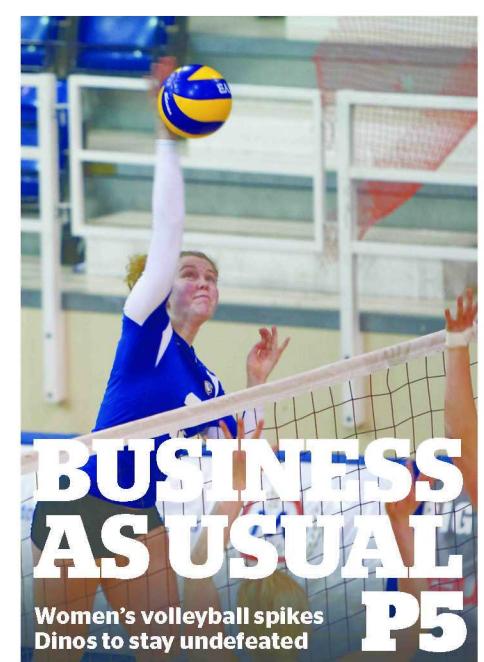
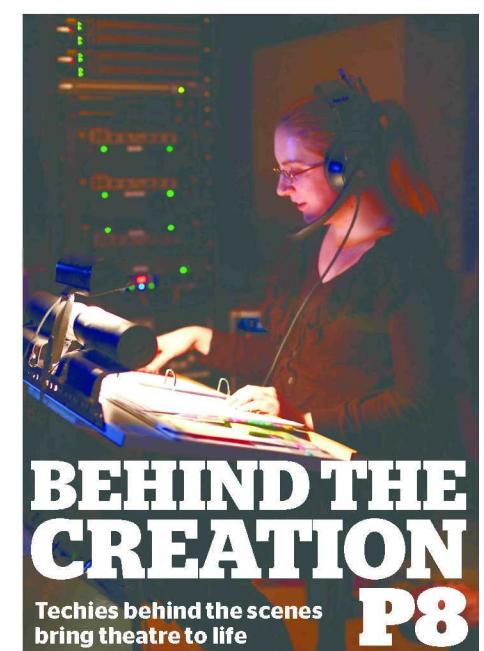
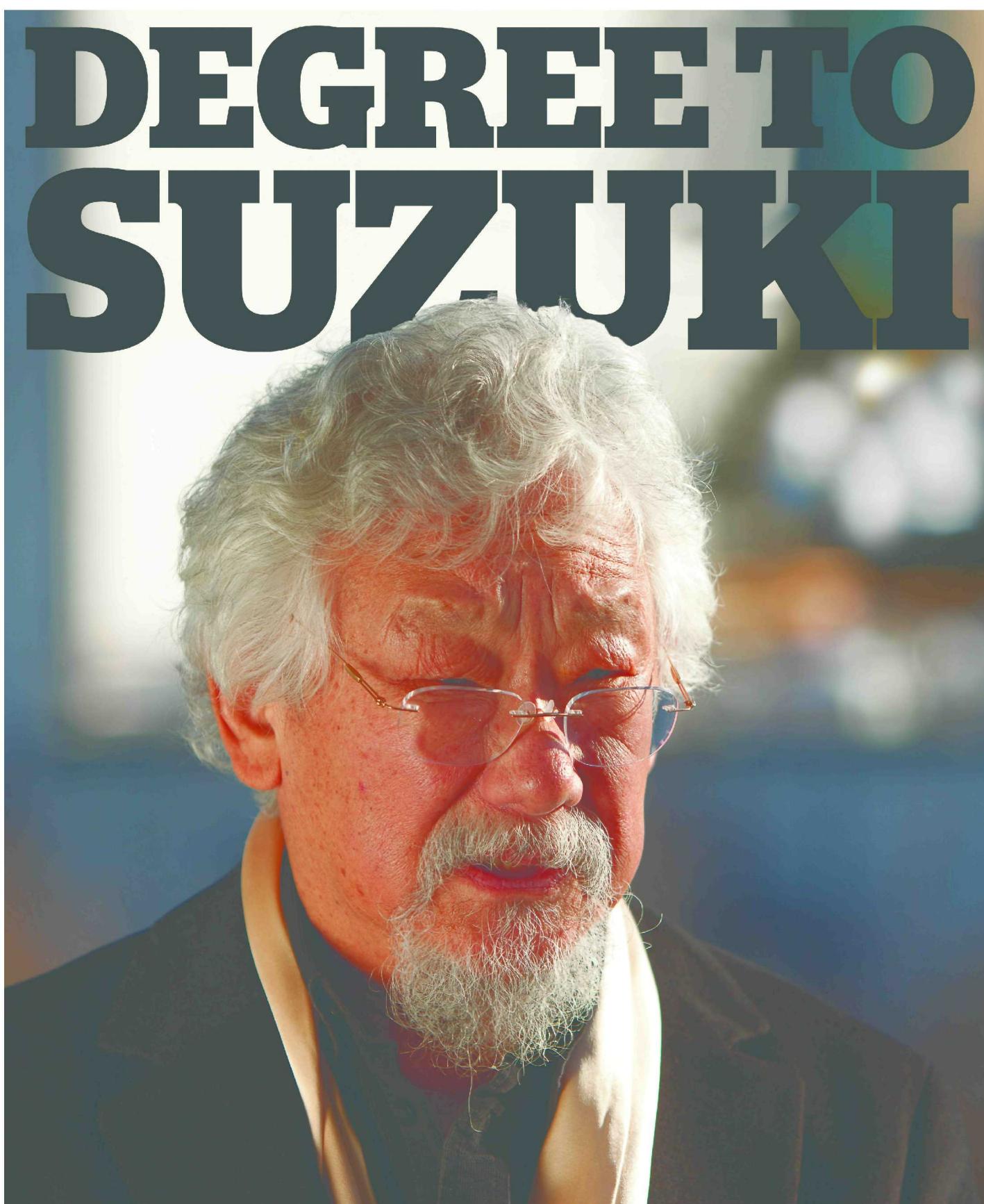




# THE UBYSEY

## DEGREE TO SUZUKI



**BEHIND THE CREATION**

Techies behind the scenes  
bring theatre to life

**P8**

**BUSINESS AS USUAL**

Women's volleyball spikes  
Dinos to stay undefeated

**P5**

## What's on This week, may we suggest...

28 Mon

**SANTA»****Pictures with Santa: 12-2pm @ the SUB**

Still immature enough to want pictures with Santa? UNICEF UBC will be in the SUB with a Santa lookalike until Friday. Gather your friends, get your pictures taken and cherish the memories. All proceeds go to UNICEF.

29 TUE

**PHOTOS»****Hiroshima photographs by Miyako Ishiuchi: all day @ MOA**

This powerfully moving exhibition features 52 photographs of clothing and personal items belonging to victims at Hiroshima.

1 THU

**MUSIC»****Laptop Orchestra: 8pm @ Barnett Hall**

Like orchestra music but hate all those instruments? This concert features laptop ensembles with synthetic sound controlled by a variety of sensors in live performance. Admission is free.

30 WED

**YOGA»****Power Yoga with the UBC Yoga Club: 4:30pm @ SUB Room 214**

Get ready to breathe and sweat! An energetic class started by heating the body up with sun salutations, followed a creative flow of standing, balancing, seated and twisting poses. \$2 per class.

2 FRI

**SALE»****Campus Security Lost and Found Sale: 9am-3pm @ SUB**

Lots of items on sale for great prices and a good cause. Wander through the SUB and take a look. All proceeds go to the UBC Community United Way campaign.

Got an event you'd like to see on this page? Send your event and your best pitch to [printeditor@ubyssey.ca](mailto:printeditor@ubyssey.ca).

