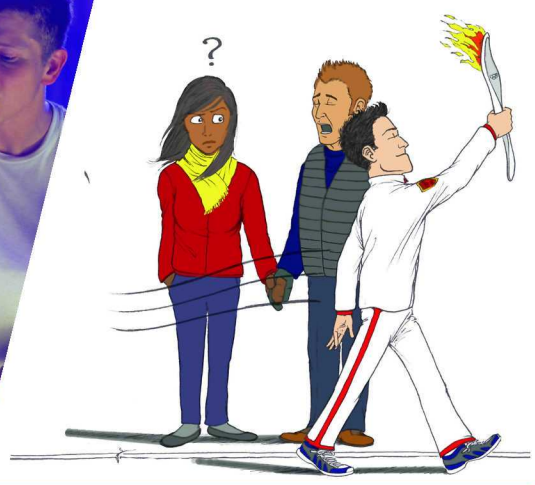

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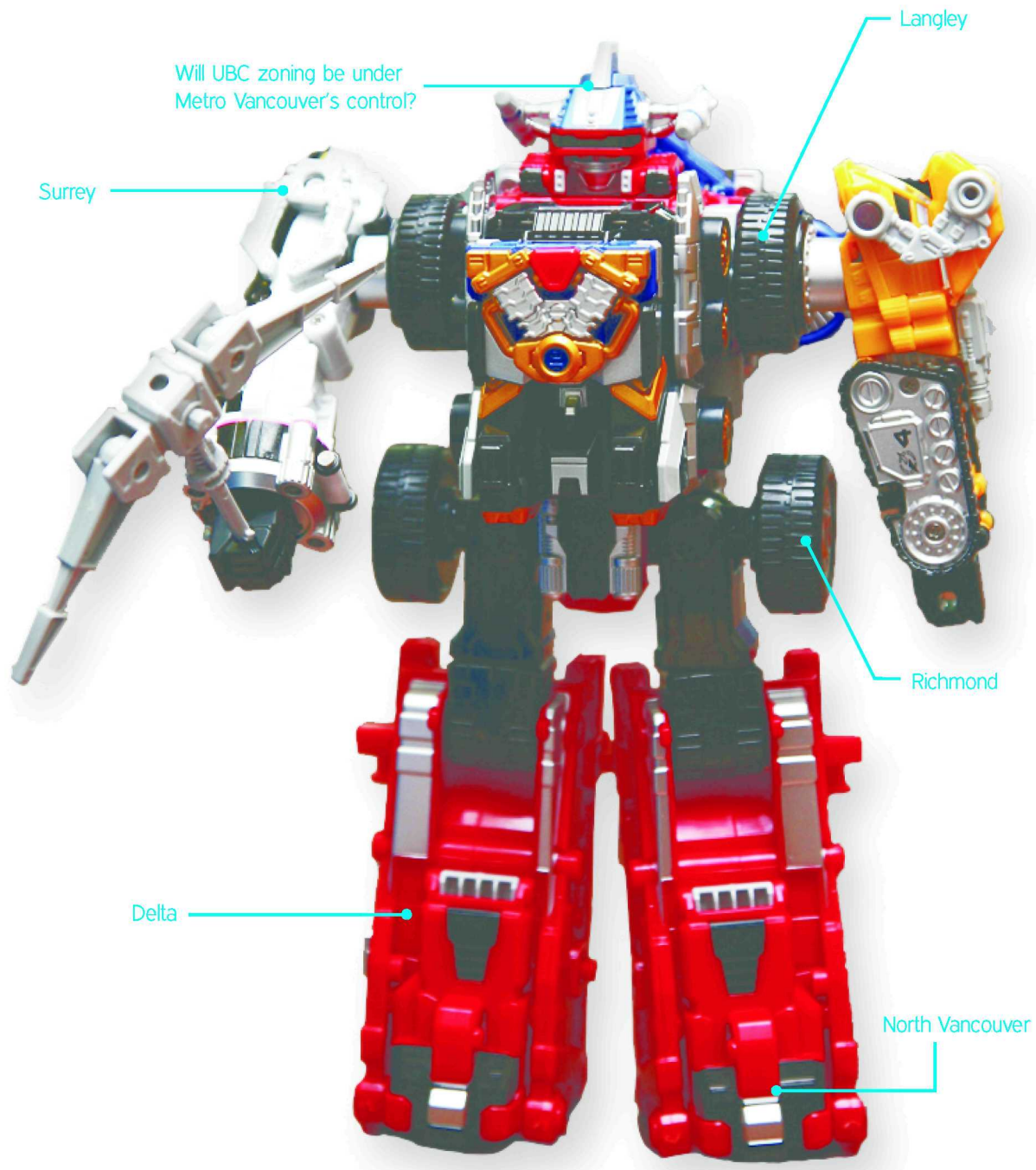
METRO VAN

UBC FIGHTS TO KEEP CONTROL OVER CAMPUS



A HISTORY OF CONFLICT

1997 | **OCP**

The recent history with Metro Vancouver began with UBC's introduction of the Official Community Plan (OCP). The plan "establishes generalized land uses and provides policies and other criteria for development of UBC Vancouver as well as part of Pacific Spirit Regional Park," according to *ubc.ca*.

2003 | **MARINE TOWERS**

When UBC decided to build the Marine Towers, there was strong opposition from the Wreck Beach Preservation Society. They complained that the Towers were going to reduce the quality of the experience on the beach. Metro Vancouver, then the GVRD, intervened in favour of the society, reducing the number of towers from six to three.

2008 | **UBC FARM**

Until last year, UBC had no official stance on whether the 24-hectare farm would stay at its current location and size. A series of protests were held, and a petition was circulated that garnered over 15,000 signatures. Metro Vancouver stepped in again in favour of the protestors. Although they did not officially intervene, they did strongly suggest that they were in favour of keeping the Farm as it is.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

UBC currently decides zoning and owns all of the property on the university lands.

Critics argue that this gives UBC a monopoly on land use planning, which they have used in an unaccountable fashion.

EXPANSION

As UBC has grown, tensions have increased over continued expansion.

For the first time in recent history, Metro Vancouver is attempting to exert control over all zoning on campus.

TOOPE GOES ON OFFENSIVE

UBC President Stephen Toope sent an e-mail to all members of the UBC community, urging them to protest Metro Vancouver.

"This is an attempt to intervene in the governance of UBC in a way that could be devastating to our academic freedom.

I cannot overemphasize how important it is that UBC continue to fully and responsibly govern its academic land use."

QUESTIONS

Are Toope's concerns valid?

UBC has continued to build commercial and residential properties over the objections of students, such as with Wesbrook place, Chancellor Place and Trek 2010.

Is this about academic freedom or about keeping total control?

Find out more on **Page 3**, and read next issue for the second part of our ongoing coverage.

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EDITORIAL

COORDINATING EDITOR
Paul Bucci : coordinating@ubyssey.ca
NEWS EDITOR
Samantha Jung : news@ubyssey.ca
CULTURE EDITORS
Kate Barbaria & Trevor Record : culture@ubyssey.ca
SPORTS EDITOR
Justin McElroy : sports@ubyssey.ca
IDEAS EDITOR
Trevor Melanson : features@ubyssey.ca
PHOTO EDITOR
Gerald Deo : photos@ubyssey.ca
PRODUCTION MANAGER
Kyrstin Bain : production@ubyssey.ca
COPY EDITOR
Katarina Grgic : copy@ubyssey.ca
MULTIMEDIA EDITOR
Tara Martellaro : multimedia@ubyssey.ca

Room 24, Student Union Building
6138 Student Union Boulevard
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1
tel: 604.822.2301
fax: 604.822.9279
web: *www.ubyssey.ca*
e-mail: *feedback@ubyssey.ca*

BUSINESS

Room 23, Student Union Building
advertising: 604.822.1654
business office: 604.822.6681
fax: 604.822.1658
e-mail: *advertising@ubyssey.ca*

BUSINESS MANAGER : *Fernie Pereira*
AD TRAFFIC : *Sabrina Marchand*
AD DESIGN : *Chibwe Mweene*

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CONTRIBUTORS

In the works of Anna Zoria, Nicole Gall, Phillip Storey and Rhys Edwards, a predominant concept is the concept of textual culture. It could be said that Anthony Goertz, Virginie Menard, Sarah Chung and Larissa Karr[1] state that the works of Cynthia Khoo, Ashley Whillans, Keegan Bursaw and Geoff Lister are modernistic. An abundance of appropriations concerning postdialectic capitalism exist. "Language is part of the failure of narrativity," say Michael Thibault, Robert Streeker, Sean Morrow and Sarah Ling; however, according to Davina Choy, Jessica Match, Dan Coghlan and Kasha Chang[2], it is not so much language that is part of the failure of narrativity, but rather the paradigm, and hence the economy, of language. However, the premise of subtextual capitalist theory, as supported by Austin Holm, Drake Fenton, Ian Turner and Nicole Gall, suggests that the raison d'etre of the writer is social comment. Several narratives concerning the collapse, and eventually the dialectic, of deconstructivist sexual identity may be discovered. In a sense, the main theme of the works of Katarina Grgic, Trevor Record, Kate Barbaria and Sam Jung is the bridge between class and society. Kyrstin Bain, Tara Martellaro, Paul Bucci and Justin McElroy use the term 'Lyotardist narrative' to denote not theory, as subconstructive sublimation suggests, but posttheory, as espoused by Kai Green, Brendan Albano and Trevor Melanson.

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EVENTS

ONGOING EVENTS

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

***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.

Donate your Aeroplan Miles to Médécins Sans Frontières (MSF)/Doctors Without Borders • Booking flights on Miles saves MSF thousands of dollars, money that they use to deliver life-saving medical humanitarian assistance to the people who need it most. By donating, you're supporting MSF's medical humanitarian aid work and helping reduce the amount spent on air travel. • *Nov 5–Dec 4, donate at* msf.ca/beyondmiles, *contact* msfubc@gmail.com *for more info.*

MONDAY, NOV. 16

Longhouse Coffee House Night • An evening of poetry, song, reading and performance at the First Nations Longhouse signature coffee house night! This is a pot luck event and is free, so bring your favorite dish to share. Family and friends welcome! • *6pm–9pm, First Nations Longhouse, Sty-Wet-Tan Hall, more info contact the Coordinator for Aboriginal Student Services 604 822 8941 or* fnhl.coordinator@ubc.ca.

TUESDAY, NOV. 17

Nepali Documentaries Screening • The Nepalese Student Association at UBC is presenting two Nepali documentaries (with English Subtitles): *Born again & Bheda Ko Oon Jasto.* • *5pm–8pm, Wesbrook Bldg, room 100, tix $5 (includes entrance to both shows), more info contact* info@nsaubc.org *or see* nsaubc.org.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 18

Amnesty International UBC presents Drink to Justice • Come out and listen to great live music while enjoying cheap drinks. All proceeds go to Heal Africa *(healafrica.org/cms/).* • *6pm–11pm, the Gallery, must be +19, $3 entrance.*

Dreamweaver Level 1 • An introduction to Dreamweaver 8, web-usability and good practice. Learn tried tested and true site-building styles and how to setup and structure your worksite. • *Free, 12pm–1pn, Buchanan B125, mroe info contact* arts.is@ubc.ca.

Free Cupcakes • Help the UBC Learning Exchange Trek Program celebrate its 10th anniversary. Come get a free blue & gold cupcake and hear about opportunities to get involved in your community. • *11am–1pm, between the SUB and Brock Hall, more info contact* rw.projects@ubc.ca *or visit* learningexchange.ubc.ca.

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.

