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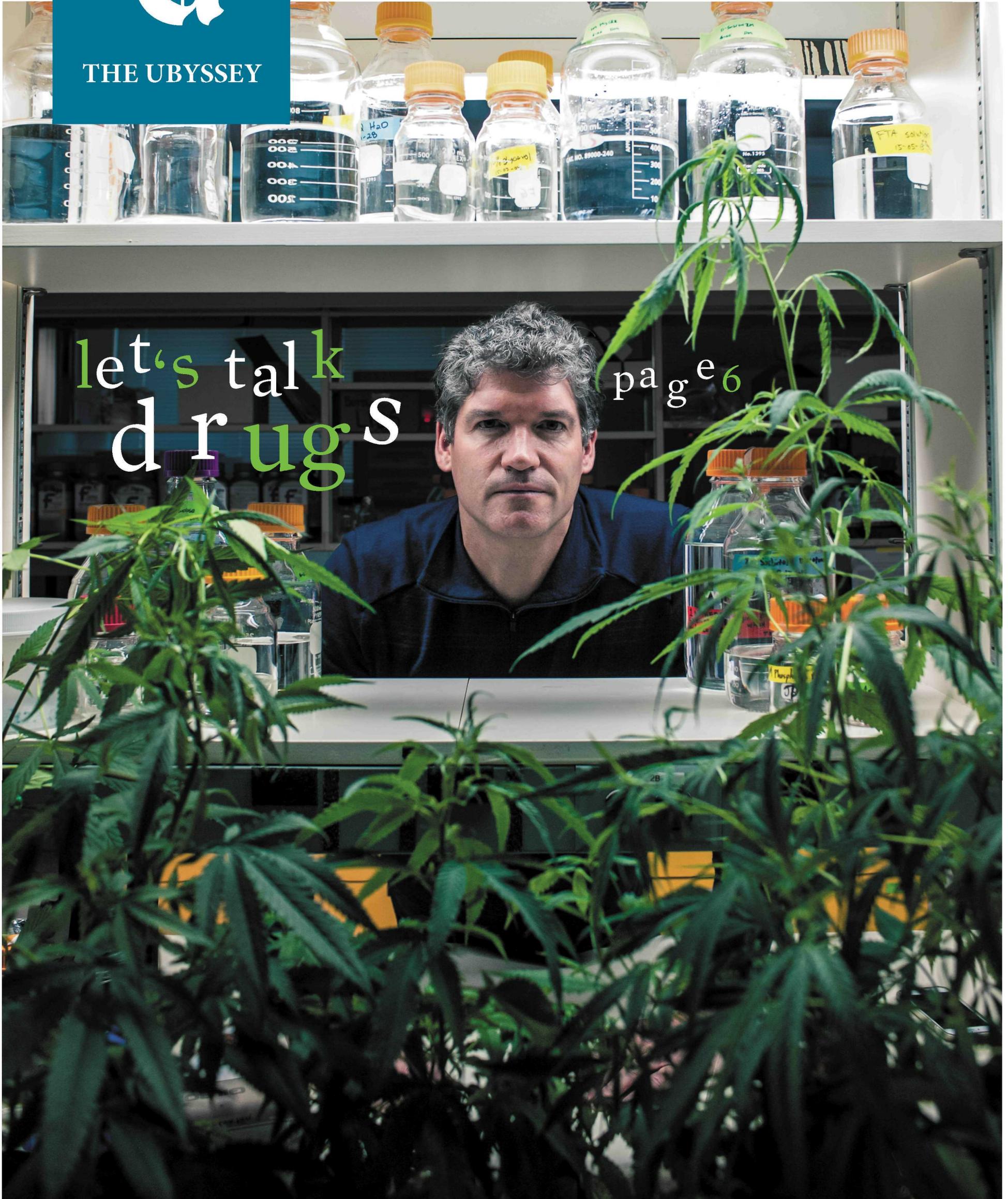
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You are cordially invited to attend the

AMS Student Nest
Opening Ceremony

September 9th, 2015



WED 9
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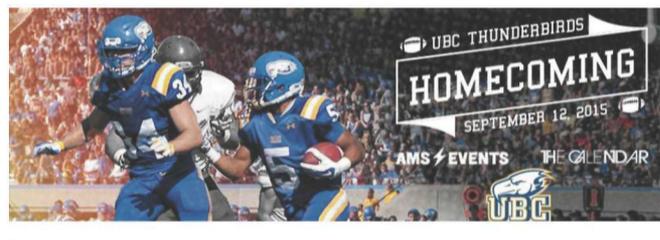

FRI 11
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AMS EVENTS THE CALENDAR



SAT 12
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\$5

ON THE COVER

PHOTO/ART BY
Kosta Prodanovic

COVER COMMENTS
No free samples :(.

