:00pm–2pm. More info at [elections@gss.ubc.ca](mailto:elections@gss.ubc.ca)*

## THURSDAY, JAN. 28

### TOUGH GUYS: SEXUAL VIOLENCE, MEDIA, AND THE CRISIS IN MASCULINITY

Being put on for Sexual Assault Awareness Month, a public lecture by Jackson Katz, PhD. • *6pm, Hebb Theatre.*

## FRIDAY, JAN. 29

### "TAKING IT PERSONALLY: WHY GENDER VIOLENCE IS AN ISSUE FOR MEN"

Workshop for students being put on for Sexual Assault Awareness Month. • *10am, Room 100, Neville Scarfe Building (2125 Main Mall).*

## SATURDAY, JAN. 30

**EXHIBITION INDIA 2010** • Presented by the UBC Bhangra Club, this is one show that combines the sounds, sights and vibrancy of India in an entertainment-filled night of entertainment. All ticket proceeds go to BC Children's Hospital. • *Jan 30, 6pm–9pm, Bell Centre for the Performing Arts (6250–144th St), \$15. For tickets call Harman (778-865-3216) or Puneet (778-24-4235).*

### GAZA REMEMBERED

One Year Later. Hear Dr George Bisharat, Dr Mads Gilbert, Dr Joanne Naiman and Dr Hani Faris speak. • *Alice MacKay Room, Vancouver Public Library, 350 West Georgia, 7:30pm, Free, RSVP at [MuslimCommunityCenter.com](http://MuslimCommunityCenter.com).*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

AKCSE UBC presents its first annual AKCSE Research Competition for Undergraduate Students, sponsored by StemCell Technologies and TRIUMF. Regardless of experience, any undergraduate science or engineering student can study a topic of their choice and compete for up to \$1000! • *The deadline for application is Jan 25, 2010. For more information, please visit [www.akcseubc.org/research](http://www.akcseubc.org/research) or email [akcse.research@gmail.com](mailto:akcse.research@gmail.com) for any inquiries.*

# CLASSIFIEDS

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# CORRECTIONS

In the article "Your Ams Elections 2010 Candidates", we wrote that there are six senate seats when there are only five. *The Ubysey* regrets this error.

# NEWS

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ASSOCIATE SARAH CHUNG » schung@ubyssey.ca

## OVERHEARD

"Is the law school part of the... educational mission of the university? Or is it a profit centre? Now, I understand that international students are a profit centre... they always put in the bullet point that 'oh, this is for cultural interaction,' and it's not, it's just because every one of those guys comes in the school with \$12,000 attached to them."

—Law Student Society President Ted Murray on the university's proposal to remove the two per cent cap on tuition

## Law students fear possible \$6000 tuition increase Dean of Law maintains that consultations are ongoing

ASHLEY WHILLANS  
awhillans@ubyssey.ca

When it comes to tuition increases, no news is not necessarily good news for UBC Law students.

Students in the faculty are becoming increasingly concerned over "selective relaxing," a proposal drafted by the UBC administration, which upon approval, would allow the university to raise tuition in selected professional programs above the two per cent tuition cap put in place by the provincial government in April.

Dia Montgomery, director of AMS Relations for the Law Student Society (LSS), brought the concern to AMS Council last Wednesday, January 6 in hopes that the soon-to-be elected new student government would provide long-term help against this proposal. She also announced that she will be in contact with the BC President of the Canadian Bar Association, James Bond, for additional support and advice.

At the Council meeting, Montgomery stated that if the cap is lifted, Law students may be faced with a \$6000 per year tuition increase.

This number is not set in stone, however, and Montgomery later clarified that there is no clear answer from UBC about the exact tuition increase students should expect to face.

"It has been stated in faculty meetings and meetings I've attended with the dean, but there is no [document] that I can point you to that says that number," said Montgomery in a telephone interview.

We as the student government at the law school, are trying to mount an opposition...but are muddled knowing where to go to and knowing who can help us.

DIA MONTGOMERY  
DIRECTOR OF AMS RELATIONS FOR LAW STUDENT SOCIETY

"This is one of our frustrations," she added, "we as the student government at the law school, are trying to mount an opposition to such a vast tuition increase, but are muddled knowing where to go to and knowing who can help us."

In various phone and e-mail interviews with *The Ubyyssey*, both Dean of Law Mary Anne Bobinski and Communications Coordinator Penny Elton denied

that the figure of \$6000 had been discussed, adding that while a plan to raise tuition was discussed within the faculty, it was never taken to the Board of Governors, and therefore has no "official status."

In an interview with *The Ubyyssey* in early December, Bobinski disclosed the previous tuition increase plans—plans that were proposed before the tuition cap—were "probably about ten per cent a year over four years."

However, Elton later told *The Ubyyssey* that this figure should not be assumed.

"Any discussion of what a plan might look like, should the cap be lifted, would be highly speculative and very premature," she explained.

She also assured students that a "detailed and thorough consultation process with students and stakeholders would be part of any discussions regarding tuition increases in the future."

Due to the fact that the proposal is in its preliminary stages, UBC administrators were reluctant to talk about their current plans. If the cap is lifted, many UBC professional programs such as Medicine, Dentistry and Law could face a tuition increase, which has been especially concerning to Law students, many of whom, such as LSS President Ted

Murray, feel targeted as a result of the proposal.

"We are not concerned enough to the extent of being outraged," explained Murray, "but it bothers us that the idea of singling us out in this way on the basis that because we are in these professional programs that we are going to have high enough future incomes and therefore we should pay more tuition."

Any discussion of what a plan might look like, should the cap be lifted, would be highly speculative and very premature.

PENNY ELTON  
FACULTY OF LAW COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

While all the exact details may be unknown, Montgomery is making sure the students do everything in their power to fight against any type of large tuition increase, immediate or otherwise.

"Finding people who can help us, who can fight against [this tuition increase] is our biggest challenge right now," she said.

## Bidding farewell to Gallini



JOANNA REEDER  
Contributor

The Faculty of Arts will see new leadership as of next year, when current Dean Nancy Gallini's near decade-long appointment draws to a close in late June. *The Ubyyssey* asked Dean Gallini for her thoughts on the eight years she spent as dean and her take on the issues her successor will have to deal with around the future of an arts education at UBC.

After 17 years as a professor of economics at the University of Toronto, Dean Gallini spent five years heading up the department between 1995 and 2000 before accepting the top job in the Faculty of Arts at UBC in 2002. With a characteristic smile, she said that her departure from the administration this year is a natural transition.

"I've been dean for eight years," she said. "I think that turnover in leadership is always healthy in an academic institution, especially in one like [the Faculty of Arts] which is so dynamic and diverse."

The dean of Arts is responsible for allocating funds to 16 departments, 4 professional schools, 2 museums and numerous interdisciplinary programs, as well as liaising with the president and VP academic on academic issues. Gallini said that during her term, Arts saw a faculty turnover of nearly 50 per cent as well as numerous changes to its budgetary model. An economist to the core, she explained by saying, "I don't adhere too well to a top-down approach," instead espousing a decentralized model with more grassroots decision-making styles. This includes student consultation in the interests of departmental autonomy.

Despite the challenge of funding a massive and extremely diverse faculty, the dean's excitement with collaborating with faculty, staff and students was palpable. She is proud of the accomplishments and contributions of faculty, staff and students, evident as she touted the student-initiated Humanities 101 program, advances in faculty research, and the recent momentum among student groups and staff surrounding sexual assault awareness on campus.

Meet the Dean, an event she began in the second year of her term, was an important part of getting student issues on the agenda. "I see myself as one of thousands of people in a team," she beamed. "We're all trying to work together as a community."

When asked about her next steps in the faculty and beyond, Gallini said, "I want to keep things going, but at the same time I want to clean up...I'm looking forward to going back to more research and teaching."

Students can meet the dean in the Meekison Arts Student Space BUCH D140 next Wednesday January 20.

## TOTEM TO GET NEW DIGS

UBC Housing and Conferences, along with Campus and Community Planning, held a consultation session for a new seven-storey in-fill housing unit at Totem Park residences.

The project, which will cost approximately \$45 million and is scheduled to be completed in August 2011, will add just over 560 new beds to the first- and second-year housing complex. The proposed dorms will be private bedrooms with a shared bath, compared to the current dormitories, which consist of shared quarters and a communal bathroom on each floor.

Hotson Bakker Boniface Haden is the architectural firm hired for the project. They are striving for REAP Gold standard, UBC's personal green building assessment system based on the LEED Gold standard.

—Samantha Jung



To be completed in August 2011, the in-fill housing at Totem will have sustainability features such as green roofs and rain collectors. GERALD DEO PHOTOS/THE UBYSSEY

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WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S **ROMEO AND JULIET**

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Ubyssey Shameless Givaway

# Backstory

Nuuchaanulth Ceremonial Curtains and the Work of Ƙi-ƙe-in

Bringing together contemporary ceremonial curtains by Nuuchaanulth artist **Ƙi-ƙe-in (Ron Hamilton)** and historical curtains from museum and private collections in Canada and the United States.

**January 17 to March 28, 2010**  
Opening reception: Saturday, January 16, 3 to 5 pm

This exhibition is generously sponsored by The Audain Foundation, and is presented with the 2010 Vancouver Cultural Olympiad, with support from the British Columbia Arts Council, the Canada Council for the Arts and the UBC Museum of Anthropology

Ƙi-ƙe-in painting the thliitsapilthim of Ha'wiih Nuukmiis of the House of Iiwaasht. Opitsat-h, Tia-o-qui-ah, winter 1988-89, Vancouver, B.C. Photo: Haayusinapshiihl.