**THE UBYSSEY**

November 28, 2011, Volume XCII, Issue XXIV

**EDITORIAL**

Coordinating Editor  
**Justin McElroy**  
coordinating@ubyssey.ca

Copy Editor  
**Karina Palmitesta**  
copy@ubyssey.ca

Managing Editor, Print  
**Jonny Wakefield**  
printeditor@ubyssey.ca

Video Editor  
**David Marino**  
video@ubyssey.ca

Managing Editor, Web  
**Arshy Mann**  
webeditor@ubyssey.ca

Senior Web Writer  
**Andrew Bates**  
abates@ubyssey.ca

News Editors  
**Kalyeena Makortoff & Micki Cowan**  
news@ubyssey.ca

Graphics Assistant  
**Indiana Joel**  
joel@ubyssey.ca

Art Director  
**Geoff Lister**  
art@ubyssey.ca

Webmaster  
**Jeff Blake**  
webmaster@ubyssey.ca

Culture Editor  
**Ginny Monaco**  
culture@ubyssey.ca

Business Manager  
**Fernie Pereira**  
business@ubyssey.ca

Senior Culture Writers  
**Taylor Loren & Will Johnson**  
tloren@ubyssey.ca  
wjohnson@ubyssey.ca

Ad Sales  
**Ben Chen**  
advertising@ubyssey.ca

**STAFF**

Andrew Hood, Bryce Warner,  
Catherine Guan, David Elcock,  
Jon Chiang, Josh Curran, Will  
McDonald, Tara Martellaro,  
Virginia Menard, Scott  
MacDonald, Anna Zoria,  
Peter Wojnar, Tanner Bokor,  
Dominic Lai, Mark Andre,  
Gessaroli, Natalya Kautz, Kai  
Jacobson, RJ Reid

Sports Editor  
**Drake Fenton**  
sports@ubyssey.ca

Features Editor  
**Brian Platt**  
features@ubyssey.ca

**CONTACT**

Business Office: **Room 23**  
Editorial Office: **Room 24**  
Student Union Building  
6138 Student Union Blvd  
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1  
tel: **604.822.2301**  
web: [www.ubyssey.ca](http://www.ubyssey.ca)  
feedback@ubyssey.ca

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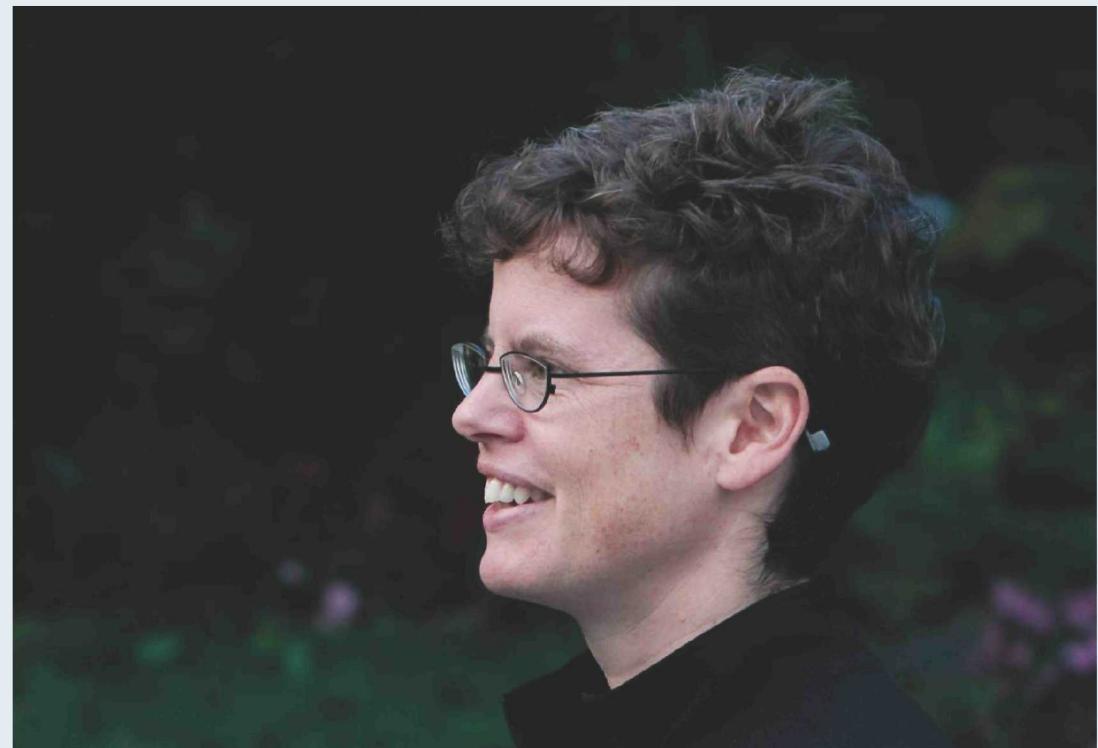
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Letters to the editor must be under 300 words. Please include your name and contact information.

# Our Campus

One on one with  
the people who  
make UBC



COURTESY UBC DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

## Sarah Otto, UBC's newest "genius"

**Geoffrey Woollard**  
Contributor

UBC zoology professor Sarah Otto is a genius. That is, according to the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation—a group that gives out a grant that is often referred to as the “genius award.” The MacArthur Grant is a half a million pot of research money with no strings attached, awarded to individuals “who show exceptional creativity in their work and the prospect for still more in the future.”

Of course, Otto is somewhat demure when it comes to these accolades. “[I’m] happy to call myself creative but not a genius,” she said.

Otto teaches courses about mathematical modeling in biology. As early as high school, she has been interested in using math to introduce rigour into the study of complex living systems. She first studied genetic engineering but it turned out to involve more bench work than abstraction.

However, while at Stanford, a professor offered Otto a break in her desired field. It was a mathematical biology experiment on brine shrimp populations with two types of self-fertilizing females and one male. Otto was able to mathematically determine when males would be maintained and when all-female populations would evolve.

*The Ubyssey* reached Otto via Skype during her sabbatical in Namibia. The timeout from administrative responsibilities gives her time to focus on her true love: “using math to unveil the secrets of evolutionary biology.”

While she’s a prolific researcher, Otto also excels at teaching. Her longest current graduate student, Aleza Gerstein, had the opportunity to move on from UBC after her master’s but decided to stay.

“Sally’s too awesome,” she said. “I didn’t want to roll the dice on another supervisor.” And she’s accessible beyond reason: “[Otto]

makes more time than is possible for people,” she said. “She can explain anything to people. She wants everyone to love math as much as her.”

According to Gerstein, Otto’s love of mathematics is infectious. Otto often says that if she couldn’t be a mathematical biologist, she would work at a café to support herself and do math on the side. She dresses in all black to avoid spending time matching clothes—leaving more time for science. □

### Sarah Otto

Department  
Zoology

Nickname  
“Sally”

Award was announced on:  
September 20, 2011

She got a Wikipedia page on:  
September 21, 2011

## Write Shoot Edit Code Drink

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# News >>

Editors: Kalyeena Makortoff & Micki Cowan

## EXEC PAY RAISE»

# Legal advice prompts AMS to reduce PAR to \$1250 for executives

**Tanner Bokor**

Staff Writer

AMS Council decided to approve the Performance Accountability Restriction (PAR) for this year's executive. But rather than being given the full \$5000 PAR, they'll only be getting a pro-rated amount of \$1250.

PAR was an effort by the AMS to install a penalty mechanism that maintains accountability for the executive by only being awarded if

the executive fulfills goals laid out at the beginning of the year. Despite the reduction of the PAR, Legislative Procedures Committee (LPC) Chair Kyle Warwick still thinks the incentive will be effective.

"It's a positive way to make accountability have some tangible consequences rather than simply existing on paper," said Warwick.

John-Jose Nuñez, who organized a petition of over 500 students to cancel the PAR, was satisfied with the new motion to pro-rate it.

"They did implement some great changes to PAR, and that I think that was taken into account from feedback," he said.

Nuñez organized the petition because he thought the executive pay raise was disrespectful.

Due to negative student reaction when the pay raise of \$27,500 with a \$5000 PAR bonus was pushed through this August, Council sought legal advice. Only two out of three answers to the legal opinion were made public at the meeting.

According to the legal opinion, the AMS was required to provide the present executive with a salary increase due to the August 31 motion.

The second question concerned PAR, and was answered: "Council could determine that an executive could not get it if they don't meet goals, or if it is pro-rated."

No answer was released to the third question, which asked whether an executive could bring an employment claim for the failure to pay the PAR.

"We want to be as transparent as possible, and we worked very hard to make it as transparent as possible, but there are parts of it that would be damaging if released and is not in anyone's best interest to be released," said Warwick.

Nuñez wanted the entire legal opinion made public to students.

"It's really important that all the legal decisions that [the AMS] is using are made public to us because we're their students, we're their student body. They owe it to us." □

## GAGE SOUTH»

# Consultations on Gage South continue

**Kalyeena Makortoff**

News Editor

The first round of consultations are coming to a close for Gage South, the area around the bus loop and MacInnes Field that was previously set for rental housing.

The consultations have been focusing on the placement of a new bus loop and bus parkade, the Aquatic Centre and MacInnes Field in an area called Gage South, or the area under review (AUR). Four concepts, labeled from A to D, were developed by a working group over the past seven months.

"Gage South was originally designated as a neighbourhood for university rental housing in its own right," explained Colleen Sondermann, manager, community and stakeholder relations for UBC Campus and Community Planning (CCP), in an email. "This consultation process is determining whether that is still an option, or whether the housing should be restricted to students."

"What we didn't want to do is decide yes or no on housing before we understood the context," said Lisa Colby, director of policy planning for CCP.

But Neal Yonson, one of the creators of the Gage South Petition, which calls for the AUR to be zoned as academic, is not satisfied with these concepts. He said there isn't necessarily a need to rebuild and shuffle around all the pieces of the area around Gage South.

