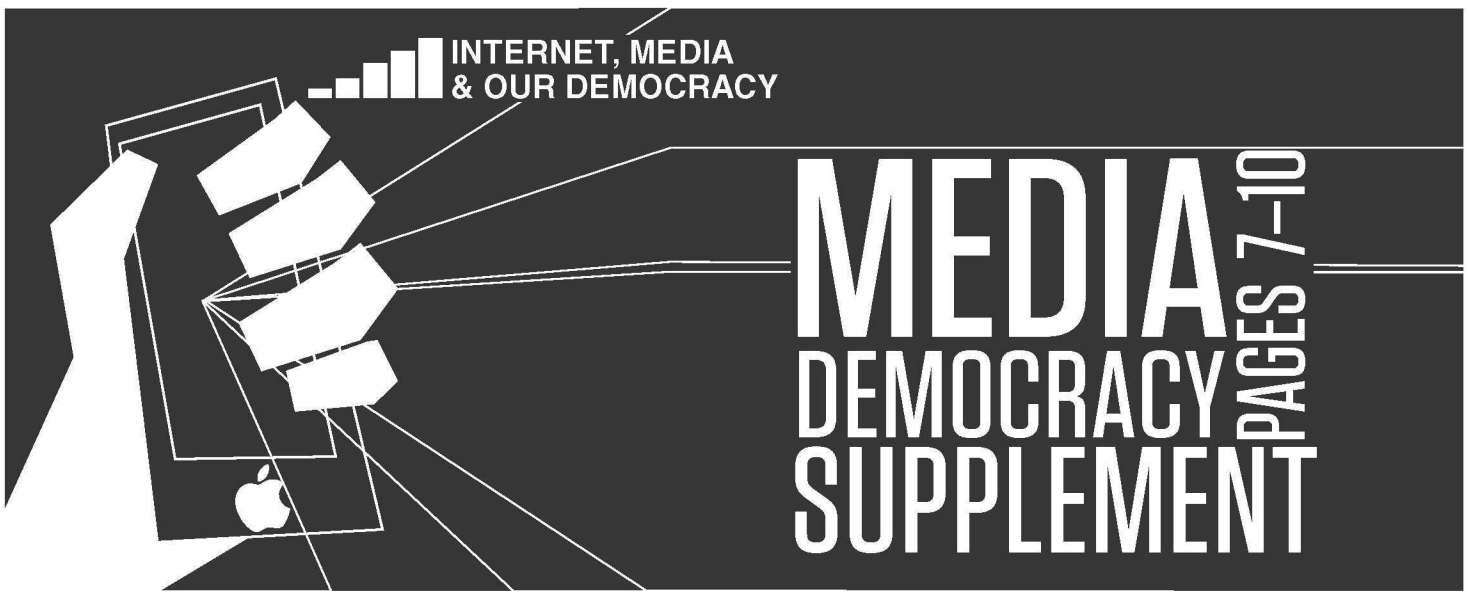
TENTACLES, TENTACLES, TENTACLES, SCHOOLGIRLS SINCE 1918



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2009·11·05

FREDERICK SURVIVES CENSURE ATTEMPT

SAMANTHA JUNG
news@ubyssey.ca

Last night AMS Council voted against censuring AMS President Blake Frederick, with a narrow vote of 17 for censure and 21 against.

Councilor's concerns were most strongly encapsulated in a five-minute speech made by Senate Vice-Chair Geoff Costeloe at Wednesday's meeting.

"The actions displayed by the president, on behalf of this Council and students of UBC, are a continuation of an aggressive and antagonizing approach that our executive has adopted," said Costeloe.

Discontent over AMS President Blake Frederick's professionalism as president has grown for months with certain councilors. The final straw was last week, when Frederick issued a press release claiming that the proposed underground bus loop had been cancelled prior to the university's own announcement.

Last week, TransLink announced that they could not fulfill their commitment to the project. The AMS press release made the assumption that the university was going to cancel the project, accused the university of wasting millions of dollars and demanded that the university disclose the total amount of money spent.

In response, UBC President Stephen Toope issued a letter to the AMS, voicing his displeasure with the press release and his concern with the rift in the relationship between UBC and the AMS. This is an unusual move, as typically Toope would only contact Frederick or the executive.

"Statements in the AMS October 27 news release regarding the proposed campus below-grade bus terminal were not merely unfounded and intemperate; they have been injurious and destructive," wrote Toope. "These grave allegations could have a corrosive impact on your university and its reputation."

Councilors' opinions varied at the two-hour debate; comments from alumni and students-at-large were presented. Current Board of Governors representative and former AMS President Michael Duncan was concerned that the move would affect relations between UBC and the AMS.

"These kinds of motions really affect our ability to negotiate with the university," he said. "They know we have a divided council versus a divided executive."

"I really don't think I can communicate to you how upset [university] directors were with the AMS," said VP Finance Tom Dvorak. My personal feelings are not of anger or of frustration...but of simple honest disappointment."

However, it was clear that councilors were upset by the press release, some going so far as to call Frederick "unprofessional," "arrogant," and his actions "rude."

Frederick acknowledged in a letter to Council that the tone of the press release "should have been less forceful," and took "full responsibility for all comment" in it.

"I believe I have acted according to the policies and bylaws of the AMS and guidance that was provided to me," said Frederick to council, adding "to be quite frank, I think the university should be apologizing for going ahead with a project that this council made very clear that they do not support."

Frederick eventually apologized—though not formally—for the harsh tone of the press release and agreed not to employ the same tone in the future.

"I think Council has made it clear that they felt that the tone of the press release...was inappropriate," Frederick said, though he added "but ultimately Council did support my actions in sending out that press release. I think it's particularly important that the AMS, as representatives of students, hold the university accountable."

"I think people blow these kind of things out of proportion and that the university deals with these kind of thing all the time," said Duncan after the motion failed. "A lot of students oppose this bus loop and [Blake] is trying to represent the interest of the society and of students."

Costeloe is skeptical whether things will change.

"This is a continuation of external policy that we basically have with every group outside of it, except for ones very favoured," he said.

"The [university administration] prides themselves on being educators and they pride themselves on being there for students....So when I see letters from people like that, that they are disturbed by the way we are acting, that should be a real wake up call.

"That's more than a symptom of a sickness here, that's us flatlining. And I don't think we did enough CPR."

—with files from Justin McElroy

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?:

censure (noun)

1. Strong or vehement expression of disapproval
2. An official reprimand, as by a legislative body of one of its members.

dictionary.com

Censure has generally been used to condemn the actions of an elected individual even if they are acting legally and within their rights.

CENSURING IN UBC HISTORY:

NOVEMBER 3, 1977

The UBC board of governors publicly censured student board member Moe Sihota for charging certain members of the commerce faculty with racism without having supporting evidence.

FEBRUARY 22, 1979

The student representative assembly voted to censure the actions of the RCMP in the recent cancellation of a planned punk rock concert.

An excerpt from the motion:

"... this type of interference is unwarranted, and as such should not be tolerated..."

JANUARY 4, 2005

Council voted to censure the AMS Executive following the Executive's decision to fire then-General Manager Bernie Peets. President Amina Rai was also asked to resign, although that motion failed.

THE UNIVERSITY'S RESPONSE:

"[Toope] determined that he needed to take a very unusual step in writing directly to Council and asking this letter be passed on. That's not been done before by a president I've served under here."

"[The tone of] requests on SUB, the Olympics...they're issued generally in a very curt fashion, they're demands, they have time requirements on them that are hopelessly unrealistic." —UBC VP Students Brian Sullivan

FOR ANALYSIS, SEE PAGE 15

Will the proposed UNA noise bylaw allow residents to mow their lawn?
Find out on page 3

NEWS BRIEFS

STUDY: MAJORITY OF CANADIAN YOUTH ARE UNHEALTHY

According to an article published in *The Concordian,* research presented at the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress in Edmonton found that the health of Canada's youth is slowly declining.

The majority of teenagers have at least one major risk factor for developing heart disease and stroke, and one in five Canadians aged 14 to 15 has high blood pressure.

From 2002 to 2008 the study monitored over 20,000 grade 9 students in the Niagara area in Ontario. The study reveled an increased percentage of obese students and students with high cholesterol, and a rise in the number of students with high risk factors for heart disease from 17 to 21 per cent.

Dr Charles Luc Jutras, associate professor at McGill University, told *The Concordian* that although Canadians put great effort into recognizing the guidelines for managing risk factors for heart disease and stroke for adults, their efforts for children are lacking. Both Jutras and Associate Professor Dr Roland Grad of McGill point to the need to have all of Canadian society, parents, schools, individuals and the government work together to decrease the number of young people at risk.

STUDENTS SPEAK OUT AGAINST U OF A'S CONTROVERSIAL COMMENTS

A recent article in the *Edmonton Sun* reported that students from the University of Alberta are calling themselves the Samarasekera Response Team in response to controversial comments made by the university's president Indira Samarasekera.

In an October 21 interview with the *Sun,* Samarasekera said that the fact that female students make up 58 per cent of Canadian universities is concerning and in 20 years, "we will not have the benefit of enough male talent at the heads of companies and elsewhere." Students have launched a poster campaign voicing their opposition.

Women's studies major Derek Warwick, who participated in the poster campaign, told the *Sun* that her comments were "pretty uncalled for" and "suggests a complete lack of understanding of our context today."

The posters featured images that Warwick said were to "provoke some thought" as well as be humourous. One read "Women: Stop! Drop! Men: Enroll!" and below "Stop the Femimenace." However, the posters had a short life. Within 24 hours they were taken down.

AMS TO SPEND UP TO $12,000 ON "ETHNIC REPRESENTATION" IN STUDENT POLITICS

The AMS is hiring an external organization to determine potential racial barriers that prevents students from participating in AMS activities. One example the AMS website cites is the fact that Chinese students are the largest ethnic group at UBC at 37 per cent, but only make up five per cent of AMS Council.

The chosen organization will conduct a study and present the AMS with a final report identifying the barriers, and advising the AMS on how to deal with these issues and create a long-term strategy to help the AMS be "more pro-active in addressing social justice issues within the AMS and throughout campus."

The AMS is accepting proposals until November 20, and plans to spend between $6,000 and $12,000 on this project.

—Tara Martellaro

NOVEMBER 5, 2009
VOLUME XCI, N° XVIII

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

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CONTRIBUTORS

Paul Bucci was smoking some strange weed with Samantha Jung, Kate Barbaria, Trevor Record, Justin McElroy, Trevor Melanson, Gerald Deo, Kyrstin Bain, Katarina Grgic and Tara Martellaro. The smoke was so thick around them that if you were near you would have gotten high too. Virginie Menard, Michael Thibault, Keegan Bursaw, Chibwe Mweene and Hilary Atkinson were just comming back from hunting special mushrooms in a certin part of the forest. Only Krittana Khruana and Roel Moeurs knew what to look for and they were not there—that turned out to be a problem as the ones they came back with were poison. Pierce Netting, Liselle Law, Jonathan Tang and Kalyeena Makortoff were waiting for the rest of the party to show-up before they went in. Ashley Whillans and Vinnie Yuen were next and had some bottles of red liquid they were handing out to everyone. They began to have visions of Bryce Warnes, Stephanie Findlay and Siri Williams, may they live on forever into eternty. Everyone gathered together and knocked on the door of a cabin nearby. Kathy Yan Li and Steven Chua were waiting in the smoke filled hallway. They ushered them inside quickly and closed the door. Rhys Edwerds was performing a ritual in the middle of the room and everyone was dancing to the drums being beat upon by Charlize Gordon who was so high that her feet did not touch the floor. Everyone was in a sort of trance and it would be several "daize" before anybody had any idea of anything.

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EVENTS

ONLINE EXCLUSIVE
CULTURE • TAP TAP REVENGE 2 REVIEW
SPORTS • ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
IDEAS • STREETERS VIDEO
Go to *ubyssey.ca* to see our online content.

ONGOING EVENTS

Journal Writing: A Voice of One's Own • Keeping a journal is a powerful way to enhance creativity and increase self-awareness. This course, led by Marlene Schiwy, PhD, encourages your inner voice to speak out. Whether you are seeking creative inspiration and a stimulating atmosphere in which to write, or working on the great Canadian novel, this course will get your creative juices flowing. Please bring a blank notebook or journal to class. • *Saturdays, Oct. 10–Nov. 14, 9:30am–12:30pm, Rm TBA, $375, for more info call 604 822 9564.*

OK Cobra plays Vancouver • Canadian hip hop duo rock our city • *Nov. 9 at The Modern and Nov. 12 at The Media Club, more info at urbnet.com/okcobra.*

***Ubyssey* Production** • Come help us create this baby! Learn about layout and editing. Expect to be fed. • *Every Sunday and Wednesday starting at 2pm.*

The Dance Centre presents *Discover Dance!* • *Discover Dance!* is a series showcasing BC-based companies. The *Discover Dance!* noon series continues with a dynamic performance by Josh Beamish's MOVE: the company. The company will perform a piece, followed by a question-and-answer session for the audience. • *Until May 27, 12pm, Scotiabank Dance Centre, 677 Davie St, tix $10/$7 students on ticketstonight.ca, for more info go to thedancecentre.ca.*

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 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.*

The Master Builder • A play by Henrik Ibsen, presented by the UBC Department of Theatre and Film. A visitor from the past re-enters the life of Halvard Solness, a young woman who returns to claim the sexual promise made to her by Solness years before. • *Runs Oct. 29–Nov. 7, Telus Studio Theatre, Chan Centre, tix $15-$25,more info theatre.ubc.ca.*

***Drippytown*: Vancouver's comic artist on display** • Want a different take on Vancity? The collection features contributions from six local comic artists whose work provides a quixotic look at life in Vancouver. • *Exhibition continues until Jan. 31, Rare Books and Special Collections is located on level one of the IBLC, for some of the work and the exhibition opening, see puddingsock.livejournal.com.*

THURSDAY, NOV. 5

UBC Persian Music Ensemble • A group of talented UBC students perform Persian folk music • *7pm, UBC Recital Hall, Music Building, free admission.*

FRIDAY, NOV. 6

Chasing Sustainability • An interfaculty conference on business an sustainability. The day-long conference featuring luminaries such as Bill Rees. • *Liu Institute for Global Issues, tix available outside David Lam Library in the Sauder School of Business, register on-line at* cussustainability.com.