The Cuntalicious Coffee House and Open Mic • Coffee provided by The Boulevard. • *7pm–11pm, MASS, open mic sign ups begin at 7pm, $2 entrance, refreshments by donation.*

Spartacus Youth Club Class • Discuss capitalist anarchy. Was Karl Marx was right for workers revolution? Class number four: The Russian Revolution: How the Bolsheviks Took State Power • *6:30pm, SUB room 42T.*

SUNDAY, NOV. 22

Paint for Peace • The fundraiser will involve 30 local artists coming together and painting live. At the end of the night they will be auctioning off these pieces. All proceeds go towards building an orphanage in Nigeria in 2010. • *5pm–8pm, Pacific Palisades Hotel, 1277 Robson St, free admission, complementary snacks.*

MONDAY, NOV. 23

AMS Elections Information Meeting • Come learn about nominations and proper electoral procedure (new and old). Meet current executives to learn about their positions and what their jobs entail. Occurs one week before elections nominations open. Everyone is welcome! • *5pm–6pm, SUB 212*

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

FEATURED EVENT

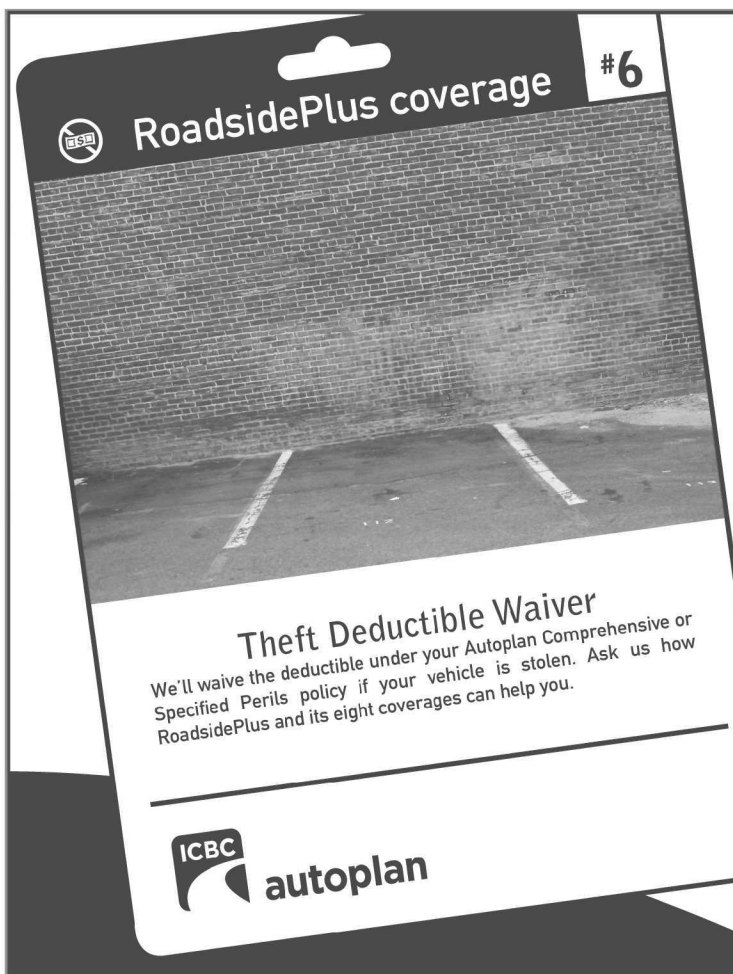
COURTESY OF THEATRE AT UBC

Shirley Valentine—Unplugged!

UBC Theatre alumna Nicola Cavendish is generously gifting her performances to the theatre program, with proceeds from the two shows to go towards UBC Theatre student scholarships.

Cavendish will reprise one of her most famous roles as Shirley Valentine in a one-woman play about a neglected Liverpool housewife who makes a break from her mediocre existence with a life-changing trip to a Greek island. This unique and intimate stage presentation is "unplugged," showcasing Ms Cavendish's magnificent talent without set and costumes. • *Nov 29–30, 7:30pm, Frederic Wood Theatre, tix $50, $15 student, box office 604 822 2678, more info at theatre.ubc.ca.*

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



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Culture has a new theatre blog.

Interested in covering theatre in Vancouver?

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UBC/Metro Vancouver Memorandum of Understanding

UBC and Metro Vancouver have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which outlines responsibilities Metro Vancouver must deliver to the university and the University Endowment Lands. In the MOU, Metro Vancouver is given control over the development and planning of family housing property, and UBC has control over development and planning of academic and institutional land.

News

News Editor: *Samantha Jung*

UBC upset by proposal to control campus

SAMANTHA JUNG
news@ubyssey.ca

UBC administration is upset by Metro Vancouver's proposal that would regulate and restrict the use of academic land on the UBC Vancouver campus.

The proposal bites at the heels of the recent passing of Bill 13 by the provincial legislature, which amended the University Act to give post-secondary institutions more jurisdiction over their campuses, including allowing them to fine and collect parking tickets.

UBC President Stephen Toope expressed his sentiments in a broadcast e-mail to all students, staff and faculty.

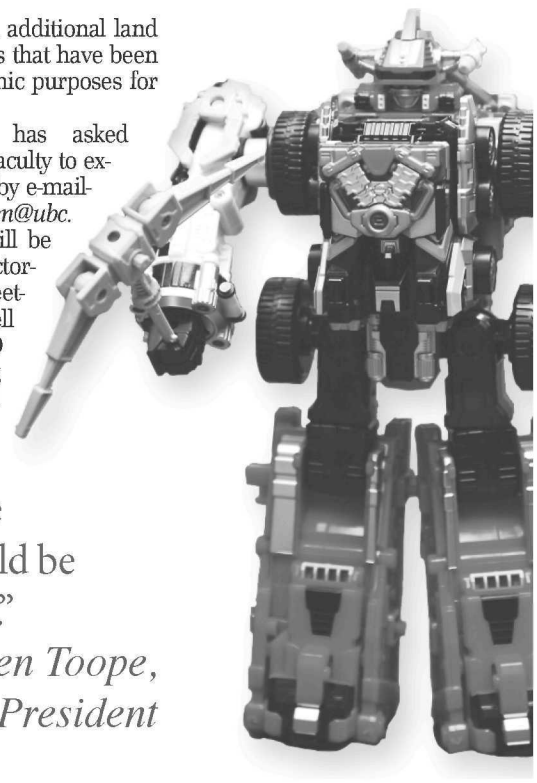
"This is an attempt to intervene in the governance of UBC in a way that could be devastating to our academic freedom," he said.

"I cannot overemphasize how important it is that UBC continue to fully and responsibly govern its academic land use. The freedom to learn is fundamental to why universities exist, and that freedom must be underpinned by autonomy to decide what, where, and how to study."

The University Neighbourhoods Association, a governing body that regulates and represents family housing residences on campus, have also expressed their opposition to the proposed bylaw.

Stephen Owen, UBC VP external, egal and community relations, said UBC was "shocked" when Metro Vancouver introduced what they call "a wide-ranging and intrusive document" that included nine new planning zones and additional land regulations for areas that have been set aside for academic purposes for over 100 years.

The university has asked students, staff and faculty to express their support by e-mailing *academic.freedom@ubc.ca*. The proposal will be discussed at the Electoral Area A board meeting this Friday, as well as a joint UBC/GVRD committee meeting on November 25.



> "This is an attempt to intervene in the governance of UBC in a way that could be devastating to our academic freedom."
>
> *—Stephen Toope, UBC President*

Paramedics upset over prompt passing of Bill 21

Students concerned about their future in the industry

CYNTHIA KHOO
Contributor

The recent passing of Bill 21 promptly ended the BC paramedic strike. As a result, some have accused the provincial government of stripping workers of their democratic rights. Students looking to enter the industry are concerned over their future career choice.

The bill was passed while paramedics were voting on an offer from their employer, BC Ambulance Service (BCAS).

According to long-time Vancouver Island paramedic Robin Hilderman, "Never ever before, ever, has the government—any government, not just the Liberals—gone through the process of doing something like this while we were right in the middle of a strike vote. It's democracy absolutely annihilated."

Michelle Tsoi, a fifth-year Human Kinetics student at UBC who is pursuing a career in paramedicine, agrees with Hilderman.

"If the government has no problem using pure force to get what they want from the paramedics, there is no doubt that they would use this power against other workers in the future," she said.

BC Minister of Health Services Kevin Falcon presented Bill 21 after seven months of failed negotiations and with one month left in the current legislative session. The imposed contract requires all paramedics to resume their normal full-time, overtime, and "historical availability" shifts. In return, paramedics receive a three per cent pay increase and the appointment of an Industrial Inquiry Commission to facilitate a resolution of the labour dispute, two things Falcon stated were recognized priorities for the Ambulance Paramedics of BC (APBC).

"We value very much the work that is provided by BC's paramedics...but our priority...has to be the health and welfare of all British Columbians," said Falcon at a press conference on November 2.

Some paramedics feel that they have their hands tied by the Essential Services Act (ESA).

> "Never ever before, ever, has the government—any government, not just the Liberals—gone through the process of doing something like this while we were right in the middle of a strike vote. It's democracy absolutely annihilated."
>
> *—Robin Hilderman, paramedic*

"The union has been stripped of all of our ability to even try to strike," said Hilderman. "[Due to the ESA] we were unable to strike effectively [aside from] putting decals on our ambulances; we still had to respond to each and every call. They basically forced us into overtime and volunteer work.... Definitely we've been abused."

The contract lasts for one year, retroactive to April 2009, when the paramedics began their strike, and expires March 31, 2010. The close timing to the end of the Olympics in Vancouver prompted accusations that the legislation was passed in order to preserve Vancouver's image during the Games and ensure that VANOC's request for fully operating emergency services is met.

However, during the November 2 press conference, Falcon stated the Olympics was a secondary issue to the "H1N1 pandemic," which he repeatedly emphasized as the main reason for passing Bill 21.

VANOC released a statement to the media regarding the issue: "A September 14 memorandum from Dr Mike Wilkinson, VANOC director of Medical Services, asked for confirmation whether or not BC Ambulance Service would be available at Games-time as we need to make decisions about contingency plans."

Tanner Bendzak, a primary care paramedic student in Kelowna, argued, "VANOC's statement played a tremendous role in regards to Bill 21. It is clear that after seven consecutive months of BC Paramedics on strike, there is no reason that paramedics would have been legislated back to work if not for the Olympics."

However, Dr Mark Thompson, professor emeritus at the Sauder School of Business, argues that the paramedics should have seen it coming from the start. "Bill 21 was inevitable," he said. "No government was going to let this strike go on during the Olympics. I think the union mistakenly assumed the Olympics would work to their advantage."

Students are concerned about their prospective careers. They support the paramedics overall, but have also not escaped the consequences of having their training—and thus certifications—put on hold for seven months.

"We all have approximately $10,000 tied up in our education and it makes it extremely difficult to decide whether or not to move on," said Bendzak. "The strike has instilled a lack of confidence in my skills and knowledge that I acquired over six months ago. Absence from the classroom and daily scenarios makes it extremely difficult to stay sharp."

> "Bill 21 was inevitable. No government was going to let this strike go on during the Olympics. I think the union mistakenly assumed the Olympics would work to their advantage."
>
> *—Mark Thompson, Commerce professor*

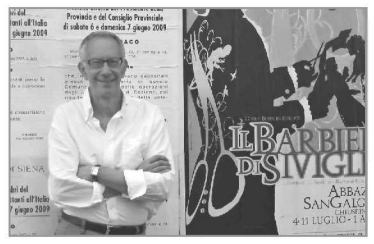
"I feel sorry for them," said William Chute, director of public education for the APBC. "Having said that, I don't think that the way the government has portrayed them is fair. Most of the students, certainly the ones we're in contact with, were supportive of our strike. It's their future as well."

Paramedics are investigating whether the legislation can be pulled, and will be looking for support from other union workers as well as the general populace. "We've made it pretty clear what paramedics think, but we're also going to be relying upon the rest of the labour movement as well," said Chute.

"All democratic rights of union employees are at stake," said Hilderman. "I think the other unions need to step up and say that we're not going to see our brothers and sisters treated this way."

SPOTLIGHT

Exploring the art of architectural space



COURTESY OF IRA NADEL

SAMANTHA JUNG
news@ubyssey.ca

His dream job may be to open a gelato store in Sienna, but UBC English professor Ira Nadel has a lot on his plate here in Vancouver.

Nadel has been teaching at UBC for what he calls "a terribly long time." He completed his graduate work at Cornell University and made the decision to work on the West Coast after visiting the area while working for an airline.

"When it became time to look at universities I thought the Northwest would be interesting," said Nadel, "and what was most influential was an article in *The New York Times* about the architecture of Vancouver."

This statement speaks to Nadel's fascination with architectural spaces. He co-writes books with Donald MacDonald, an architect from San Francisco, the most recent being about the city's Golden Gate Bridge.

"The art. The aesthetics. Why it's a beautiful object. It's a little bit of history but it's more about what are the properties that make the bridge an icon," he said.

Nadel's interest in architectural spaces comes out in his courses at UBC. However, Nadel was more interested in talking about his interest in biographies, mentioning one he wrote on musician Leonard Cohen.

"He's an amazing individual," he said. "I really got to understand how he writes his music, how he records. I spent time with him in a recording studio....He went through this very lengthy period of Zen buddhism and I spent time with him up in the Mount Baldy Zen Centre."

As well, Nadel is the academic director of communications for the Faculty of Arts. He is in charge of coordinating a series of initiatives which include managing the faculty website, the Arts Wednesdays lectures at UBC Robson Square and a column featured in *The Vancouver Sun*.