"What I want to say about these things is that they're not in great shape, but they work: the bus loop serves thousands, tens of thousands of students successfully every day and the Aquatic Centre is extremely well used as it is right now," he said.



A bird's eye view of the area under review, Gage South.

GEOFF LISTER/THE UBYSSEY

## News briefs

### Former UBC rugby player appeals murder conviction

On Friday, former UBC rugby player Andrew Evans appealed his conviction for the murder of Nicole Parisien, a 33-year-old prostitute, in 2007.

Evans's lawyer Andrew Wilson told the BC Court of Appeals that "trickery" was used to prove his client's intent and the judge erred by dismissing his defence of provocation. At trial, Wilson argued Evans lacked the necessary intent for murder because he was so heavily intoxicated.

Evans originally confessed to murder and received the mandatory sentence of life in prison with a minimum of ten years before parole.

The court has yet to comment on the appeal.

### PavGen stair proposal dropped by AMS Council

AMS Council has decided not to move forward with the proposed implementation of the energy-generating staircase for the new SUB.

The steps, priced at \$30,000, were supported by VP Admin Mike Silley as a "centre of sustainability." The funding was to come from the Student Spaces Fund, a separate fund put aside for initiatives like this one.

In the dismissal of the staircase proposal, VP Finance Elin Tayyar noted that the stairs were not as sustainable as previously thought and would only "generate enough energy in a week to power a lightbulb for an hour."

### UBC engineering profs receive \$75,000 grant

Two UBC engineering professors have been awarded a \$75,000 grant by Canfor Pulp Limited Partnership for studying the structure of pulp fibres.

Andre Phillon, an assistant professor in the School of Engineering at UBC Okanagan, and Mark Martinez, a chemical engineering professor at UBC Vancouver, worked together on the research project.

"This university-industry research partnership is a shining example of how we can work together to ensure BC has the opportunity to lead the transformation into forest based biomaterials, fuels and products economy," said James Olson, director of the UBC Pulp and Paper Centre.

### Sauder collaborates with Province on social innovation

The Sauder School of Business's ISIS Research Centre is spearheading a collaborative initiative to fund social innovation in BC.

Together with the Province of BC and several other agencies, the ISIS research centre will take part in a friendly competitive event titled "Collabettion." Starting in 2012, the event will focus on generating innovative solutions to pressing social and environmental issues.

ISIS will reach out to competitors and invite them to invent solutions to social problems that exist in their communities. Those who present the best solutions will be awarded resources to develop the innovations. □

## EUS»

# Engineers look to incorporate, control the Cheeze



GEOFF LISTER/THE UBYSSEY

**Micki Cowan**

News Editor

A referendum could be in the works for engineers in 2012, as the Engineering Undergraduate Society (EUS) looks into incorporating.

Julian McGreevy, who is on the EUS incorporation committee, said they've been looking into incorporating since January 2011.

"The reasons why we're considering this is we're currently in the process of getting a new student centre and we want to have the ability to negotiate on behalf of the engineering students for that student centre," said McGreevy.

The current centre, the Cheeze, was constructed in 1918 and was formerly a cheese factory.

Becoming a legally incorporated society would allow the EUS to employ people in the new building, which may include retail space, but would not separate them from the AMS.

"All the engineering students still want to be AMS members—we still want our bus passes, we still want our health insurance. That's very important," said McGreevy. "It's just we want to have that added ability to negotiate and have the possibility of retail space and things like that."

The Graduate Student Society (GSS) is so far the only other incorporated body in the AMS.

"[The Graduate Student Centre] is rented out in the understanding that we are the stewards of the building," said GSS President Andrew Patterson. The GSS also makes their own bylaws. "By my understanding, we are taking care of our own assets," Patterson said.

McGreevy said incorporating would cost the EUS approximately \$15,000-20,000 per year.

If the committee decides they are in favour of the move by January 16, the EUS will hold a referendum in the first week of February, which would require a two-thirds majority vote to pass. □

## ALUMNI»

## David Suzuki on history and relationship with UBC



UBC alum David Suzuki received an honorary degree during the fall graduation ceremony.

**Micki Cowan**  
News Editor

A man who needs no introduction, former UBC professor and Canadian icon David Suzuki was back on campus last week to receive an honorary degree. On the day he received his degree, Suzuki spoke with *The Ubyssey*. A full version of the interview is online.

### Ubyssey: Tell us a little about your involvement at UBC.

Suzuki: Well, I came to UBC in 1963 as an associate professor and it's where I established my reputation as a scientist, which I'm very proud of. At one time at UBC I had the largest genetics lab in Canada. So it is where really I cut my teeth.

I did my most important work in science at UBC, but it was while I was here in the 60s that someone had heard I'd done some television at the University of Alberta in Edmonton and asked if I'd talk about books and stuff, and gradually I got sucked into television.

In 1969 I did a show called *Suzuki on Science* and we got deeper and deeper, and I always maintained a place at UBC but I was called a full-time professor at one third pay, so it freed me.

### U: You already have 26 honorary degrees, and are about to receive your 27<sup>th</sup> from UBC. How do you feel about that?

Suzuki: I've had a very, what should I say, difficult relationship with the university. I think the university always had a very hard time with my attitude...I knew I liked to teach, didn't want any of that other stuff. I guess I was seen as a non-player in the university.

I know for many years, when I was battling against the forest industry, there was a lot of pressure on the Senate to try and fire me. I had tenure, which was a great privilege of academia, and I always took tenure very seriously. It was a responsibility to speak out when I had any expertise. I had a responsibility to speak out about my area.

### U: What do you think about UBC's current sustainability and what direction should they move towards in the future?

Suzuki: I think this will carry on, we've now got the greenest building in the world. My hope is that within six months it won't be the greenest anymore, because the whole area of LEED standard buildings and green architecture has just exploded. My attitude is just, "Duh, what the hell took you so long?" We've had the 20<sup>th</sup> century where we built these monuments basically to how clever we are, these great glass structures. We've never really paid attention to genuine sustainability.

I think the CIRS building is something that we'll be able to brag about for a while, but it won't always be the leading edge. I hope the research that goes on will carry on and universities should be the heart of where sustainability ideas are coming from.

### U: So we know you've had a lot of academic involvement at UBC, but you've also contributed to the social atmosphere. I've heard you were involved with the Pit?

Suzuki: I'm glad people remember that! One of the things I always remember from graduate school was that the great place for creating a sense of fellowship, but also for ideas, was a pub. I was at the University of Chicago and we'd work maybe until 10 or 11 at night, then we'd just go over to the pub, or on weekends we'd meet at the pub. It's not just about having wild times and getting drunk, it's where you just sit down and start really brainstorming ideas.

So, I wrote a thing, it was kind of a tongue and cheek article about why UBC should have a pub, and I suggested it be called the Pit, mainly because I was thinking of the Fraser Arms where we used to go, and I thought "arm-pit"... Yesterday someone told me you're actually starting a student brewery here. That's great! It's terrific. I'm very proud that you guys remember I started that. ☺

## AMS»

## SUB businesses unsure of future

Private outlets not reserved space in new SUB

**Scott MacDonald**

Staff Writer

With the new SUB close on the horizon, the fate of private businesses in the current SUB remains uncertain.

Businesses such as the Honour Roll, Blue Chip and others owned by the AMS are moving to the new building with new names and rebranding. However, independent businesses such as The Delly and Mediterra have not been offered priority spaces.

"It's part of an ongoing conversation that we're having right now," said AMS President Jeremy McElroy.

"We haven't finalized anything at this point but we've given first kick at the can to those vendors that we already have existing relationships with before we open it up to the public."

But businesses say they've been given a different message and are worried about what will happen to them when the new SUB opens.

"There's no priority for existing tenants," said Karim Rajan, owner of Mediterra.

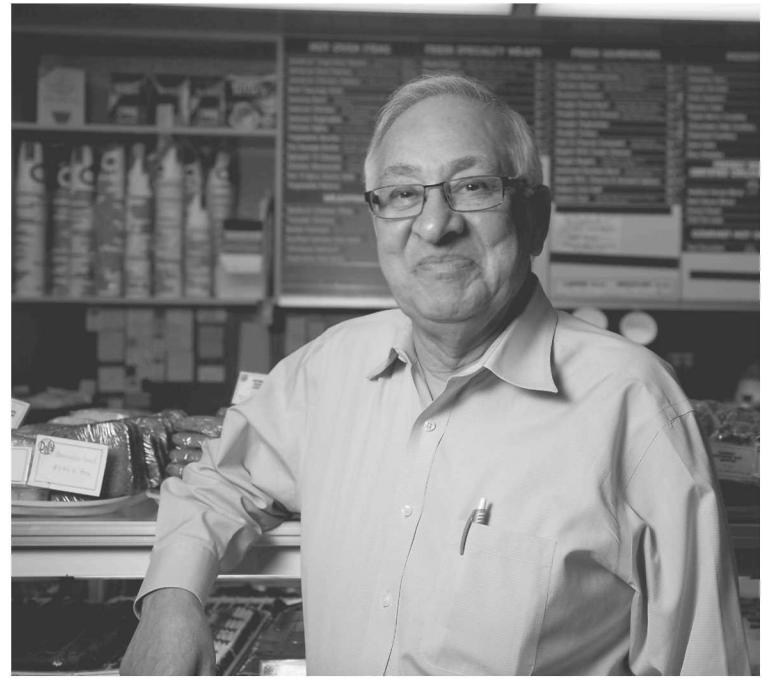
"It's a bit concerning but we'll see what they say."