UBC Guitar Ensembles • *12pm–1pm, Recital Hall, UBC School of Music, more info* concerts@interchange.ubc.ca *or 604 822 5574, free admission*

Fast Food Nation • The UBC Film Society and UBC Wellness Week present the 2006 drama based on Eric Schlosser's bestselling 2001 non-fiction book *Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal* (14A, 113 min) • *Norm Theatre, tix $4, $2 for members, 7pm–9pm.*

SATURDAY, NOV. 7

UBC Engineering Open House • Thinking of changing the world? Meet our professors, students and staff from various specializations who will take the time to introduce you to the world of Engineering through one-on-one conversations, presentations, hands-on demonstrations and lab tours. Try using the surgical robot, hear from Engineering students who put their skills to work in Africa, and more. Free giveaways and snacks. • *9am–4pm at KAIS, more info* engineering.ubc.ca/openhouse.

SUNDAY, NOV. 8

Spacemakers Olympic Design Charette • Students from three UBC programs will host a 24-hour charette (competitive workshop). Students will compete to design a structure that will be built for showcase during the Vancouver Olympics. • *9am, Lasserre Building (402-6333 Memorial Rd).*

MONDAY, NOV. 9

An Evening with S. Bear Bergman • Join us for a reading from *The Nearest Exit May be Behind You* followed by a discussion with the author. S. Bear Bergman is known as a writer, a theater artist, an instigator, and a gender-jammer. Ze is the author of *Butch is a Noun* and three award-winning solo performances, and a frequent contributor to anthologies on all manner of topics. • *4:30pm–6:30pm, Lillooet Room (301), Chapman Learning Commons, more info sbearbergman.com.*

THURSDAY, NOV. 12

CiTR's 3rd annual That DJ Competition 2009 • CiTR is looking for submissions. Scores will be determined by judges' opinion, number of fans, and the crowd response. Get submissions in soon to ensure your spot. • *Send an mp3 file to thatdjcontest2009@gmail.com, more info at citr.ca. DJs will perform at Nov. 12 at the Pit Pub.*

THURSDAY, NOV. 19

CiTR takes over The Gallery • Peace (*myspace.com/peacevancouver*) and Walter TV (*myspace.com/waltertv*) will play. • *Cover $4, doors at 8pm, band plays at 9pm, will be broadcast live on 101.9 fm at 9pm., more info at* citr.ca.

SUNDAY, NOV. 22

Paint for Peace • Peace and Love International fundraiser will involve 30 local artists coming together and painting live. At the end of the night they will be auctioning off those and some prepared pieces. All proceeds are going towards building a sustainable orphanage in Nigeria in 2010. • *Pacific Palisades Hotel, 1277 Robson St, free admission, auctions/painting 5pm–8pm, complementary snacks.*

If you have an event you want listed here, e-mail us at *events@ubyssey.ca*. This means you, campus clubs!

CORRECTION

In our November 2 issue, for the article "Taking a critical look at Vancouver," we said that YVS was a UBC-based project. It is, in fact, a Vancouver-based project that involved four UBC students. We regret this error.

FEATURED EVENT

Auditions for CVC's Supaskillz

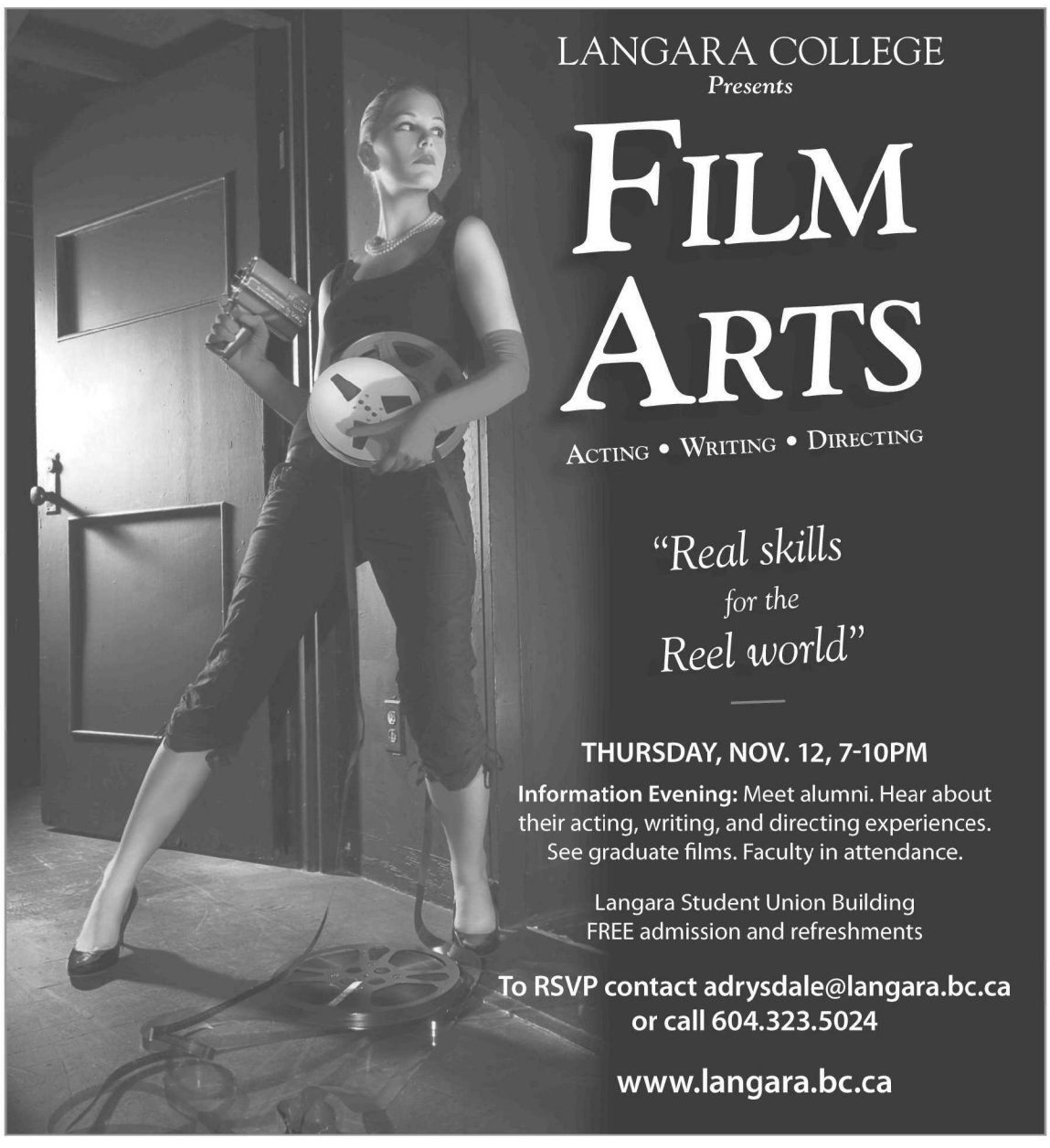
Supaskillz is the CVC's annual talent show. The actual event will be in February of 2010. A chance to gain some exposure in the local scene, expand your fan base, win cash prizes, and perform potentially in front of agency judges!

FIRST ROUND:
Fri, Nov. 6, SUB 205, 3pm–9pm
Sat, Nov. 7, SUB 212, 10am–4pm
Sun, Nov. 8, SUB 205, 10am–4pm

SECOND ROUND:
Fri, Nov. 27, SUB 205, 3pm–9pm
Sat, Nov. 28, SUB 205, 10am–4pm
Sun, Nov. 29, SUB 215, 10am–4pm
To audition, please book one of these times by emailing: *supaskillz2010@ubccvc.com*

Be sure to indicate the date, time, group name and act type in the email.

Find out how to get a featured event for you campus club. Email *coordinating@ubyssey.ca*



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Q: Will the proposed UNA noise bylaw allow residents to mow their lawn?

A:

NO PERSON SHALL CAUSE CONTINUOUS SOUND: During the day: over 55 decibels
During the night: over 45 decibels

OWNERS CANNOT OPERATE POWER EQUIPMENT EXCEPT: "Between 0800 hours to 1800 hours on any weekday or between the hours of 0900 hours to 1700 hours on any Saturday or at any time on any Sunday or holiday."

News

News Editor: *Samantha Jung*

Noise bylaw will not affect students

Others concerned it could be a blueprint for campus-wide restrictions

ASHLEY WHILLANS
awhillans@ubyssey.ca

"The bylaw itself does not deal with issues between the UNA and students."

This is the most important issue for students to understand regarding the University Neighbourhoods Association's (UNA) proposed noise bylaw, explained Mike Feeley, chair of the UNA Board of Directors. Despite its UNA specific legislation, this bylaw is being criticized for its strict noise regulations and vague terminology, causing a stir amongst students, residents and the general public.

The UNA is a governing body in charge of residential areas on campus, and Feeley stressed that these bylaws do not affect students. Instead, they are only applicable to individuals residing in one of the five UNA-governed residences, which include Hampton Place and Greenwood Commons.

So what exactly are these proposed bylaws, who do they affect, and how is the UNA going to go about enforcing their regulations? At this point, not even the UNA seems completely sure.

"What we have now is a draft bylaw," said Feeley. "It describes how things will be enforced...if the Board [of Directors] suggests that we need to make changes [during the public consultation process], then we will do that."

What *is* known about the UNA bylaw is that it will govern over individual residences and facilitate conflict resolution and discussion between said residences. The UNA is currently formulating the rules and regulations and will bring it to the UBC Board of Governors for approval. This process, according to Feeley, should happen in the next couple of months.

If approved, the bylaw will be enforced by the UNA`s Board of Directors and an executive governing body. Much like a municipality, the UNA will be able to act independently, investigating and mediating conflicts and issuing fines. "With the amendment of the Neighbourhood Act in 2008, the UNA gained the power to create and maintain their own bylaws, and this proposed bylaw is an effect of this change," explained Feeley.

While most complaints have been manageable through discussion, Feeley emphasized the importance of the bylaw as the population of residential areas continues to grow. The UNA has 6000 residents, and the expectation that they operate more like a real municipality in order to mediate issues is increasing.

UBC Insiders, a student-run independent media source, has expressed concerns over the bylaw, describing it as having "very broad" rules, "contradictory clauses" and "uneven modes of enforcement." The blog post expressed concern in regards to the vagueness in the language surrounding the bylaw.

UNA Executive Director Jan Fialkowski defended the bylaw's somewhat vague terminology, saying that it was intentional. "Rather than be specific about playing your radio or having a live band...the bylaw talks more about giving people guidelines about what kind of [noises] are acceptable, and that allows people to make their own judgement call," she said. Fialkowski added that the bylaw is modeled closely after the city of Vancouver's noise bylaw, but that the city "has had many more years of practice."

While AMS VP Academic and University Affairs and AMS appointed director on the UNA board, Johannes Rebane, could not comment on the effects that the UNA bylaw might have on students in the future, he said the bylaw is in a pretty open and pretty plastic form at the moment. He assured that the AMS "is trying to get as much input into the process as possible before the bylaw is approved."

There exists the worry that these noise regulations could turn into a blueprint for campus-wide regulations and a crackdown on both noise and school spirit. Bill 13, currently being read in Parliament, caused a stir last month. If passed, it would grant power to the university that would allow them to restrict and fine for noise complaints.

As well, fraternities located along the borders of the UNA residences have already experienced numerous altercations with residents living in UNA buildings.

"It feels as if we are almost being targeted by certain groups to curb our demeanour," said Mike Scott, president of UBC's Interfraternity Council. "We are unclear as to whether or not the bylaw will be pushed forward into the rest of the campus."

"Depending on how strictly it would be enforced, a noise regulation on campus could be extremely detrimental," Scott said. "It would be shame to see social life at UBC affected by something like this. It is difficult to imagine the prospect of losing an integral part of our culture."

The public consultation process is set to be approved in the new year. For more information and upcoming public consultation dates visit myuna.ca.

CHILDREN PLAYING ARE NOISY

UNA residents have complained about children making too much noise on the playground.

DECIBEL (DB) LEVELS

40 dB: quiet room
50 dB: moderate rainfall
60 dB: conversation, dishwasher
70 dB: busy traffic, vacuum cleaner
80 dB: alarm clock, busy street
90 dB: lawnmower

From the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

ANTHONY GOERTZ GRAPHICS/THE UBYSSEY

VANTAGE POINT

Don't make everything against the rules

GERALD DEO PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY

NEAL YONSON
Contributor

With Bill 13, UBC may soon have the power to regulate noise on campus. While it is unknown what effect this may have on students, it appears to be very fortunate for the University Neighbourhoods Assocation (UNA), the municipal-like body that governs market housing on campus. The UNA has been preparing for this and is in the midst of a consultation process about a proposed noise bylaw which could be put in place not long after the passage of Bill 13.