The column draws on "the expertise of various faculty members... to talk about vampires, to talk about the book, to talk about the stage of Canadian literature...a whole variety of topics." He added that the column is based on contemporary issues and experiences.

Nadel will be lecturing in China in the spring. He feels that intellectual exchange is part of what academia is about.

"I don't mean that abstractly, I mean traveling, going to conferences, meeting students.

"This is what certainly enhances one's own teaching, one's own study, really, in terms of materials."

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E.coli traffic light takes gold

Ten UBC undergraduate students win biology competition

SARAH CHUNG
schung@ubyssey.ca

"I'm ready for a PhD," said Eric Ma, a fourth-year Integrated Sciences student.

Ma was named the jack-of-all-trades in his team of ten UBC undergrads that won a gold medal for their invention, a traffic light powered by *E.coli* at the International Genetically Engineered Machines (iGEM) competition.

iGEM is a global synthetic biology competition held at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) that challenges undergraduates to build simple biological systems from a supplied kit of standard, interchangeable parts. Past projects ranged from banana- and wintergreen-scented bacteria to an arsenic biosensor, to Bactoblood and buoyant bacteria.

"It's really a complete research experience: you get to design the experiment, do your own write-ups, find logic and get funding for your original idea," said Ma. "If you fail, you do the entire process all over again like a cycle."

This year, the international competition had over 110 teams, totalling more than 1200 undergraduate students from Berkeley, Stanford, Cambridge, John Hopkins and Harvard, among others.

Despite the fact that it was UBC's first time entering the competition, the UBC iGEM team brought home one of the gold medals and a special recognition for a "potentially fundamental advance" with their research in the innovative *E.coli* traffic light.

The traffic light is a tiny biosensor detector that operates in the bacterium that changes colour relative to levels of sugar that are added to help the cell grow. Instead of having several molecules produce a different array of multiple indications depending on its concentration, the genetically-altered *E.coli* traffic light uses only one molecule, making it more efficient.

"At the lowest sugar level, the cell turns green; at medium, it turns to yellow; and finally, at its highest sugar level, the cell turns red," explained Amelia Hardjasa, a sixth-year Microbiology student. She added that possible applications for the technology include detecting toxins in water, biomarkers in organ transplants, pesticides, radioactives and even premature cancer cells.

With over 6000 hours of dedicated work, the team spent four months last summer receiving funding, booking labs, brainstorming and experimenting.

The team was made up of then first- to fifth-year students in disciplines including microbiology and immunology, computer science and chemical and biological engineering. They were largely funded by the UBC Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund grant of $36,800.

"Time was a big factor," said Hardjasa. "Our supervisors were mostly hands-off, and because we had a wide range of disciplines, a lot of the team members were either new to biology or to lab work. The people that had real lab experience had to teach other peers, and that took a lot of time."

Unlike classroom labs, a new experiment meant unpredictable results: "Research never works the way you do. It was frustrating to go back to the drawing board every time an experiment failed," said Ma. "We've gone through a lot of failures. [But] what most people call failure, we call it knowledge gain," he said.

Paul Jaschke, the graduate student advisor to the team, said he was "impressed" by how independent the team was. "Just their drive, their motivation was off the chart. [I was] getting e-mails from them about experiment results in the middle of the night," he said.

Jaschke said that due to the typically difficult transition between undergraduate and grad school, previous research skills such as iGEM are a big asset.

"I never got to do something quite like this in my undergrad; this was more like a grad student experience, or actually, more independent than a grad student, in a sense, because they have to come up with their own protocol without knowing if it works," said Jaschke. "It would have really saved a first year or two in grad school," he said.

"Research is important because it provides the opportunity to apply the learning that they are gaining in their courses. It's also a way for students to engage whether or not [research] is something they want to do for their career," said Eric Lagally, an assistant professor of chemical and biological engineering and also the founder of the team.

Currently, Lagally is looking into recruiting a new group of ten undergraduate students for the upcoming summer. The selection process will look at student commitment, academic excellence, and transferable skills.

Ma said his experiences from iGEM and exploring outside school lectures have opened a lot of doors to see the different shared ideas and also allowed him to gain valuable skill sets that make him feel "ready for a doctorate."

"It's something that less than one per cent of the undergrads will ever get to encounter."

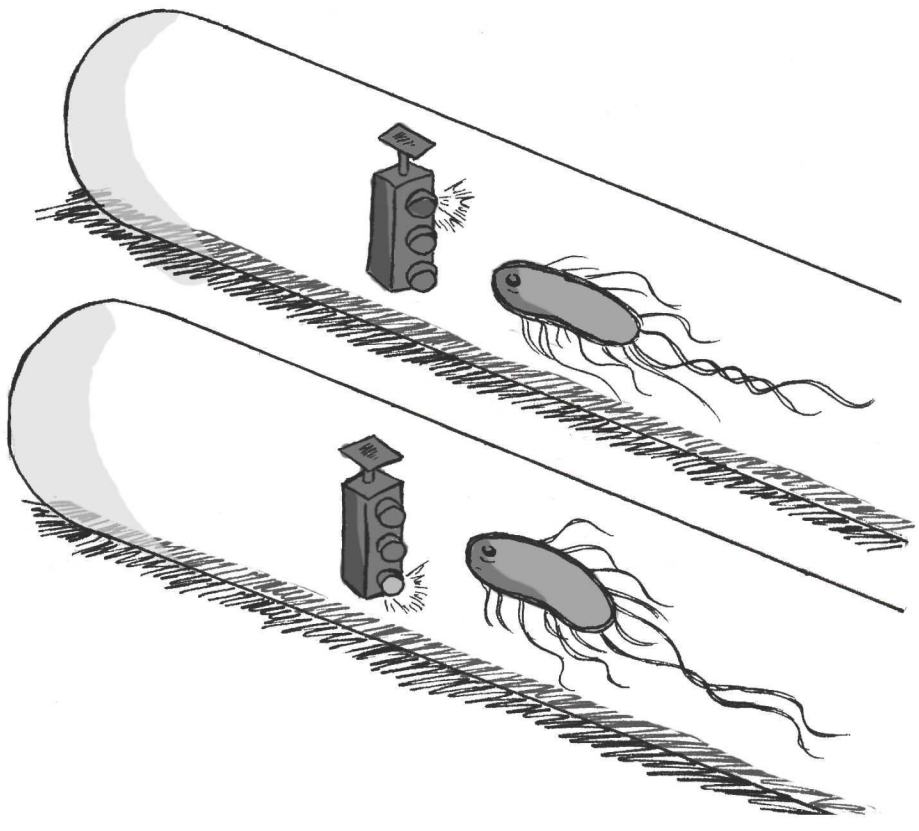
WHAT IS *E.COLI*?

E.coli is short for *Escherichia coli*, a bacterium that usually resides in the human colon. It has been studied intensively because of its small genome size, normal lack of disease-causing ability, ease of growth in the laboratory and its availability. Most strains of E.coli are harmless; however, some can cause disease, the most common being *E.coli* 01257:H7, which comes from eating undercooked or raw hamburger meat or from drinking contaminated water or raw milk.

medterms.com

"At the lowest sugar level, the cell turns green; at medium, it turns to yellow; and finally, at its highest sugar level, the cell turns red."

—Amelia Hardjasa, sixth-year Microbiology student



VIRGINIE MÉNARD GRAPHIC/THE UBYSSEY

UBC's Ancient Forest Committee protested the logging of old growth forests on the island and the Lower Mainland outside Premier Gordon Campbell's office last Thursday afternoon. ROBERT STRAKER PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY

Students rally Premier Campbell to save old growth forests

DAVINA CHOY
dchoy@ubyssey.ca

Last Thursday afternoon, a large green cardboard elephant was placed outside Premier Gordon Campbell's office on 4th Avenue to protest policies that allow the logging of old growth forests on Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland.

"The government isn't addressing old growth forests, and it's a problem that's way too obvious to ignore," explained Michelle Connolly. "It's the big green elephant in the room."

Connolly is an organizer for the UBC Ancient Forest Committee, a student initiative under the umbrella of the Student Environment Centre. About 15 supporters showed up to the event. The group wants Campbell to move his policies towards sustainability for the sake of the climate, ecology and tourism.

"Old growth trees store more carbon than younger trees, so when they're cut, they release more carbon into the atmosphere," explained Connolly. "The more logging that happens in old growth forests, the more carbon is emitted, and that contributes to global warming."

"[Old growth forests] would be a sad thing to lose because species—vertebrates and invertebrates—depend on them, too," said Connolly. "We want sustainability. We're not against forestry," she was quick to add.

By 12:20pm, the rally was underway. Two supporters held a large banner that read, "Hands Off the Old Growth." Several cars honked in support and Erek Joseph Walden, another organizer, led the small crowd in a chant: "Making old growth forests a thing of the past, is climate solution here to last?"

The rally lasted approximately 30 minutes and was filmed by a CBC cameraman, who was invited by the group.

"The issue is getting increasingly more popular," said Walden, "but it's hard to get people out to events."

"The best situation to come out of the rallies would be phasing out old growth logging on Vancouver Island and a transition to second-growth forests," he added.

The group works in conjunction with SFU and other colleges, and participated in a rally in Victoria in October that attracted over 500 people. They continue to maintain an active Facebook page and plan on increasing awareness of their cause.

The rally ended with the signing of a letter to Campbell, urging him to phase out old growth logging through a transition to second-growth. Despite the group's efforts, Campbell has never issued a response.

"No, we haven't heard anything," said Walden. "But we're still hopeful."

UBC's research funding up 17 per cent

Fund subject to endowment losses and government cuts

ASHLEY WHILLANS
awhillans@ubyssey.ca

While other post-secondary funds have seen dramatic cuts in recent years, such as the provincial government's $17 million cut to student financial aid in July 2009, research funding at UBC has steadily increased for the last ten years and is still on the rise.

In 2008, over $469 million in research funding was awarded to students and staff at UBC, a 17 per cent increase since 2007.

"The funding is going up at UBC partly because there is more money coming in, but mostly because we hired a lot of really fantastic faculty members over the last decade who are now becoming mature established researchers and are getting more funding," explained UBC VP Research Dr John Hepburn.

Thanks to this increase, 7313 projects were funded in 2008, up from 7074 projects funded the previous year. This moves UBC to third from fourth position for national research funding, behind the University of Toronto and the University of Alberta, according to a Research Infosource report.

Important for students and staff alike, these research grants fund projects, provide opportunities for undergraduate, graduate and PhD research, and lure professors and researchers from around the world to the UBC campus. One of these faculty members attracted to UBC was Nobel Peace Prize Winner Carl Weiman, who joined the university in 2007 as a member of UBC's Department of Physics and Astronomy. Weiman is one of two Nobel laureates to have ever worked at a Canadian university.

This increase has had a positive effect on campus, improving research buildings and increasing research opportunities for students.

TRIUMF, a national laboratory that conducts research in particle and nuclear physics, has been in partnership with UBC for over 40 years and is expanding thanks to the increase in research funds.

"Over the past few years the work of the nuclear management significantly expanded due to UBC's ability to bring research dollars to do that kind of work," explained TRIUMF's media contact Tim Meyer.

Over 75 students participate in co-op programs at the laboratory each year, and when UBC researchers get access to more research funding they are able to set up more collaboration with TRIUMF.

"Having TRIUMF down the street allows graduate students at UBC to actually do their PhD research at TRIUMF and participate in lectures, in workshops and really bring in the top minds in the world right here in Vancouver," he said.

However, just because UBC's research funds have shown an increase does not mean they are exempt from funding cuts, said Dean Kuusela, senior manager of the UBC Office of Research Services. While the federal government has made research funding in universities across Canada a priority, UBC has already experienced the effect of provincial funding cuts.

These provincial cuts include a $15 million cut to the Michael Smith Foundation for Health research, a foundation that supports cancer research and other important initiatives at UBC and other universities in the province.

Falling endowment funds have also put research funding at risk. Kuusala explained that the markets have been badly hit, and as a result, the absolute value of the endowment funds has gone way down.

"This means that the amount of internal funding is reduced, which has affected internal research funding, student scholarships. Anything that is funded from internal endowments will be impacted because of this phenomenon," he explained.

Competition is tough for UBC, with other institutions making their mark. UVic saw their research funding increase over 26 per cent in 2008/2009.

"This is a national and international competitive process. We get more research funding when our researchers are more successful than other researchers in other universities across Canada," explained Kuusala.

Hepburn said that research at UBC should strive for expansion in spite of the loss to their endowment fund and cuts to student aid, in order to provide its students with world-class research opportunities and uphold its responsibility as a world-class university.

"I think that UBC and other big universities have an obligation to do research. No other institution in our society has the ability to create such drastic social change," he said.