A consulting firm is helping the AMS determine what kinds of food and retail outlets will be given space in the new SUB.

"We're talking to different people to find out what kinds of retail would work and everything's on the table right now—everything from a Lululemon to a cell phone store," McElroy explained.

The AMS has refused to renew the lease of successful private businesses in the past.

In 1986, the AMS was involved in a lawsuit with Duke's Gourmet



CHRIS BORCHERT/THE UBYSSEY

The Delly, in the basement of the current SUB, may not be moving to the new building.

Cookies, the store which occupied the space currently held by Blue Chip Cookies.

After refusing to renew Duke's Cookies' lease, the company sued the AMS.

Don Isaak, AMS director of finance in 1986-87, was quoted by *The Ubyssey* in the November 10, 1987 issue about why the AMS refused to renew Duke's lease.

"It's strictly economics. We're trying to take over because we would make more money baking [cookies] ourselves," said Isaak.

Economics professor Patrick Francois said the fear of getting taken over still exists for businesses in the AMS.

"That's a real fear for some of the businesses that they can come up with an idea and then the AMS can actually—I mean apart from not renewing their lease—they can set up a business...that replicates what they're doing," said Francois.

If anything, said Francois, "they should give an appropriate heads up to all the businesses. That would be the usual procedure."

But the AMS maintains that they need to make sure they're making the right decisions for the student society. "We're looking at all the options but determining first what the community really wants...and what would be most financially viable for us," said McElroy. ☺



a place of mind

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

CAMPUS + COMMUNITY PLANNING

## Public Open House - DP 11036 Wesbrook Place Lot 3 Residential Development

You are invited to attend an Open House to view and comment on a proposal for a new 18-storey residential highrise in Wesbrook Place. Staff from Polygon Homes, the design team and Campus + Community Planning will be available to provide information and respond to inquiries about this project. The public is also invited to attend the Development Permit Board Meeting for this project.



**Public Open House**  
Mon. December 5, 2011  
4:30 - 6:30 PM  
MBA House  
3385 Wesbrook Mall

**Development Permit Board**  
Wed., December 14, 2011  
5:00 PM  
Tapestry - Classroom  
3338 Wesbrook Mall

For directions: [www.maps.ubc.ca](http://www.maps.ubc.ca)  
More information on this project is available on the C+CP website: [www.planning.ubc.ca](http://www.planning.ubc.ca)



Please direct questions to Karen Russell, Manager Development Services, C+CP  
email: [karen.russell@ubc.ca](mailto:karen.russell@ubc.ca)



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# BUILDING A UNIVERCITY

**More than 16,000 students and property owners call UBC home. The university provides many of the same services that cities provide, leading some to call the university “UBCity.”**

**But UBCity has no local government. Both the provincial government and UBC have pledged to find a long-term solution to governing non-academic lands on campus.**

**To date, however, no person or group has publicly proposed anything concrete. That’s why coordinating editor Justin McElroy has created “The McElroy Plan,” which outlines a possible future for UBCity.**

People who live at UBC will only get real local government when the provincial government passes a new law. This will likely happen within the next few years, but the provincial government will only put forward something if they know that all main stakeholders who live on university land are in favour of that plan.

There has been a lot of complaining about UBC’s lack of local democracy, but very little in the way of proposed solutions. So here is a proposed solution. Let’s call it the McElroy Plan.

The McElroy Plan will lay out a scenario for how the people who live at UBC can have a local government, known as “UBCity.” It outlines who will be a member of UBCity, and what lands UBCity has control over.

It makes clear UBC’s powers in UBCity, but allows UBCity residents recourse if they don’t like the decisions UBC makes. And it explains when and how it could be passed into law.

Aside from the fact that I wrote it, the McElroy Plan has several strengths.

It creates an accountable local government without creating or removing any existing power structures.

It also helps build the sense of an integrated “University Town” where people work together for shared goals, rather than a divided community where university administrators, residents and students operate in their own little worlds of influence.

However, this plan will not please everyone. It is meant as an efficient compromise, which means everyone will find at least one thing to quibble about.

Of course, if anyone doesn’t like the McElroy Plan, I heartily encourage them to outline their own proposal.

We need a real discourse on this campus, and this, I hope, is a beginning to that discussion.

You can sketch out a million different ways that UBCity should be governed, but they all funnel back to one central question: how much power should UBC have?

UBCity will obviously contain the non-academic land on campus. However UBC does own all that non-academic land and have signed away most property to developers for 99-year leases. Because of this, they’re entitled to a fair degree of control over how the land is administered.

There are fundamentally two options for UBC’s role in this plan.

1. UBCity looks like a real democracy, but a variety of bylaws and bureaucrats ensure that the university never really gives up control.

## OR

2. People appointed by UBC have direct responsibility for UBCity in several key areas, but there are clear checks and balances on the university’s power, ensuring there are clear and accountable lines of decision-making.

The McElroy Plan opts for the latter option. Barring a giant sea change, UBC will always exert a great deal of control over its lands. Better to be upfront about what that power is.

## DEALBREAKERS

The McElroy Plan has dreams of being reality. For this to happen, neither students, nor residents, nor the university can find it unacceptable. They may grumble about parts of it, but such is compromise.

So, before we continue, let’s identify what a “Dealbreaker” would be for each key stakeholder.

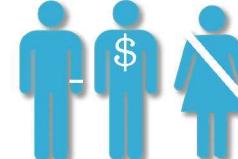
**UBC:** They want to retain ownership of the land, obviously. They don’t want to see the role of Campus and Community Planning or Properties Trust reduced. Other than that? Well, like anybody who



COURTESY UBC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

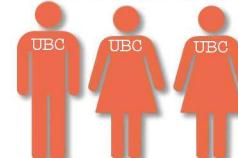
**Fig. 1—Proposed make-up of the UBCity council**

### Three UBC reps (appointed)



UBCity Director  
Director of Finance  
Director of Planning

### Three student reps (elected)



Elected from eligible  
students who pay a UBCity  
service levy

### Seven UNA reps (elected)



Elected by  
campus  
residents

JONNY WAKEFIELD/THE UBYSSEY

## A REFORMED UNA

The University Neighbourhoods Association (UNA) has been the quasi-municipal government for UBC residents since 2002. It has committees and elected members. Residents pay a tax (or “services levy” that funds a UNA budget of more than \$3 million).

The McElroy Plan likes stability, and doesn’t try to blow anything up. So the UNA will survive and be the vehicle for local government at UBCity.

It does need reform, though. A group called Residents for Change has criticized the UNA for delegating too much power to UBC-appointed bureaucrats and for its lack of transparency.

It’s a strong point. Which is why in UBCity, there is a much clearer breakdown of what UBC-appointed people are in charge of. More on that later.

## IMPLEMENTATION

In short, UBCity would be governed by a reformed and enhanced UNA. A 13-person council would be responsible for all non-academic lands at UBC. Seven council members would be elected by UNA residents, while three would be elected by students. UBC would appoint three people—the UBCity director, UBCity manager (responsible for planning) and UBCity treasurer (responsible for finances). The UBCity director would have a veto on all bylaws, but the UBCity council could override the veto with a two-thirds majority.

Implementation would happen January 1, 2015, six weeks after the municipal elections where the first UBC city councillors would be voted in for three-year terms. Confusing? Probably. Let’s slow down and break each of these pieces up.