The UNA has made it clear that their intention is only to regulate their own neighbourhoods and that any rules they might put in place would not apply to campus at large. But if UBC wanted to put in place campus-wide noise rules, it would be convenient to have an already-written blueprint to model them after. That would be a big mistake.

The UNA's draft rules are extremely vague. Essentially, any noise that could be interpreted as a disturbance to someone else is against the rules. This could conceivably include evils like TransLink's community shuttles or crying babies. That's not an absurd exaggeration. The September UNA board meeting actually had residents on record complaining about excessive noise caused by children playing at the playground.

By making everything against the rules, the people who end up defining what's unacceptable are the ones who will lodge a complaint at the drop of hat. That's not a good idea. Nor is it smart to have nebulous rules, and allow the RCMP to determine how best to interpret and apply them. If a set of reasonable guidelines laying out what noise is acceptable and what noise is excessive cannot be developed, then putting in broad prohibitions on noise doesn't solve the problem—it simply replaces it with a different one.

That is assuming there actually is a noise problem in the UNA. If people's biggest complaints are concerning the sounds of children at play, life must be pretty good. The UNA is also in the process of developing rules around parking even though a survey at the beginning of this school year found that non-resident parking in the neighbourhoods was not a problem.

Hopefully the consultation process will improve the bylaw but the end result will probably still be inappropriate for a university campus. If the UNA wants to adopt it for themselves, then so be it. But please leave the rest of campus out of it.

Neal Yonson is an editor for the blog UBC Insiders.

Are you feeling sick? Tell it to the SSC

KALYEENA MAKORTOFF
kmakortoff@ubyssey.ca

Students can now declare their absences with the click of a mouse. The Student Service Centre (SSC) now provides a space where students can let all their professors know they are missing class due to influenza-like illness, or ILI.

"Basically the student can go in and declare absence on the SSC, and that is recorded in the administrative system so that [Records and Registration] can tell that a student is away," explained Jaclyn Mosher, manager of Business and Systems at UBC's Records and Registration. "The faculty members or instructors will be notified via the system they use, and then the student is responsible for letting us know that they have returned to classes."

Anna Kindler, associate vice-president of academic affairs, said that the idea came about as "part of UBC's pandemic planning approach for the upcoming year to help prepare for potential high absenteeism rates."

The program, which has been in the works for the past three weeks, was available for student use on the SSC website last Friday. Mosher said that the program is already being used.

"The numbers from students have gone up, from those who have declared absences," she said, "and there have been no major issues or complaints so far."

The self-declaration option has also assisted the workload of Student Health Services in managing H1N1 and flu season. "A lot of people come to us to look for medical certificates, so we're happy to provide a link to it," said Patricia Mirwaldt, director of Student Health Services.

"In general, people who have been coming in [to Health Services at UBC], have been mildly ill. We have been finding that most students who are ill should be staying home," she explained.

However, some students are skeptical about the effectiveness and ultimate use of the program. "I think it's good because it stops people from going to school sick, but at the same time it doesn't change your academic performance. I'm going to miss the information in class and will still have to make up, or find alternative ways of obtaining information," said Leana Rae, a fourth-year Economics and Anthropology major. "Unless professors are going to accommodate due dates for sick students, I don't know how much this will help."

And this, in fact, has been the case. "We've definitely been asked to make concessions for students," explained political science professor Bruce Baum. "It could mean rescheduling exams, it could mean, definitely, taking late papers without the penalties that I would usually give."

But Baum also expressed concern over the potential misuse of the system, which does not require any medical or doctor's note.

"Obviously, it could potentially be abused pretty readily, so there's that concern, that people could just want to take a day off," he said. "But I guess we're trusting people and it's a little bit of an honour system."

Rae agreed. "Lots of students aren't going to be honest, and I think it gives them a much easier excuse to stay home."

Despite potential abuse, the self-declaration system is still seen as crucial in curbing the spread of influenza and H1N1.

"UBC believes that this absence declaration tool is in the best interests of the UBC community. We are following through on recommendations that students do not visit health care providers for influenza-like illness symptoms," Kindler explained.

AMS looks at installing themed housing

Program would group students with shared interests

VICTORIA BIERNACIK
Contributor

What if you could live in a residence with all of your colleagues from the same faculty? AMS VP Academic and University Affairs Johannes Rebane is looking into the concept of themed housing for students, which looks at merging everyday learning with everyday living.

The concept entails taking sections or floors of residences and applying specific themes to them so that students who are interested in the topics can apply for the housing, and have a convenient environment in which they can interact and learn from others with the same interests.

Rebane illustrated themed housing as an opportunity to amass students who share certain qualities and enable them to explore their interests in a new way.

He sees this as a way to "promote some of the key strengths we have" here at UBC, by grouping together students who share interests that could range from sustainability to engineering. The program would also provide opportune environments for students to create "tangible results in these [specific] areas," because they will interact with each other more easily.

"It's about bridging the gap between what you learn in the classroom and what you can learn at home...as opposed to segregating [the two]," said AMS Campus Development Commissioner Selena Shannon.

Rebane noted that right now residences are typically seen as a source of "noise, partying and social disruption," when they could also function to support learning without taking away from what one would see in a typical residence.

This is a "university-wide initiative to look at teaching innovation... What better way [is there] to innovate teaching than to take it away from just the classic classroom and bringing it into where students eat, live and laugh?" asked Rebane.

> "[There is a] university-wide initiative to look at teaching innovation....What better way [is there] to innovate teaching than to take it away from just the classic classroom and bringing it into where students eat, live and laugh?"
>
> *— Johannes Rebane, AMS VP Academic*

Rebane hopes that students will have a convenient place to talk about their passions, develop networks, and be able to bring those passions and skills to use post-graduation. It would also create a deep culture among students that is both fun and rewarding.

These shared cultures will make it easier to connect external resources and create "more hubs of interactivity," noted Rebane, adding that it would be much easier to bring in a professor or guest speaker on a certain subject than it would be in a regular residence, where you have many different students with different interests.

Those who don't live on campus can also become involved through guest speaker sessions and other events put on by the programs.

It's about more than "just learning from your multiple choice exams and...essay questions. You're being taught the skills to learn in everyday life," Rebane added.

Shannon anticipates that students living in a university residence such as Totem or Vanier next year may be the first to apply for an experimental round of the program.

"There's a big opportunity for us to jump on board with this," noted Rebane, regarding the addition of 550 beds to Totem Residence and the continuous development of new housing schemes.

Themed housing would not cost students any more than regular housing, as it's merely a matter of shifting the programming to the resident advisors who already coordinate housing activities and making them more focused.

This idea of themed housing is not a new one by any means. In fact, UBC seems to be lagging behind most other major universities in Canada and the US in regard to its implementation.

Other notable Canadian universities employing similar concepts include the University of Western Ontario, McGill University and the University of Alberta. Though not all school residences encompass specific themes, many of the programs share the underlying philosophy.

University of Toronto Community Development Coordinator Beth Spilchuk said that the Living Learning Communities at her campus offer two themed programs: an Eco House and Scholars Housing, with the main priority of promoting learning beyond the classroom. Spilchuk said that the Scholars Housing "facilitates study sessions, and is really focused on building [students'] résumés and applying for grad schools."

In terms of the success of the program, Spilchuk said that the campus "is very academic [and] I think I could see the Scholars Housing grow more...and become a larger Living Learning Community."

"The [residences] are pretty much full and...students are really enjoying it."

UBC did not forget about the Farm

KALYEENA MAKORTOFF
kmakortoff@ubyssey.ca

UBC's draft of the Campus Plan, officially unveiled in October, did not include South Campus or the UBC Farm, and for good reason. The area has been designated a separate evaluation and recommendation process under the South Campus Academic Planning Committee (SCAPC), a committee which will give recommendations and guidance to the university administration regarding how the space in South Campus should be used.

"I think it was very important to have an academic plan governing that space," said SCAPC Co-Chair Andrew Riseman. "My personal feeling is that academics should be more involved in the planning process, not that they should remain separate."

Friends of the Farm (FotF) President Andrea Morgan holds similar sentiments. "The academic and community objectives of SCAPC gets back the fundamentals of what a university does. It also opens up capacity for having regular and meaningful consultation, something that is critical in meeting many stakeholder objectives coming from diverse backgrounds: learning and research in the public interest."

The committee, struck shortly after the Board of Governors requested an academic plan for South Campus in December 2008, has already sent out a draft document of recommendations to the university's Executive Committee after working out guidelines and reviewing public feedback. They worked for four months to develop a mission, vision statements and goals they could all agree with. Riseman believes that the SCPAC's recommendations have been well-received, but he is still waiting for an official response.

Morgan is also optimistic about the committee's impact on the Farm's fate. "It's been really uplifting to hear from a large group of faculty members—representing so many different disciplines—who are all passionate about the Farm," she said. "They're putting forward ideas that would allow many more students to get involved, developing new courses, linking to existing ones, providing more recognition for volunteer work and self-directed studies on the site."

As it stands, the 24 hectares of South Campus are currently designated as future housing reserve under UBC's 1997 Official Community Plan, and this has been unsettling to Farm supporters, and arguably the most pressing issue for members of the SCAPC.

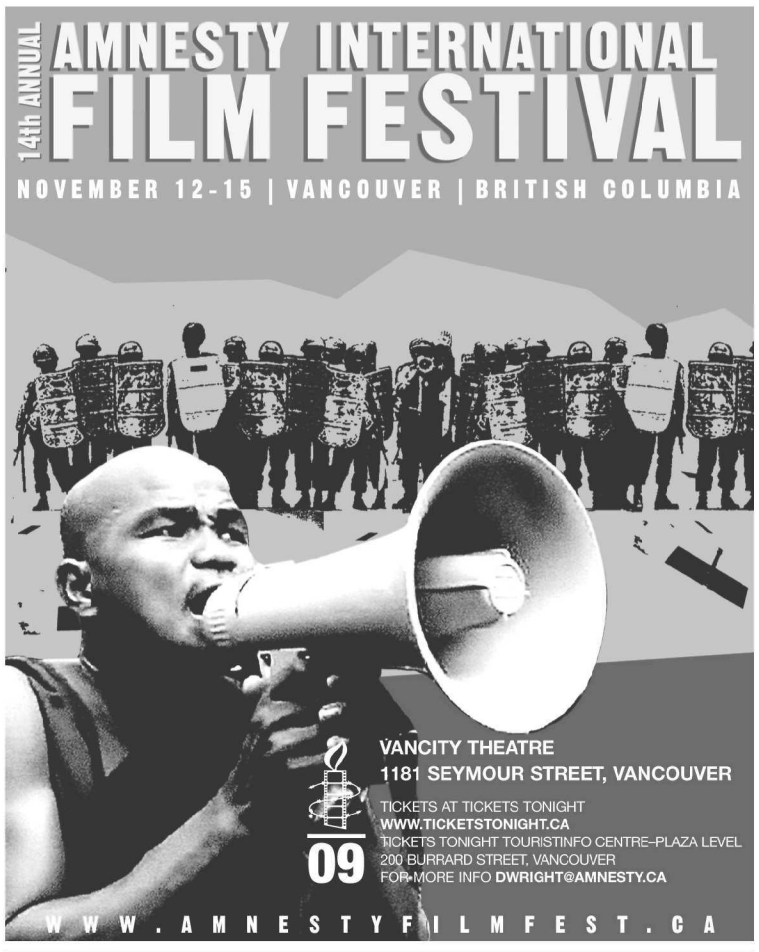
Following the approval of the South Campus Academic Plan, this committee will generate various plans for the area. Riseman explained that the SCAPC will look at plans for the entire South Campus area. "The Farm is a core component...but not the only component," he said.

While Riseman believes there are indications that the university is viewing the Farm favourably, he said that the situation will remain in flux until there is a reassertion of an academic label for the land.

"The future housing reserve is actually a condition, not a goal," he said. "What we would recommend is that condition be removed and have it established as fully and perpetually academic."

"I am optimistic that we will be able to help facilitate meaningful and effective development that allows for the connections between a productive land base and a residential community. That's what everyone's goal is—we just have to talk."

> "It's been really uplifting to hear from a large group of faculty members....They're putting forward ideas that would allow many more students to get involved."
>
> *— Andrea Morgan, FotF President*



Themed housing: Love it? Hate it?
Send us a letter. Get yourself heard. *feedback@ubyssey.ca*

A Plate of Mind: healthy eating and living

On Monday, UBC President Stephen Toope and UBC Food Services Chef Andy Chan held a cooking demonstration for about a hundred spectators to kick off the university's first annual Thrive Week. On the menu were caramelized pears and Vancouver Island goat cheese crostini, and UBC Farm swiss chard omelette with Qualicum spiced cheese. Toope engaged in amusing dialogue with Chan while helping prepare the dishes.

Thrive is a week–long series of events designed to promote health and well-being at UBC. It is a project of the UBC VP Students office, and a ten-person planning committee has been working since July to organize events, explained Hillary Woo, a Healthy Minds project assistant at UBC's Wellness Centre.

—Samantha Jung

GERALD DEO PHOTOS/THE UBYSSEY

Panel discussion, film teaches suicide awareness

First annual Suicide Awareness Day at UBC features moving discussions

VINNIE YUEN
vyuen@ubyssey.ca

On Tuesday, UBC had its first-ever Suicide Awareness Day (SAD), part of the university's wellness and health week, Thrive.

The UBC Suicide Awareness Committee planned to have the event close to World Suicide Awareness Day, which is on September 10. Patty Hambler, student development officer, explained to *The Ubyssey* that the committee has existed at UBC for about five years, and is an initiative spearheaded by Cheryl Washburn, director of UBC's Counselling Services. The Committee is made of 12 members from different organizations on campus, including Residence Life, Campus Security, First Nations House of Learning, Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) and the Josh Platzer Society.