Dr. Jon Page was nice enough to let *The Ubyyssey* into his lab. The plants pictured on the cover are hemp, a variety of cannabis.

Want to see your events listed here?
Email your event listings to
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THE UBYSSY

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OUR CAMPUS



Martha Piper, UBC's interim president, sits in her office atop Koerner Library.

PHOTO: KOSTA PRODANOVIC/THE UBYSSY

Interim president Martha Piper sees no evil

Arno Rosenfeld
Features Editor

Martha Piper is a smooth operator. Just before taking over as UBC's interim president on September 1, Piper wrote an op-ed for the *Vancouver Sun* to contextualize — critics might say gloss over — Guptagate, the scandal engulfing the university in the weeks since Arvind Gupta mysteriously left his post as president.

“Martha Piper celebrates recent No. 2 ranking of Canadian university, but says it should be No. 1,” the *Sun* trumpeted. There was little mention of Gupta aside from Piper noting the issue paled in comparison to the Great Depression and both World Wars.

Piper, whose tactical skill was widely praised during her previous term from 1997-2006, is upbeat and likeable — exactly what UBC needs as it tries to weather the current storm.

“The wonderful things about UBC that make it great are still there,” Piper said in an interview Thursday. “Nothing has changed.”

While she points out that the university's day-to-day academic functions and research work has continued despite the presidential leadership switch, the notion “nothing has changed” is belied by the state of her office on the top floor of Koerner Library.

The tables are bare and the shelves empty, evidence of the hasty leadership transition. But the new president, dressed smartly in a powder blue blazer, plays it off.

“I think the weirdest thing is getting into an elevator,” Piper, who served her first term in a ground floor office, said with a laugh.

Piper appears unflappable as UBC does damage control and tries to ensure stability as it searches for a permanent president.

“She's a great communicator, charismatic and whip smart,” UBC public relations director Susan Danard wrote in an email to *The Ubyyssey*.

The adjectives certainly fit, though they hint at what the university was looking for in an interim leader: someone to reassure and present UBC's best face to the public.

Piper is also, of course, the real deal and no stranger to dealing with blowback from her predecessors' controversial actions. Almost immediately after taking over as president in 1997 Piper was confronted with protests over UBC hosting the APEC summit of Asian heads of state, including alleged dictators. The summit had been arranged by her predecessor David Strangway, but Piper was left

to deal with fallout from a brutal RCMP crackdown on student protesters.

If the APEC summit was a low point for UBC's international outreach, Piper said she is especially proud of her own global initiatives including the creation of student residences on campus like the UBC-Korea house that host students from abroad.

“I felt really strongly that we needed to internationalize the campus,” Piper, herself an example of the university's global character, explained.

Born and raised in the United States, Piper's faint midwestern accent betrays her Ohio upbringing. Arriving in Montreal in the early 1970s when her husband was offered a teaching position at McGill, Piper said she expected to stay just a few years. Instead, having earned a PhD in epidemiology and biostatistics Piper fell into academic administration after being offered a director job at McGill.

“I did not sit there as a young person saying, ‘I want to be a vice president, or I want to be a dean,’” Piper recalled.

Yet Piper did just that, moving from McGill to be first a dean and then vice president at the University of Alberta before landing the president job in Point Grey.

Aside from managing an assortment of scandals during her time in charge at UBC, Piper is perhaps best remembered among students for stories about her imaginary friend Bort, which she used to convey metaphors about the possibilities of university in speeches to incoming students.

“Well, how do you know about Bort?” she asked during the interview before turning to Danard, the spokeswoman. “Do you know about Bort?”

“Unfortunately, when we Google you it comes up pretty quickly,” Danard said, laughing.