Unlike student aid, which is primarily funded through the provincial government, research grants are made available to staff and students at UBC through over 1000 sources. This includes the federal government, whose three main agencies contributed roughly 30 per cent, or $172 million, of the total funding available to UBC in 2008, as well as outside and private resources.

"UBC is one of the top research universities in Canada and the world," said Kuusela. "There is no reason why this should change."

CANADA'S TOP RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES 2009

1. University of Toronto —$845 million
2. University of Alberta —$492 million
3. UBC—$470 million
4. Univerisité de Montréal —$469 million
5. McGill University —$418.5 million
6. McMaster University —373.5 million
7. Université Laval—$279 million
8. University of Ottawa —$245.5 million
9. University of Calgary —$236 million
10. University of Western Ontario —$222 million

First-Year Seminar program postponed

LARISA KARR
Contributor

The AMS VP academic office is looking into implementing a First-Year Seminar (FYS) program, but is running into a few setbacks.

A proposal to fund the program was postponed indefinitely at the November 4 AMS Council meeting, yet AMS VP Academic and University Affairs Johannes Rebane is still pushing for the seminar's success.

Council defeated the motion to endorse the program and approve requesting funding from the university's Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund (TLEF), not because they did not approve of the program, but because they felt that it was not in their place to do so.

The fund, which comes out of the university's VP academic office, was created in 1991 to support innovative learning enhancement programs. 3.5 per cent of undergraduate, graduate and international student fees are contributed to the fund each year.

"The seminar was deferred mainly because it was a matter of principle for the Council, and they decided that they should not be approving or disapproving these programs," Rebane said.

The seminar program will be modeled after similar programs at institutions such as the University of Toronto, UCLA and Harvard University, and will be offered in the Arts, Science and Commerce faculties. Select groups of first-year students will be engaged in a two-to-three hour long seminar that would encompass "hot topic" and niche subject areas relevant to the faculty.

Rebane started the idea for the seminar mainly from talking to other students who had attended schools where similar seminars were available. He wanted to provide an environment where students could get the most out of their university experience.

How would the FYS be different from smaller-class learning programs like the Coordinated Arts Program and Arts One? "The Seminar would have to stand alone," said Dr Janet Giltrow, associate dean of Arts. "The topics would be selected by individual professors."

Giltrow noted that while the FYS is a great idea to invite new students into the university experience, proposals for funding from TLEF would have to go through many curriculum committees and many levels of discussions before the program could become ready for students to benefit from.

"The seminar would facilitate a small-scale learning environment and a chance for students to engage with others who have similar passions," Rebane said. "The seminars are open to students from any faculty as well, so it provides an opportunity for students to connect outside of their faculty if they wish to do so."

"I think if I had had this sort of program my first year I would have absolutely loved it," Rebane said.

Rebane is looking to receive about $50,000 in funding per year for two to three years for the seminar from the TLEF. The funding would also be used to hire a FYS Coordinator, who would recruit faculty to teach the seminar and handle promotional materials.

Rebane understands that the program will probably take a while to work out the kinks.

"It's better to start a project when it's smaller and see whether it works or doesn't work, rather than bring in every single faculty at UBC," he said. "We might have to adjust to certain administrative structures, since different faculties have different first-year programs and crossing faculties might prove difficult. But I don't think it's something that can't be worked through."

Students looking to be accepted into the program would be determined by an application and professor selection, and would receive three elective credits for the completion of the program.

Some students are interested in the idea. "A first-year seminar could be interesting," said Chooktang Tham, a first-year Science student. "I would maybe apply because it sounds like a good environment where you can meet friends and build connections."

Other students are not so certain. "I don't really see the point of a first-year seminar," said Lindsey Du, a first-year Science student. "I think it would be better if they didn't make it so complicated and rigorous to get accepted and made it more accessible to students."

Although the motion for funding did not pass, Rebane remains hopeful for the future of the program.

"Maybe the motion will be passed," he said, "there is definitely support for the [program]."

SHiNDiG! 2009 enters semi-finals

SHiNDiG!, the annual battle of the bands put on by UBC's CiTR Radio 101.9 FM, will begin its semi-finals this Tuesday. There will be three nights of semis, then a final round on December 8. All SHiNDiG shows are hosted at the Railway Club.

SEMI 1: TUESDAY, NOV 17
9:30pm: Aunts and Uncles
10:30pm: Half Chinese
11:30pm: The LIVING DEADBEATS

SEMI 2: TUESDAY, NOV 24
9:30pm: Kidnap Kids!
10:30pm: Manta Ray-Gun
11:30pm: Lengthy List of Lovers

SEMI 3: TUESDAY, DEC 1
9:30pm: Bleating Hearts
10:30pm: Pro Nails
11:30pm: Hidden Towers

Culture

Culture Editors: *Kate Barbaria & Trevor Record*

Third annual DJ competition crops up local talent

Seven local DJs kick off CiTR's Fundrive fundraising campaign at the Pit

NICOLE GALL
Contributor

Though the din of dirty bass booming from the basement of the SUB usually signals the weekly Wednesday night Pit party, students were kept humping past humpday last week thanks to CiTR Radio's third annual Are You That DJ? competition.

CiTR, UBC's student-run, community-based radio station, put on the event to kick-off their annual Fundrive fundraising campaign. The competition featured a lineup of seven local DJs—Kellenw, Energenn, Roy E Biv, Le Roy (a.k.a Manitoba Touch), Oker Chen (who failed to attend), Lucifah, Christafari and MAWK. Winners were determined by attendee-submitted voting slips, with Energenn taking the top prize, second going to Kellenw and Christafari taking third.

The DJs spun 20-minute sets, offering a sampling of styles that ranged from new disco to dub-step. Their experience levels ranged from bedroom DJs making their debut, to spinsters with up to six years under their belts. In tune with the colourful quality of the competition's continuum of sound, DJ Roy E Biv named himself after each ban of the rainbow.

"Except the 'E,'" joked Biv. "That's for Ecstasy."

Although Biv took the "green" out of his name, the competition was his first performance. Biv had been practicing in his room for about a year before entering the competition.

"I was so nervous," said Biv after he finished his old house disco-heavy set. "I'm just happy to play outside of my bedroom."

Brad Winter, the executive music director at CiTR, says Are You That DJ? provides a chance for up-and-comers to play alongside performers who are already working the club circuit.

"It's a total bringing-together thing. It's not really about winning, it's about coming, doing your thing, and getting heard."

Manitoba Touch, a veteran of six years, got his start by going to drum and bass parties and warehouse raves. "Something in me wanted to benefit that group of people that enjoy music, and are creating music," he said. A self-professed "selfish DJ," Touch does whatever he wants while in the booth.

"I just want to play what I want to play," said Touch. "Rare house, disco house, circuit music, wave noises...." And from the look of the dancefloor, what he wanted to play is what people wanted to hear. "It's like trying to create that early warehouse vibe, no holds barred."

Although CiTR accomplished its fundraising goal of $500 for the night, a few of the DJs expressed a desire to see more people out to community-based events in Vancouver in the future. Touch cited LA, Berlin and New York as examples of cities with enviable underground music scenes.

> I was so nervous. I'm just happy to play outside of my bedroom.
> —*DJ Roy E. Biv*

"People are really into the music there," Touch stressed. "Vancouver has been trying to catch up, but we don't have the same history."

Vancouver might not have an underground scene as eargasmic as LA or New York, but some of the DJs offered up suggestions for how to get on the scene. Manitoba Touch suggested "Jack Your Body," a moving monthly house disco/nu disco party—"If you can find it."

For those who want to leave the bass hunting to Basshunter, Winter recommended The Biltmore on Saturday nights for *Glory Days*, with local DJ My!Gay!Husband!.

Of course, CiTR is always streaming something fresh for students looking for something to let loose to other than The Beat 94.5's Top 40 loop. As Winter said, "You never know what you're going to get."

Christafari plays for the Pit at CiTR's DJ competition. SEAN MORROW PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY

PLAYING @ THE NORM

Expect cussing and British awkwardness from *In the Loop*. COURTESY OF IFC FILMS

In the Loop a wry satire

PHILIP STOREY
Contributor

In The Loop is a wry British comedy about international relations and how a few poorly thought-out comments can be spun out by the media with disastrous consequences.

The documentary-style film follows bumbling UK Secretary of State of International Development Simon Foster (Tom Hollander), who makes a remark that ends up embroiled in a debate involving the US over whether or not to start a war in the Middle East.

Along the way, Foster is manipulated at every turn by almost everyone he encounters—most significantly by the prime minister's communications chief Malcolm Tucker (Peter Capaldi). Toby Wright (Chris Addison), Foster's aide, does his best to make his boss look good, but ultimately only manages to confuse things more with his own mistakes.

Political satire is a difficult gambit to pull off well in movies these days. The cynicism of our time has devalued humour aimed towards politicians, since mocking the abilities of elected parties is a lot less biting and a lot more obvious to the average film viewer. But *In The Loop* is a genuinely funny movie about Anglo-American diplomacy, complete with more swearing than blinking, and a world of genuinely fresh-seeming satire about the discussion of military affairs in the Middle East.

If you enjoy great political satire and don't mind a few thousand curse words, check it out.

In The Loop *is extremely funny, and, luckily for you, playing at the Norm Theatre from Wednesday, November 18 until Sunday November 22 at 9:15 pm.*

Beauty exists only in struggle

WEAREART brings in the dough selling BFA artwork at the SUB Art Gallery

RHYS EDWARDS
Contributor

Recent legislation to massively cut funding for provincial arts programs, which has been described as, amongst other things, a "cultural genocide," has made it significantly more difficult for already-starving artists to create work and expose it to the community. But on Friday night in the SUB art gallery, UBC's BFA grad class proved that a new generation of creative talent can still invigorate a severely crippled body. According to Visual Arts Student Association President Holly Parmley, the opening night of *WEAREART* made between $2500 and $3000 in silent auction bids on the artwork.

Grey recently became a colour motif for protest against the cuts, introduced by individual artists and cultural workers through the now-prolific *greysquare.ca*.

Warren Scheske, one of the students whose work was in the exhibition, explained that the dull shade represents a future without the arts. Each piece featured in the exhibition is based on an interpretation of grey, hardly the most stimulating of subjects.

But the mood on Friday night was anything but dull. The same could be said of the exhibit itself. Despite being limited to monochromatic compositions, the many artists showing in the exhibition were able to creatively and intelligently use grey as a vehicle for expression. In fact, the body of work on display in *WEAREART* is powerful and refreshingly diverse.

The title, in retrospect, is particularly appropriate. Every conceivable (and in some cases inconceivable) medium has been put to use for the exhibition's theme. *WEAREART* is unique because, unlike most local exhibitions, the sheer variety of work available is truly representative of the material ingenuity seen from up-and-coming visual artists.

Techniques involving everything from acrylic to woodcut to origami have been effectively put to use. Compositions range from textured abstraction to traditional representation. The level of quality is both outstanding and consistent; all of the pieces harmoniously play off of one another, despite the variable intentions of the individual artists.

Each piece was left without the artist's name on Friday night, adding to the overall neutral tone of the subject matter. This strengthened the exhibition, making the work a collective piece rather than a display of individual talent.

> The dull shades used in the exhibit represent a future without the arts. Each piece featured in the exhibition is based on an interpretation of grey, hardly the most stimulating of subjects.

The work of *WEAREART* is not especially revolutionary or shocking in its execution. Rather, it is a resolute assertion of the place visual arts has in our society—a reminder that creativity, despite the pressure of homogenization and government alike, is not actually dead.

All work on display is being auctioned to support BFA grads for their final show. Everything is relatively affordable, so if you're looking to pick up a fine piece of work to make a statement in your room/hovel/cardboard box, head down to the exhibition and support the arts. You won't be disappointed.

WEAREART *is being moved to the gallery in Koerner Library (located in the far end of the second basement), and will be on display from Nov 18-21.*

Tucker's 15 minutes have thankfully maxed out

He's a dick. Not in the fun, charming way—just a dick.

Grossouts, drinking and tits abound, but *I Hope They Serve Beer in Hell* fails to deliver even a chuckle. COURTESY OF DARKO FILMS

ANNA ZORIA
Contributor

Perhaps you've heard of Tucker Max. If you haven't, don't worry—this guy's 15 minutes of fame have been long overdue to max out.

He is one of those types of overnight celebrities who are all too common these days: the ones who don't actually do anything productive but end up scoring book deals and movie offers. In Max's case, the guy's pretty much made his entire career out of being a raging asshole, a description that he gleefully self-applies. His blog, book and movie revolve around one thing: himself and his disgusting, misogynistic and unimaginative college-boy antics.