The event kicked off with a lecture by Lloyd Craig, chairman of the BC Business and Economic Roundtable on Mental Health, on mental health and the workplace. Craig began his speech by telling a brief story of how suicide has affected his life. His son Gavin developed depression in 1996, and Craig lost Gavin to suicide in August 2001.

"Though depression seems to overpower thought and action, ironically, it is precisely by thought and action that society can overmaster it," Craig said. Craig pointed out that depression and mental health should be an issue companies pay more attention to. Depression can lead to days off from work, poor performance at work and can end up costing big dollars for the company and the economy. "Rule out mental illness before you rule out the employee," he said.

Craig emphasized the importance of research to helping those with depression. Only with research will knowledge increase, and only with knowledge can we reduce stigmatization of the issue. Craig ended on a hopeful note by pointing to the progress made on increasing infrastructure, funding, and awareness of depression as a physical illness.

Drawing From Life, a documentary by the National Film Board of Canada, was shown at the Norm Theatre in the afternoon, providing audiences with real-life examples of people who have attempted suicide at least twice. The film documents their 20-week journey in a group therapy workshop.

The patients' voices are no doubt powerful in conveying the pain and frustration of people struggling with thoughts of suicide. However, the film provides encouragement—there is help for those in need and people can get better.

After the film, a panel discussion concluded the day's events. One of the most crucial questions asked was how to help those with depression or suicidal thoughts. Arlene Decaire, return to work coordinator for UBC HSE, introduced the Question, Persuade and Rescue (QPR) program. QPR is a suicide prevention program that provides the knowledge needed to reach out to someone who may be contemplating suicide and connect them to resources that will help.

One clear message was conveyed throughout the event: knowledge and awareness is the first step towards prevention of suicide.

"Armed with knowledge [about suicide], you're already ahead of the game," said Jude Platzer of the Josh Platzer Memorial Fund.

> "Though depression seems to overpower thought and action, ironically, it is precisely by thought and action that society can overmaster it....Rule out mental illness before you rule out the employee."
>
> *—Lloyd Craig, Chairman of the BC Business and Economic Roundtable on Mental Health*

NEWS BRIEFS

UNDERGROUND ARTICLE EXAMPLE OF "CULTURE OF RAPE" AT UBC

Every month at her Meet the Dean session, Dean of Arts Nancy Gallini interacts with students from her faculty over free pizza. However, this month's edition looked at the controversial article trivializing rape on campus that appeared in *The Underground* last month, and issues of sexual violence.

Gallini was joined by Dr Becki Ross, chair of the UBC Women's and Gender Studies program. Students quickly moved discussion beyond the future of the controversial satirical publication—review is still being planned by the AUS—and onto the culture of rape some feel is present on campus, or the feeling that issues surrounding sexual violence are not taken seriously.

Most of the voices heard came from UBC V-Day, the UBC chapter of a global movement that focuses on stopping violence against women and girls. They are concerned that the university doesn't report on rape, violence and other incidents of this type in order to maintain the public persona of a safe campus.

This call for a better and more accurate flow of information was echoed throughout the entire meeting. Not only were there suggestions to use the university emergency text and e-mail system to inform or warn students about attacks, there was support for letting people know about the very serious long-term effects that rape and assault have on the victim. Although Gallini explained that the emergency broadcast system isn't controlled by her office, but by the president's office, she indicated that there might be a possibility to have a similar system installed within Arts.

The meeting ended with the promise that there was need for further discussions, events and publications to turn towards an anti-rape culture. Gallini announced a follow-up meeting on November 18 to discuss these issues, as well as other events such as a screening of a movie about drug-induced sexual assault.

—Roel Moeurs

COMMUNITY WEIGHS IN ON CAMPUS PLAN

UBC Campus & Community Planning has compiled the feedback on Phase 5 of the Vancouver Campus Plan, a document that will guide the next 20 years of development on the university's academic lands.

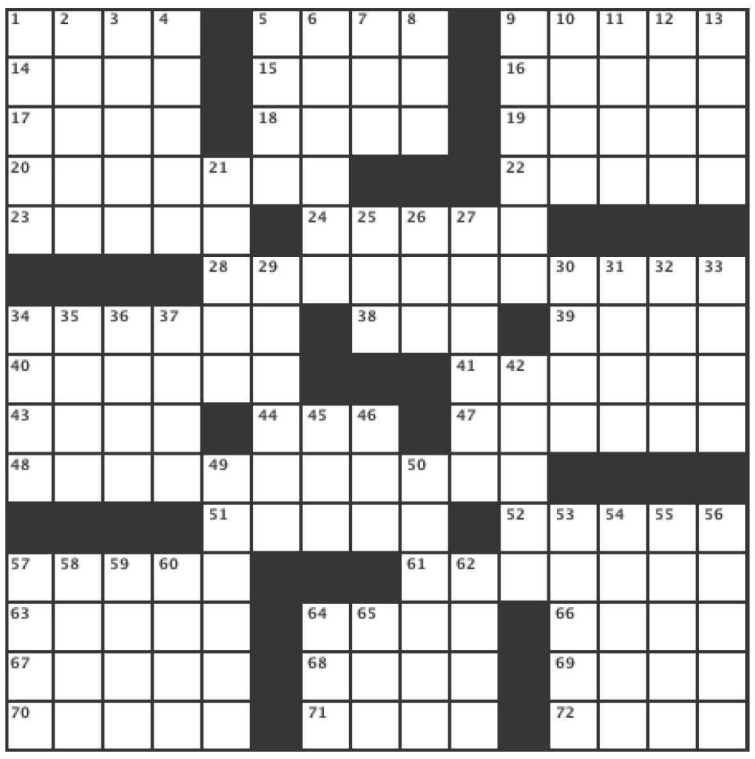
From October 5 to 22, the planners consulted students, staff and other stakeholders, holding four open houses and gathering both paper and electronic feedback forms. In total, they received 195 forms, 95 per cent of which were submitted online. Students were the most vocal reviewers, accounting for more than 75 per cent of the feedback.

Joe Stott, director of planning at UBC's Campus and Community Planning, said support was strongest for infill development (filling in space between existing academic facilities), mixed-used student housing, improving the public realm, and making the campus more pedestrian and cycle-friendly. Eighty per cent of respondents were supportive of creating a more sustainable campus. Agreement ranged from 71 per cent in regards to striving for a world-class reputation, bolstering natural beauty, and creating a physically well-connected and accessible campus. The lowest agreement score was related to implementation; only 53 per cent agreed that the plan has clear implementation tools and well-understood procedures.

Stott added that the Board of Governors will receive an update on the Phase 5 work, including the summary report on the campus consultations and the draft plan. The final draft plan will go to the Board in early 2010 for their final approval.

—Fabiola Carletti

GAMES AND COMICS



ACROSS

1. Inter ___
5. Get an A, say
9. Fastener
14. Beethoven's birthplace
15. A dish with many ingredients
16. Bridal path
17. Christmas
18. Ooze
19. Admit
20. Trysail
22. Go with the flow
23. Brief brawl
24. Head lock
28. Hater of humankind
34. Lives in rented rooms
38. Method
39. Askew
40. Foolish persons
41. Shooting star
43. Lecherous look
44. Coffee container
47. Actually existing
48. Sincere
51. Model
52. Extreme
57. Suit fabric
61. Garments
63. Water vapor
64. Track event
66. Period
67. Small hand drum
68. Scent
69. Church recess
70. Stable compartment
71. Returned
72. Not e'en once;

DOWN

1. Vast chasm
2. Jeweler's tool
3. Bay
4. Concerning
5. Attitude
6. Warns
7. Sprechen ___ Deutsch?
8. Dip in liquid
9. Folding top of a carriage
10. Fibbed
11. Hammett hound
12. Swill
13. Confined
21. Celestial body
25. Uncooked
26. Bambi's aunt
27. Hinder
29. Flowed out
30. Appraise, charge per unit
31. Is in the red
32. Career golfers
33. Bronte heroine
34. Rhythmic swing
35. Baltic feeder
36. Mon ___!
37. Clotted blood
42. Eventually become
45. Actress Charlotte
46. Heston's org.
49. Wintry
50. Aztec god of rain
53. Father of Leah and Rachel
54. Literary device
55. Employ again
56. Adjust, modify
57. Grounded fleet
58. Coup d'___
59. First name in country
60. Audacity
62. Enliven
64. Crowd
65. Agency of the United Nations

Crossword puzzles provided by *BestCrosswords.com*. Used with permission.

SUSCOMIC.COM, MICHAEL BROUND

YORT AND SUSAN, VIRGINIE MÉNARD

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

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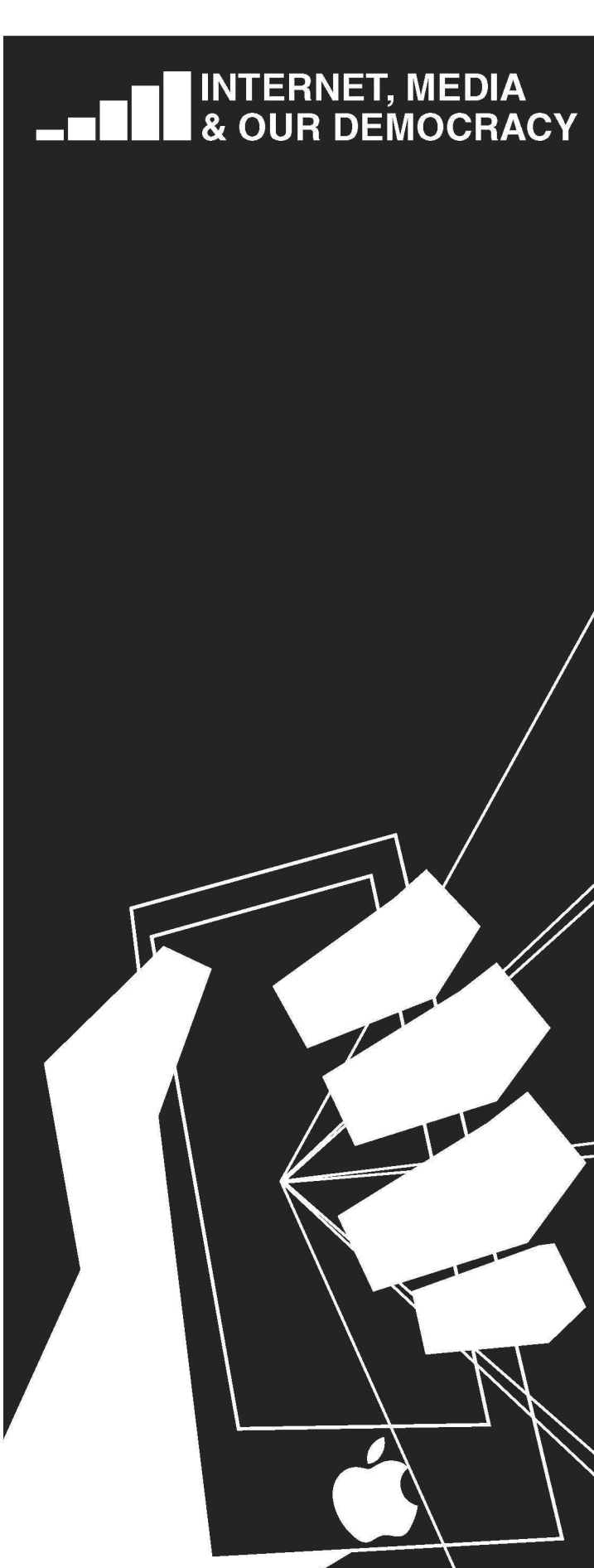
SUB 24

INTERNET, MEDIA & OUR DEMOCRACY

3G 18:29 49%

TOP 10 YOUTUBE CELEBS

page 8



THE INTERNET IS A HAVEN FOR CRIMINALS

page 10

APPLE KILLER

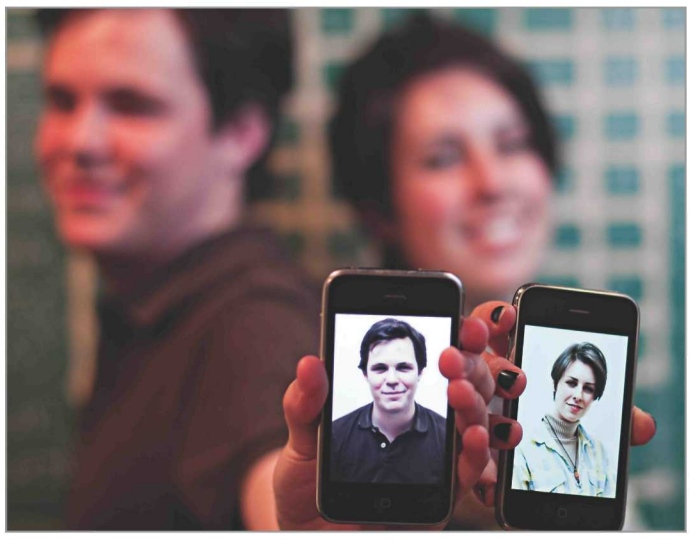
WHY STEVE JOBS IS QUAKING IN HIS BOOTS

page 9

A MEDIA EMPIRE'S GROWING PAINS

WILL FRESH MEDIA RISE FROM CANWEST'S ASHES?

page 10



Editors Stephanie Findlay and Justin McElroy GERALD DEO PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY

From the editors

Back in the early 90s, Conrad Black's Hollinger International purchased a minority stake in the Southam newspaper chain. The move left the now-incarcerated Lord with control of more than 40 per cent of Canadian daily newspaper circulation.