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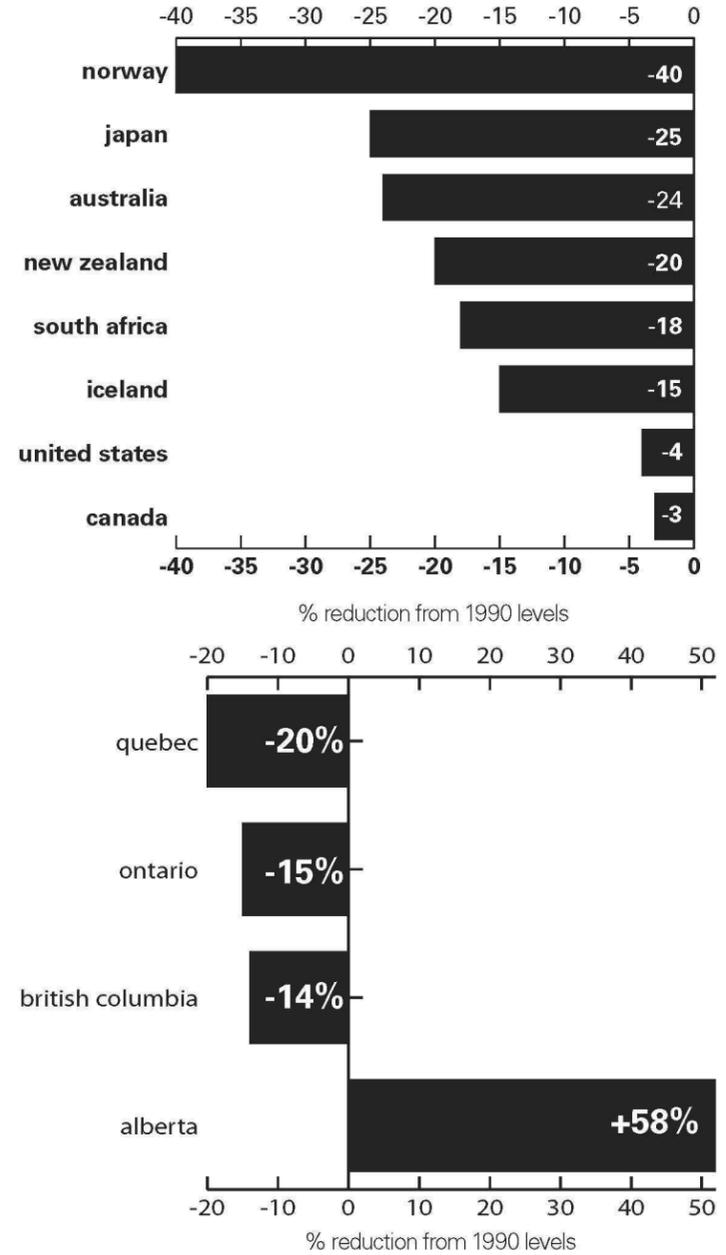
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Proposed CO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions from 1990 levels for 2020, per country (top) and per province (bottom). GERALD DEO GRAPHICS/THEUBYSSEY

## Canadians in Copenhagen: a tough pill to swallow

**SARAH CHUNG**  
schung@ubyssey.ca

Making an international agreement on climate action between 193 leaders of states with varying political stances is challenging, even if everyone is working together. But UBC master's student Liz Ferris claims that Canada was the "obstructionist" at Copenhagen.

"Canada was not only playing neutral...we were obstructionists, we were very much lower than what actually needs to happen in order to make our greenhouse gas emissions to a level to avoid catastrophic climate change," said Ferris.

December 18 marked the end of the UN Conference for Climate Change in Copenhagen, Denmark, also known as COP 15. After 12 days of deliberation and debates between over 10,000 politicians and environment ministers, a non-binding Copenhagen Accord was drafted.

The Accord proposes that developed countries fund \$30 billion over the next three years to developing nations' projects that would alleviate problems of drought and floods caused by climate change. It also "set a goal" of raising \$100 billion a year by 2020.

Ferris, along with five other UBC students, was at the scene of the debate in COP 15.

"We all wanted a FAB agreement—a fair, ambitious and legally binding agreement," said Ferris.

But the 2010 Copenhagen Accord, unlike the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, which it is set to replace before Kyoto expires in 2012, is not legally binding.

Still, many countries set their own individual targets for climate change, such as the European Union committing to a 40 per cent reduction of greenhouse gas emission below the 1990 levels.

Canada, on the other hand, was only willing to commit to three per cent reduction below 1990 levels.

Canada also ranked 61 out of 62 countries this year in terms of how effective countries were with reaching their reduced emission targets, according to Climate Action Network, a worldwide network of over 450 non-governmental organizations. The only country behind Canada was Saudi Arabia.

"It was actually a tough pill to swallow to realize that...as a Canadian [we were] sort of a bad joke of the conference, that my government was actively breaking apart the talks rather than participating," said Ferris.

Megan McKeen, the youngest UBC representative at the conference and a member of Canadian Youth Delegation, felt "embarrassed" to be Canadian. "I think my initial reaction...was still heart-breaking. It was very emotional to see them play lightly with lives on the line," she said.

However, some positive things came out of the conference. COP 15 gained a wider exposure on climate change. "It was hugely empowering to the numbers of people who are concerned about this issue," said Ferris.

"Within 24 hours, 11 million people around the planet, including 124,000 Canadians, signed a petition stating that they want climate change," she said, adding that people no longer have doubts over the scientific evidence that shows that climate change and global warming is happening and that the consequences will be and are "being catastrophic."

Now safely back at home, both Ferris and McKeen plan to continue advocating and coming up with sustainable, tangible solutions.

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# YVR AddFare no longer applies to passholders

Yes, UBC students, that means that you can go to the airport for free

**SAMANTHA JUNG**  
news@ubyssey.ca

U-Pass holders who wish to travel to the Vancouver airport (YVR) via the Canada Line will no longer have to pay, after a recent change in TransLink policies.

When the YVR AddFare came into effect on January 1, it was \$2.50 for a one-way fare, which had to be purchased while passengers were travelling between Templeton and Bridgeport stations on the Canada Line. "Non-cash fare media," or pass holders, were not exempted from this fee, to the dismay of the AMS and the Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS), as this included U-Pass holders.

Whenever you ask for a public response, you're only going to hear from the people who don't want it...I think this was more in the interests of streamlining a system that was too complicated.

**KEN HARDIE**  
TRANSLINK MEDIA RELATIONS

The SFSS and the AMS both sent letters to TransLink in opposition. "The TransLink commissioner solicited input from transit users over this issue and student unions from across the Lower Mainland made submissions stating that U-Pass holders should not pay the YVR AddFare citing the existing U-Pass contracts," said Tim Chu, AMS VP external.

On January 7, TransLink announced they would exempt U-Passes, monthly FareCards and FareSaver tickets from the fee. Additionally, they lumped the two fees together, so travellers have to pay one \$5 fee for a round-trip instead of two \$2.50 fees.

According to UBC Insiders, the TransLink report outlined that the "vast majority" of the 400 responses to their public consultation were opposed to the AddFare, "citing a lack of alternatives, effects on ridership and discrimination as reasons."

When asked if the opposition to the AddFare was the reason the fee was changed, Ken Hardie of TransLink media relations disagreed. He said that "it was generally agreed that we needed to make the process simpler...and easy to enforce."

"Whenever you ask for a public response," Hardie continued, "you're only going to hear from the people who don't want it...I think this was more in the interests of streamlining a system that was too complicated. There had been a lot of concern...on the impact of charging the whole AddFare...for a one way trip."

## CENTRE FOR STUDENT INVOLVEMENT OPENS WITH A FLOURISH—BALLOONS!



### NEW SPACE HELPS PEER PROGRAMS CONNECT

Miserable rain and early nightfall couldn't keep students out of Brock Hall to celebrate the grand opening of the new Centre for Student Involvement, also known as CSI. Along with booths informing many visitors about the variety of volunteer and leadership opportunities at UBC, student assistants

led tours highlighting the blend of social and work space, which included meeting rooms and shared resources for the leadership programs that operate out of the space.

—Gerald Deo

GERALD DEO PHOTOS/THE UBYSSEY

MARK WAHLBERG RACHEL WEISZ SUSAN SARANDON STANLEY TUCCI MICHAEL IMPERIOLI SAOIRSE RONAN

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THE OLYMPICS

## UBC services to DTES affected by Games

FABIOLA CARLETTI  
Contributor

The UBC peninsula can feel far removed from the Downtown Eastside, Canada's poorest postal code. The university is often lauded as an academic beacon, while the DTES is discussed as a blemish on the face of a polished and Olympic-ready Vancouver.

But through several innovative projects, many groups within the UBC community regularly connect with the much-maligned area. These projects help alleviate some of the neighbourhood's problems and challenge its one-dimensional reputation as a slum.

"It's not the mandate of the university, which is academically focused, to somehow solve poverty," said Mary Holmes, who runs the Urban Aboriginal Community Kitchen Garden at the UBC Farm. "Still, our emphasis is around paving the pathway with kindness."

As thousands of visitors swarm the city in February, many projects will feel the impact and be forced to adapt. *The Ubyyssey* spoke to some of those planning for the Olympic rush.

"We will be doing some proactive planning," said Margo Fryer, founding director of the UBC Learning Exchange. "Our location is close to some of the Olympic venues and we will be in the midst of all of that activity."

The Learning Exchange has a storefront location on Main Street, making it the university's physical presence in the DTES. It offers various services like language programs, computer training courses and student-designed initiatives. Fryer estimates that around 100 residents make use of the centre every day.