(Piper said she hasn't decided whether to discuss Bort during her Imagine Day address but added to *The Ubyyssey* reporters present, “It's so interesting because none of you heard the Bort speech, and yet, Bort still lives.”)

After stepping down as president Piper has remained in Vancouver, serving on several non-profit and corporate boards — including the Dalai Lama Centre for Peace and Education, Care Canada, Shoppers Drug Mart and the Bank of Montreal — and spending time with her four grandchildren.

Piper was vacationing in Hawaii when she received a call from

board chair John Montalbano “out of the blue,” asking her to become interim president.

“I was literally stunned,” Piper recalls. “Absolutely no, categorically no,” she told Montalbano, who asked her to think it over.

“I know what this job entails. And it is grinding. And I am old,” Piper, who will be seventy in November, said of her initial reluctance.

And yet.

“UBC has been extraordinarily good to me,” Piper said. “I thought, well ... if I can help maybe I should.”

Piper clearly loves the university and her gushing praise for, say, UBC Athletics — “I don't know if you've ever seen the T-Birds play baseball, but, it's fabulous! Right?” — is tempered by her sincerity.

But a certain cognitive dissonance crept through the explanation of her new role at UBC. Piper said she intends to continue Gupta's vision for the university, despite the fact nearly all observers believe he was pushed out.

“My sense is the board supports [his] vision and I can assume nothing other than that,” Piper said.

Piper's sunny defiance in the face of Guptagate has led to quizzical comments hinting toward a naiveté unlikely given her credentials, suggesting instead that UBC's crisis management efforts may have subsumed her.

For example, a few days after Gupta's departure Piper made the odd claim to *The Ubyyssey* that, “I think it always is surprising when someone resigns from a position.”

But Piper's central message is that the core of the university remains strong and she is willing to grin through the tough questions until the current scandal blows over.

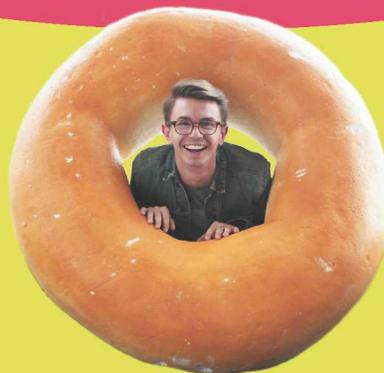
Still, despite filling in during the institution's time of need, Piper was adamant that she would not accept a full term as president if offered.

“I'm not appropriate to lead this institution,” she said. “This institution deserves an extraordinary leader, someone who understands and is prepared to take into its next decade. UBC [needs] ... someone who has the energy, the drive, the creativity, the thinking, the ability to do that and I'm not that person.”

And though evidently happy to be back, some ambivalence seeps through.

“It feels familiar — but a bit weird,” Piper said with a grin. “It wasn't supposed to happen.”

AMS EXPLAINED



ALMA MATER SOCIETY PRIMER

Emma Partridge
News Editor

Whether you realize it or not, as a student you interact with your student society daily. So here's a run down of everything you ought to know about how your school is being run.

The Alma Mater Society (AMS) is UBC's student society; it's made up of students who are expected to serve students. How do they do this? Firstly, they provide services.

AMS services are run by students — not the university. "It's a common misconception. The AMS runs — autonomously runs — all of our services [and] they're all student-run, student-lead initiatives," said Ron Gorodetsky, student services manager. "So we work very closely with the university but we're completely separate in what we do."

Safewalk and the Sexual Assault Support Centre, things you've probably already heard of, are AMS services. Others include Tutoring, Speakeasy, the Food Bank, Volunteer Avenue and AMS Advocacy.

When asked which one incoming first-years should know about, Gorodetsky said that AMS Speakeasy, which offers peer support, is great for "a lot of first-year students. Especially if they don't live on residence, they might feel a bit isolated, they might feel like it's a bigger high school with less friends."

So, who are the AMS? Well, there are five faces that you may have seen somewhere already; these are the executives.

Students elect five students to exec positions every second term. Here's who was picked and what they do.

VP Administration — Ava Nasiri

The easiest way to think about what Nasiri does is overseeing different campus organizations and initiatives.