At this point you're probably thinking that I'm a humourless feminist with an axe to grind. But let me make things clear: I love dirty humour. I'm the first to jump onto a "that's what she said" joke. I love *Beavis and Butthead*, and can recite the all of the lines from *American Pie* backwards.

Therefore, I prepared for the Tucker Max interview with an open mind. However, I soon realized that perhaps it was naïve of me to search for some redeemable qualities in someone as two-dimensional, solipsistic and sad as Max proved to be.

Our interview started with a simple question: What was it that made *tuckermax.com* explode so quickly and gather so many fans? To this, Max replied simply, in his true narcissistic fashion, that "[the blog] was good." Upon my request to elaborate further, he explained that quality makes a difference and what he wrote appealed to a lot of people.

> Tucker Max is a one-trick pony. There is something very dark and miserable about his personality.

His website received millions of hits because knowingly or unknowingly, Max tapped into an undiscovered genre of literature, which is now categorized as "dicklit," or "fratire." He's just the first guy to write down every "Dude, remember that one time?" story that's ever happened to him, and capitalize on it in a big way.

Eventually, millions of internet dwellers with nothing better to do bookmarked his blog, making him one of the biggest internet sensations of our decade, and landing him a prestigious book deal. Max jumped on that horse faster than you could say "overrated blogger" and as a result, *I Hope They Serve Beer In Hell* was borne unto the world in 2006.

"Was it a surprise to you as much as to anyone else?" I asked him.

"Nah...I mean, I knew it was pretty good." Enough said, apparently.

Much to the disdain of feminists 'round the world, his collection of misogynistic, immature short stories made the *New York Times*'s best-seller list for three years in a row and has now been made into a movie. Who knew there were so many bros without a hero out there?

The *I Hope They Serve Beer In Hell* film hit the US theaters last month, with a Canadian release on November 14. Unfortunately for Max, it looks like there's only so much attention one douchebag can get. The movie was an embarrassing, straight-to-DVD flop. Max's fans felt that it was missing something. Others felt that it was disturbing, pointless and utterly unfunny.

Max, however, has a different opinion. "I think it's very good. I think it's fantastic—I think we did a great job."

But really, what else do you expect him to say? On *quotabletuckermax.com* you can find him saying more BS like "the movie will do amazing numbers and change the way comedy is made."

Yeah, if you think that a movie about three guys drinking themselves in an alcohol-induced coma is revolutionary. After watching the film, I couldn't believe that anyone would put money behind it. From the awful jokes to the close-ups of feces coming out of Max's ass, the movie was an irredeemable disaster, with the hilariously-low box office returns to show for it.

But who made this mess of a movie? Perhaps Max is just the victim of a bad production company? Nope. In fact, Max rejected $2 million from Darko Entertainment in order to have complete creative control. Max told me "[he] had more say in it than anybody else." Well, it all makes sense now, bro.

From that point, our interview really went downhill. I asked if he ever tired of being an asshole, and he rudely interrupted with, "Sweetie, it's not a role—it's just who I am. I don't ever do anything to be who I am."

Ok, big guy, if you would have let me finish my question, I was inquiring as to whether being an asshole got tiring when you have to deal with people in a professional, business situation...like for interviews?

Our conversation ended when I asked Max about his future projects. "Well my next book is coming out next year: *Assholes Finish First*. That's the next big thing on the horizon."

And after that? He laughed at my question. "Uh...I don't know, do you know what you're doing in 12 months?"

"Yes, actually, I do."

"Pfft..." said Max. "Well, that's 'cause you're going to school, probably."

Tucker Max is a one-trick pony. There is something very dark and miserable about his personality. After talking to Max, I felt like I had to reread all of Dostoevsky, listen to three hours of Pink Floyd and stare at a Michelangelo painting just to reverse the lingering, bad aftertaste of emptiness that our conversation left in my mouth. And ultimately, I've wound up asking myself why we give this guy even a smidgen of our attention, let alone publish an article about him.

> ....the movie was an irredeemable disaster, with the hilariously-low box office returns to show for it.

The excuse that I always hear Tucker Max's supporters give for liking him is that "his shit is real." But what I want to know is, what kind of post-modern cynicism have we arrived at, when the only form of sincerity we're willing to accept is this guy's terrible, repetitive stories.

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AGENDA | STAFF MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

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RETREAT
FIRST NATIONS ISSUE
SATIRE ISSUE
SEX/DATING ISSUE
HOOTENANY FOLLOW-UP

Tuesday is also the LAST DAY to put up your campaign poster for the National Conference.

Any Ubyssey staff member or volunteer is able to run for one of the spots.

Those going will be determined by staff vote.

Become staff at *The Ubyssey*

If you want a *ubyssey.ca* e-mail address, or voting privileges, you must attend three of these general staff meetings, or provide us with a good (written) excuse why you can't make it. You must also contribute three times, whether an article, a graphic, a photo, or a night with our Copy Editor (copy-editing, of course). E-mail *feedback@ubyssey.ca* for more information.

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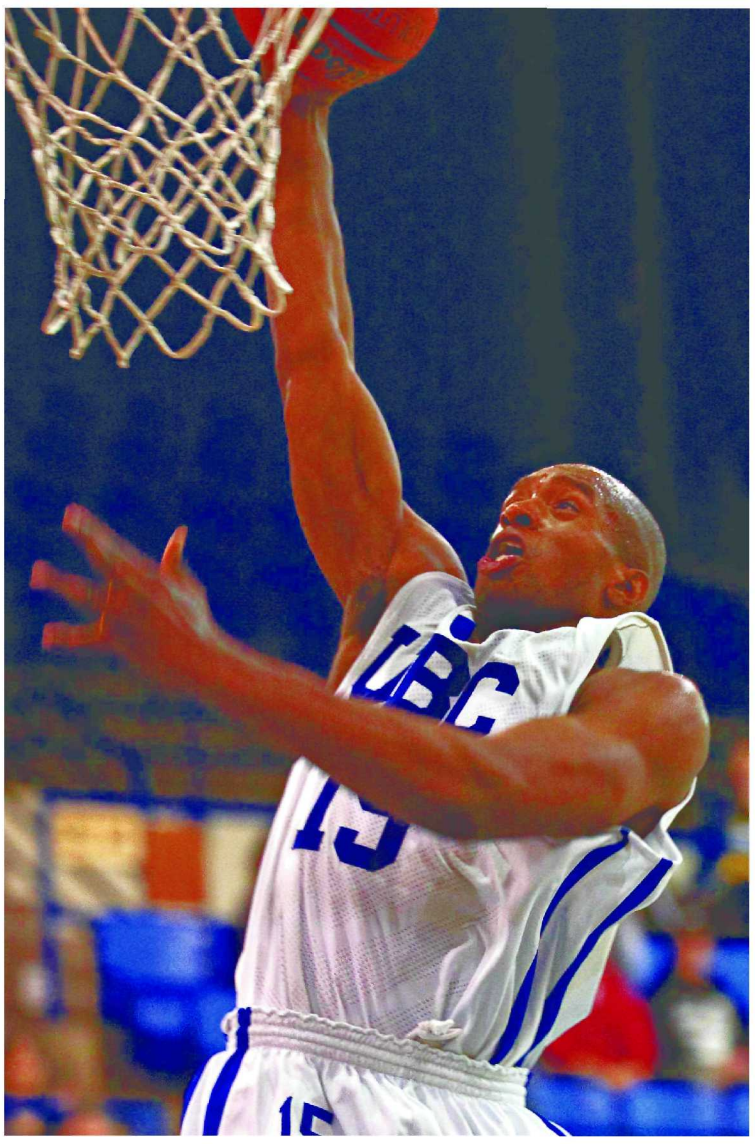

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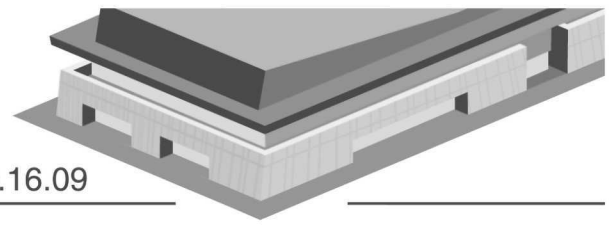

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AMS PRESENTS
HOW TO MAKE STUDENT ACADEMIC FREEDOM SPEAKING EVENT

1:00 pm on November 18th in Room 207 of the SUB.

Presenter: Denis Rancourt

Title: How to Make Student Academic Freedom

The recognized legal notion of academic freedom (from national policy statements to the UN policy on academic freedom) is that it applies to students and that it includes collegial governance in the classroom and of the institution. Within the university, learning and human development can only be achieved in an environment of academic freedom. How can students create this environment in the classroom and beyond? How and why have previous attempts been subverted?

CiTR's annual Fundrive November 12 – 26

Support CiTR by attending the many events planned and donating to CiTR! Check out CiTR's DJ Competition at the Pit on Thurs. Nov.12, our Queer Film Night featuring I Can't Think Straight on Mon. Nov.16, Peace and Walter TV at the Gallery on Thurs. Nov.19, Audiotext Poetry Night on Thurs. Nov.19, Amy Goodman host of Democracy Now at the Vancouver Public Library on Wed. Nov. 25, and the Evaporators at the Wise Hall on Nov.16.

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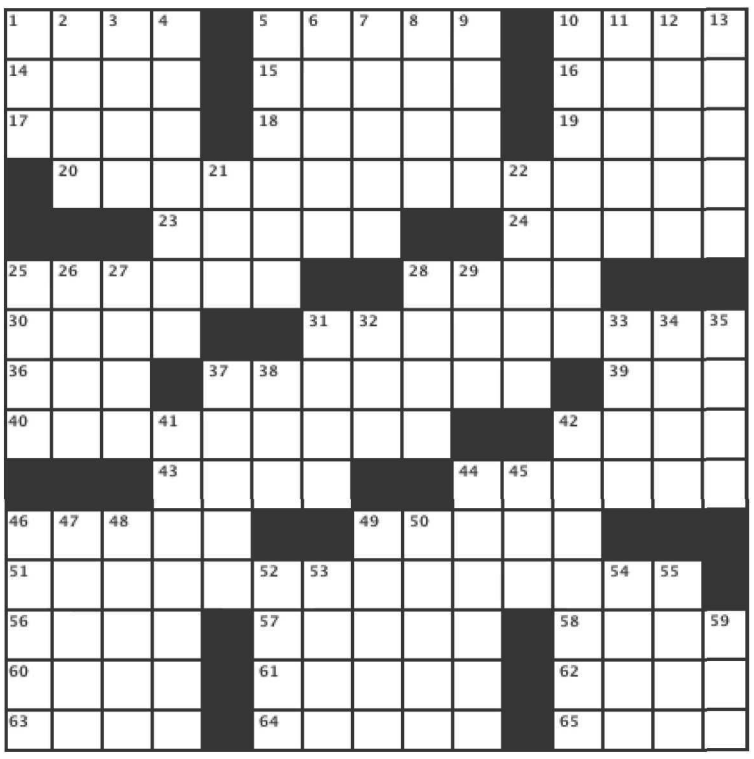
GAMES AND COMICS



ACROSS

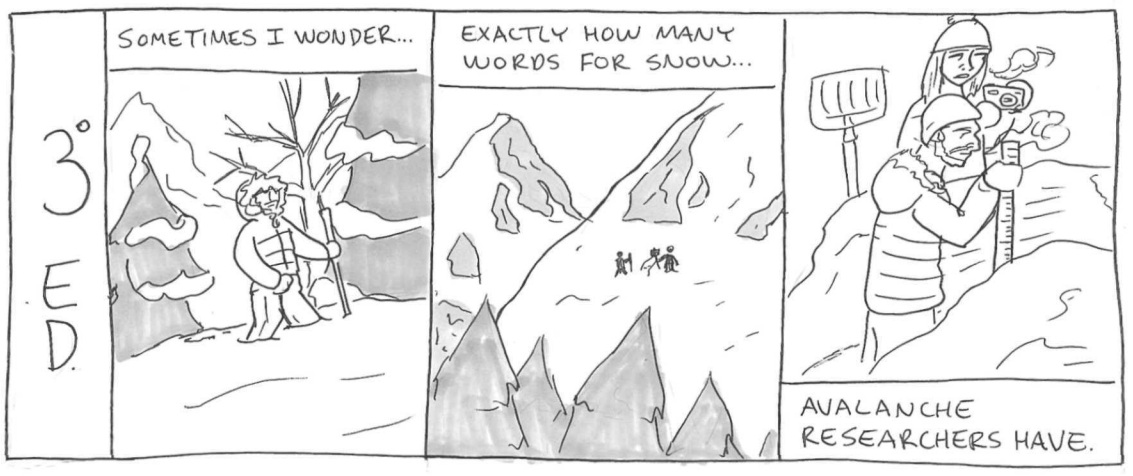
1. Coil
5. Long stories
10. Big brass
14. Icicle site
15. Babble
16. Slaughter of baseball
17. At what time
18. Allow to enter
19. Narrow opening
20. Minimize
23. Concert venue
24. Discourage
25. Injured
28. Impersonator
30. Rhythmic swing
31. Walks
36. Building add-on
37. OK to vend
39. Suffix with Capri
40. To keep company as a friend
42. Orsk's river
43. Describes a gently cooked steak
44. Fill with horror
46. Long-winded speech
49. Large cat
51. Cluster
56. ___ breve
57. Charged
58. Elation
60. Nothing, in Nantes
61. Chew the scenery
62. Coop group
63. This, in Tijuana
64. Female horses
65. Digits of the foot;