## 13-PERSON COUNCIL

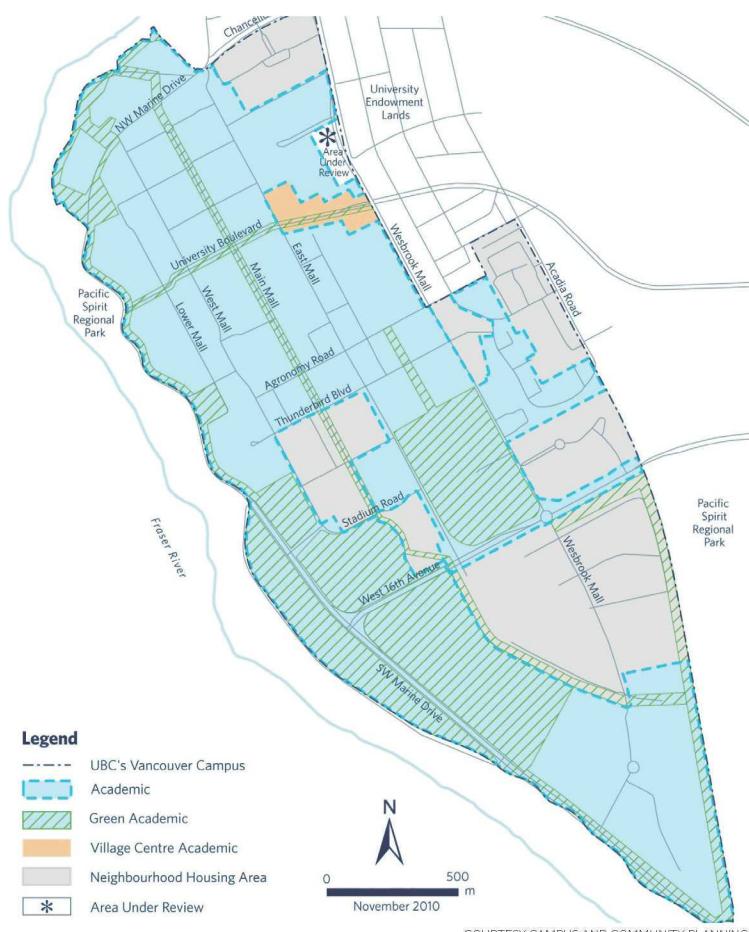
Part of the reason the UNA is so influenced by UBC is that its board of directors is only seven people. That isn’t large enough to form accountable committees or have diverse debate on most issues.

Let’s give UBCity a council nearly twice as big. It’ll have 13 seats, and beneath these, there will be three permanent committees: finance, planning and operations. These committees will have a mix of councillors, at-large members and one or two UBC-appointed people.

So, 13 councillors in total, and because we want permanent campus residents to have a majority, they get seven of them.

Now, onto the next group: students. There are as many students who live on campus as there are residents. They should get representation. There are a couple of problems we have to resolve first, though.

First, none of them are permanent, and while some live here for many years, thousands only do an eight-month term in Vanier or Totem. Students will usually care

**Fig. 2: Land under UBCity control**

Areas which are grey have already been designated by UBC as "Neighbourhood Housing Area," and will become the geographical area known as UBCity. The McElroy plan lets UBC do what they want with University Boulevard (the yellow area) and Gage South.

less about the long-term impacts of their decisions for UBCity than the people who own houses here.

Second, if you live in the UNA, you pay a "services levy" which goes into their budget (residents also pay a "rural property tax," which goes to the provincial government). Depending on the value of your property, the yearly amount can range from \$7,000 to \$550. Students don't pay this. Why should students get representation at UBCity if they don't pay any money to UBCity?

It's an awkward circle to square, but let's try it. If someone lives in the fraternity village, Fraser Hall or UBC housing for 12 consecutive months, they automatically become members of UBCity. This means that they can run for UBCity council and vote in elections. It also means that they have to pay a \$300 yearly fee. Students who live on campus but haven't yet been here for 12 months can also opt in early if they choose.

This gives students who choose to make UBC their home a real reason to be part of UBCity and engage with the community. It also provides a valid reason for students to be on UBCity council in a non-token manner. And while permanent residents may grumble, the budget of the UNA is now \$1-2 million larger.

Students get three seats in this format, leaving UBC to appoint the final three.

#### UBC POSITIONS

UBC appoints the UBCity director, who acts as town spokesperson, head of council and chief liaison with the university. It provides angry residents with a single responsible person instead of the hodge-podge that currently exists.

UBC also appoints the director of planning and the director of finance. They chair the planning committee (responsible for zoning and land use) and finance committee (responsible for the budget), and all motions on these issues come from these committees.

Structuring the council this way ensures that the planning and finances of UBC lands will still be

under university responsibility. But it also gives a much greater level of transparency to UBC's actions; they'll have to propose things in front of committees for them to reach a vote at UBCity council. And they'll actually need the support of democratically elected people.

#### THE UBC VETO

However, even with all of this oversight, UBC probably won't like this arrangement very much, because they only have 3 of 13 seats on a council. If an anti-UBC slate of councillors was elected, you would have huge infighting between democratically elected people and a billion-dollar university, and nobody would come out looking very good.

The McElroy Plan wants UBC's approval because it actually wants to be passed, so we'll come up with a compromise. The UBC Director can veto any motion that is passed. But just like the American presidential system, UBCity council can override the veto with a two-thirds majority.

If you do the math, you'll see this works out rather well. The people of UBCity could override the wishes of the university only if they had 9 votes—essentially, if the entire community was in opposition to UBC. Otherwise, the university would get its way on contentious issues.

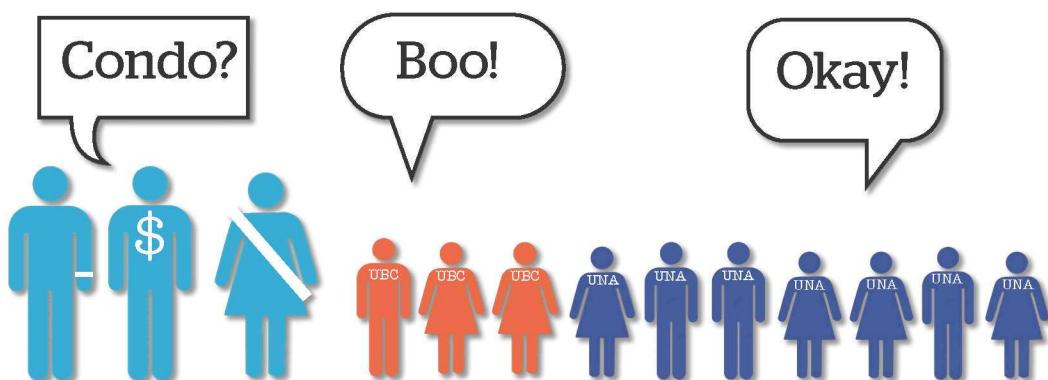
This is what essentially happens right now anyways; UBC stubbornly holds to a position, but if everyone is united against it, the university eventually changes course. At least in this plan, it would happen under a democratic structure.

#### CONCLUSION

So that's the McElroy Plan. It only needs the provincial government to make legislation that mandates the UBCity structure for all of the non-academic lands at UBC. It could be in place for the 2014 municipal elections, which would give UBC enough time to wrap up current development and housing projects that would cause conflict with the governing of UBCity.

It may not be perfect. But at least it's a start.

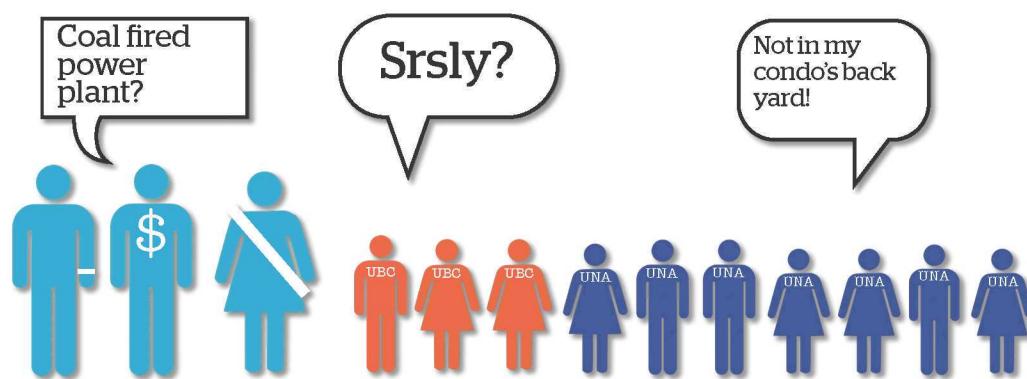
## How would decisions be made in UBCity?

**Fig. 3: Students opposed to a proposal, UBC and residents in favour**

UBC proposes a rezone of land in the middle of campus. Students are opposed to the plan; residents are in favour.



Students vote against the plan, but a majority of UNA members and UBC vote in favour. The plan passes.

**Fig. 4: Students and residents opposed to a proposal from UBC**

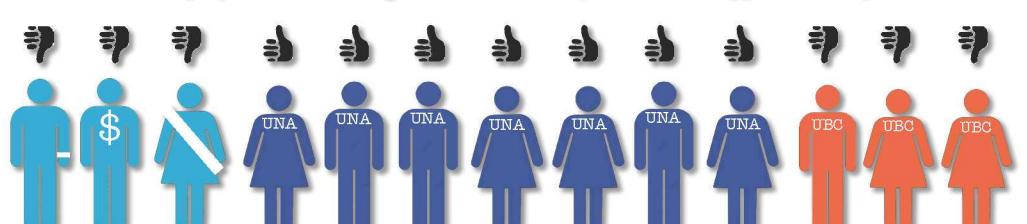
UBC proposes a coal fired power plant next to Totem Park. Students are opposed to the plan; residents are also opposed.