"I chair SAC and oversee the administration of all 372 of our wonderful clubs," said Nasiri. "The big thing for me coming right up is the club's resource and sustainability centre, so we're looking at formally launching that in October."

Nasiri's platform points included making the AMS more accessible to students and fostering collaboration within the AMS, which she says is taking the form of expanding the art gallery, as well as meetings with the Engagement Commissioner.

"Alongside that, I was in charge of wrapping up the new SUB project, now known as the Nest," said Nasiri.

The new SUB is likely the most tangible explanation of what falls to the VP admin's portfolio. The project was in the works for a long time. A long time. Construction for the project began three years ago, proceeding several more years of negotiation and planning.

After multiple delays, the new SUB opened its doors last June.

VP External — Jude Crasta
Crasta liaisons with external entities, advocating to external bodies and networking with other student societies all fall into his lap.

"I also work on projects like transit and transportation, policy

and legislation when it comes to issues that affect students, like climate change targets or affordable housing," said Crasta.

Crasta was in charge of advocating for a yes vote for the transit plebiscite. Though the result wasn't what the AMS had hoped for, Crasta says they are still working towards the Broadway line.

"Even though the results were counter to what the AMS took a stance on, it helped us highlight out there a unified recognized need for transit and improved transportation," said Crasta. "It's down to the logistics, not necessarily the principle."

You'll likely see a lot of Crasta in the coming months as he heads up a voter encouragement campaign for the federal elections.

VP Academic — Jenna Omassi
Omassi acts as a representative for students to the university on virtually any issue they might have.

"[The VP Academic] works to support the academic initiatives of the university, and creates academic initiatives in the society," said Omassi. "A big part of that is sitting on most of the university committees, is relations with the Senate and the Board of Governors and then with all of the executives of the university."

According to Omassi, her main platform points were student consultation, a unified platform for undergraduate research and open educational resources.

With the costs of textbooks soaring, Omassi will be heading up the #textbookbrokeBC

campaign to push for more open educational resources.

While Omassi's mandate is to be a go-between for students to the university, the 2015 academic experience survey highlighted that more students don't know much about the AMS than do.

"One thing that communications has done is really unified the identity of the AMS with the new brand that we have," said Omassi, when asked what she hopes will turn this around.

VP Finance — Mateusz Miadlikowski
Miadlikowski was re-elected as VP finance. Unfortunately, Miadlikowski is on vacation for several weeks so was unavailable to comment directly. But basically, his role is to manage the financial health of the AMS.

When Miadlikowski was running, he pledged to ensure that the new SUB's businesses are meeting their goals by working closely with management, and also that he plans to implement new financial systems for clubs.

Besides working with businesses and clubs, Miadlikowski chairs the Finance Commission and sits on the CiTR Board of Directors.

President — Aaron Bailey
A photograph of Aaron Bailey's grinning face with beer being thrown on it was plastered on the front cover of *The Ubsy* and our website.

"I am responsible for overseeing all of the activities of the society, so I kind of have my hands in everything that we do all at once, but not anything

completely," said Bailey. "My main role ... is supporting the executive team and council in achieving the goals of the society."

The President is the face of the AMS. Apparently, Bailey hopes to put a fun face forward.

"The baseline of my platform was to return a sense of personability to the office of the president — basically, not taking what we do at the AMS so seriously all the time," said Bailey.

Bailey said he's been spending the summer doing lots of strategic planning. For the future, Bailey hopes to expand block party and demonstrate support for campus organizations.

Now, the executive doesn't operate solo. There's a body known as AMS Council, which is supposed to make high-level decisions for the student body. They meet every two weeks to discuss budgets, campaigns, events and more.

Council is meant to represent everyone, there's a seat for someone from every constituent society on campus. Every student is a member of the AMS, but only elected reps form AMS Council — but anybody can run for election.

There's been some debate about how to define the relationship between the Exec and Council, as was brought up in last week's Council meeting. But, basically, the execs are full time, handling day-to-day and Council is involved in the big decisions.

Of course the AMS is a large, complicated entity, but these are the basics and now you know a bit more about your society, and what you should expect from the people elected to serve you. 🍺

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REFORM //

GSS requests reforms to Board of Governors structure

Emma Partridge
News Editor

Echoing the sentiment of the Faculty Association earlier this week, the Graduate Student Society (GSS) of UBC has asked that UBC's Board of Governors adopt a number of reforms to begin the process of making the Board more transparent.