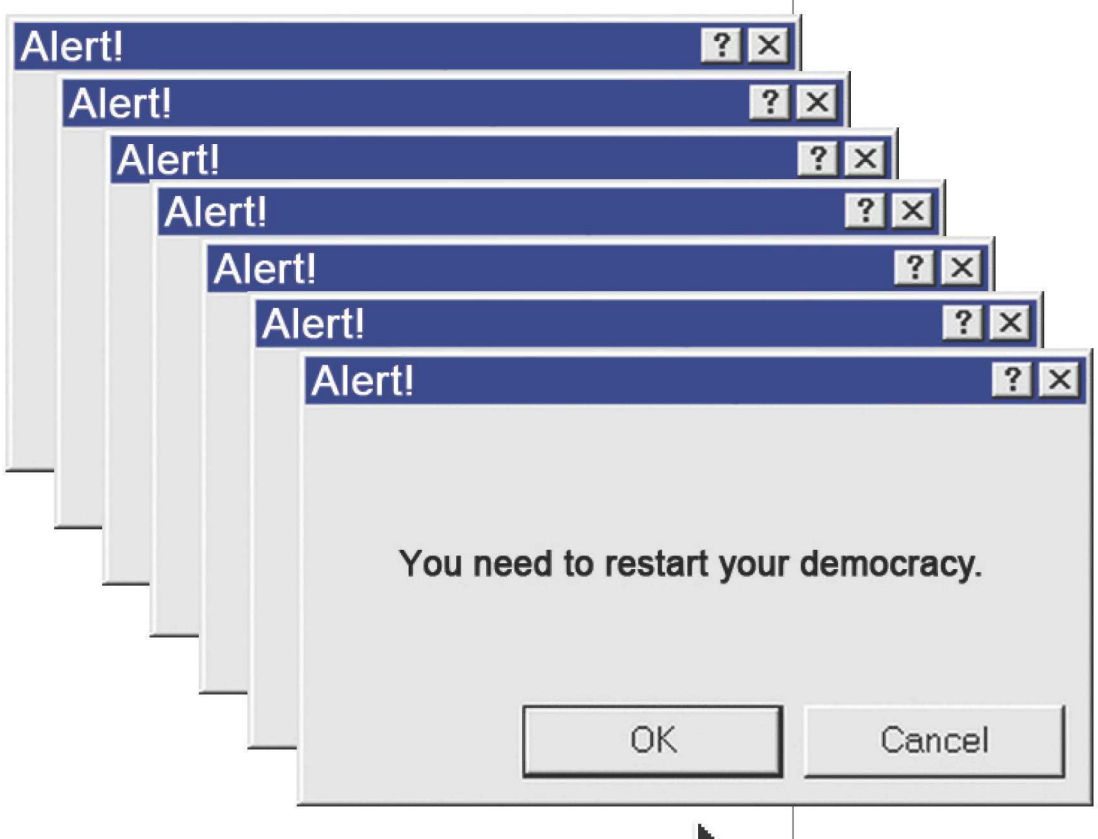
The spirit of those protesters who petitioned against Big Media domination in Canada then is here today in the form of Media Democracy Day (MDD). On Saturday, November 7, MDD will take place at the Vancouver Public Library, 350 West Georgia Street, from 11am until 6pm. Speakers from the respective spheres of journalism, academia and new media industries will advocate for a system that "informs and empowers all members of society, and enhances democratic values."

At *The Ubyssey*, we believe an independent press is a key component in an open democracy. Here in the basement of the SUB, we're able to transmit the news as we see it without any influence from "the management" above. Trust me, we might have massive issues on glossy paper packed with colourful ads if we were allowed to communicate with advertisers. But we don't compromise our print space for articles that wax poetic about our business partners just to increase our profit margins.

For our annual Media Democracy Day issue, we decided to take a look at one of the most profoundly influential forces in our (student) lives. Our question was: how has the internet and media affected our democracy today? Our dedicated staff of writers, artists and photographers took the idea and ran with it. In this issue, you'll read how the Internet is, among other things, a conduit for underground Iranian music, and an unregulated area for free speech. You'll also read about Vancouver's own initiative, FreshMedia, which is harnessing new media—Twitter, Facebook, the blogosphere—hoping to wash out the nasty aftertaste of the old media business model.

Thinking about the media may lie outside the average student's periphery. Most days, you might read something on the bus, chat to friends on Facebook, listen to your favourite online station—heck, maybe even read a tweet or two. We participate with the changing media landscape everyday and what it means to the future—today, we hope you do the same.

—Stephanie Findlay & Justin McElroy

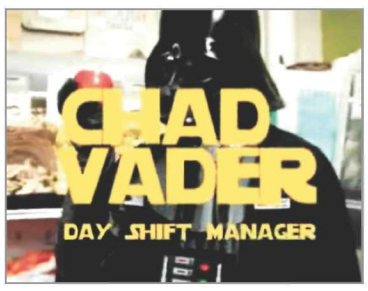


The 10 YouTube stars you need to see

STEVEN CHUA
Contributor

Since the dawn of YouTube, all it takes to reach massive audiences is a webcam. Now anyone can amass a following of disciples who religiously drink in the words of these newfound heroes. Here is a list of ten (order of appearance not important) YouTube celebrities you need to check out. Why? Because *The Ubyssey* told you to.

1 Neil Cicierega—Playing with puppets can pay off. Neil spoofs Harry Potter with an entire series known as the *Potter Puppet Pals*.



2 Chad Vader—Web series with Darth Vader operating a grocery store. Exceptionally good production, with a hilarious storyline.

3 Matt Harding—Video game designer travels the world and dances in countless countries in front of famous landmarks with the locale.

4 Kevjumba—Renowned for his commentary on growing up Asian American. Check out *Asians Just Aren't Cool Enough?*, his rant on the Dragonball movie's casting for the role of Goku.

5 byronfgarcia—A filmmaker whose videos of Filipino inmates performing songs (most notably, "Thriller") shows how prisoners should be rehabilitated.

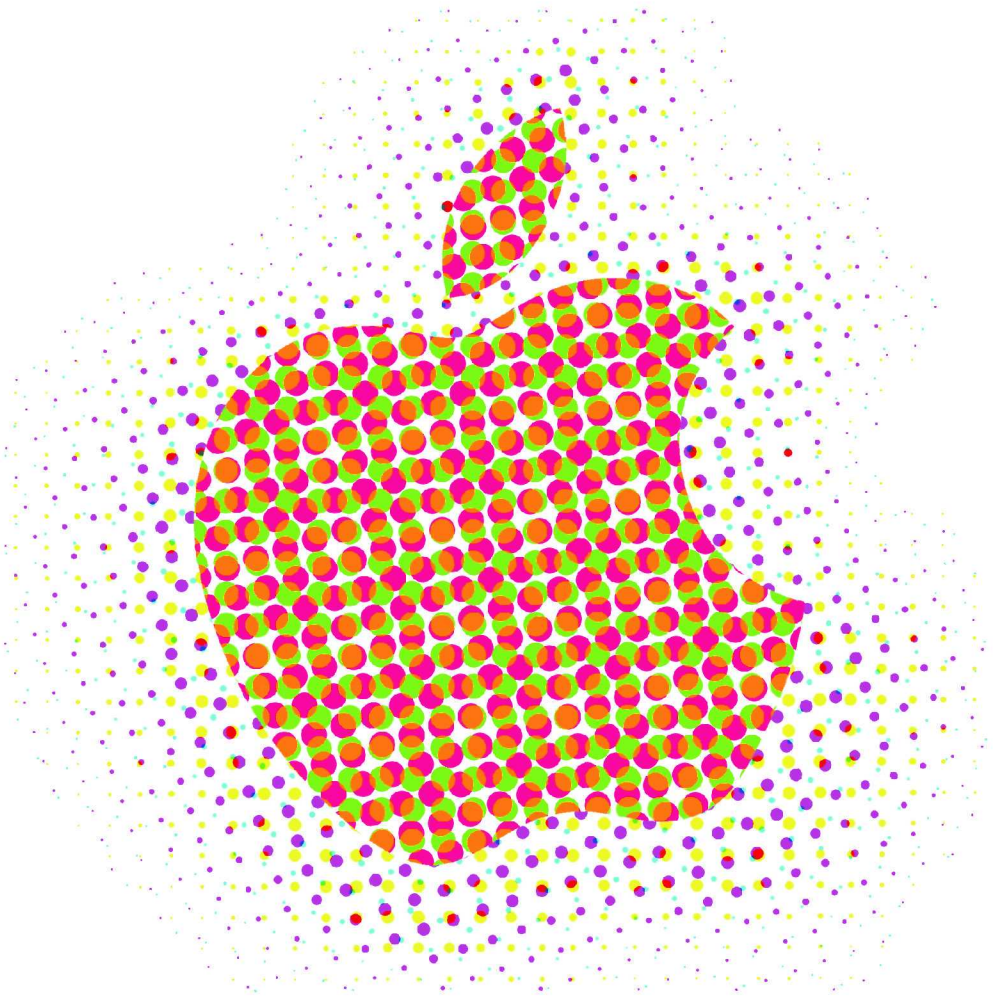
6 CGElliot09—A poster who has somehow captivated millions with a video of a baby dancing to a Beyonce video. Cute.

7 Pruane2Forever—A pre-teen kid with a nasal voice that critiques music/movies/games. After bashing rapper 50 Cent online, Fitty saw his video and flew him over to New York to hang out.

8 Ray William Johnson—A comic who regularly brings you a dose of the stupidest/funniest videos on YouTube, alongside hilarious commentary.

9 Brilliant Woman Solves All of California's Problems—Her name isn't disclosed in the video, but we do know she was a former Miss Teen South Carolina. Her economic stimulus plan consists of boosting your self-esteem. You'll feel like a genius.

10 Desdamonaone—An underground hip-hop artist who is using her song "Too Big For My Skin" to spearhead an affirmation campaign to increase women's self-acceptance. Deep lyrics. Leave your affirmation in the comment section. ***MD***



OPINION

Why the internet is a haven for criminals

RHYS EDWARDS
Contributor

"Remove non-whites via 'Mandatory Criminal Exile' and 'Voluntary Compensated Relocation' for non-criminal cases. It's ethical, humane, and important for the future of this country." —sonever1, commenting on a YouTube video about a racist monument in California, posted five months ago.

Despite the prevalence of hate speech online, governments are doing little about it. This isn't just about light-hearted critiques of religious education, like on *venganza.org*. Or even political right propaganda—check out *Conservapedia* for that.

There are entire websites, channels and forums dedicated to defamatory activism, and all of them are available to anyone with internet access.

4chan and *YouTube* are just two of many sites home to racists, homophobes and misogynists. As a result of unmitigated democratic freedom, the internet has become a platform for nearly any agenda. With online anonymity, it's never been easier to express a strong opinion without being subject to the law. What's troubling is that these opinions aren't limited to simple, sporadic bursts on mass media sites.

Sections 318 and 319 of the Criminal Code of Canada state that defamation is a CRIMINAL offence, and Section 13 of the Canadian Human Rights Acts PROHIBITS publication of hate speech, yet these laws go virtually IGNORED online

Sections 318 and 319 of the Criminal Code of Canada state that defamation (genocide advocation, hate speech, etc.) is a criminal offence, and Section 13 of the Canadian Human Rights Act prohibits the publication of hate speech, yet these laws go virtually ignored online.

Professor Shigenori Matsui, director of Japanese legal studies at UBC and expert on mass media and internet law, says jurisdiction of law online is no simple matter. In order for an offender to be prosecuted within Canada, his actions have to "satisfy criminal statute in Canada." The prosecutor must be able to prove, beyond all possibilities, that the defendant is in fact perpetuating a crime in the first place. That's easier said than done. The intrinsically anonymous and open nature of the internet makes providing evidence for the prosecution a difficult and expensive process.

The obvious example of this is in the US, where many hate sites are based. "The US has very strong protection to freedom of speech," says Matsui. The First Amendment allows citizens of the US to freely express their opinion, no matter how defamatory. Matsui also noted that an offender can still be prosecuted if it can be proven that he is inciting violence—but, as in Canada, making a case can be very difficult, especially considering how valuable freedom of speech is to the supposed epitome of democratic societies.

"The prosecution can be very controversial," cautions Matsui. This was the case on September 2, when the validity of Section 13, under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, was publicly brought into question in a case between former Canadian Human Rights Commission member Richard Warman and Marc Lemire, webmaster of the Canadian right wing website *Freedomsite*.

In this age where FREEDOM of thought is a valuable commodity toted by the Western powers, it is evident that BIGOTRY, RACISM and HOMOPHOBIA have been virtually consolidated into organized platforms

The former accused the latter of infringing Section 13 of the Canadian Human Rights Act, and, as a result, Lemire appealed that Section 13 undermined his right to freedom of speech. The final decision—which exempted Lemire from punishment, despite being found guilty of one act of infringement—is the first time that a defendant in a Section 13-related tribunal case has won.

While this is a cause for celebration for freedom of speech advocates, the case—and many others like it—ultimately shows that government jurisdiction on what constitutes defamation is woefully lacking in clarity.

In this age where freedom of thought is a valuable commodity touted by the Western powers, it is evident that bigotry, racism, and homophobia have been virtually consolidated into organized platforms. If we as a society wish to prevent defamation into this new age, we will first have to decide if unequivocal freedom of communication is an ethical priority in the future. ***MD***

Upstart Freshmedia questions media reform

Participants at FreshMedia (an interactive "unconference" focusing on media forms) held on October 24. COURTESY OF FRESHMEDIA

ERIN FRANKLIN & JONATHAN JOHANNES
Contributors

Fresh is best...or is it? The first ever FreshMedia event was an interactive "unconference" focussing on the current state of traditional media and the potential of new participatory media forms.