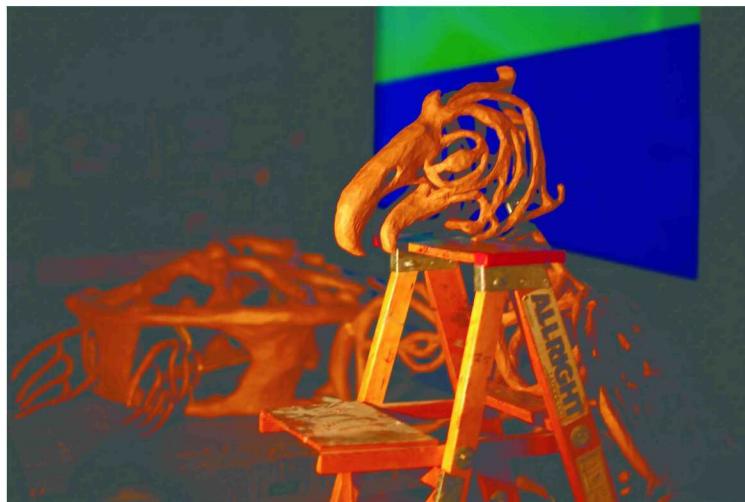
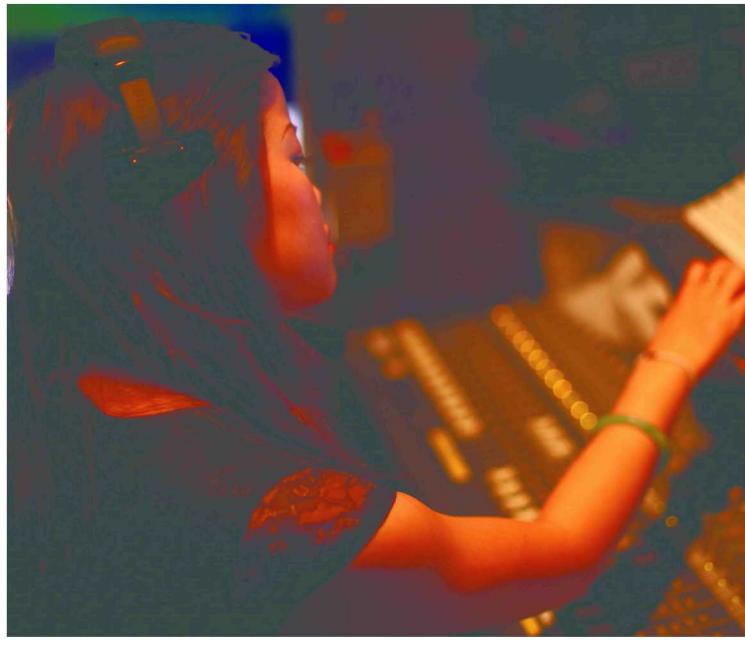
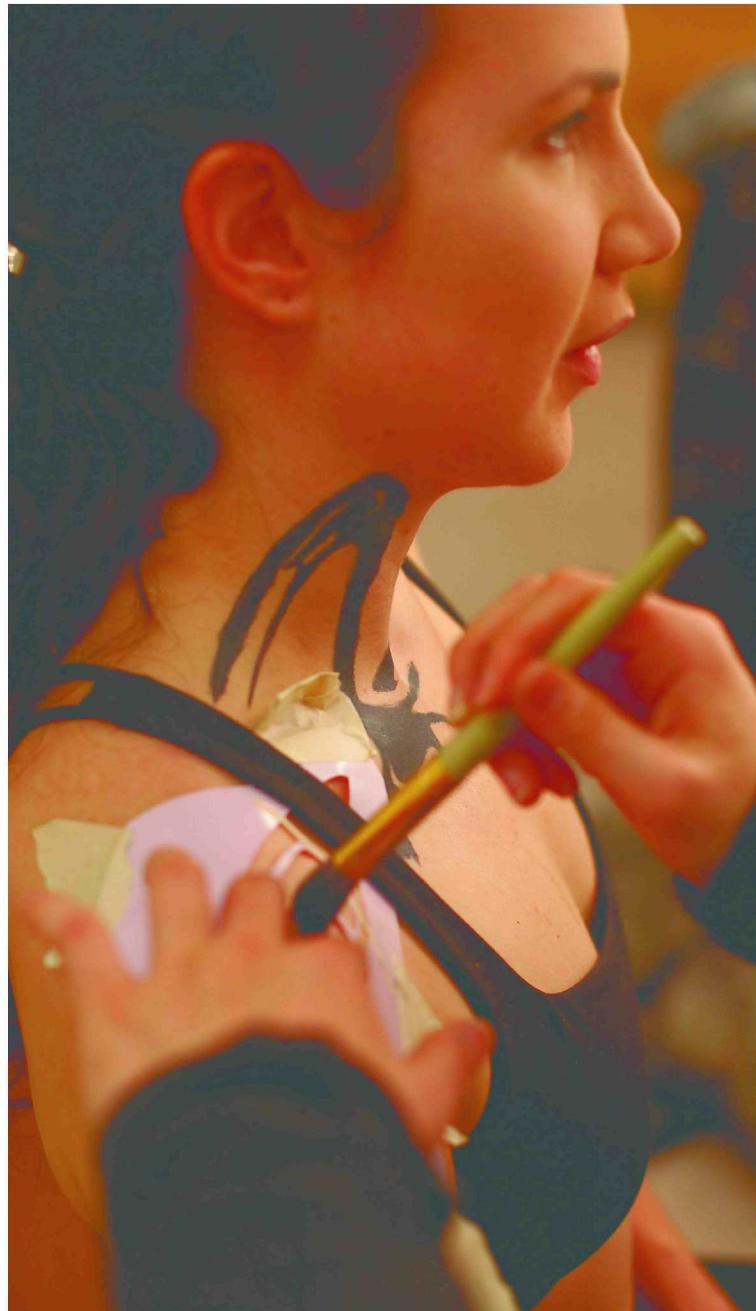
Students vote against the plan, as do UNA members. The opposition has more votes, so the measure fails.

**Fig. 5: UBC and students opposed to a proposal from residents.**

The UNA proposes that dancing be banned in UBCity. Students are opposed to the plan, as is UBC.



The UNA votes in favour of the plan, UBC and students vote against it. The measure passes 7-6, but the UBC director vetos the proposal. The UNA, which really hates dancing, brings forward the proposal a second time, but it fails to get



THEATRE»

# Main Street Theatre returns with a modern tale of two brothers

**Taylor Loren**  
Senior Culture Writer

Imagine living in suburbia at your mom's house after you've graduated from an Ivy League college. You're attempting to make a name for yourself by writing a screenplay, when your scheming, borderline-criminal brother shows up unannounced to stay with you.

So goes the story of Sam Shepard's *True West*, the contemporary tale of two brothers.

Ryan Beil is a man about town in the Vancouver acting and improv community, and the co-artistic director of the Main Street Theatre Company. The company's annual production kicks off this week with *True West*. The local and independent theatre collective company is "dedicated to producing contemporary classic plays in an intimate environment," said Beil.

**The play really explores the double nature of a dysfunctional family. We can't escape where we come from.**

**Ryan Beil**  
Co-artistic director of *True West*

"That's why we chose Little Mountain Gallery. It's a classy little hole in the wall, and puts the story in people's faces because there's no room to move around."



Daryl King (left) and Ryan Beil star in Main Street Theatre's production of Sam Shepard's *True West*.

COURTESY OF MAIN STREET THEATRE

Over the last three years, Main Street Theatre has made Little Mountain Gallery into a coveted performance space for independent theatre.

Like many great things, Main Street Theatre was started over beers in 2008, and has consistently produced an annual production to rave reviews. "It takes a lot of money and a lot of effort to produce

something, so at the moment we can only muster one per year. The dream is to one day have a venue of our own, with a full season," said Beil.

"We focus on playwrights we love," Beil said of the selection of Shepard's *True West* for their annual production. It was chosen partly for its small cast of four actors. *True West* boasts an "amazing story" that

Beil calls Shepard's best work.

"It's an odd couple, but with dark, urban undertones," said Beil of the two principal characters, Austin and Lee. Beil plays Austin, the aforementioned Ivy League-educated budding screenwriter. His brother Lee, whom Beil described as a "desert rat drifter, kind of a scary gentleman," appears unannounced, and the two find themselves living

together in their mother's suburban Los Angeles home as they attempt to write a screenplay together.