"It's not going to be business as usual," said Fryer, "but it would be silly for use to shut down for two weeks and wait for it all to be over. That would be irresponsible."



SHUN ENDO FILE PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/THE UBYSSEY

Holmes is less sure of how she will adapt. Every week, a bus picks up DTES residents and native elders, bringing them to the farm to garden, cook, eat together and take food back with them. During the Games, their regular bus route may be congested or even blocked off.

Holmes wants her participants to tell her what they want to do.

"I'm going to be elastic," she said, though her aim is to keep the service going. "A lot of people depend on the garden 52 weeks of the year, even when we're not growing anything."

Other projects are closer to high-traffic areas on campus.

Margo Butler is the Academic Director of Humanities 101, a non-credit university-level course geared toward DTES residents. Classes are held in the Buchanan complex.

"There are 60 students a week from the Downtown Eastside who are at the campus Tuesday and Thursday nights," said Butler. She pointed out that other community members "might not even know that they're having supper at the SUB with these students."

But this service will be on hiatus during the games, partly because the atmosphere on campus is expected to be different as it hosts Olympic events.

"One of the reasons is that the security [on campus] is going to be so high and it's not necessary to subject our students to it," she said.

One of Butler's former students, comedian Paul "Decarie" Cloutier, is taking a humorous approach to the upcoming event.

"As I say in my routine, I'm in favour of anything that brings attention to Vancouver, like Expo '86, the Olympics and feet washing up

on shore," he said.

When Cloutier was a UBC student, he frequented the Burger Bar in the SUB. Though he enjoyed his time on campus, he didn't see it as an escape from his "sometimes rough" neighbourhood.

"Looking from the outside in, people place judgment on [the DTES], but for many of our students it's a desirable place to live," said Paul James Woodhouse, program assistant for Humanities 101 in UBC, who said many residents have fresh perspectives and "beautiful minds."

This upcoming reading week could be a chance for students to develop their own first-hand opinions.

"Everybody's got preconceived notions," said Fryer. "The reason why we see these programs as so powerful is that they do unsettle preconceptions. People get surprised and that's how learning happens." □

## OLYMPIC BRIEFS

TRANSLINK ANTICIPATES  
TWO-HOUR WAITS

TransLink is warning commuters that they can expect waits of up to two hours at some transit stations next month during the Olympic, reported *The Vancouver Sun*.

Ken Hardie of TransLink media relations said that the waits would likely be only at peak hours, such as the morning rush, when events are occurring and after medals ceremonies.

The transit population is expected to swell 33 per cent with 250,000 more people using the service per day. The crunch is expected to be at all Downtown stations, the Lougheed station and the stations with park and rides, such as Scott Road and King George.

Bicycles will be banned from the Canada Line and SkyTrain to accommodate crowds. TransLink is encouraging transit users to adjust their schedules and take extra time in commuting.

CYPRESS CLOSES EARLY TO  
PREPARE FOR GAMES

As of January 13, Cypress mountain has closed its alpine runs early in order to preserve the freestyle skiing and snowboard courses for the Olympics.

The early closure of the mountain follows days of warm and wet weather. VANOC has been running "an extensive snow salvage project" to save snow and stockpiling it at higher elevations.

VANOC will now begin construction to prepare for the Olympics, which includes warming tents, along with fencing and banners. The slopes will reopen for the public on March 9.

ENGINEERS DISCOVER SECRET  
TO MAKING ATHLETES FASTER

UBC engineers have discovered a secret that will hopefully win Canada more medals at the coming 2010 Winter Games, reported *The Vancouver Sun*.

After three years and nearly \$400,000, the engineers have come up with two new different surfaces designed for BC's warm and rainy conditions: one super-slick, friction-reducing metal surface, and a plastic surface for skates, skis and snowboards.

One design features speedskate blades that repel water on the ice, with a pattern engraved within it shaped like a lotus leaf. On the new skis and snowboards, friction has been reduced by the plastic up to 20 per cent, which means a small yet crucial advantage for Canadian athletes in the winter games.

"Canada in the previous Olympic Games won a lot of fourth places. It's the kind of thing that I would imagine would be very bothersome for these athletes. We thought that by slightly improving the times we could push them to the podium positions," said Savvas Hatzikiakos, a chemical and biological engineering professor at UBC who led the endeavour.

"There's not enough time for anybody to copy us. Maybe in the next Olympic Games but by then we should try to discover something else." □

## Frats to flee campus during Games

## Houses to be rented out to security units for month of February

JONNY WAKEFIELD  
jwakefield@ubyssey.ca

While the rest of Vancouver is either partying on Granville or getting out of town, expect a somewhat more subdued atmosphere at the UBC Fraternity Village in mid-February. It was recently announced that the houses on Westbrook would be rented to a group providing Olympic security for the month of February, where the fraternity users would be relocated.

A press release prepared by Glen Bury, president of the Fraternity Village Strata Council, outlined the rental decision. The Strata Council, which oversees the management of the fraternity residences, decided unanimously to rent their houses to non-members during the Olympics. The rental idea was proposed during the 2008/2009 academic year, and was approved before the start of this year's fall term. The Strata

Council is composed of representatives from each fraternity group.

The fraternities hired Prime Strategies, a Vancouver-based event planning agency to find a renter during the games. They lodge a group who are providing Olympic venue security for the duration of the games, according to the release.

Among Prime's notable former customers is the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Bid Committee. The firm provided "travel, event and site management" for a group of VIPs attending the 2003 International Olympic Committee session in which Vancouver was selected as the site of the 2010 Olympic Games. A representative of Prime said that due to contract issues, he could not discuss the partnership with the fraternities.

The demand for event adjacent housing has provided a "unique economic opportunity," said Bury.

"We can't disclose, as a condition

of our contract with Prime, how much money we receive," he said, but he stressed the benefits of the income to fraternity members.

"I'm a Deke. In my house, we gave the guys a discount on their rent," he added. "All the money we get goes back into either subsidizing housing for our guys, upgrading our facilities, or doing something for the users. Each house will have control over how it uses its share of the money."

While the Strata Council's vote was unanimous, members of Phi Gamma Delta, a fraternity group, will not be renting their house. Maintenance required as part of the rental arrangement was seen as "not worth it," said Bury.

The fraternities' decision to rent such a large percentage of their beds out during the games is unique on campus. Andrew Parr, the managing director of Student Housing and Hospitality Services,

said renting student residences was never considered an option. For market housing on campus, the rental of housing is up to the owner, said Jan Fialkowski, the executive director of the University Neighbourhoods Association.

It is hard to judge the opinions of members towards the rentals, which some in the media are referring to as an "eviction." Most members contacted for this article declined comment, as they had been asked not to. One who did comment, Lawrence Austin of Beta Theta Pi, felt that the decision was a smart one because of the monetary gain. When asked if he felt that he was being evicted, the answer was "yes and no," pointing out the inconvenience of being forced to totally move out of his room so close to exam time, but adding the inconvenience was mitigated by the fraternity helping him find alternate housing. □

# Olympic profile: Loo longs for the podium

NICOLE GALL  
ngall@ubyssey.ca

For 37-year-old Richmond snowboarder and UBC Commerce alumna Alexa Loo, even an accounting office downtown with a view of the mountains was not enough to keep her from leaving her clients to pursue an Olympic record.

When Loo graduated from UBC in 1994, she didn't get into snowboarding until the next year. Then, in 1998, the same year that she received her Chartered Accountant designation, Loo decided to charter a new life course, which she began carving out on the mountain as a member of the Canadian National Snowboarding Team.

Although Loo missed qualifying for the Salt Lake City in 2002 by eleven hundredths of a second, she persevered, and at the 2006 Turin Winter Olympics she became the first Canadian woman to compete in the Olympic Parallel Giant Slalom (PGS) event, placing 20<sup>th</sup>.

Since Turin, the time and money that Loo has invested in training for PGS—where two snowboarders race head-to-head down a course through a series of gates—has paid off. Loo won a bronze medal in 2006 in Italy, a World Cup bronze medal in 2009 in the US, and last Wednesday (January 6), Loo raced to a career-best second-place finish in World Cup PGS event in Kreischberg, Austria.

"My second place last week in Kreischberg was my biggest accomplishment so far," Loo told *The Ubssey* in an e-mail sent from Switzerland (where she is training for a World Cup run on the 17<sup>th</sup>). "It felt like a huge relief and a lot of fun, as I had been doubting my abilities recently after a few bad races."



UBC Commerce alumna Alexa Loo placed 20<sup>th</sup> in the 2006 Olympics as the first Canadian woman in the Olympic Parallel Giant Slalom. COURTESY OF ALEXA LOO

The weight of a silver medal around her neck has allowed Loo to shake off some of the self-doubt that inevitably affects the athletes who dedicate years of their life to a race where every split-second is significant.

"Every day, I think about what I am doing and how it will affect my snowboard career; how to keep my body healthy and strong, whether I need to make changes to my equipment or my training," said Loo.

In addition to the demands of her own professional snowboarding career, Loo has dedicated her time to representing the voice of Canadian Olympic athletes. After serving as the Athlete Rep for the International Ski Federation (FIS), she worked to reform the FIS election process so that it was more democratic and functional. Currently, Loo is serving as a board member for AthletesCAN and an Athlete Rep for the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC).

"I try to be an ambassador for my sport, sharing it with others whenever I get the opportunity. I especially enjoy going to elementary schools and showing the kids photos and movies of my sport and telling them about it," said Loo.

With just over one month remaining in the Olympic countdown, Loo has set her sights on reaching her podium potential in the women's Parallel Giant Slalom event on February 26. But the ac-

countant in her always keeps the long-term in mind.