DOWN

1. Kareem, once
2. Island of Hawaii
3. Bakery fixture
4. Hanging ornament
5. Was merciful to
6. "As You Like It" forest
7. Type of ray
8. Take ___ from me
9. Clockmaker Thomas
10. Mosaic piece
11. Dark
12. Alcoholic drink
13. Fall bloomer
21. Before
22. Designer Simpson
25. Entreaty
26. Has a bug
27. Ailments of body or society
28. French clergyman
29. Monetary unit of Afghanistan
31. Winglike parts
32. Floor covering
33. When said three times, a 1970 war movie
34. Bibliography abbr.
35. Exchange for money
37. Dandruff
38. Atmosphere
41. Aromatic herb
42. Vertical
44. Playing marbles
45. Domestic animal
46. Frighten
47. Ancient Greek city-state
48. Bay
49. Domingo, for one
50. Angry
52. City near Provo
53. Baby's cry
54. Bread spread
55. Branta sandvicensis
59. Pothook shape

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

SUSCOMIC.COM, MICHAEL BROUND



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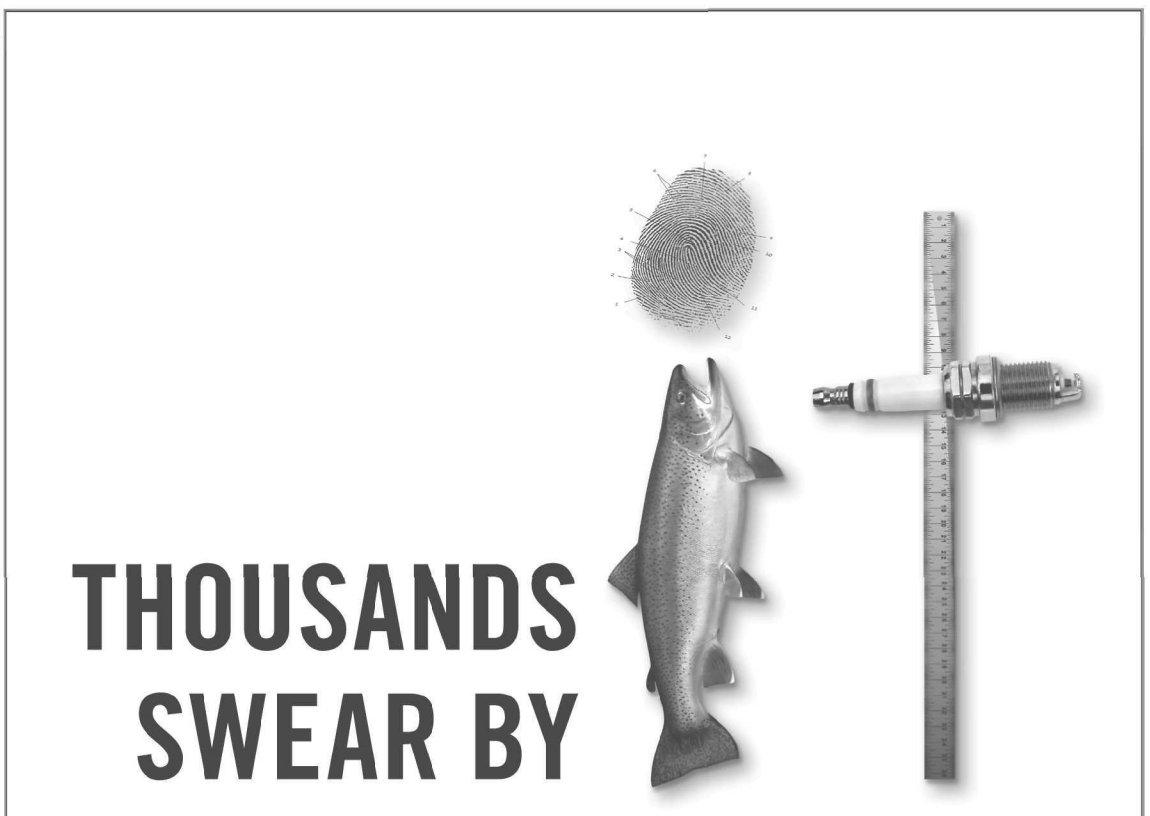

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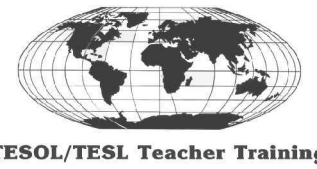
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Obsessed with Lady Gaga? No? Our photo editor is.

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See page 7 to find out how.

88 days until the *Games* begin

Olympics

Compiled by: *Samantha Jung & Justin McElroy*

Preparations under way for torch relay

Torch to hit campus day before the opening ceremony

SARAH LING
Contributor

Imagine the opening ceremony. The torch is lit, and millions of admirers around the world press near the screen to watch it lifted high to its final destination. On February 11, 2010, those at UBC have the chance to witness the torch before their own eyes as the university joins over 1000 Canadian communities as part of the Olympic Torch Relay.

While the relay is one of the most celebrated aspects of the Games, its modern origins are in many ways infamous. It was re-introduced by Hitler as a propaganda tool for the 1936 Games because he wanted to associate the Berlin Games and the Nazi Empire with the same feelings and images of the Ancient Greek Olympics. Hitler wanted the relay to emphasize the power of the Third Reich and also wanted the relay to be portrayed as a unifying event.

It is the concept of unity that drives torch bearers across the country to share their distinctive pieces of history, culture and community.

With the relay hitting UBC just one day before the opening ceremonies, where the torch will reach its final destination, Michelle Aucoin, director of the UBC 2010 Olympic and Paralympics Secretariat is expecting the event to be hectic. She, along with a dedicated team of organizers, is planning a campus-wide celebration.

This team, comprised of students, alumni, staff and community members, is also expected to highlight UBC as a distinct stop along the relay. When asked about how UBC's torch ceremony would be conducted compared to other cities.

"It's about the torch but it's also about the community and about the uniqueness of UBC as a venue, as an institution of higher learning also [with] a significant residential population,"

Amongst the excitement, however, Aucoin said that protestors are to be expected. According to Arun Mohan, who is part of the UBC Olympic Studies Research Team and Faculty of Law, "Today, the torch relay is the biggest Olympic-related event and oftentimes becomes an easy target for protestors and is usually based on certain abuses of the home country. It possesses a very powerful image."

ANTHONY GOERTZ GRAPHIC/THE UBYSSEY

The global torch relay during the Beijing Olympics ended up shrouded in embarrassment and awkwardness, as numerous protests regarding claims of human rights abuses against Tibet by the Chinese government occurred and with the flame extinguished by protesters in Paris.

Though Vancouver's torch relay is now restricted to Canadian soil, protestors recently emerged in Victoria on October 30, delaying the arrival of the torch at the legislature by several hours.

According to Constable Mandy Edwards, a member of the Vancouver 2010 Integrated Security Unit, the ISU "will be working closely with a number of police of jurisdictions along the route. The police [having] jurisdiction in each location will be responsible for issues of traffic and route management, as well as any public order issues to facilitate the smooth progress of the relay."

The Torch Relay Security Team includes members of the RCMP and other police services from across Canada. A group of these members will run beside the torchbearer to protect the torchbearer and the flame.

Stephanie Albiston, who graduated last year from UBC with a law degree, was chosen as an Aboriginal torch bearer, and will be carrying the torch on February 8. Although her location has not yet been confirmed, she has requested to be in Fort Langley, a traditional Métis settlement.

"I'm really excited because that necessarily means it opens up people's eyes as to what it means to be Métis. People don't really realize that Métis and First Nations are two different groups of people. They share the umbrella term of Aboriginal."

Her journey to becoming a torchbearer is a unique testimony. With blond hair and green eyes, she began to dig up her Métis roots when she started taking history classes at UBC. To be able to now speak highly of her people brings her true joy: "The fact that I've been chosen to be a part of this relay is amazing to me."

—With files from Larisa Karr

Olympic Profile: Ashleigh McIvor

NICOLE GALL
Contributor

Even at the age of two, former UBC student Ashleigh McIvor was moving at a speed all her own, not walking, not running, but skiing down the carpeted living room stairs of her home in Whistler. From these polyester-blend beginnings, 26-year-old McIvor has raced her way to becoming the defending World Champion of women's ski cross, and one of Team Canada's top hopes for a medal going into the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games.

The Games will see the Olympic debut of ski cross, McIvor's event. Described by McIvor as "motocross on skis," the ski cross event will involve a downhill ski race, with four athletes racing head-to-head over jumps, banked turns, tabletops, rollers, and anything else that Cypress Mountain, the highest skiing and riding peak of Vancouver's legendary North Shore mountains, has to offer.

For McIvor, it just makes sense that the International Olympic Committee approved ski cross as an official sport in November of 2006.In fact, in 2003, McIvor wrote an essay for a UBC English class on why ski cross deserved to be designated an Olympic event.

Written after BMX had been named an official sport of the Summer Olympics, McIvor remembers getting great feedback on her arguments that adding ski cross to the Olympic slate would not necessitate any additional infrastructure, was in tune with the next generation and the progression of the sport, and is extremely spectator-friendly.

Although that paper provided a great opportunity for McIvor to combine her athletic and academic pursuits, it wasn't usually so easy.

"I was living in Whistler and commuting to school—I had my classes set-up so they were Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, so I could ski four days a week," remembers McIvor.

After a few semesters of balancing her budding ski cross career with commuting to classes at UBC, McIvor's professional ski cross career took priority when she qualified for the X Games and was selected by a ski sponsor to compete on the North American circuit.

"Some of my profs were supportive enough to let me retroactively drop the classes...my art prof was not so cool about it," she said. Even though she had earned one of the highest grades in the class, she was not able to get credit for the fall semester because it was a two-term course. "I ended up with an F on my transcript," she added.

McIvor had to leave UBC to fulfill her ski cross dreams full-time after the 2003/2004 school year. But after winning the title of World Champion in women's ski cross at the FIS Freestyle World Championships in Japan, and a World Cup silver medal on the Olympic course at Cypress Mountain earlier this year, McIvor has proven that she is the farthest thing from a failure. In fact, her success through the 2008/2009 season earned her the honour of being the first ski cross racer to secure a spot on the Canadian Olympic freestyle team.

With the ski cross event set to take place on Cypress Mountain, McIvor has her sights set on further success at the Games, and the opportunity to both go big and stay home.

"It just feels so much like home being up at Cypress. I remember racing there when I was little and it was always foggy. I'm assuming it will be foggy for the Olympics, and I'll be so ready for it," she said.

For a preview of the high-intensity sport set to tear up the fresh powder of Cypress in the upcoming season, you can check out McIvor's extreme racing style in the videos posted to her official website, *ashleighmcivor.com*. "My true passion is for skiing powder in the trees, taking air and sending it off little drops," said McIvor.

"We ski cross athletes are a bit wild."

OLYMPIC BRIEFS

WOMEN CAN'T SKI JUMP IN OLYMPICS

A year-long attempt by female ski jumpers to have their sport included in the 2010 Olympic Games seems to have come to an end after an appeals court ruled Friday to dismiss a lawsuit filed by the group.

The three-judge panel upheld a previous ruling that the International Olympic Committee was not governed by Canadian law, and therefore could not mandate VANOC to include to include women's ski jumping, the only Winter Olympic event that is limited to one gender as a medal event. The IOC has argued that a lack of competitive female ski jumpers has been the reason for the sport not qualifying as an Olympic event.