In an open letter to acting chair Alice Laberge, the GSS suggested a variety of reforms, all of which are grounded in making the Board more transparent and accountable. They range from requiring all board members be given publicly available, university-issued email addresses to all meetings being disclosed to the public.

"The pressure the GSS can put on the Board directly is probably fairly limited," said GSS President Tobias Friedel. "We are asking to be able to present on the recommendations we make at the next board meeting and to answer any questions the board members may have."

Friedel notes that more than half of the board members are appointed by the provincial government, which "leaves the option to escalate the conversation to the next sized level and advocate to the provincial government to rethink their choices for their appointment."

"I don't get the impression that the GSS wields a huge amount of power in that situation," said Maayan Kreitzman, representative for the Institute for Resources, Environment



The Grad Student Society is asking for more transparency from the Board of Governors.

FILE PHOTO GEOFF LISTER/THE UBYSSEY

and Sustainability on the GSS. "At the same time, like any student organization — the AMS, the GSS — I think ... when the GSS is strong and sensible it can improve that dynamic."

The AMS has released a statement in response former President Arvind Gupta's sudden departure, as well as the ensuing side-scandal involving the chair of the Board, John Montalbano, being accused of breaching academic freedom.

The statement released by the AMS did not call for Montalbano's resignation, as some societies such

as the Faculty Association and the Canadian Association of University Teachers, have done.

The GSS also asked that "closed agendas of the Board ... be disclosed to the public."

According to both Friedel and Kreitzman, there had been very little communication between the Board and the GSS over recent years.

"It seemed like the GSS had only has pretty limited interaction with the board in the last three years," said Kreitzman.

Friedel confirmed that the extent of his communication with

the board chair has been one phone call, and one letter written in response to a letter that the GSS wrote to them. According to Friedel, "this is one of our concerns."

When asked if he expects that the Board would adopt the reforms, Friedel said "I am fairly optimistic — I don't believe any of those asks are outrageous. Some of those asks are really more reaffirmations of stances that should be fairly self explanatory and are just being pulled into question by recent actions of the Board." [U](#)

TEXTBOOKS //

Textbook prices, explained



When did these things get so expensive?

Paula Duhatschek
Contributor

High textbook prices, like all-nighters and Ramen, can feel like an inevitable fact of student life. But why exactly do textbooks cost so much?

Before they arrive on campus, faculty members decide on the book they want for their course, and submit it to the buyers at the Bookstore. According to Debbie Harvie, director of the UBC Bookstore, this process has been more or less the same for the past 25 years.

The trouble, generally, is that the Bookstore has very strict constraints on where it can source its books. Each textbook is produced by a single publisher, which means that these publishers can pretty much set their prices as high as they want.

"If a faculty member chooses a specific book, we have to bring that in at their request. So we don't have a whole lot of latitude in choosing where we get the book from," said Harvie.

According to Harvie, many textbooks also have a very short print run, which is an expensive undertaking for publishers. Further technical costs— such as printing colour photos and graphs— can also rack up the price.

In addition, the endless production of updated textbook editions can short-circuit the market for used books.

Ultimately, it's up to the instructor to decide whether to upgrade to the newest version, but, by constantly churning out new editions, publishers prevent students from selling back their textbooks and force the Bookstore to buy new books for the coming year.

"I think ... the publishers will honestly say that they believe the new edition has better learning materials in it," said Harvie. "In some disciplines there is new research that comes out, and they certainly try to keep that in there." [U](#)

RESIDENCE //

How wild do the residences get?



Do first years get as out of hand as everyone says?

FILE PHOTO GEOFF LISTER/THE UBYSSEY

Vassilena Sharlandjieva
Contributor

Freshmen around the world are known for plunging into the wild side of college life with no restraint. Do UBC residences, which are filled with first-years and places to party throughout the year, live up to that image?

Cate Morrison, assistant director of Residence Life, said that although it is common to hear in the media about first year students overindulging in newfound freedom, that is not the case with the majority of UBC first years.

"I think [for] a lot of our students this is not the first time

consumption, support them through their own decision making process," said Morrison.