"I will probably keep racing until the 2011 World Championships and then see what opportunities present themselves," said Loo of her future plans, also sharing the news that she will be marrying the love of her life, Ari Goosen, after the Games.

"The great ones are the ones who are truly talented athletes and can keep focussed and driven long enough to show their talents." ❄️

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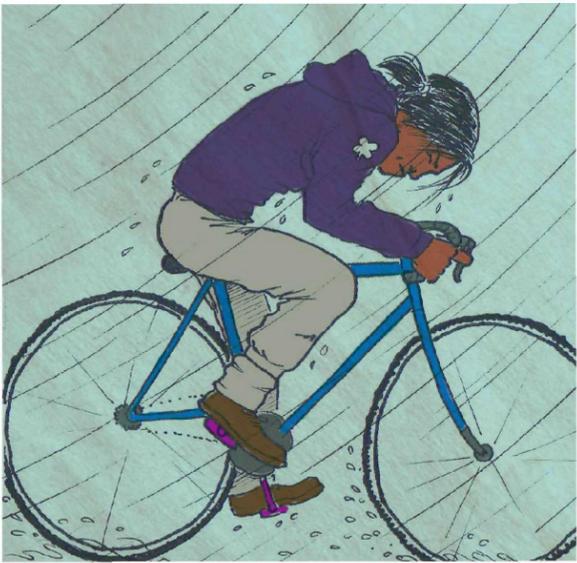
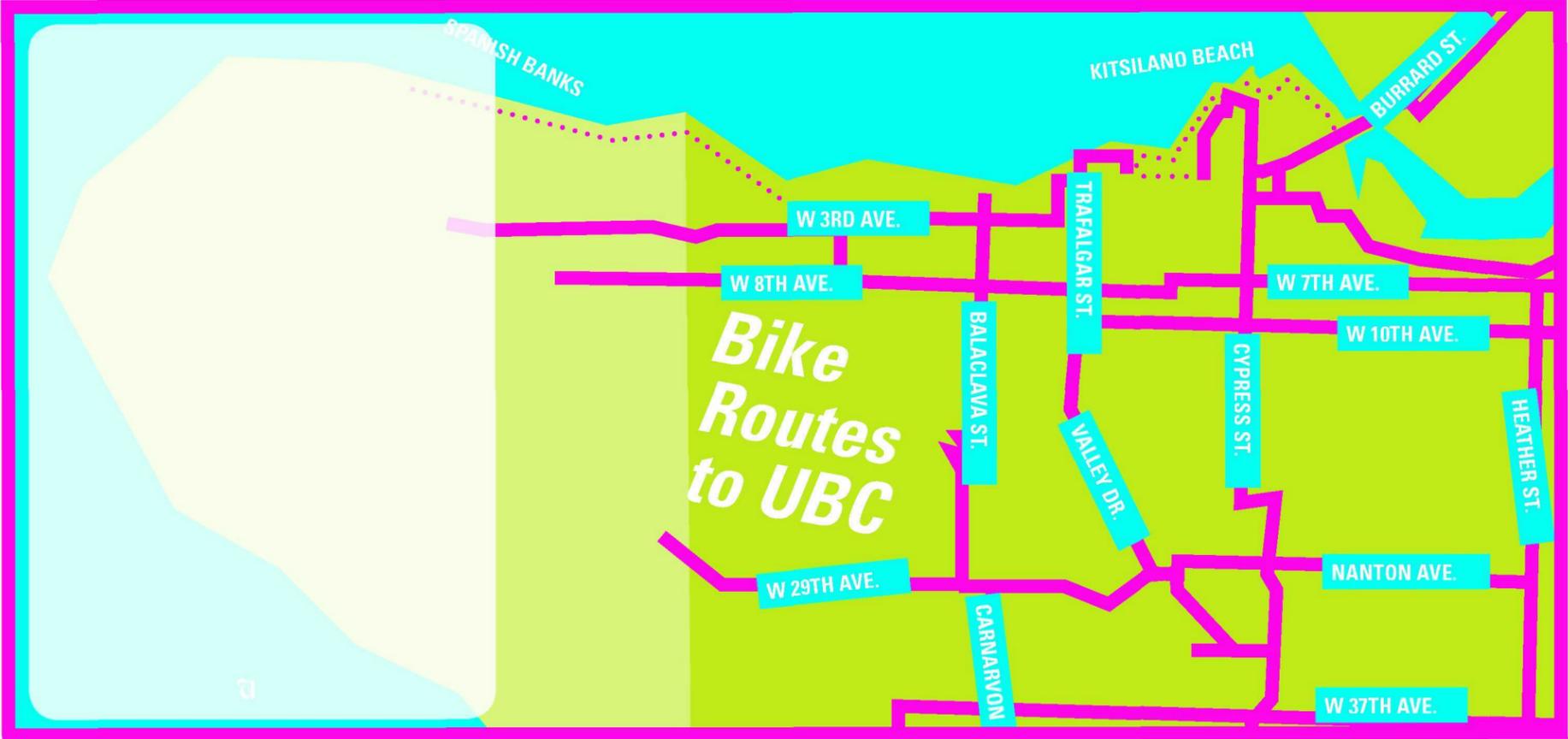
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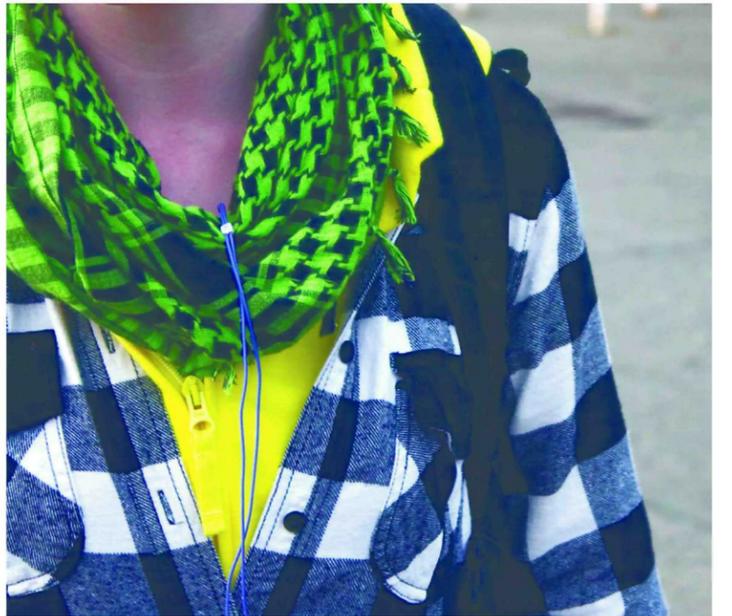
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# Winter training no day at the beach

## Across the country, varsity teams fly south for the holidays

**SANDY CHASE**  
The Brunswickan

DORADO, Puerto Rico (CUP)—Quite often, when friends hear that a team is going away to a training camp, they can be jealous of those escaping the cold Canadian winter. Training camps, which usually take place in exotic and sunny locations, are sometimes perceived as vacations by the unknowing outsider, but in reality they are one of the most exhausting weeks of an athlete's life.

This year, the UBC Thunderbird basketball teams travelled south for the holidays: the men to Hawaii, where they have trained the last three winters, and the women to Cuba. Both coaches felt the trip was beneficial.

"We got to face off against some great club teams from the island," said women's coach Deb Huband.

"Playing against teams that are extremely quick, extremely athletic, teams that play a style we won't normally see up here, it only makes us better."

Men's coach Kevin Hanson echoed the sentiments.

"It's a great environment to be in, because you can wear shorts and t-shirts, but the reality is we're training and playing nearly every game," he said. "The guys don't get to relax."

This year, the University of New Brunswick Varsity Reds swim team traveled to Puerto Rico over the holiday break, and although the planes didn't touch down until Dec. 28, the training camp actually started nearly a month before.

Throughout the month of December, the team increased the amount they swam, averaging around six kilometres swum per practice, to get the team used to the higher training volume. Although the intensity remained moderate, the team was mentally preparing for the tough sets to come.

Training camps are often misunderstood by the outside observer.



New Brunswick swimmer Anthony Hickey swam over 80 kilometres while in Puerto Rico. COURTESY OF THE BRUNSWICKAN

People will wonder why a team has to travel south to do the same work and training that could be done at home.

More than just being able to focus better on the training at hand, there's another big psychological advantage to heading south for a week of training. Being able to relax between sessions is a key factor in being able to succeed at camp.

"Driving down to a morning practice, doing dryland, team breakfast together and then coming back at night and to start again, it's mentally tiring," said Brian Beaudette, who is in charge of recruitment and is a former men's team captain.

"Coming here, you get to watch

the sun rise over your lane, which is really amazing. You get to spend the day in the sun and the heat together which is a reward in itself," Beaudette added, noting that even with the rain, the 25 degree Celsius weather is still awesome.

"Doing a night practice and not seeing the darkness and not being in the cold at five o'clock at night, it just does so much more for you."

The final advantage of going away for training camp is that the training times are more flexible. Often with long course pools closer to the equator, many teams will come to the same spot to train.

Over the course of the UNB camp, six other swim teams from Canada and the US were staying at

the same resort, including the Laval Rouge et Or. With an eight-lane pool, all the teams had access to the necessary pool time.

The Brunswick swim team completed over 80,000 metres in their week in Puerto Rico, with runs, circuit training and dryland exercises on top of their time in the pool. Eighty kilometres over eight days may not seem like a long distance in other sports, but it's a significant amount for swimmers.

"If you want to put it in perspective, a marathon race in swimming is five kilometres, so when we swim ten kilometres in a day, that's a marathon in the morning and a marathon in the evening," said UNB swimming coach Dan Monid.