POTENTIAL POLICE USE OF "SONIC GUN" CONCERNS BCCLA

The BC Civil Liberties Association (BCCLA) have voiced their concern over the Vancouver Police Department's plan to use a LRAD (Long Range Acoustical Device), or as the BCCLA puts it, a "sonic gun," during the 2010 Olympics. According to the press release, "The sonic gun fires a concentrated beam of sound at its targets that can cause hearing damage and temporarily disrupt vision."

ECONOMIC PROJECTIONS FOR GAMES REDUCED BY $6.7 BILLION

The Tyee reported earlier this month that the provincial government recently reduced their estimations for economic activity generated by the 2010 Olympics from $10.7 to $4 billion.

According to the government, the revised number comes as a result of removing benefits from the new Vancouver Convention and Exhibition Centre from the projections. However, the revised $4 billion estimate comes not from a recent projection, but rather from a 2002 report by InterVISTAS Consulting Inc a year before Vancouver was awarded the Games.

2022 OLYMPICS IN QUÉBEC?

The National Post reported that the Québec government is investigating the possibility of mounting a bid for the 2022 or 2026 Winter Olympics.

"There is no city in the world better situated for the Winter Olympics and Paralympics," Québec Premier Jean Charest said on Monday.

While the chances of Québec City winning such a bid are small, Calgary was chosen to host the 1988 Winter Olympics just 12 years after Montréal was awarded the 1976 Summer Games.

OLYMPIC VILLAGE HANDED TO VANOC

In a ceremony two weeks ago, the City of Vancouver handed over the Olympic Village to VANOC. Mayor Gregor Robertson handed a ceremonial oversize key to CEO John Furlong.

"It's been very rewarding to go from a challenging place a year ago where people had lots of questions and uncertainties and concerns to a village that's just about finished," Robertson said to *24 Hours*.

The complex, which cost $1.1 billion to build, is expected to open January 29 for nearly 3000 athletes and officials from over 80 countries.

Swine flu cases as of November 8 (data gathered by the World Health Organization)

	Africa	Americas	Eastern Mediterranean	Europe	South-East Asia	Western Pacific	Total
Cases:	14,868	190,765	25,531	Over 78,000	44,661	149,711	Over 503,536
Deaths:	103	4512	151	At least 300	678	516	At least 6260

Ideas

Ideas Editor: *Trevor Melanson*

SEX COLUMN

TOO SEXY

KASHA CHANG & AUSTIN HOLM
toosexy@ubyssey.ca

Dear *Too Sexy*,

Last year, I fell head over heels for a very suave fellow at UBC. For two months, sparks were flying and feelings were developing—that is, until one night, when we were getting a little frisky with each other. Although he was definitely into it, he looked a little troubled, so I asked him what the matter was...and he finally told me that he's actually in a committed relationship with another woman.

Ever since I've been trying to forget him, but I've been largely unsuccessful and I still think about and care for him quite a bit. This summer though, I met someone new and we hit it off immediately, jumping straight into a relationship. However, I've been having misgivings about the new guy—after getting to know him a little better, there are a lot of things that I find myself disliking about him for no good reason and the chemistry between us is now completely gone for me.

I'm afraid that this is happening because I might be judging the new guy by how he compares to the first guy. But at the same time, I'm not sure if I would date the new guy after finding out about his interests, hobbies, etc. even if I had no previous flame.

Am I having these second thoughts because I genuinely am not meant to be in a relationship with the new guy, or is it because I still hold a torch for the first guy? Should I give the new guy (and this new relationship) a chance? Or am I not being fair to him by using him as a distraction to get over the first guy?

Hope you can help me out here!

HEY HYCHMOH! (That's not supposed to be an acronym, is it?)

It seems you've stumbled upon one of the fundamental questions of the romantic's search for beauty, truth and love: When is it time to move on? And how do you know when you have finally moved on? Although we salty scions of the sea may have many a good reason to leave a harbour, sometimes even we find that when the wind leaves our sails and our boats bob lackadaisically amongst the uncaring waves, our minds turn to the warmth of those places and people we've left behind.

Let's get right into the heart of the matter: Should you give new guy a shot?

Well, chum, we could dither all day about whether or not you're still hung up on Mister Original, but let's face facts here. You met new guy this summer. It's now half-way through November. You and Summer Lovin' have been at it for at least two and half months. We know it all happened so fast—and we recognize that when it started you were having a blast—but let's point out that two and a half months is more than a chance. That's a Monopoly set's worth of chances.

Not to get all idealistic here, but relationships are best (personal opinion incoming) when they unfold gracefully, each of you learning more about each other, and each of you being even further enticed the more you get to know the other person. If Summer Lovin' has started boring you after getting to get to know him, don't bother getting out your defibrillators. It sounds like your fledgling relationship is kind of Dead on Arrival.

As for Mister Original, it's easy to use the past to justify why we shouldn't seek out the future. It's also very silly. No one wants to live in the shadow of their partner's ex, so try not to do anyone the disservice of entering a relationship by asking for one thing and wanting another. When it's time for you to move on, you'll find someone who excites and captivates you in ways that will make the choice obvious. The excitement of a passionate romance that works won't be deflected by memories of the past. So don't get into a relationship just because you can. Get into relationships because your feelings aren't giving you any other choice.

That's all for this week, friends. Send your lewd letters to *toosexy@ubyssey.ca*. Sassy Acronym Signatures welcomed and encouraged.

TREVOR MELANSON GRAPHIC/THE UBYSSEY

HUMOUR

DEADLY SEVEN

This week, Dan tries to protect himself against H1N1

DAN COGHLAN
deadlyseven@ubyssey.ca

The idea for this week's column was suggested to me by a friend. Ten points to anyone who can spot the subtle nod to his assistance.

It may be news to some of you that I have diabetes. Don't worry, it's not contagious. What is contagious though is H1N1, and as a diabetic I'm in the high-risk group. That means I have first dibs on a vaccination, which would be great if the clinics weren't running out of vaccine every time I go to get the shot. Apparently people are desperate not to get this flu. Perhaps my article a while ago about H1N1 turning you into a zombie was too effective. Shot myself in the foot on that one.

So there I was, walking home one morning after yet another unsatisfying trip to the clinic when I was accosted by a strange man. He came suddenly out of the shadows, a plastic shopping bag in one hand and a half-eaten Coffee Crisp in the other (the true breakfast of champions). He had an air of mystery about him, not too mention an air of poor hygiene, and a long scraggly beard that hung down to his nipples. It was like running into Gandalf the day after a three-day bender.

"Hey there," he said. "Wanna buy some swine flu vaccine? It's fresh from the swine." He pulled open his tattered jacket to reveal several vials of a strange, viscous liquid and a raggedy t-shirt that read "Thanks for the idea, Jordan." They rattled around delicately in the mesh pocket on the inner lining of his coat, which billowed around his thin frame like a tent hanging loosely on its tent poles.

"You're a doctor?"

"Oh yeah, yeah," he said. "Got my medical credentials around here somewhere." He patted his pants pockets, but did not offer to produce anything. "So waddya say? Are you interested in a flu shot? It's 20 bucks up front."

"Sure!" I was so excited. This was great. Fate had brought me the vaccine I so desperately needed, here in the pockets of this eccentric old street-doctor who smelled faintly of gin and mildew. I fished a twenty out of my pocket and handed it over to him.

"Alrighty then," he said. He pulled out one of the vials and then began routing around on the other side of his jacket for something.

"Here," he said, "You'll need this." He handed me a hypodermic needle and an alcohol swab wrapped in a McDonald's napkin.

"Umm...is this sanitary," I asked.

"Yeah, yeah. I washed it twice after the last guy used it." His further assurances that the public washroom he'd washed it in had been supplied with only the highest quality hand-soap did not assuage my concerns. The rattling sound he made every time he cleared his throat and spat didn't help either.

Overall, I was finding that my confidence in this man's qualifications was waning. For one thing, at no point had he offered me a sucker, which everyone knows is standard in every doctor's office. For another, he had repeatedly turned away from me throughout the conversation to address a hand puppet, which he kept referring to as "Nurse Gertrude." There was something else that I couldn't quite put me finger on, too. A certain, shall we say, "vibe" that something wasn't quite kosher about this eccentric, homeless back-alley doctor.

I took the vial, but declined the injection. I have since learned that the "vaccine" was in fact egg white and diluted yogurt. So watch out. Things are getting competitive out there as more and more people are stampeding to get the shot. Don't get trampled, and don't get taken for a ride.

EDITORIAL

Swine flu threat is mostly hogwash

Let's talk about swine flu. Everybody else is talking about it. So much so, in fact, that one would be tempted to think it was the next bubonic plague.

Even UBC, like most universities, has jumped on the bandwagon. As a result, students can now declare their absences, and their subsequent returns, on the SSC website. They added a whole new function, and a ready set excuse to miss class, all for H1N1.

But how bad is it? Really? Well, let's take a look at the numbers.

Unfortunately, pertaining to UBC specifically, the numbers are sketchy and unreliable at best. UBC Student Health Services's information regarding the amount of students with swine flu is based on the number of students who clicked "sick" on the SSC website. Consequently, the number is grossly inaccurate and completely inflated.

Class-cutters campus-wide are rejoicing for what might be the easiest get-out-of-jail-free card they've ever seen. So take advantage of it while you can, fellow students. We wouldn't blame you, what with the rain and all. And besides, that warlock isn't going to level itself to 80.

World of Warcraft aside, here's what you need to be worry—or not worry—about. The real numbers regarding H1N1: Since April 2009, the BC Centre for Disease Control has confirmed 601 severe H1N1 cases in this province. And since November 3, there have been 202 new severe cases, and eight new deaths.

It's that last part that scares us. Most of us would rather not die. Well, so far there have been 23 laboratory-confirmed H1N1 cases in BC that have resulted in death. But in 22 of those cases, there were confirmed underlying medical conditions.

So basically there has been one death in BC that didn't result from an underlying medical condition. Well, as far as they could tell. Maybe there was an underlying condition. Some of us have watched enough *House M.D.* to realize that doctors miss things. Unless they're Gregory House.

Either way, it's not a very frightening number, especially when you consider the amount of people that die from all sorts of ailments every month. And for those of you who have these high-risk medical conditions, many of which, like asthma and diabetes, are quite common, you're first in line to get your flu shot. Perhaps you've already gotten it. For you, it's probably a good idea.

But for the majority, is it really worth the fuss?

According to a recent *Vancouver Sun* article, as many as 117 people die in BC each year as a result of car crashes that occur because of driver distractions—namely, cell phones. So why isn't UBC jamming this statistic down our throats?

It must be that the public is largely misinformed. This car crash statistic, chosen arbitrarily as a counterpoint, is just one in a long list of scary statistics. Statistics that reveal problems that are far more worrisome and urgent than swine flu. Obesity, strokes, mental illnesses and plenty of other health conditions should be of more concern. Just because they're ever-present doesn't mean they're less important.

But too many people continue to blow this epidemic out of proportion. We've heard many times the story of the 13-year-old Ontarian, who was allegedly perfectly healthy, dying only 48 hours after contracting H1N1. It's a shocking and upsetting story. But it's also exceptional. A tragic story about one boy is not a counter argument to statistics that show H1N1 to be a very unlikely killer.

Despite this, one can find an overabundance of Facebook groups—and hyperbolic news reports—that suggest the contrary. The amount of bad information floating around regarding swine flu might just be scarier and more contagious than the flu itself. One group even claimed, non-ironically, that "H1N1 is worse than AIDS."

Seriously, guys: Take your Kit Kat bar and give us a freakin' break.

According to the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse, the majority of *Ubyssey* editors qualify as "frequent, heavy drinkers." GERALD DEO PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/THE UBYSSEY

We don't drink that much

Students think peers drink more than they actually do

JESSICA MACH
Contributor

On a clear fall day last month, in the dense rush-hour scrum that customarily collects between the doors of the Expo Line SkyTrain, a particularly vivid conversation could be heard. The speakers, two young women who looked to be in their late teens, loudly exchanged the graphic details of their night.

Their story concerned a female friend of theirs who had spent a better part of the past weekend getting drunk—so drunk, in fact, that authorities had had to intervene. Additional details included a lone, expensive cab ride back to her residence; a messy, night-long bout of vomiting; a number of bleary-eyed roommates, annoyed at having been disturbed in their sleep; and a piece of paper upon which the aforementioned authorities had expressed their wish to meet with the offender in question the following day.

The tale told by the two young women is an unfortunate one. It is also not unlike an abundance of other stories that many, if not most, post-secondary students hear on a regular basis.

According to a campus survey published by the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA) in 2004, of the 800 or so students attending universities in BC surveyed, 78.5 per cent reported having consumed alcohol at least once within the past year. While this number lags not insubstantially behind the national average (85.7 per cent), it probably does little in the way of shaking the views that most students currently hold about student drinking—views that, according to a number of recently-published studies about student alcohol-consumption, tend to be grossly exaggerated.