Held on October 24 at a small and funky art gallery downtown, at 112 West Hastings, organizers said that they wanted to draw together local "media innovators, artists, technologists, citizens and the online community to re-imagine media and celebrate innovation in the 21st century."

The underlying theme of the event suggested that the future of media is increasingly within the eyes—and hands—of the beholder. With the emergence of web-based user content as credible and accessible news, the internet has given a voice to an audience that has historically been passive consumers of the content.

"Something other than pornography is driving the internet," says Alden E Habacon, manager of Diversity Initiatives at CBC.

New social media forms integrate one of the most critical elements that prevented the democratization of old media hierarchies—citizen engagement. The increasing popularity of social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter mean that what constitutes news is no longer confined to its six-o-clock timeslot. "Everything is news," argued David Eby, a former CBC correspondant, at the conference. "The new credibility is transparency."

The series of panel discussions continued this discussion—the camera phone might be the new press badge, the consumer the new producer, but the injection of freedom of speech comes at a price because there are fewer filters there are more "house hippos" and "balloon boys" out there than ever before. "Speed becomes more critical than delivering good content," said Monica Hamburg, a writer and social media evangelist.

From there, the day broke up into workshops ranging from photography as a form of social media to appropriation of new music from DJ's to a strangely kick-ass Capoiera demonstration with veggies and dip. There was a growing sense in the ongoing discussion that the line between public and private is being erased as more and more people are able to access and broadcast their personal lives, and it isn't necessarily a good thing. "If you take out headline news tweets, there are all mostly pointless babble tweets," groaned the local tweeting queen of Raincoaster Media.

The take-home message was slightly contentious, much like the day itself. Becoming an active agent in the changing face of media might be easier said than done, as the privileged that have the time and money to access these mediums.

It's an issue that simultaneously empowers and subverts the potential for true media reform. This was well reflected by the aura of affluence embodied by the hip crowd in attendance which begs the question: who are the real participants in "participatory media?" ***MD***

Broadcasting politicized tunes

STEVEN CHUA
Contributor

The turntable spins in the radio room, and standing above it, a man in his 50s takes hold of the microphone.

It's DJ Goulash. His voice drenched in a thick Manchester accent, he begins preaching political commentaries and playing political music with a freedom that most commercial DJs cannot even fathom.

The Ubyssey takes an in-depth look at UBC's very own backyard to investigate forms of music censorship, and examines how the internet is now capable of circumventing these repressive measures by bringing political music (that commercial labels and radio stations wouldn't be caught dead associating with) to the masses.

Meet Andy Hunter: Currently serving as DJ Goulash at UBC's radio station, CiTR. He has over a decade of radio DJing under his belt, with gigs ranging from community and college radio in Europe, to stints with the BBC and Fairchild Radio. As a man with extensive experience in the radio business, one word aptly summarizes his sentiments toward commercial radio: frustration.

During his time with the BBC Radio in Manchester, Hunter constantly experienced frustration when he was restricted from playing music that had political undertones, or providing any commentary on political affairs. "You couldn't even talk about the Queen!" he complains, "[or else] you'd lose your job." His stint at Fairchild Radio (a multicultural radio channel in Vancouver, Toronto and Calgary) was hardly an improvement. "No politics" is the phrase that Hunter uses to define his experience there as well.

So how does Andy vent his frustration? A healthy dose of the internet and college radio does the trick. "Things done in college radio can't be done anywhere else, because nobody can tell me what I have to play," says Hunter.

While Hunter now has a place to broadcast the music he wants to, one problem still remains: getting a hold of the political music that is almost never available on a major record label.

So he turns to the internet. The most politically evocative music lies buried in the underground music scenes of their respective genres, and to access it Andy has turned to Youtube, Twitter and Myspace. The internet is not just useful as a place to get songs; his podcasts are distributed past the radius of CiTR's network to his various online audiences on Facebook, MySpace and Twitter.

Now Hunter lets "the songs do the talking" in his political commentaries.

When asked just how important it is that he can have access to politically uncensored music, Hunter says "As long as there are dissenting musicians, humanity has a chance." ***MD***

VANIMAUX art show @ the sub art gallery

VANIMAUX is a small exhibition that claims to "explore the Vancouver animal in its native environment." Some of the pieces are more relevant to this concept than others, and subsequently the selections are collaboratively quite weak, if not a little pretentious.

There are a few gems in here—Dan Elstone's photography raises some interesting questions about how integral human objects are in our natural environment, and Judit Navratil's cartoon-like compositions are a delight aesthetically, if not a little vacant.

But even with these interesting works, the overall tone suggests an uninteresting passivity on the subject—a proverbial shrug or throwing up of the arms, declaring the usual sentiments: "Humans have messed up the environment! Also, we're animals too!"

—Rhys Edwards

Culture

Culture Editors: *Kate Barbaria & Trevor Record*

Lovestruck: A Romantic Comedy Set in the Horrific World of H.P. Lovecraft

BRYCE WARNES
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If the first thing that comes to mind when you hear the word "lovestruck" is mind-crushing terror on a vast cosmic scale, you may have some emotional issues.

Or you may be the perfect target audience for *Lovestruck: A Romantic Comedy Set in the Horrific World of H.P. Lovecraft*.

"I thought, isn't it silly that he writes horror stories, but his name is Lovecraft?" asks Andrey Summers, writer and director of the play's current incarnation onstage at UBC's Dorothy Somerset Studio. Despite the verbal similarities, the connection between romantic comedy and the works of H.P. Lovecraft might not be immediately apparent.

Lovecraft's fiction is known as much for its pessimistic view of humanity's place in the universe as for the description-defying monsters that inhabit it. It's a stance that defied the Christian mindset of its day as much as it does the humanism of the modern era. So what makes this sobering vision of reality a hotbed for romantic foibles?

"It's a satire of the ridiculousness of life and the things that we care about," says Summers. "And whereas Lovecraft says, in his stories, that these things are meaningless and trivial, *Lovestruck* says they're meaning[ful] and trivial—but that's funny."

Set during the Great Depression, *Lovestruck* tells the story of Victor Crancy (played by Chris Schonfeldt), an obsessive scholar of ancient history, and the attempts of Tammy Lancaster (played by Jessica Lewthwaite), a small-town flower girl, to woo him. Before long, dark forces beyond human comprehension become involved—with hilarious results.

The settings and characters draw heavily on three Lovecraft stories in particular—*The Dunwich Horror*, *The Rats in the Walls* and *The Call of Cthulhu*.

The last title may sound familiar even to those uninitiated to Lovecraft. That's because Cthulhu—an interstellar behemoth with a face full of tentacles who draws a cult-like earthly following—has had its fair share of influence on popular culture. The mythical beastie's name tends to pop up in strange places, everywhere from death metal records to cartoons. Summers stresses the fact that, despite its arcane subject matter, *Lovestruck* will entertain even those who have no prior familiarity with Lovecraft's fiction.

"We are trying to appeal to a broader audience," says Summers, "but not in the way that, say, *Big Momma's House II* does."

This production is a "very collaborative" effort, put on by the Players Club—the first official club ever formed at UBC (established in 1915) and one that allows students from all faculties to become involved in theatre.

Summers, who completed his BFA in Creative Writing last year, says this will be his last production with the Club. He intends to go out with a bang.

Tentacles tentacles tentacles school girls school girls. **BRENDAN ALBANO PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY**

"[Audiences] can expect some guts," he says. "They can expect a big monster to appear." Regardless of its setting or theme, *Lovestruck* is still a comedy, blending equal measures of high- and low-brow humour. And it brings a romantic glow to Lovecraft's often bleak and generally sexless universe.

There have been some bumps along the road. Last month cast members fell victim to H1N1, and the original lead actor was drawn away halfway through production by a lucrative television offer. Is this the beginning of a Macbeth-style curse? Is it possible that evil forces are at work?

"I think so, yeah. But I think that's good for us. That's what it's about," says Summers. "Without evil forces, we can't bear in mind its theme: love, which is one of the evil forces at work."

Lovestruck plays November 4–7 at at 7:30pm in UBC's Dorothy Somerset Studio, on University Blvd. There will be a matinee on Saturday, November 7 at 1:30pm. Tickets are $10 for students and $15 for non-students. Visit ubcplayersclub.com *for more info.*

H.P. LOVECRAFT: IN LOVE WITH MADNESS

H.P. Lovecraft (1890–1937) was a reclusive author who barely made enough from his writing to survive during his lifetime. Nonetheless, his short stories and novellas served as one of the foundations for modern science fiction, fantasy and horror.

Something of a misanthrope, Lovecraft was considered racist and sexist, even for his own time. That hasn't stopped his stories from having a broad influence on modern culture, with luminaries as diverse as Alan Moore (*From Hell*, *Watchmen*) and Joyce Carol Oates (*Them*, *Black Water*) paying tribute to him in their work.

Struggling with depression and mental illness most of his life, Lovecraft created many protagonists whose interactions with forces beyond their comprehension led them to madness.

UBC Opera Ensemble breaks free of the nunnery

SIRI WILLIAMS
Contributor

Audiences can expect to be taken on an emotional roller coaster at the UBC Opera Ensemble's double bill production of *Suor Angelica* and *Gianni Schicci* by Giacomo Puccini.

Suor Angelica is a tragedy about a disgraced noblewoman who is living in a nunnery. It contrasts well with *Gianni Schicci*, a comedic retelling of a story referred to in Dante's *Divine Comedy*. The two one-act operas, together with a third which will not be performed, *Il Tabarro*, make up a trilogy of operas called *Il Trittico*.

Although slightly more obscure to those new to opera, they are well-known and embraced by devotees in the community. "[They are] very contrasting, emotionally raw and intense," said master's student and soprano Erin Armstrong.

"They are both very much ensemble pieces," said Leah Field, a second-year Music PhD mezzo-soprano who will be singing the role of the Principessa. She added that the audience can expect to be impressed by the "vocal prowess of the singers and the ensemble as a unit."

The students of the Opera Ensemble have been hard at work on these pieces for several months. For Armstrong, who will be singing her first title role as Suor Angelica, the preparation has been arduous.

"Five solid months of preparation," she said. "Translation comes first."

When asked how it feels to be singing her first title role, Armstrong was modest. "It feels great!"

"I really hadn't actually thought about it until we were talking the other day because I haven't put any more importance on the meaning of singing the character after which the opera is named as opposed to the other fabulous women I've portrayed onstage who are [equally] an amazing part of the opera. But I guess as far as title roles go, *Suor Angelica* has been an absolutely amazing experience for me."

"Vocally it's very challenging," said Field. "It requires a lot of dramatic restraint. With the music, it's easy to get carried away."

Armstrong agreed. "Keeping the divided focus [is challenging]. To not delve too far into yourself...not allowing yourself to weep. Emotionally...I don't want to say it's draining because I feel so full and replenished. [But] it's very intense."

You certainly don't have to be an opera buff to thoroughly enjoy and understand the operas, added the singers. "The emphasis is on real, identifiable human emotion that anyone can understand [and] the way it's captured in music," Field said.

Both operas contain popular songs that even the non-opera fan may be familiar with. The arias "Senza Mamma" from *Suor Angelica* and "O Mio Babbino Caro" from *Gianni Schicci* are both used often in film and television to this day.

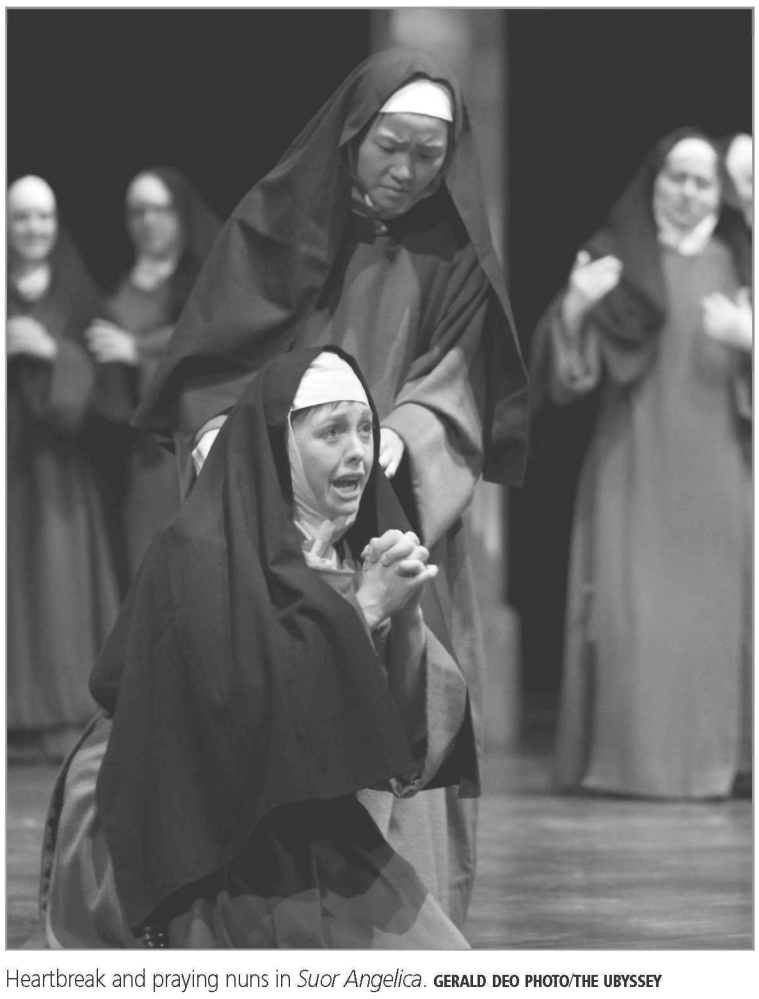
And for those who need another pop-culture push through the door? *Gianni Schicci*, the comedic piece of the trio, was produced by Woody Allen in conjunction with the Los Angeles Opera in 2008.