"But that's the conditioning it takes to build up to do this; none of us could run two marathons in a day, but that's because we're not runners. Nobody can do what we do ...just talk to the (athletes) who are training."

Although training was the dominant focus of the camp, there was plenty of time for the team to relax and explore Puerto Rico, including a chance to explore old San Juan and a visit to the rainforest.

"We got to go up a mountain, which was such a good opportunity, but of course we made it into training. We ran up and it killed the legs, but the view at the top was worth it," said second-year swimmer Natalie Doucette.

"You can't really put a value on what we gained from this trip...You can't pay for these experiences. You can pay to get down here but what we do down here is invaluable," she added.

One feeling that was unanimous throughout the group of students was that they all felt closer because of the training camp. Doucette said homesickness doesn't happen with the players, because the swim team acts like a second family, a feeling that is shared with many of her teammates.

Tiffany Cook, a first-year swimmer at UNB, said that the team's coaches were responsible for the success of the trip, and that they are "amazing. Training camps back home were good, and going away is good, but the sets are all perfectly planned. Dan and [coach Aaron Lee] did so much work on this."

Monid, a former UNB swimmer, said that one of the great things about the camp is the memories.

"You work your ass off, you push yourself to the limit, fail, then get back up and do it again. And between that you're in the sun, you're sleeping, you're with great friends and you're seeing new places. You couldn't ask for a better set of memories." ☺

—With files from Justin McElroy

## WEEKEND PREVIEW

### 'BIRDS BOUNCE BACK?

**HOCKEY** | After a tough two losses to the Regina Rams last weekend, the T-Birds Women's hockey team has another tough test this weekend, as they face off against the Alberta Pandas in a two-games series at Father Baur Arena.

"Again we thought we played well enough to win but we just couldn't finish. That has been the story for us so far this year and although we are disappointed with the loss, we can take some good things away from this game," said T-Birds head coach Nancy Wilson after the two games that UBC lost by scores of 2-1 and 3-2.

The two losses pushed UBC's record to 5-8-1 and to fifth place in the Canada West conference. Only four teams make the playoffs, and with ten games left in the season, every series is now crucial for the team. Alberta may not be

the ideal opponent for the T-Birds however, as they are a perfect 16-0 on the season, and ranked No. 2 in the country.

### T-BIRD COACH RECOGNIZED

**BASEBALL** | UBC head coach Terry McKaig has been named one of the top 100 Canadians in Baseball for the third straight year, ranking No. 62 on SunMedia's annual list. McKaig has been head coach of UBC since 1997, and has seen 11 of his players drafted in the MLB Amateur Draft—the most famous being Colorado Rockies pitcher Jeff Francis.

McKaig was cited by Bob Elliott, who compiled the list, as successfully leading Canada's only four-year university baseball program, and managing his mostly Canadian team deep into the 2009 NIAA playoffs. ☺



After a disappointing weekend, can UBC recover this weekend at home? MICHAEL THIBAUT PHOTO/THEUBYSSEY

# ACTUAL RANT

## HELLO, LOYAL READERSHIP!

Today, we are running the coveted Actual Rant issue. This is a silly issue, where we let everyone's silly opinions get into print, and print a few silly opinions of our own. That's why we have a silly name, like Actual Rant. This comes from a time when the editors were much sillier, and

Rant meant "Literary Supplement," so to differentiate, we called the issue where we let people actually rant "Actual Rant." Our inane idiosyncrasies aside, we've decided to make this silly idea of ranting a regular thing. So e-mail us your rants ALL YEAR LONG at [rant@ubyssey.ca](mailto:rant@ubyssey.ca).

It should be mentioned that all of these opinions have only been edited for style, which means that this is 100 per cent raw UBC student opinion for your reading pleasure. Have fun, and don't forget to send us your rants.

—Paul Buccì

### THIS BLOWS!

LANA MADOR

How many people does it take to move a leaf? UBC's answer: For an operation like that we'd need at least ten machines.

Last time I counted, that's how many workers were packin' leaf blowers on one campus block. TEN! It cannot possibly be necessary to have that kind of crew combing the campus in search of every single loose leaf that has been so rude as to fall onto the precious sidewalks.

You might have mistaken them for the ghostbusters storming the campus with the blaring noise and awkward bulk of their machines, but really the only threats these teams combat are tiny withered leaves.

As much as we all love walking through clouds of blower smog on the way to class, or trying to study with the screeching of ancient motors as background music, it just doesn't seem very sustainable to me.

Are UBC sidewalks truly so dangerously allergic to leaves that maintenance crews have no choice but to pull out the big guns? Or is someone simply so hateful of the environment and student comfort that they are intentionally trying to destroy both?

Legend has it that once upon a time humans invented a nifty little thing called a "rake." This simple contraption could be used quite effectively to move, pile and repile leaves, all without the blaring noise, chronic air pollution and colossal waste of energy involved in using hordes of leaf blowers. Aaaaah those were the days... ☹

### ROCKING AROUND THE CLOCK

SHAR SMITH

My rant has to do with clocks around UBC. Why are they not set to the right time? Why shut them off? Does time stop when classes are over? Time is infinite, so why do clocks at UBC have to be stopped? Start the clocks now and never again shut them down! Not everyone has the time! There are still human beings in the building after all the classes are over. Keep the time going! ☹

### WHEN WE USED TO STAND FOR SOMETHING

PIERCE NETTLING

This editorial ran in *The Ubcyssey* on July 23, 1992:

#### MEDIA DISTORTS, BUT THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES

On the night of Wednesday, April 29, a political uprising occurred in Los Angeles. No, this was not simply a "riot" and those who participated in the uprising were not merely "looters." Three days ago, young Black people in Montréal rose up. Forty people were arrested, twenty-seven of whom were minors, in a skirmish that broke out between members of Montréal's Haitian community and the police. An article, which appeared in *The Globe and Mail* two days ago,

portrayed the participants in the events in Montréal as "vandals." The focus of the *Globe* article was on loss of property, and shopkeepers were portrayed as the "innocent victims" of young Black "vandals." Whether or not the uprising, which took place in Montréal, was explicitly political is debatable, but the article in the *Globe and Mail* certainly has political implications. By repeatedly using such words as "riot," "looters," and "vandals" over and over again, the media has portrayed the actions of Black people in Montréal, Los Angeles and other cities as criminal.

Indeed, these words suggest that the Black community, as a whole, is a criminal element. By not representing the social and economic contexts in which the Montréal and Los Angeles uprisings occurred and thus implying the outbreak was spontaneous and anomalous, the media has upheld racist stereotypes.

If we were to be informed solely through the mainstream media, we would be led to believe dominant, white values are neutral and benevolent.

And we would be led to believe any actions which challenge the white supremacist ruling class are criminal. What is hidden behind this facade is that institutions, such as the media and the police, exist primarily to "serve and protect the interests of a racist power structure. Meanwhile, Black community leaders have been shut out of the discourse. In the *Globe* article (and many others like it) there are no Black people quoted; no Black voices are being heard. The mainstream media has chosen to ignore the anger of the Black community. They have chosen, moreover, to ignore the political struggles being carried out by Black and other visible minority communities in North America. Racism pervades North American culture and society—it exists everywhere and, as such, it cannot be ignored.

Looking back, I wonder, where did we go wrong? We have as a generation slowly lost our passion and soul for the "more just society of tomorrow." Or maybe we just never had it. You can turn your iPod back on now, there's nothing really to see here. ☹

### OBAMA TRAUMA

MIMI YU

You know what really pissed me off towards the end of 2009?

Obama.

Well, not really Obama but the Norwegian Nobel Committee. You guys have really screwed up and not for the first time (more on that later).

For those of you unfamiliar with the history of the Nobel Prizes, here it is in short: there once was a man named Alfred Nobel. He invented dynamite, and other armaments. And then he felt bad about inventing devices that would lead to the deaths of millions of innocent people so he designed the award with his will to recognize positive human advances (such as peace and medicine). This is all good for Alfred—who can die with a feather-light conscience—but he never had to decide who was worthy of such a title! Obama is our latest Nobel Peace Prize winner and I just have

to say: shame on the Norwegian Nobel Committee for electing a man who basically said, "War is necessary for peace!" Yeah, that'll definitely make me sleep better at night.

Now, I understand the effect that Barack Obama had on the world. He was the symbol of America's victory over racism (although, this is highly debatable, as right-wing support rose immensely after he was elected). He is also a symbol of hope to international communities. Obama was different than any other American president but more frankly, Obama wasn't Bush. Except when he announced that 30,000 more troops would be sent to Afghanistan (now their faces blur together just a little!) Huh. I wonder how the committee sleeps at night knowing that Mahatma Gandhi was snubbed five times by the Nobel Committee for his non-violent approach to peace but Obama walks away with the award for his militarily armed and physically offensive approach to peace.

I'm no hater. I once believed that in the future Obama could've won a DESERVED Nobel Peace Prize. But nothing has changed in the last year!

I'm no hater. I once believed that in the future (NOT during his first year of presidency) Obama could've won a DESERVED Nobel Peace Prize. But nothing has changed in the last year! America is still in the war. We're still in the war. The world is still fighting with each other and what to do with this war. Obama was great while it lasted, but let's be honest here: he is still a young, inexperienced president who is guided by a very republican senate. And the Norwegian Nobel Committee just proved themselves to be nothing but groupies caught up in the hype. ☹

### CYCLES

ANDREA BREDEN

Cycles: we all experience them in our lives. Women go through them every month, and males...well, males can recycle.

The most important form of the cycle occurs everyday, wreaking havoc upon innocent pedestrians. Sometimes they are silent and stealth as they creep up behind you. Other times they make sounds to portray speed, bragging about the amount of time it takes them to get to their destination. Either way, these cycles alter peaceful strolls into tense treks. I am, of course, referring to the many bicycles and their owners running amok on the roads of UBC.