"The play really explores the double nature of part of a dysfunctional family. We can't escape where we come from," Beil said. *True West* is both dark and humorous, as it examines the blood that is brotherhood. To research his part, Beil spent time hanging out with his older brother.

"It's interesting—when you don't see your siblings that often, sometimes it's eerie to realize just how similar you are."

A graduate of UBC's Bachelor of Fine Arts acting program, Beil met co-artistic director of Main Street Theatre, Stephen Malloy, during his studies. Malloy, who is the director and designer of *True West*, is currently a UBC faculty member.

"I loved my time at UBC. It was a great program," Beil said. "People I graduated with, I'm still working with."

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Closing night: December 10

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a weekly look at what's new at your student society

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Pick up nomination forms in SUB 249p AMS administration



*The AMS Annual*

# Holiday Gift Fair

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November 28 – December 2

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SUB Main Concourse

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And make a wish on the UBC Wishing Tree



DAVID MARINO/THE UBYSSEY

## The Last Word

Parting shots and snap judgments on today's issues

### **Don't take away our Japadog!**

Recently, campus union workers got upset over the business that is stolen away by fundraising food carts on campus, such as Japadog.

We understand that restaurants on campus are concerned about making ends meet, but for students, the carts that pop up every once in a while represent not only a chance for fundraising, but also diversity.

Let's face it; campus food can get pretty boring if you eat it every day.

So when students see that notorious line-up and those cheerful faces of the Japadog cart, it's no surprise they'd choose it over the daily delicacies of our own businesses.

Don't take that away from students. Carts that periodically bring in new (and awesome) food contribute to a good cause and are a valuable part of campus life. The diversity is appreciated, and after the event is over, people go back to feasting on food from UBC or AMS establishments.

### **Don't take away our Delly!**

The possibility that existing non-AMS food outlets in the current SUB may not make it to the new SUB doesn't concern us too much; we realize that the AMS is always looking for a few extra dollars.

But there is one caveat to our stance: The Delly must be protected.

We're biased, because The Delly is the closest food outlet to our office. But it's also the best. You could ask 30 different students what they like about The Delly, and get 30 different answers. It has variety, it has vegan-friendly options, it has adorable old people as servers and it has half-price Fridays.

Oh, half-price Fridays. We would say this glorious tradition should be embraced by all students, but we don't want the lines to be even longer than they currently are.

In short, The Delly is awesome and should live forever. And if the AMS doesn't realize that, they can

expect many more petty food-based editorials to come.

### **Totem students need to know their lack of rights**

When students leave the comforting nest that their parents have built for them and enter the cold, unforgiving world of landlords and basement suites, they generally have little to no idea of their rights as tenants.

Of course, if their first sojourn away from home is at a UBC residence, learning about their rights is simple—they have none. Residences are considered academic buildings and residents waive almost all of their typical rights as tenants when they choose to live there.

This has become an increasing concern with regard to the new Totem buildings. Many students have been left with no hot water, leaking pipes and exposed electric wiring (hopefully not in the same area). This would be unacceptable under any other sort of rental situation. Student tenants need more rights to ensure that if this does happen, they have some recourse.

### **The AMS pay raise controversy could have been avoided**

The pay raise for AMS executives was first proposed in April, delayed until August, and then was beset by controversy and confusion until finally being settled at last Wednesday's AMS Council meeting.

When AMS Council decided to vote in an immediate pay raise for executives (going against their own code of procedures, which only allows for pay raises to take effect for the next executive), this paper immediately pointed out all of the ethical and legislative problems involved. Would it be overly smug to say "We told you so?" Well, we're going to anyway.

Just think of what the AMS could have avoided if it had just followed its own rules and started the pay raise after the election. Hours

upon hours of debate in Council. A petition organized by students with 500 signatures. An expensive legal opinion (because all legal opinions are expensive) and then more hours of debate over how much of it could be public. And, of course, the optics of having passed a referendum to save the society from bankruptcy, and then immediately giving their elected executives hefty pay raises.

Can anyone really say this was worth it?

### **A realistic chance to change archaic AMS bylaws**

There are two kinds of rules that govern our student union: the bylaws and the code of procedures. The code of procedures can be changed by a two-thirds majority vote at AMS Council, but bylaws can only be changed through a university-wide referendum or a general meeting with 1000 members present.

Getting quorum in either a referendum or a general meeting is really hard, because getting that many students to care about details of student union bylaws is really hard. But given that the AMS bylaws are a century old, they sometimes need to be changed. It shouldn't be easy to change them, but it shouldn't be impossible either.

But to change the quorum to a more attainable level, you first need to get quorum. This is the Catch-22 problem.

So the AMS has a smart plan, which is to hold a general meeting in conjunction with the Student Leadership Conference in January; if successful, that would give them the needed quorum to pass changes. And unlike, say, just holding a concert to try to get 1000 members, the students who attend the SLC are often the most politically engaged students on campus.

This will require a lot of cooperation with the SLC organizers, but let's hope it works out. Otherwise the AMS will continue to be bound by rules made decades ago with no realistic ability to revisit them. □

## Keep an eye on those crafty engineers

### **Editor's Notebook**

**Brian Platt**

If the Engineering Undergraduate Society (EUS) screws up, you can't sue them.

Well, you sort of could, in a round-about way. But you'd have to sue the AMS, because the EUS isn't a legal entity. As with the undergraduate societies of Arts, Commerce, Science and so on, the EUS is essentially just a branch of the AMS, the student union that all UBC students are automatic members of.

The EUS would like to change this. They'd like you to be able to sue them.

That's not the reason they're thinking about incorporating as an independent society, but it would be one of the consequences. Currently, all of their money is managed by the AMS staff, all large expenditures must be signed off on by AMS executives and any negotiations with external organizations must have the blessing of the AMS. Operating as an independent society—while still maintaining AMS membership—would allow the EUS to take control of their own affairs. (Disclosure: I was the Arts Undergraduate Society president last year.)

Last year, the engineers were infuriated when, without any warning, then-AMS President Bijan Ahmadian instructed UBC Food Services to stop negotiating with the EUS over food outlets in the new engineering student space. Although the EUS may have been thinking about going independent for a while, I suspect that this is where things really got started. So if Bijan wants to add to his legacy, he can likely claim driving the engineers to independence.

Should the EUS go forward with incorporation, they will have to put

it as a referendum to their members next term. I'm sure the referendum would pass; people generally like to think of their faculty as important and competent enough to be independent.

On one hand, I think it's great that the engineers are trying to take their organization to the next level. They're one of the few student societies with a real identity, and they have a very high level of commitment from their elected members of council. But I also seriously question whether this would be worth the trouble.

The Commerce Undergraduate Society (CUS), which takes in close to a million dollars annually and produces glossy financial statements in that freakishly slick way that annoys all non-commerce students, has considered incorporation before but has always decided against it because of the risks involved. Being part of such a large student union has real benefits: they can take advantage of the insurance coverage, and their money is protected against fraud by the professional AMS staff.

The Graduate Student Society (GSS) was incorporated as an independent society in order to take control of their own student building—essentially the same motivation as the EUS. But the GSS also has their own staff hired to manage the society's finances and administration; is the EUS really ready to take on all that expense?

And of course, *The Ubyssey* is incorporated (we got tired of being told by AMS councillors what we were allowed to print)—but again, we have our own business office to manage the finances.

At any rate, the CUS and everyone else will be watching the engineers closely. If they decide to go independent, this could really affect the shape of student government at UBC. □

## Education denied in Iran

### **Perspectives**

**>> Sheida Rezapour and Sarah Mohebiany**

If your right to post-secondary education were denied tomorrow, what would you do?

Imagine your country's government blatantly refused to grant you access to further education solely based on your religious beliefs. This is the reality for youth and adults of the Bahá'í community in Iran today. The Iranian government has been executing discriminatory campaigns to systematically prevent Iran's largest minority religious group from higher education.

Since the late 1800s, Bahá'í educational institutions have been recognized for their leadership. However, in 1934, Iranian authorities shut down 47 Bahá'í-run public schools. By 1979, the government expelled all Bahá'í professors and students from schools.

In 1987, the Bahá'í Institute for Higher Education (BIHE) was formed as a means to provide higher education for Bahá'ís through distance education, as the Iranian government denied them access to Iran's universities. Yet by 1998, the Iranian

government had raided 500 Bahá'í homes and arrested 36 of the BIHE faculty and staff. Governmental action has persisted against the BIHE, as seen more recently when 30 raids were conducted in May 2011 and sixteen Bahá'ís, either BIHE professors or administrators, were arrested. They have since been convicted of committing illegal activities; namely, the education of students denied any other source of education.

While international organizations and NGOs work towards promoting the universal right to education in countries lacking resources to establish infrastructure necessary for such basic rights, the government of Iran is actively withholding such access to education from its citizens.