Audience members will have plenty to take away from the pieces, the two performers promised.

"I hope that the audience is able to appreciate the full range of very human emotion presented in these two pieces, from the pain and grief of *Suor Angelica*, to the love and joy that *Gianni Schicchi* closes with," said Field. "A general impression of renewal can be taken from the movement from grief to celebration, from death to the union of young love."

Armstrong concurred. "You never stop learning with opera."

Suor Angelica *and* Gianni Schicci *will be playing at the Chan Centre for Performing Arts on November 5-7 at 8pm, and November 8 at 2pm. The production is directed by Nancy Herrniston and will be conducted by Dwight Bennett.*



Heartbreak and praying nuns in *Suor Angelica*. **GERALD DEO PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY**

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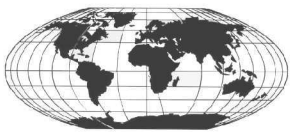

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Vancouver Asian Film Festival

Mastering the martial arts stereotype

KATHY YAN LI
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Screenshot from the movie *Whatever it Takes*, playing at VAFF. **COURTESY OF VAFF**

It's the 13th Vancouver Asian Film Festival (VAFF) this year, and boy do they have a treat lined up for you. Abandoned children, panda mascots, vaginas on vacations and plain and simple immigration, this year's films are chosen to "see more realistic portrayals of Asian North Americans in film."

In the majority of North American films and television shows, stereotyping is prevailant for Asian roles; gang members, submissive females and martial arts experts. The gritty films shown at VAFF offer a wider scope of images of Asians living in modern North American society.

Despite its successful run of over a decade, the VAFF had a very humble start. The founder of VAFF, Barbara Lee, was inspired by the Seattle Asian American Film Festival in 1995, and wanted to bring a festival of the same flavour to Vancouver. From there, she embarked on a project with the help of several other media artists and friends. With no government funding, just sheer determination, the first VAFF made its debut in September 1997 at Robson Square Conference Centre.

Tammy Tsang, the media and marketing director of the festival, talked about UBC's involvement. "UBC is full of bright minds and activists of the future," she said. "VAFF would like to tap into this and hopefully trigger the passion in some of its students to carry on the groundwork VAFF has already done and move it into the future." In collaboration with the Asian Canadian Cultural Organization (ACCO) on campus, they had a Mighty Asian Moviemaking Marathon (MAMM) held at UBC.

Tsang said that films from Asia are not often as relatable to an Asian-Canadian. To bridge that gap, most of the films shown at the VAFF are stories about the Asian-Canadian experience. Primarily from North America, these documentaries tell stories about the Asian-Canadian community. "Films used to be mainly about identity crisis, living in two worlds, now it is much broader and the Asian culture perspectives and stories continue to evolve....It is very exciting to watch and have someone capture this evolution that we are all experiencing, but find it hard to express."

Despite the common perception of filmmakers as kooky, creative characters, Tsang says probably "80 per cent of VAFF filmmakers and organizers have degrees in law, business, education, science, political science," but were looking for ways to express themselves and to impact the world in some small way.

One of the headliner documentaries to look out for this VAFF is *Whatever It Takes*, directed by Christopher Wong. The film is a raw, realistic portrait of the struggles and triumphs of a talented but troubled ninth-grade girl, Sharifea Baskerville, during her first year at the Bronx Center for Science and Mathematics. The personal stories of her school's students and staff bring attention to the themes of school reformation and the "need for educators, parents and policy makers to prioritize the transformation of the public school systems so that all children can receive a quality education," something almost everyone can relate to.

So go take a look, there's definitely something for everyone at the Vancouver Asian Film Festival, asian or not.

Vancouver Asian Film Festival runs November 5-8 at the Cinemark Tinseltown Theatre. For more information about film schedule and ticket prices, go to vaff.org.

Politics and poverty with Gillian Jerome

STEVEN CHUA
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UBC Professor Gillian Jerome is the author of *Red Nest*. **COURTESY OF HARBOUR PUBLISHING**

Nightwood Editions and Brick Books hosted a poetry book launch at the Vancouver Heritage Hall featuring UBC's very own Professor Gillian Jerome, as well as Joe Denham and Chris Hutchinson, with their books *Red Nest*, *Windstorm* and *Other People's Lives*, respectively. The hall provided an air of class and sophistication; it was the perfect environment for the launch. Wine glasses, empty and full, decorated the hands of the various attendants, a crowd drawn mainly from friends of the authors, local intelligentsia and artists. The first half-hour of the event was devoted to mingling, which allowed *The Ubyssey* to pull Jerome aside for some insights into her latest work.

GILLIAN JEROME ON *RED NEST*

Those who enjoyed Jerome's *Hope In Shadows* collection, a series of non-fiction stories written by residents of the Downtown Eastside about their personal experiences, will be pleased to find that *Red Nest* includes political references that relate to the poverty that is prevalent in Vancouver. Jerome revealed that "there is a sequence about light that relates to the Downtown Eastside," as well as a "poem called *Epilogue* for the people [she] worked with on the *Hope In Shadows* book."

However, with this book Gillian shared that she wanted to include more universal themes such as "violence, war, poverty, love and domesticity, neighbourhoods and the importance of community." Jerome writes on these topics using otherworldly imagery, serving as a tool to examine "how the mythological is woven into our daily lives," she explained.

THE READINGS

An introduction was given by the host of the event, Brad Cran, Vancouver's poet laureate, and Joe Denham took the stage to begin reading an excerpt from his new book *Windstorm*. As a fisherman from the Sunshine Coast, Joe's reading revolved around environmental problems that he observed on a day-to-day basis by vividly describing visions that he had during a severe accident involving a table saw.

Gillian Jerome went on the podium next. True to her word, poems from *Red Nest* examine a number of universal themes, many of which are existentialist in nature, and deal with life in times of great adversity.

Chris Hutchinson took the stage last. As a former resident of Vancouver, the poetry in his work *Other People's Lives* revolved around much of his day-to-day experiences here in the Lower Mainland, ranging from the good natured to the dramatic.

POETRY'S POLITICAL SIDE

With the launch of the Olympics nearing, and the Campbell administration's controversial stance towards arts funding, this book launch certainly carried a political tone to it. Brad Cran said that "it's time to stop thinking of investments in the arts as a hand-out...it's an industry...we just want to be taken care of in the exact same way that other industries are."

Chris Hutchinson shared Cran's sentiments, as he stated that "[Vancouver is] becoming a really unaffordable place to live for artists....I didn't consciously set out to lead a subsistence [lifestyle] beneath the poverty line, it's just what happened to me and so I wrote through it...the importance is to write through it all." When asked to give a direct quote about the Campbell administration he laughed. "There's nothing I can say that you could print."

IS IT FOR YOU?

Future book launches and other literary events can be found on *harbourpublishing.com*. If you have an interest in the literary arts, you should definitely check these events out. But the bottom line is that these occasions mainly cater towards the literary crowd. Be prepared for some deep thoughts, or at least endless grumbling about the government.

DE-FAULT!

The UBC Football team retroactively wins another game—but still finishes out of the playoffs

In an embarrassing spectacle for the Canada West Conference, the Manitoba Bisons football team was forced to retroactively forfeit five games from the beginning of the regular season and have been stripped of three wins. The decision followed the revelation that the Bisons' wide receiver Julian Hardy previously played in the CIS in 2001, before being suspended for four years following a doping violation. As a result, Hardy was no longer eligible to play in the CIS. The decision changes UBC's record to 3–5 on the season (two of the wins coming by retroactive forfeit), but still out of the playoffs—UBC lost the 4th place tiebreaker to the Regina Rams.

The man behind the mask: François Thuot

The Thunderbirds starting goaltender has always thrived between the pipes

HILARY ATKINSON
Contributor

When François Thuot was young, he always screamed for his parents to flip back to hockey if they dared to channel surf. He forced his parents to stop the car whenever they drove by an ice rink just so he could watch the game.

From the moment he could walk and hold a stick, Thuot was hooked on hockey.

Thuot loves hockey. He loves stepping onto a clean sheet of ice after the zamboni has washed away the grooves and chips from the last period's battle. He loves the blue paint of the crease; it means that it's his crease and Thuot owns that space.

From post to post, goal line to crossbar, Thuot, the man behind the mask, is all that stands between victory and a flashing red light.

"It was a passion right from the start for me," said Thuot.

"For me, my plan is so set to go and just keep playing hockey and that's what it's been all about my whole life and that's still what I want to do."

Thuot joined his first league team at age five. He played Major Junior hockey in the Ontario Hockey League for the Barrie Colts and Saginaw Spirit. Now, Thuot mans the crease for the UBC Thunderbirds and is looking to capture a championship for the home team.

The Thunderbirds have started the season with Thuot in net, and has already shone, with a 2.61 goals-against average and a .912 save percentage. The team is depending on him to be a large part of their push for the playoffs and hopefully a CIS title.

"I know we can do it," said Thuot. "If the team is healthy and we believe in ourselves, we can do it. I think we can do it, because that is what I want to happen and we need these four points this weekend big time, if we want to make the playoffs."

Making the playoffs is essential for the Thunderbirds this season and top priority for Thuot. He is hungry for the win, and won't be counting just on luck to get the team there; although a little doesn't hurt.

"I had lucky socks for the playoffs, like my grandpa used to wear," said Thuot about his past lucky charms. "I had a lucky tie for a long time. "Most likely, if I am wearing a shirt and we are losing two games in a row, I am never wearing that shirt again and if I am wearing a shirt and we keep winning I am probably going to wear it day after day to the game."

One thing Thuot always wears is his mask. Painted in Cujo-style with the head of a wolf, jaws open bearing fangs, the UBC puck-stopper wants to send a message to his opponents: the puck stops here.

In his fourth year with UBC, Thuot is the undisputed No. 1. KEEGAN BURSAW FILE PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY

The mask is the same he wore in the OHL, and has a quirky history. When Thuot played for the Barrie Colts, it was the first time he was able to get a painted mask.

"I've always loved it," said Thuot when asked of the design. "All my career, the paint was too expensive. Then the mask was stolen when I was playing a game in Sudbury and I had to get the mask made the same again."

Thuot will do everything this season to help his team win. He may even score a goal.

"I'm still working on that. My shot is not good enough to get the puck all the way down there. Maybe the NHL guys can do it, but I am still working on it."

COMING UP

Men's Hockey vs. Alberta
Friday–Saturday, 7:30pm

UBC

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

SOCCER TEAMS IN MUST-WIN SITUATION AT CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

It's do-or-die for UBC soccer teams Both have to win their first game at the conference championships on Friday to advance to the CIS National Championships.

"Overall I think we treat it like every other game," said men's head coach Mike Mosher, as he looked ahead to his team's semi-final game against the Alberta Golden Bears (7:30pm, Thunderbird Park). "There's nothing we can do or not do in practice to change that," said head coach Mike Mosher.

UBC (10–3–1) won the rights to host the Canada West Final Four by finishing with the top regular season record. The T-Birds split their two game season series with Alberta (7–3–4), with both teams winning one game by a score of 1–0. The winner on Friday faces the winner of the Trinity Western—Victoria match in the gold medal game on Saturday.

Mosher's team has won all seven home games this year, shutting out their opponent in every game, and he points to that as a reason why the team is confident entering this weekend.

"There's an advantage. We're in comfortable confines, we're one of the only teams that play on turf. The players are used to it, we practice on it every day...we're confident."

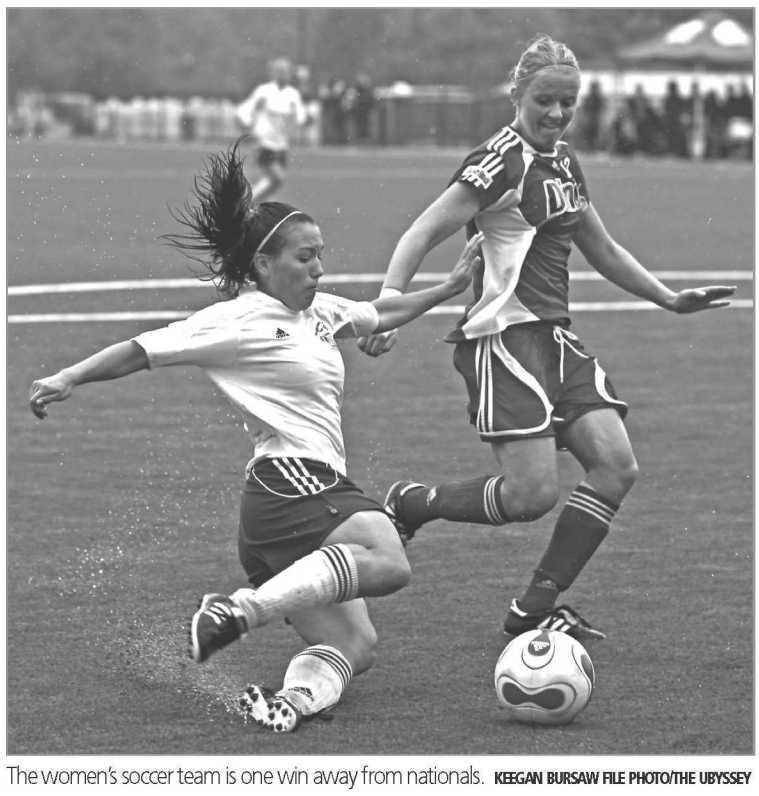
Meanwhile, the women's soccer team will be in Langley at Trinity Western University, where UBC (8–2–4) have a semifinal match against the UVic Vikes (9–2–3) to determine which team will make the national championships.