You can spot them anywhere and anytime. They are loved by Mother Nature and those who race across campus, running late because of their "broken" alarm clocks. From the early stages of childhood, we have been filled with wonder for the delightful invention whose sole

purpose was to move us from one location to the next. Little did we know that the machine had an ulterior motive.

The shiny metal carefully entices each unsuspecting rider into assisting the bike in its goal: to score as many points as possible in the game of near misses. Each wheeler—whether it be a uni, a bi, or a tri—wishes to give you a little surprise whenever they cross the street, appearing out of nowhere and nearly knocking you to the ground. Five points for cutting across someone's path. Eight points for creeping up behind someone and edging them forward faster, and a whopping ten points for propelling stick straight to someone, turning the handlebars at the very last second and narrowly missing the innocent walker. Naturally, this risk-filled game leaves all pedestrians in terror, causing them to look before they cross the street!

You would think that if this act of being cautious continues, cyclists would give up their joyful amusements. Well, you would be wrong. Bonus points would be given if there were multiple cyclists and only one succeeded in the terror factor. And, just for fun, props would be given to the cyclist with the best machine: penny-farthings. Therefore, the question of what to do when faced with the metal monsters arises. My only suggestion is to wear protective head gear and look up every now and then for signs of spinning spokes. ☹

### BRING ME MY BAGELS

SAMANTHA JUNG

You know what's a healthy breakfast item? Bagels. They're packed with carbs and grains to give you energy, come in many variations, and are more filling than just toast. Not to mention bagels are quick and easy snacks on the go.

Now, where can you get bagels in the SUB? Starbucks bagels are dry and grainy. The Pendulum has only one kind (white). Bernoulli's Bagels, however, offers over 15 different kinds of bagels and a multitude of flavoured cream cheese, bagel sandwiches, pizza pretzels and bagel melts. Delicious.

Bernoulli's Bagels, however, offers over 15 different kinds of bagels and a multitude of flavoured cream cheese, bagel sandwiches, pizza pretzels and bagel melts. Delicious.

Bernoulli's has one problem: they only take cash.

Being one of those students who doesn't usually carry cash with them, this is a huge problem. "Carry cash," you say? Between courses and a full-time job, I rarely have time to do my laundry, let alone wait in line at an ATM to take out cash in order to buy a bagel.

Bernoulli's is the only food outlet in the SUB that only takes cash. And it's one of the busiest in the

morning. Does that make sense to anyone? It also serves food to students enjoying an after-class drink in The Gallery. If I'm at a bar, I usually bring cash. However, if I run out, I have a debit card and a credit card to whet my whistle and enjoy nachos. My plastic isn't any good there.

Blue Chip Cookies recently started to accept debit. Our SUB may be 50 years old, and we'll be getting a new one in (hopefully) four years' time, but please, Bernoulli's. It's 2010.

I just want a fucking bagel. ☹

### KAI VS. SAAM

KAI GREEN

Screw you, Sexual Assault Awareness Month, for being a fear-mongering pile—a well-intentioned but ill-advised waste of goodwill and time and money. Your flyers are ugly, your programming is, for the most part, weak (gag me with a live performance spoon) and, let's face it, you're not going to get the people whose minds you need to change to pay attention to this, if you're following my syntax here. Screw you, especially for furthering the stereotype of the humourless feminist by being little more than a giant overreaction to an *Underground* article that I, quite frankly, thought was a little bit funny. And no, that's not because I've been brainwashed by A Campus-wide Culture of Rape, or because I'm a bad feminist, or because I'm unaware of the serious consequences of the serious business that is sexual assault—it's because, based on what was an admittedly offhand reading, I thought it was a pretty goddamn good ironic indictment of the way this campus maybe *doesn't* take sexual assault seriously, you tits. And even if it was, really and truly, just an epically bad joke, *an apology—let alone temporarily shutting down the publication—should have sufficed*. Because, sunshine, here is a news flash for you: overreactions like that and 'discussion panels' like these don't squat besides massage some egos.

Look, I hate to break it to you, but you're not "dialoguing" or "raising awareness" or "changing hearts and minds" or whatever buzzword it is this year, you're just preaching to the goddamn choir. Your public presence is gawdawful. I mean, seriously, I had to practically hack the shit out of Google just to get basic information. And would it kill you all, really, if for once you *didn't* assume that sexual assault remains a problem because people are *unaware* of it? I mean, ferchrisakes, statistics aside, I don't think there's a person on this campus who hasn't seen the giant, similarly useless, flashing blue light things that are supposed to protect us from stranger (and acquaintance) danger. Why not spend your efforts, say, updating the existing websites and resource groups? The Women's Centre, should they ever decide on which vowels they're using, could use a major overhaul, considering it's still on summer hiatus. I mean fuck, compared to this latest ridiculousness, I'm for the endless parade of vagina-themed whatever that this campus becomes in winter. In short: weak-ass reactionary shit ain't helpful—it just makes the whole cause look like a bag of dicks. Or, rather, for equity's sake: a bunch of twats.

(P.S. *Totally looking forward to Tough Guys on Jan 28, I've heard good things!*) ☹

# NATIONAL

EDITOR PAUL BUCCI » coordinating@ubyssey.ca

## CASUAL STUDENT EMPLOYEES FORM UNION AT MCGILL

ERIN HALE  
McGill Daily

MONTREAL (CUP) — After a year and a half of effort, casual workers at McGill University — 65 per cent of whom are students — are now officially unionized.

The Association of McGill Undergraduate Student Employees, or AMUSE, was

certified as an official union last month. The union was approved by Québec's labour standards committee as a local of the Alliance de la Fonction publique du Canada-Québec (AFCP-Québec).

From September 2008 to April 2009, volunteers collected signatures from casual workers indicating interest in unionizing. While the exact number is not public, volunteers signed an estimated 35 to 50 per cent of workers. In a representation vote this autumn, organized by the province's

labour standards committee (Commission des normes du travail du Québec), 85 per cent of workers supported the union.

"There are so many people who are not unionized at McGill. I hope this is going to change soon on campus," said Veronique Allard, a lead organizer with AFCP-Québec. "Casual workers are usually the most vulnerable, and the fact that there was so much support for this drive shows there's still work to do to support these people." ☺

## Canadians take to the streets online

MICHAEL BRAMADAT-WILCOCK  
The Concordian

MONTREAL (CUP)—Canadians have been anything but quiet since Prime Minister Stephen Harper once again requested that Parliament be suspended.

Some voices have defended the Conservative leader's actions, arguing it is the right of the country's leader to prorogue Parliament, a right that has been exercised by many former prime ministers.

Harper is forsaking his responsibility to be accountable to his employers, us Canadians citizens.

Mission: "Canadians Against Proroguing Parliament" Facebook Group

But since December 30, when Harper asked the Governor General—for the second time in a little over a year—to suspend Parliament, there has also been a tidal wave of public backlash.

A contingent of anti-prorogation Canadians has convened through a Facebook group called "Canadians Against Proroguing Parliament," which, as of the afternoon of January 12, had a membership of close to 172,000.

In contrast, the "I Support the Prorogation of Parliament and the Prime Minister of Canada" Facebook group had about 800 members.

The anti-prorogation group's mission states that Harper is "forsaking his responsibility to be accountable to his employers, us Canadian citizens."

Prorogation—or suspension—of Parliament has its roots in the British system, said Bobby Ansari, a former graduate co-ordinator for the department of history at McGill University. And the public didn't take it any better back then.

"When King Charles I of England dissolved Parliament in 1628, people took to the street in protest," she said.

Riding the wave of prorogation dissenters, Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff has asked his party's members of Parliament to return to Ottawa on January 25, the day the House of Commons was originally set to reconvene.

"Because of the huge response to the Facebook group, the Liberal Party has jumped on it as a way to promote their campaign," Ansari said. "They have been putting radio and print ads up, using the Facebook group as a platform for their campaign."

Ansari said she takes issue with the fact that, throughout the duration of the prorogation, Canadians will lose their representation in Parliament.

"For example, there will be no one in Parliament to stand up for the protesters at the Olympics in Vancouver," she said. "If you're a protester

and get arrested in Vancouver during the Olympics, you won't be able to contact your MP until after Parliament resumes."

Some members of the Facebook group have described Harper's request to prorogue as an insult to Canadians.

When King Charles I of England dissolved Parliament in 1628, people took to the street in protest.

BOBBY ANSARI

In a post on a discussion board, Richard Wierzbicki wrote, "This prorogue of the house is the PM's way of saying he has no respect for Canada or its institutions."

Another group member, Nona MacDermid, speculated on how Canadians might react if Harper ever fails to be re-elected as Prime Minister. "[Look at] the global euphoria when Obama took office—there were celebrations in places around the world. I think we are going to have some pretty happy people partying in the streets when Mr Harper gets his permanent prorogation from politics."

Apathy has also found its way to Facebook—the "Canadians Who Don't Really Care the Parliament has been Prorogued" group had 240 members on January 12. ☺

## Ottawa student allowed back on campus

LAURA CLEMENTSON  
The Fulcrum

OTTAWA (CUP)—A physics graduate student who was given a no-trespassing notice at the University of Ottawa in December has been allowed to return back to campus, though he still faces charges.

As of January 11, Joseph Hickey is allowed back onto University of Ottawa property, according to a letter from Claude Giroux, director of the school's security department, Protection Services.

The no-trespassing notice was originally given to Hickey after he was accused of painting on the walls of the school's Morisset Hall building on December 7. After receiving the notice, Hickey went to university president Allan Rock's office on December 11 in an attempt to make an appointment to have the restriction revoked. Hickey was then handcuffed and escorted out of Rock's office.