One of the key findings of an oft-cited study by Dr H Wesley Perkins is that the degree to which surveyed students engaged in alcohol use strongly corresponded to how much they believed their peers were drinking. Students who believe that their peers habitually engage in a high degree of alcohol use tend to drink more than they themselves are comfortable with. And for those students who are already disposed to heavy drinking, such beliefs can serve to legitimize their consumption.

Second-year UBC student Henry Ye said that he understands this kind of mentality. "When you're with others, and they're drinking, you don't want to look bad in front of them."

> ...of the 800 or so students attending universities in BC surveyed, 78.5 per cent reported having consumed alcohol at least once within the past year.

> "When you're with others, and they're drinking, you don't want to look bad in front of them."
>
> —*Henry Ye,* UBC student

The CCSA survey also found that nearly half of all surveyed students had had negative experiences as a consequence of alcohol consumption, including injury and loss of memory. Likewise, a *Vancouver Sun* article published this past spring reported that 500,000 college students in the US suffered from alcohol-related injuries in 2001. And a piece published in September by *Maclean's* reported that ten per cent of Canadian students have experienced alcohol-related assault, while another ten per cent have been sexually harassed in alcohol-fuelled incidents.

According to the survey, the kind of heavy, frequent drinking—five or more drinks per occasion on a weekly basis—that is typically associated with university students was engaged in by 16.1 per cent of undergraduate students nationally. More moderate habits were held by over half of the surveyed students, who reported consuming less than five drinks per occasion, and about one in ten students were lifetime abstainers.

The picture painted by these statistics is not an outrageous one. And yet, Perkins' study found that the inclination to grossly overestimate the average amount and frequency of student alcohol consumption was consistent among post-secondary students.

A couple of weeks ago, on Halloween, this writer overheard another conversation. In the SUB, a group of students were talking about their night of heavy drinking. They laughed loudly. Gradually, one girl's voice came to rise above the noise. She was describing her own state of intoxication.

Her story was detailed and conveyed with a confidence that suggested fluency with the issue at hand. Then someone interrupted, asking her if she drank a lot. The young woman was taken aback. After a moment, she replied, "Well, not really."

According to a former UBC residence advisor, perception of the experience is a factor. She believes students speak with more exuberance about activities that involve alcohol, which adds to the mythos.

She said that were she to have an alcohol-drenched night, she would want to talk about it, too. Conversely, she wouldn't tell her friends about a night of studying. That would be boring.

LETTERS

BEYOND PINK? BEYOND REACH!

I have never helped organize a conference, nor do I know anything about conference budgets. However, I do know that when I choke on the triple digit ticket price for Beyond Pink or Enterprize I am quickly informed of how subsidized the events are.

I understand things cost money, however I don't understand why a regular ticket requires purchasing two nights at a hotel located ten minutes from my house. It's also disheartening that Enterprize gives away $100,000 in prizes when many students can't afford to attend. The meals, swag and evening galas don't interest me. Beyond Pink's marketing had me regrettably excited to hear motivating stories of likeminded female entrepreneurs, until I saw the $270 price tag.

I'd like to think I am not the only student incapable of dropping a few hundred dollars to attend a conference. After pulling together my tuition, money shouldn't pose as a barrier to how far I can educate myself at my university. This is not an unrealistic plea for equality, but I am disappointed to see opportunities at UBC that are skewed towards students without student loans.

My disappointment is not meant to inhibit the learning opportunity in organizing an extravagant conference, or to undermine the effort of its organizers. I will emphasize my lack of experience in organizing conferences, but the subsidized $270 ticket price seems convoluted with fancy hotels and meals.

The foremost purposes of these conferences are to motivate and educate. Tickets should be available for students to attend the speaker sessions without forcing us to pay for five-star hotel accommodations and meals. It is fun to attend a glamorous weekend conference but don't cater to the few who can afford it at the expense of denying other students the opportunity to motivate and educate themselves. In the future I hope there will be the choices to opt out of the extravagance and have my subsidized bus pass take me to see some brilliant speakers.

—Nicole Fisher

THE UNDERGROUND SPEAKS

There has been much discussion lately about *The Underground* (the satirical newspaper of the Arts Undergraduate Society) in these pages of *The Ubyssey*, within the AUS and among the student community. As the sole editor of *The Underground*, I'm writing in response to it.

For those who aren't aware, the discussions have centered around one particular article on the topic of rape. It was met with a lot of anger and upset from not only students but the AUS itself. Although the article was not meant to hurt anyone, I realize it was incredibly insensitive and inappropriate. I promised to print an apology in the next issue of *The Underground*, but seeing as it won't be out until January I felt it was more appropriate to write this letter to *The Ubyssey*. Here I would like to apologize sincerely to anyone who was offended or affected negatively by the article. It was a naïve mistake and one that I truly regret. I also apologize to the AUS for reflecting negatively on them. I hope that my removal of the issue from public circulation, personal apologies and attendance of the Meet the Dean discussions about sexual violence conveys my seriousness in rectifying this mistake. I would also like to thank everyone involved for their understanding.

Wait, you might say, why is *The Underground* taking a two-month hiatus? In the discussions mentioned above, the direction of the paper also came up. The existence of an Arts newspaper remains important and we are taking this time to revamp the content and relevance, while staying satirical. There will be contests, interviews and more to truly engage Arts students in their newspaper. If you are interested in writing, getting involved, winning prizes, or just have questions, please e-mail *theundergroundpaper@gmail.com*.

—Alicia McLean

Royal visit to Canada

Canadians were given some royal treatment as Prince Charles and his wife Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall, wrapped up an 11-day, four-province tour of Canada this week, reported *CUP Ottawa Bureau Chief*. The royal couple visited 12 cities and communities across Newfoundland, British Columbia, Ontario and Québec, and even included a few university stops on their tour: the prince visited Memorial University in St. John's, Newfoundland, where he toured their Marine Institute, and SFU in Burnaby, BC, where he participated in a seminar on sustainable urban business.

—Emma Godmereau

National

Compiled by: *Sarah Chung*

Financial constraints leave some students homeless

Students have chosen 'pursuing a university education over having a safe place to live'

SARAH PETZ
The Manitoban
University of Manitoba

WINNIPEG (CUP)—As apartment vacancy rates in Winnipeg dropped below one per cent over the summer, some of the city's university students have been facing a dire shortage of affordable housing.

In some extreme cases, students have claimed to be homeless and attempted to live within campus buildings at the U of Manitoba.

"That's just a reality," said Sid Rashid, president of the U of Manitoba Students' Union (UMSU).

Mitch Tripple, UMSU VP of student advocacy, said that he has met with two students who have admitted to being homeless and have been living on campus.

For the sake of confidentiality, Tripple was not able to disclose why the students chose to live on campus in lieu of other housing arrangements.

Tripple said the students had had their budgets carefully planned out but when tuition at the school increased this past fall, they were left short.

"Both chose pursuing a university education over having a safe place to live," said Tripple.

John Danakas, a U of Manitoba spokesperson, said that cases like these are not very common.

"They're coming very late into the game and having to quickly scramble for housing...When you've got low vacancy rate...people then put up the costs of what they have to offer...because there's more demand than supply."

—Emily Griffiths, SLFS President

"In terms of situations that might be an issue, beyond someone studying and staying overnight... they are few and far between," said Danakas.

"There have been occasions when individuals with some sort of personal issue in their lives have been found on campus, and security services has had to deal with [the situation]. They're prepared to deal with that though."

Danakas also said these situations don't usually become a security issue, unless someone was being disruptive in some way.

"However, officers from security services are patrolling the campus and if they make contact with someone who looks like they might be attempting to remain on campus for more than a reasonable time, they would speak with the individual as to what their purpose is on the campus," he continued.

Residences generally fill up by the beginning of the fall term at the university, and once on-campus housing is no longer available students must face the pressure of searching for affordable housing off-campus.

"Both chose pursuing a university education over having a safe place to live."

—Mitch Tripple UMSU VP

Dave Morphy, the U of Manitoba VP Students, explained that this creates a huge stress for students in general, especially for international students.

"They're coming very late into the game and having to quickly scramble for housing," said Morphy.

Along with availability, cost and location become the main factors that students deal with when looking for housing.

"When you've got a low vacancy rate, it's obvious that people then put up the costs of what they have to offer," said Morphy. "Apartment costs go up, certainly for people having to rent their homes in a tight market because there's more demand than supply."

In situations where a student has been completely unable to find affordable housing, the administration has had to stretch the space within residences, but that space is practically exhausted.

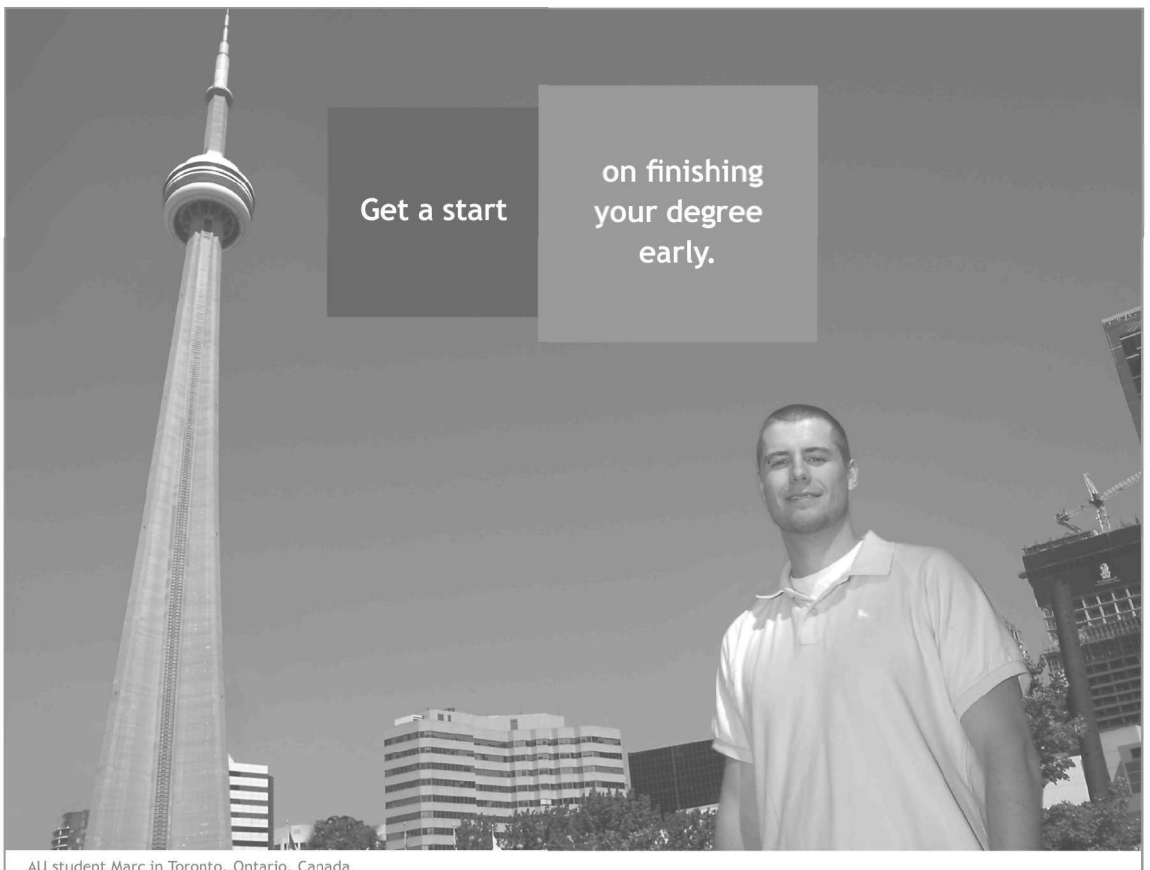
"It's really stressful [when] we're really trying to help somebody and...[they] end up being referred [...] to the residences," said Morphy.

"[Residences] would actually go as far as saying 'Give us some time and let us see if we can convince a couple people with single rooms to double up," he said.

While fees have increased at the school, applications for bursaries through its financial aid department have only gone up one per cent. The numbers of emergency loan cases are down in numbers.

In terms of student loans, some students are intimidated by the application process and taking on debt, according to Jane Lastra, director of U of Manitoba financial aid department.

"What I do when I'm counseling students is say your education is an investment. You have to invest; that is my thing with students," she said.



AU student Marc in Toronto, Ontario, Canada

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The Ubyssey **is still looking for submissions for our annual First Nations Issue.**

For more info contact *fnissue@live.ca*.