After a slow start to the season that saw them as far back as ninth place at one point, the Thunderbirds have won six straight games to end the year, and finished in third place in the conference.

"I think we've done a pretty good recovery job," said women's head coach Dick Mosher. "We've done it primarily through team defence, we haven't given up a goal in our last three games, so if we can add a few goals to the defensive effort, we'll be fine."

For those goals, Mosher will be counting on rookie forwards Janine Frazao and Rachael Sawer to provide the bulk of the offence, as the two scored 15 of UBC's 30 goals during the season.

"It's always tough, in the playoffs for first-year players, they haven't been there and experienced there before, but the team has a lot of confidence in them, and I expect that they'll step it up even more."



The women's soccer team is one win away from nationals. KEEGAN BURSAW FILE PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY

WINNER ADVANCES TO CIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

MEN'S SOCCER
UBC vs. Alberta
7:30 @ Thunderbird Park

WOMEN'S SOCCER
UBC vs. UVic
3pm @ Trinity Western

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

WOMEN'S RUGBY

Thunderbird Park will be the nation's hotspot for women's rugby this weekend, as UBC hosts the CIS Championships.

The No. 9 ranked Thunderbirds had an automatic berth into the championship by being the host team, but have just come off an impressive Canada West Final Four, where they narrowly lost 19–15 to Alberta before defeating Victoria 46–0 in the bronze medal game.

"We've struggled to find consistency this year but at the same time have shown in stretches that we're capable of playing fast, exciting, aggressive rugby and playing with the big teams," said UBC head coach Lesley McKenzie.

UBC is one of six teams in the tournament, along with two-time defending champion Lethbridge Pronghorns.

FIELD HOCKEY

The Thunderbird Women's field hockey team looks to take its first national championship since 2006 this weekend. They enter the CIS Championships as the No. 2 seed.

UBC finished the regular season with a 10–2 record, and finished first in the Canada West conference. The team will play four round-robin games from Thursday to Saturday, with the top two teams from the five-team tournament advancing to the gold medal game on Sunday.

FIELD HOCKEY
Thursday–Sunday @ UVic

WOMEN'S RUGBY
Friday–Sunday @ UBC

Whitney Kroll will be looking for a CIS championship. KEEGAN BURSAW FILE PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY

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On Monday
Why the Liberals lost support and how they can get it back

Ideas

Ideas Editor: *Trevor Melanson*

SEX COLUMN

TOO SEXY

KASHA CHANG & AUSTIN HOLM
toosexy@ubyssey.ca

Avuncular Readership,

This dreary season has left us pining for summer, and we must confess to a degree of weariness as a result. If you're in the same boat, though, never fear; the colder weather provides a more plausible reason to huddle, and everyone knows warm nights by the fire are synonymous with romance. If you must venture out, it's likely you'll find a den mate or three willing to keep you company through the hibernatin' season. This issue's letter is about just such an endeavour.

I AM A LESBIAN. I WENT TO PIT NIGHT for the first time last week with a bunch of friends. Long story short, I ended up drunk and made out with a few really hot girls throughout the course of the night. I had an amazing time and can't wait to go back to Pit Night to see if those girls are there again, but my friends are trying to stop me. They think the other girls weren't lesbians, and that they were only kissing me to get away from the really creepy guys on the dance floor. Do you think this is true? Do I have a shot, or am I just being used as a convenient cock block?

—Pit Is Terrific

Hey PIT,

First off, let's say that sussing out a same-sex smooch buddy when one is not at all homosexually-inclined is a pretty roundabout and unlikely way to avoid the leers of that nearby creeper. That said, it's not entirely implausible, so let's consider the following:

The Drunk/Opportunistic Straight Girl is one of the phantasms that haunts relationship-minded lesbians the world over, as well as presenting yet another stigma needlessly attached to the bisexual-identified. But the question is, PIT, are you relationship-minded?

What are your goals for seeking these girls out, or attending Pit Night in the first place? It sounds to us as though you are out to meet people and have a good time, and regardless of the potential orientations of your make-out sesh sweethearts, it appears you've been doing just that.

Even if they are just using you to avoid being undesirably hit on (which, as we've said, seems a trifle unlikely), what's the harm? They get protection from icky dudes, you get a hot lip-lock, and everyone goes home happy.

There are worse things out there than getting to make out with hot babes whose sexual orientation may usually take them off the Rug-Munch Café menu. As long as you're aware that everyone who makes eyes (or, in this case, mouths) at you is not necessarily in for the long haul, you're safe from heartbreak. Who cares which team she bats for if you can focus on enjoying yourself?

Please also keep in mind that, like gender, sexuality is increasingly recognized as less binary than traditionally believed. After all, PIT, when was the last time you were attracted to a woman solely on the basis of her gender? For some people, gender and/or physical sex can serve as a classification system whereby some potential mates are summarily eliminated.

For many others, however, this isn't the case. In your situation, the question is not whether the girls you made out with are always and ever into other girls (i.e. identified, true-blue lesbians); the question is whether they are into you. Are these girls simply grabbing on to the first safe-shelter in the horny boy storm, or did they pick you out after a chat and a laugh? If so, we guarantee it will not be on the basis of either your female parts or your womanly modes of social construction, but rather on other ways you present yourself, like style, sense of humour and conversation.

PIT, the bottom line is when in doubt, ask. The next time you're pressed up against some girl you met at the bar and you're wondering whether or not she might be into something longer-lasting than the time span it takes for you both to get out of breath, come up for air for a second and ask her if she'd like to give you her number and go for coffee sometime soon. That way you can discuss your intersecting sexualities at a soberer time, and thus forestall any misunderstandings owing to your mutual inebriated states. Also, if she tries to make out with you again in a coffee shop, her motives are more likely stroking her own flames of passion than dousing some boy's trouser fire.

That's all for this week, friends. Send your tawdry letters to *toosexy@ubyssey.ca*.

VIRGINIE MÉNARD GRAPHIC/THE UBYSSEY

EDITORIAL

Does Frederick deserve the benefit of the doubt?

A motion to censure an AMS President has not come to Council in nearly five years. That alone should tell you how serious last night's debate was.

Make no mistake, what President Blake Frederick has done is serious. In his eight months as president, the relationship between UBC and the AMS—and therefore students—has gone seriously downhill. A poorly thought-out press release wasn't significantly worse than anything else our president has done, but it was the cherry on top of the Sundae of Suck that has been his leadership.

When Stephen Toope, the president of UBC, sends out a letter that is so sharply worded that people say they've never seen him this angry and disappointed, you know things have been bungled.

Council realized this. To their credit, most all of our student leaders were worried how students would perceive this and whether the relationship between the AMS and UBC was irrevocably damaged for the rest of the year. They realized they had a public relations debacle on their hands. The vast majority realized that the press release was wrong. The question was whether a formal censure would make their disappointment clear, or would cause more problems than it would solve.

In a case like this, it would seem that a formal apology, or retraction of the press release, would be a public show of grace and humility, not to mention a compromise. It would get the message across without going to extreme measures. After all, Council forced VP External Tim Chu to pull back an overly-partisan report card that was issued on the provincial parties during the May election. They could have done much the same thing here.

But Frederick refused to issue a formal apology and refused to issue a second press release. Moreover, he said that the university should be apologizing. Council wanted him to show some formal contrition.

Instead, he said he was sorry about what happened—not formally, mind you. He said he "would take this very seriously." He said he would change. He said: Trust me. And Council said: Okay.

Is that really wise? Because thus far, under Frederick, if the AMS has had a chance to embarrass students or damage their relations with the university, more often than not, they have.

They spent $19,000 on advertisements in *24 Hours* newspaper. They've misled students in leaving CASA. They've squandered any chance of students playing a meaningful role of making sure the Olympics doesn't cause undue disruption to this campus in February. They've alienated countless university officials and put into jeopardy negotiations for a new SUB. In the choice between making a political point or building up relationships for students, time and time again Frederick—and Chu—have chosen to make a political point. The bus loop was cancelled. Students had won. There was no need to thumb the university in the eye. But Blake did. Again.

A few councillors claimed that while what Blake did was very stupid, and while what he has done in the past has not been helpful, censuring the president would make the AMS look weak and divided, and damage relations with the university further.

Well you know what? The university now knows that the AMS is deeply divided, and that many councilors have no faith in their president. They also know that they let the juvenile press release stand. You think that makes the AMS look stronger?

There are the continued negotiations to build a new SUB for students. There is a possible federal election. And there are the Winter Olympics, where literally hundreds of millions of people will have their eyes on UBC, and Frederick will be in his final month as AMS President, unencumbered by having to deal with repercussions. Just saying.

There are plenty of more chances for President Frederick to embarrass the AMS and embarrass the student body. Council decided to trust him, rolling the dice just one more time. So, if Frederick makes another gaffe, it's on you, councilors.

STREETERS

Where do you get your news?

Laina Tanahara
Commerce 1

"Web news, newspapers...I get the *Sun* every day...and then I also check *msn.com*...Twitter and Facebook aren't where I find that kind of news, that's more like people news...Honestly the first thing I read is celebrity news cause it's more entertaining, then it goes to global, international news."

Carmina Tang
Human Kinetics 4

"Usually it's *msn.ca* and the newspaper, like the *24*...Usually [it's easiest to get my news from] my laptop, because I'm usually on it doing work...[Social networking sites] are here-say, they're not really reliable. You'll hear it and then you'll research it, you won't necessarily believe it right away."

Adam Louis
Arts 5

"Most of my news would come from blogs.... Usually if I have a topic that I want to research...I'll do a series of searches, try to figure out a bunch of different perspectives on it. That's one of the advantages [of] modern media.... There is no one place that I rely on...to tell me the entire truth."

Krysta Wuark
Science 2

"I usually read all my news on *cbc.ca*...[I use the web] mostly because it's paperless, less trees...also it's definitely easier for me to get to."

Kelsy Allen
Science 2

"Since I commute to school I usually get my news from *The Ubyssey*, *24* and *Metro* since they're avalible on my commute to school.... Usually if I'm using my laptop I have other things to do on my laptop whereas when I'm commuting in the morning there is nothing else to do other than read the paper."

—Coordinated by Tara Martellaro with photos by Chibwe Mweene

PERSPECTIVE

This is their campus, not ours

GERALD DEO PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY

PIERCE NETTLING
Contributor

Perhaps the banner on the clock tower, the university's slogan, *tuum est* (it is yours), might give you the impression that this campus is ours. The problem is, it isn't.

The last few weeks have seen interesting developments for the future of this campus. The underground bus loop has been scrapped. We've also had our last opportunity to have our say about the University Campus Plan. However, if the recent events somehow lead you to believe that we've somehow acquired the upper hand in Electoral A, you're still mistaken, as this will always be their campus.

Now, your education is yours, yes, after you pay for it, but this place we call campus is not. To all of those who are writing down my e-mail address, about to send an angry letter (I dare you, you phlegmatic bunch), I ask you to take a step back and look at UBC as a whole.

First, who exactly are we, the students? We're individuals who decided to spend four or so years at this geographical point on a peninsula, far removed from the city, hoping to learn something about the world, hoping to receive a piece of paper (and hoping that it will get us a respectable job). So, where do we go after this excursion? We leave, and with it we enter adulthood, completing the metamorphosis that begun when you entered pre-school in 1989. The reality is that university from our perspective lacks permanency.

A question to the third-, fourth- and fifth-years: How many of you still hang out or associate with the people you thought were cool and hip from your first year? How many of you were the campus animals getting involved, running and attending beer gardens, or campus parties, but now just live off campus with an increasingly insular group of friends? And really, how many of you soon-to-be graduates want to associate with that insular group after university? Now, I don't know about you, but I don't see myself hanging out with the gang, or even staying in this city after I finish. Regardless of whatever reason you come up with, this campus is temporary. People move on, and nobody wants to be known as the campus Van Wilder.

So whose campus is it? It's the people that *The Ubyssey* complains about twice a week. This campus belongs to the workers, Stephen Toope, Campus Planning, Gordon Campbell's bachelor pad, and of course the University Neighbourhood Association. Let's be honest with ourselves: The groups mentioned have to live, work and walk up and down Main Mall, cursing at Plan Ops in the rain, just like the rest of us. But they'll be doing it indefinitely.

Meanwhile, you leave for that graduate school in Amsterdam, the place you've become infatuated with since your third year. A few of us go on to teach English in Asia or work for an NGO in Africa. While others, who are just content with graduating, move back to Grand Forks.

Ultimately, the campus is their vision; we're just their peer review. The question is now, for the next decade, how to unite as one voice to use our temporary mandate for the most desirable outcome. During this decade, we've seen two very distinct ways of answering this question.

Some, after having campaigned under the guise of populist slogans, have become the administration's parrot on all issues concerning UBC.

While others, who employ a more successful tactic, have resisted the university. The parrots may have ultimately won the battle in controlling you, the student population in council, but the resistors won the war. The underground bus loop is a distant memory, the knoll is intact for future generations, and the University Boulevard project never materialized. Meanwhile, the parrots only produced hysterical grandstanding on their VFM blogs. How's that war on fun going, again?

To those who believe that this campus is equally shared and not dictated from above, this message is for you: Its time for you to stand up, take action, get out there and break some glass. *Tuum est.*

Who exactly are we, the students? We're individuals who decided to spend four or so years at this geographical point on a peninsula, far removed from the city, hoping to learn something about the world, hoping to receive a piece of paper.

fido
fido