"As a registered full-time graduate student with course, research, and teaching assistant obligations, I have the right to be on campus every day, without discrimination or interference," said Hickey earlier in January when he was still not allowed on campus.

Hickey had his first appearance in court on January 12 and faces charges of mischief under \$5000.

His second appearance will be later in January. Hickey said he will plead not guilty to the charges.

He also has a court date set for March 1, when the trial for the trespass ticket that he received while trying to make an appointment with Rock will commence. The cost of the trespass ticket is \$65. He noted that he will be calling Rock as a witness.

"I spoke to (President Rock) at that time when I was arrested and handcuffed and waiting for the Ottawa police to arrive, kind of held a little bit by Protection Services," Hickey said this week.

In the January 11 letter to Hickey, Giroux wrote that "the university expects you to refrain from engaging in any criminal activity. Should this fail to occur, the university would likely, among other things, issue a notice of trespass against you once again. You can expect, however, that the effective period of that notice will be much longer."

"This letter also implies that I'm guilty. It affirms the university's position to use trespass as a political tool," said Hickey.

Hickey, who is employed by the university as a teaching assistant and did not receive information about his winter contract during his forced absence, resumed work on January 13. ☺

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# IDEAS

## DO YOU CARE?

WRITE US A LETTER  
feedback@ubyssey.ca

EDITOR TREVOR RECORD » ideas@ubyssey.ca

## YOU SAID IT

In response to the editorial *Your move, elections committee:*

*The Ubyyssey* is claiming it wants to do what Blake and Tim did, and trample over the electoral process sanctioned by this year's AMS Council. It is unreasonable to attack the elections administrator (the 'EA'). In the last three elections, EAs were under constant attack. Irregularities always come out to bite candidates. Things have changed a lot since Menzies' time in Council in the 70s, and we ended up with the current policy. *The Ubyyssey* has already played a role in the past in making sure some candidates got a bad rapport or were ignored. This sounds like the same sort of deal. By posting candidate opinions before the allowed period, *The Ubyyssey* will jeopardize candidates, trample the electoral process approved by the AMS, and privilege particular candidates who gave them interviews, and not others. It seems too late to complain now, and bringing candidates down with your rage does not seem fair.

—Jasper Freakstone



HANNAH LORENA GRAPHIC/THE UBYSSEY

## EDITORIAL

### IF YOU ONLY VOTE ONCE, VOTE AGAINST THE ENGAGEMENT LEVY

One of the referendums in this year's AMS election ballot will be the implementation of a new "engagement levy." If passed, all students will be charged \$5 at the start of the year, which will be refunded to them months later—provided they vote in the AMS elections. This will have two effects: it will motivate students to get involved in the AMS, or at least the elections, and it will give the AMS a new source of income.

Although the \$5 fee is minimal and will be refunded if you vote, *The Ubyyssey* has a number of problems with the engagement levy.

It punishes students for not voting. Democracy is a right that we exercise because we want to, and students who couldn't care less about the AMS have every right to not exercise this right. If the levy passes, it will force many of these students to put in a vote just so they get their \$5 back. Most will simply make a number of arbitrary selections or leave their ballots blank and be done with it; their engagement will hardly be raised.

An even greater number of students will remain oblivious to the AMS and the fee. It is unclear how these unrefunded fees will be utilized. The leftover fees will be put in a slush fund, to be used at the Council's discretion to increase engagement. Examples we've heard of how they would do this are vague, but included "promoting blogs" and "throwing great parties." We know that the AMS does a lot of work to benefit students. But that doesn't make it right to take money on the sly, specifically from the students who don't care about the AMS or what it does.

*The Ubyyssey* will be voting, so we won't be losing out next year if the engagement levy passes. Everyone who hits "delete" when they receive an e-mail from the AMS will be. Since that's most UBC students, likely including you, we'd suggest you log on and take a look at the ballot for the elections, if only to vote "no" to the engagement levy. The AMS can learn to engage with students without taking money away from them in an underhanded fashion. ☹

### INFLATION MAKES INCREASES IN STUDENT FEES NECESSARY

In my day, steak cost a dollar or two. Penny candy really once was penny candy. Neil Diamond sure knows how to write songs that get the kids hopping!

These were things that people said decades ago, and they were (regrettably, in the case of Mr Diamond) true. Anyone who has taken Gateman's economics course knows that the price of goods rises slightly every year due to a variety of factors, and we call this silly quirk "inflation."

Obviously, this makes long-term planning and budgeting a bit tricky. It's dealt with in a variety of ways we take for granted though—taxes are based on percentage of income, employment contracts with unions have built-in raises each year.

We mention this because the AMS is different. There's mandatory fees for Operating Expenses, Capital Projects, Resource Groups, and a variety of different student services. Those fees have stayed the same for many years, but their relative value decreases over time. The costs of all these things goes up every year, but the amount of money the AMS gets only rises if enrolment goes up.

As a result, the AMS has gotten more and more squeezed for cash each year. Today, the AMS has a structural deficit, and there's one reason for it—low student fees. Generally, your student government budgets well and has (relatively) modest salaries. Still, the only reason we aren't running a deficit is because Pie R Squared, AMS Catering and other food services are well run, raking in the cash.

Passing the referendum to tie these fees to inflation makes sense. The increase doesn't apply to the most expensive programs (U-Pass, Health & Dental Insurance, Athletic Fees), and it'll keep programs that students depend on solvent. In addition, it applies to the SUB Renewal Fee, and passing this will raise an extra \$10 million to fund the project, which has been a sticking point in negotiations with UBC. It's money the AMS needs, and unlike the engagement levy it's an honest way to raise it. ☹

## TOO SEXY

KASHA CHANG & AUSTIN HOLM  
toosexy@ubyssey.ca

Fickle readership,

This pluvial, effluvial morning finds one half of the *Too Sexy* team sequestered in bed...and not in a pleasant way. Struck down by foreign plagues and too jet-lagged to know her own name, she is reduced to listening to sad indie folk, reading Google ads for "Positive SelfTalk," and watching reruns of daytime television programs. But all is not lost. Surely undertaking the labour of love that is *Too Sexy* will cheer her weary spirit. And yet, when she ventures into the ether in search of your mis-sives, your sweet somethings, what is she to find but an inbox sparse in such comforts! What happened to us, dear readership? Where has the love gone?

That, indeed, is the subject of this issue's letter.

Dear *Too Sexy*,

A few months ago I met a really nice guy. We got along very well and were talking almost every night for the first few weeks, and we were also meeting a lot, although we haven't been alone because we were always meeting with some friends. He agreed every time I asked him to join me and my friends for dinner or concerts and we had a great time. But suddenly he stopped talking to me and every time I tried talking to him he had some excuse why he couldn't talk right now.

But from time to time he is nice and seems to like me and he is the one who starts the conversation, but the next day he acts like I am annoying him. I asked him why he is behaving like that and why he didn't want to talk to me as often as in the beginning; his answer is always that he has a lot of school-work or he's busy with some 'other stuff,' but most of the time it sounds like an excuse. I am so confused because we had a lot of fun together and he still agrees to meet with me and my friends. And he wanted to kiss me the night we met, but I didn't let him. I have feelings for him and he knows about that.

Right now I don't know what to think about this strange behaviour and what to do. Every time I ask him to meet me or just try to talk to him on the internet, I am afraid that he gets annoyed and that he wants me to stop talking to him, but then suddenly he is asking me if I would like to join him and his friends for dinner. I liked talking to him every night because we share the same interests and I miss this, but I don't want to act like a 16-year-old and chase after him. What should I do? Why is he acting like that?

Sincerely,  
Heartbroken Girl.

Dear HG,

Thanks for your letter. Although we sympathize with your confusion, we also think you might be blowing this whole thing a little out of proportion. You say he has suddenly stopped talking to you, but also concede that sometimes he starts conversations with you online or invites you to

dinner with him and his friends. That doesn't sound to us like he's giving you the complete brush-off, so you probably have nothing to worry about. His "excuses" (having school-work to do and being busy) may in fact be real reasons he simply can't talk every night. Long involved chats are lovely, HG, but they're also time-consuming. We don't think you should assume his lack of interest just because he doesn't want to have one every day.

You fear annoying him by continuing to initiate conversations when he's busy. We think that's wise.

That said, let's look at some of the other issues raised in your letter. You fear annoying him by continuing to initiate conversations when he's busy. We think that's wise. Even assuming his claims of business are a front, everyone needs some time alone once in a while. Again, it's not that he doesn't want to talk to you specifically. It could be that he's tired and just doesn't feel like talking to anyone. Space is important in any kind of relationship, and it's up to you to respect that need for space while still maintaining contact and expressing your interest.

It's also possible that he feels like he was too obvious in his interest when you first met, and now he's trying to cover his tracks by being a little less available. Especially since, as you say, he wanted to kiss you and you refused. He could be engaging in defensive measures to try to avoid getting hurt. Although you say you know he's aware of your feelings for him, he may have interpreted the lack of smooch as an expression of disinterest on your part. That might explain why he seems to be blowing hot and cold—he likes you, but doesn't want to be too clear about that attraction in case you're not equally interested.

So what should you do? Give him a bit more space, but stay in contact and continue to make it clear you'd like to see him and converse. Chatting every day is a bit excessive, so maybe two to three times a week would be more reasonable. As a rule of thumb, figure out how many times per week he initiates conversation with you, and try to do so with the same frequency.