As citizens of a country with access to every imaginable form of education, we cannot turn a blind eye to such blatant injustice. International figures, including Desmond Tutu, José Manuel Ramos-Horta, and Ban Ki-moon are amongst those taking a stand against this injustice alongside governments and organizations.

You can let your government know that you support the right to education here, and in Iran. Visit [www.can-you-solve-this.org/ca](http://www.can-you-solve-this.org/ca), or come by our booth in the SUB this week. □

## HEALTH »

## Curing term-end insanity at UBC

In the most strenuous time of the year, taking breaks is key



**Happy  
Healthy  
Horny  
Raeven Geist  
Deschamps**

I have a family member who is a recognized academic interested in the Upper Paleolithic age. When this person gets particularly excited about hunting, he explains that Neanderthals, in the stress and excitement of the hunt, would run toward their prey with raging hard-ons and nothing but the most basic stone weapons.

Whether or not this is true, stress is a brilliant fight or flight adaptation. Slaughtering a paper or murdering a problem set isn't exactly as strenuous as battling a mammoth with your bare hands, but now is when exam and final paper stress finally kicks in. You're going to need to learn how to manage that stress.

As Victor Lucas said at TEDx Vancouver: "Don't be a dick." That's what stress management is all about. Don't be the person with a voice tremor erratically shuffling from home to class to Koerner, bumping shoulders grumpily, with

only the occasional breath interrupting your attention.

The Centre for Stress Management says stress relaxes the bladder, but can also cause teeth grinding and morbid jealousy.

And do you really want to be the incontinent tooth grinder?

If you let it get out of control, your stress can cause sexual dyspareunia, which basically means sex is extremely painful. You don't digest normally, your immune system is less responsive and you're subsequently more prone to infection. And you become a sweaty munchkin with nervous impulses flowing through you at absurd speeds.

In other words, stress will break you.

I'm not trying to be anyone's mother. I'm just trying to convince you to go skinny dipping or hatchet throwing to let off some steam so you don't implode. It's just school. It's what you're here to do, you can do it, just make sure you taper your sanity with moments of rest and moments of softness. Give yourself a couple minutes when you absolutely do not have to think about anything.

Best of luck in your preparations, the end of November is a wild ride. □

## VANIER CUP »



JOSH CURRAN PHOTO/THE UBISSEY

After a wild back and forth Vanier Cup at BC Place Friday, the McMaster Marauders defeated the Laval Rouge et Or 41-38 in double overtime to become CIS football champions. McMaster receivers Dahlin Brooks and Spencer Moore celebrate.

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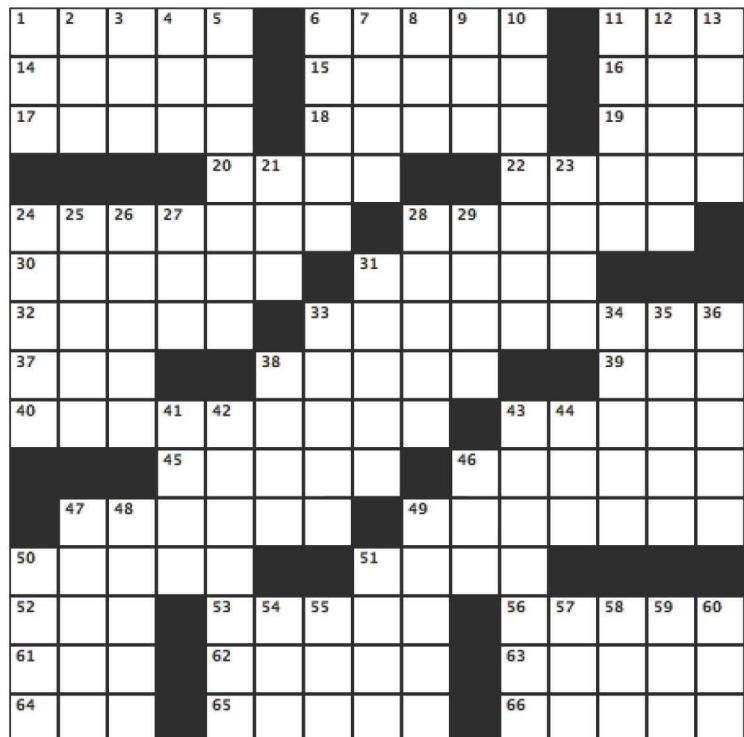
### \*WHAT IS THE A-HA MOMENT?

UBC students, faculty,  
staff and alumni share their  
*A-ha moments* in the  
2010-2011 ANNUAL REVIEW

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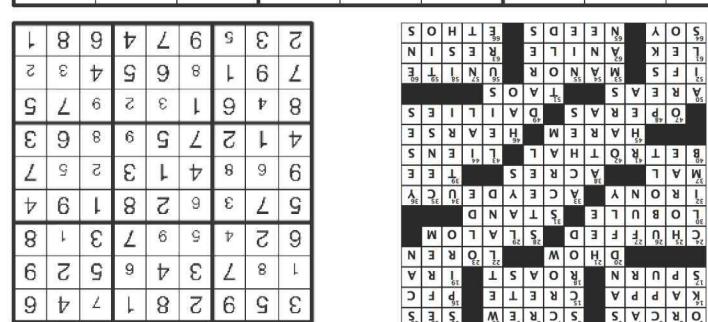
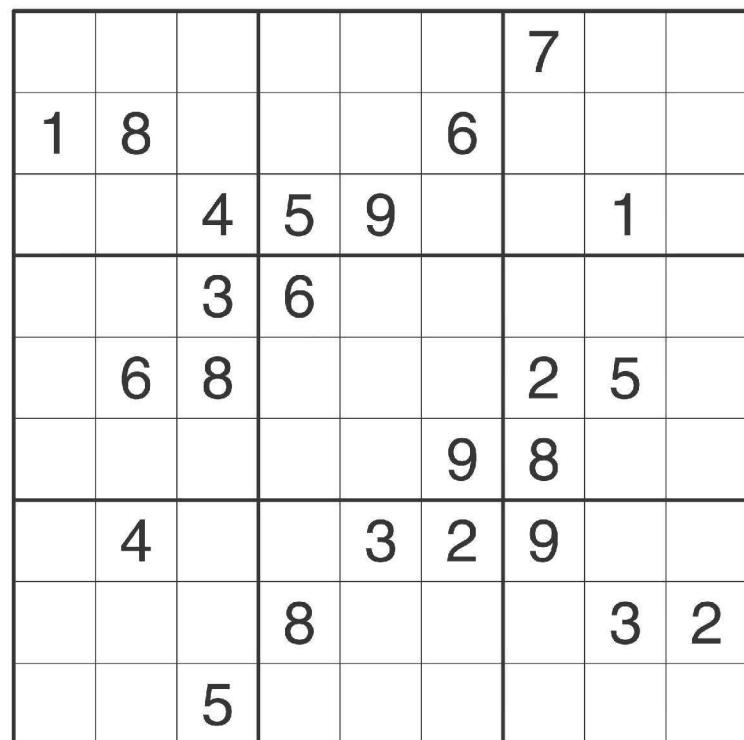
a place of mind  
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

**Crossword****Across**

- 1-Killer whales  
6-Metal fastener  
11-French possessive  
14-Key letter  
15-El Greco's birthplace  
16-Mil. rank  
17-Scorn  
18-Way to cook  
19-401(k) alternative  
20-Arab sailing vessel  
22-Actress Sophia  
24-Proud  
28-Zigzag  
30-Small lobe  
31-Rise to one's feet  
32-O. Henry device  
33-Form of backgammon  
37-\_\_ de mer  
38-Green \_\_ is the place to be  
39-Athletic supporter?  
40-Engagement  
43-Property claims  
45-Seraglio  
46-Last car?  
47-Musical dramas  
49-Newspapers  
50-Bailiwick

- 51-New Mexico art colony  
52-Conditions  
53-Feudal estate  
56-Band together  
61-Albanian coin  
62-Old-womanish  
63-Gum  
64-Non-dairy milk  
65-Calls for  
66-Community character

- 24-Ascend  
25-Goddesses of the seasons  
26-Letter-shaped fastener  
27-Amusement  
28-Alloy of iron and carbon  
29-Puts down  
31-Beat it!  
33-Flu symptoms  
34-Wombs  
35-Perfume the air  
36-Affirmatives  
38-Gillette brand  
41-Greek fertility goddess, flightless bird  
42-Person who rows  
43-Unhurried ease  
44-Proverb ending?  
46-Monetary unit of Vietnam  
47-Monteverdi opera  
48-Annoying  
49-Challenges  
50-Has a bug  
51-Related  
54-“Wheel of Fortune” buy  
55-Never, in Nuremberg  
57-After taxes  
58-Language suffix  
59-Juan’s uncle  
60-Dash lengths

**Sudoku**

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