Also, don't sweat the small stuff. Focus on having a good time together when you do see him, since positive shared experiences are a good way to build relationships. Don't get worked up if he doesn't want to talk sometimes—he probably is just busy. Finally, try to make plans to see each other one-on-one. That will clarify to him that you're interested in dating, and may allay any fears he has about being rejected.

That's all for this week, gang. Stay strong, be safe, watch for the signs and remember to send us your love (or otherwise) at [toosexy@ubyssey.ca](mailto:toosexy@ubyssey.ca). ☹

## STREETERS

IF YOU HAD THE CHANCE TO ASK IGNATIEFF A QUESTION, WHAT WOULD IT BE?



Marius Adonnica  
Law 3

What would he do differently from the Conservatives? I don't like that he came back to Canada and two years later he became the Liberal party almost overnight.



Caroline Duran  
Arts 3

I think that he is a fantastic individual that Canada can use. What would he do to advance Canada as a global leader? [How would he tackle] the global warming crisis?



Julien Valois  
Education

What would he do to pay off the deficit? I hear him harp on Harper for getting the deficit up and I'm just wondering what solution he has.



Jackie Wall  
Arts 1

What does he have to say about all the screw ups that the Liberals have done over the last couple years?



Eva Angelopoulos  
Human Kinetics 1

I wouldn't have anything to ask him. I'd probably go to listen to what other people have to say. ☹

Coordinated by Tara Martellaro

# The International University of British Columbia? Hardly



**ADEEB TAWSEEF**  
Contributor

I still remember when I first read about UBC. I had received a large package of brochures, handbooks, information on application procedures and so forth for prospective international students. And who could forget the beautiful images of BC and the Point Grey campus that the material was filled with. I was captured, my rapidly palpitating heart yearning badly to attend UBC.

I imagined UBC's students, alumni and faculty were world citizens, well aware of the world in which they live.

It was not the beautiful landscape nor the great city of Vancouver that made me decide to attend UBC. It was the fact that UBC proudly portrayed itself as an "international" university, where outstanding students from all over the world came to learn, exchange and promote individual ideas for the benefit of mankind and human endeavor. I imagined UBC's students, alumni and faculty were world citizens, well aware of the world in which they live. I hoped for a community where I

would learn about Africa, Latin America, Asia and South America and about what the civilizations from across the globe had to offer for the betterment of the human race.

Today, I write this article expressing my disappointment for UBC's lack of international perspective in the classroom. Early on I had an impression, which I am now starting to question, that UBC was not merely a Canadian university like any other, but a world-renowned university where scholars taught and shared ideas from all over the world. It now seems to me that UBC is simply interested in recruiting students from other countries, nothing more.

UBC should rethink its strategy on internationalism. I believe, and I am confident that many would agree with me, that internationalism will not prosper merely by hosting students from over a hundred different nations. UBC should start aggressively promoting an international perspective in the classroom.

Is it only me, or do others also wonder why academics in classes tend to stick to Canadian or Western issues? When I took Economics 101, I was taught how and why wheat prices in Canada fluctuated. But what about the world around us? Why don't we ask questions which will help us answer the problems associated with the world or the challenges we face?

I often feel that the problems of the developing world are ignored in the classroom. But it's worse when we are taught about these problems. I get a sense that we are being instructed that problems associated with other parts of the world are the result of those regions not following the Canadian or Western model

of development. Are the people of the "less developed" countries really that incompetent? The western world also faces challenges. Do the people of Asia, Africa and Latin America (which are often portrayed as backwards) not have something meaningful to contribute to the classrooms of UBC? I think my friends from these regions will agree with me that UBC and Canada have a lot to learn from the world around them.

## UBC should rethink its strategy on internationalism.

I believe that the UBC community, especially the international students at UBC, would appreciate and benefit greatly if we were exposed to lessons and ideas from all over the world. And when we learn about others, we should aim to understand their lifestyles and ways of learning—to walk a mile in their shoes. In order to become true global citizens, we must incorporate our learning from across the globe—regardless of region, race or ethnicity.

The purpose of this article is not to undermine the credibility of scholars at UBC. UBC was founded to serve the people of BC, Canada and the World. There is no doubt that researchers, professors and students at UBC are highly qualified and talented in their respective fields. Asking our students to serve the people of the nation and the world beyond is a strong, unique vision. In a world of rapid globalization and ever-changing human demographics, we simply cannot stay within the comfortable territory in which UBC generally operates. ☪

# LETTERS

I am writing to you in response to your editorial in Monday's issue. I would like to note a few things.

Although I am happy to see our campus media having the conviction to question my policies, I disagree with the protocol of *The Ubysey* surrounding this weekend's situation (January 8 to 9).

I clarified to *The Ubysey* (well before the All-Candidates Meeting) that candidates are permitted to answer the following questions for publication prior to the beginning of the campaign period: those pertaining to their past experience in UBC politics and those pertaining to what their campaigning plans were (as in, what media would they use, and where they would poster, for example). I also explained that candidates could not speak publicly as to why they were running, what their platform was and what made them stand out above other candidates (except in the case of the Elections Supplement put out by *The Ubysey*), per code. All these points were also made clear to all candidates. Needless to say, I have no control over what they say beyond campaigning.

Subsequently on Saturday 10, I heard that a reporter from *The Ubysey* had specifically asked a candidate why he was running, and insisted to the candidate that I had "okayed it." This, I most certainly did not. I truly believed that the candidate had been misled into premature campaigning, likely from a misunderstanding about what candidates would be penalized for speaking publicly about, and thus I asked *The Ubysey* to halt publication of the comment they had gathered from the candidate under inaccurate pretences. It was not a matter of censoring a media outlet. I have no power to do so, nor do I have any will.

As for the "stupid" long gap between the close of nominations and the opening of campaigning, I publicized the dates for this at the nominations information meeting

on November 23, and many members of campus media were present (including *The Ubysey*). I set those dates quite soon after being hired, on the recommendation of experienced AMS staff who had dealt with AMS elections previously. The gap seemed just, having not followed the nominations period last year, and had I known that so many people would have an issue with it, I would have certainly considered reducing it. I intend to include a recommendation to shorten this gap in my transition report upon completion of elections.

Candidates who are concerned about being punished for what they do are free to contact me whenever they wish. Many have, in fact, and I have happily clarified elections policies for them. I very much encourage candidates to talk to the media, as it is one of the best ways for them to promote themselves. I look forward to reading and watching these interviews. Nonetheless, I have emphasized that only candidates alone are responsible for any infractions of code regarding campaigning, including quotes in stories published by the media. And, I maintain this position now.

Finally, I would like to clarify that the AMS communications policy does not influence any of my communications with the media or candidates regarding campaigning regulations and campaigning length. At no point have any "media requests or outbound communication" been intentionally brought to the attention of the AMS communications manager or any member of the executive.

Thank-you for your concern, and I look forward to collaborating with *The Ubysey* and all VFM outlets to ensure this is a well-run, well-promoted, and well-attended election.

Sincerely,

—Isabel Ferreras,  
Elections Administrator

SUSCOMIC.COM, BY MICHAEL BROUND



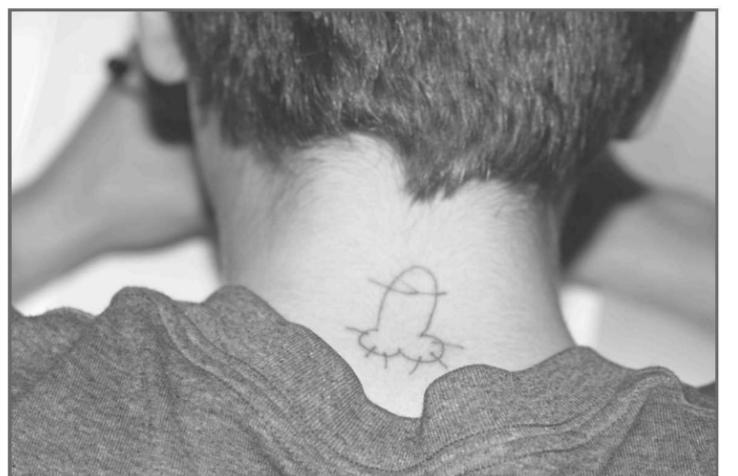
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SOLUTION FOR JAN. 11 CROSSWORD

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WRITE US LETTERS!  
PRAISE! COMPLAIN!  
SEND US FOOD (WE'RE SERIOUS ABOUT THAT ONE).  
WRITE TO [feedback@ubyssey.ca](mailto:feedback@ubyssey.ca).



This is the man who runs your student newspaper. Please, volunteer.

AND

FEB 8 8PM



**SPORT, ETHICS AND TECHNOLOGY**  
*Is High Performance Sport Inconsistent with Ideals and Ethics?*

RICHARD POUND  
DR. JIM RUPERT  
BECKY SCOTT

FEB 12 8PM



**SPORT, PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT**  
*How Can Sport Contribute to Positive Social Change?*  
*Presented by Merck and Right to Play*

JOHANN OLAV KOSS  
STEPHEN LEWIS  
WILFRIED LEMKE  
BENJAMIN NZOBONANKIRA

MAR 5 8PM



**SPORT AND INCLUSION**  
*Are Major Sporting Events Inclusive of First Nations and Other Groups?*

WANEK HORN-MILLER

PROFESSOR STEPHEN TOOPE

MAR 10 8PM



**SPORT AND CHALLENGE** *Is Anything Possible?*

RICK HANSEN  
DR. BRUCE MCMANUS

March 10 afternoon academic session 1PM  
**PEAK PERFORMANCE**  
*The Path to Exceptional Athletic Achievement*

MAR 13 8PM



**SPORT, LEGACY AND SUSTAINABILITY**  
*Is It Worth It?*

DR. BRUCE KIDD

DEREK WYATT

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a place of mind