Campus Security is rarely summoned to residences, according to Eccleton, even though they "pay special attention to areas around residence," especially during the first weeks.

Ultimately, first years' parties and experiments with drugs or alcohol are not a prominent concern to residence staff. Instead, they focus on helping first years adjust to other, tamer aspects of their independence.

"I think that often things that people fall into are lack of sleep," said Morrison. "One of the things that a lot of people don't anticipate but one area that we see some students ... struggle with is around food. They've never had to consider

their own nutrition because meals have been provided."

Nevertheless, residence staff prepares themselves for the worst case scenarios that may arise during First Week.

"We have an advisor-on-duty number, so that they can call that number if they're feeling unsafe or if they are bothered by something that is going on their floor," said Morrison. "As well, our front desks are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week in most of our areas."

Safety and security are discussed during orientation as well as the first floor and house meetings, and campus resources such as the Community Shuttle and Safewalk are promoted to residents.

"We want [students] to have fun, but also to look out for each other," said Eccleton. [U](#)



I encourage you to take the time to get engaged with all that UBC has to offer this coming year.

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MEDIA //

Where are all the women in media?

Vicky Huang
Contributor

On September 2, Karen Ross, a professor of media at Northumbria University, gave a talk on gender equity and the media at the UBC School of Journalism.

Globally speaking, the number of women entering the media industry surpassed that of men over the past five to six years, yet women take up only 31 per cent of all decision-making roles at media corporations.

The lack of gender diversity presented in the media may perpetuate gender bias and turn society into a man's world. Ross hopes that people, journalists and citizens alike can take it upon themselves to look at media outputs critically.

"Every five minutes, there is yet another new horrible example of how the media is undermining or trivializing or commodifying women.... [I want people to look] at news and be [like]: 'I've just been



PHOTO VICKY HUANG/THEUBYSSEY

Professor Karen Ross hopes that viewers assess media portrayls of women.

watching the news for ten minutes, and I haven't seen one woman,' or 'I've just been watching the news for 20 minutes, and the only women I've seen have been victims of male violence," said Ross.

Some are dismissive of the hardship that women face

professionally, trivializing the role that gender plays in their career pursuits, or even denying gender as an important part of their experiences and expressions. However, to Ross, women's experiences are different, and they can use their femininity positively.

According to Alfred Hermida, director and professor at UBC Graduate School of Journalism, gender imbalance in media management is also a result of gender discrimination that is not readily visible.

It is unclear whether news crews are discriminatory in selecting interviewees, but men are more likely to agree to be interviewed than women are. "When being approached for expert advice on a subject that is not exactly within one's area of research, a male professor is more likely to share his knowledge, while a female professor is more likely to decline," said Hermida.

Ross hopes that media consumers assess whether media portrayals respond to their lived experiences and, if not, be dissatisfied and uncover the basis of their dissatisfaction. The efforts of journalists and audiences are equally crucial in pushing the media to be more accurate in representing the diversity and reality of this world, and in cultivating a more open and positive social culture. [u](#)

ART //

Relocating Space



PHOTO SWETHA PRAKASH/THEUBYSSEY

One of the many pieces on display at The Hatch Art Gallery.

Jessie Stirling
Contributor

The Hatch Art Gallery has settled into its new home in the new SUB and is marking the occasion with an exhibit on UBC's past student spaces that promises to trigger a feeling of nostalgia in even the newest of Thunderbirds.

The Hatch Commissioner Gillian Anselmo believes *Relocating Space* is "a good way to position all the student unions buildings within the new SUB and integrate both history and the future" of our school. Lauding the Hatch as "a new, bright space with lots of natural light" that is "more accessible [than it was in the old SUB]," Anselmo is excited for students to visit the art gallery and to appreciate how our common spaces have been shaped by the very students occupying them.

Titled *Relocating Space: Student Union Buildings, 75 years in the Making*, the art gallery's premier exhibit features photos from the university's archives depicting student life and spaces from 1939 to the present, the idea for which is accredited to Michael Kingsmill, one of the head architects of the new SUB.

Curated by Alexandra Trim, she describes the exhibit as "a chronological archive, starting with a timeline of Brock Hall from its conception to the construction of the old SUB ... all the way up to the construction of the new SUB."

The prints hanging on the fresh white walls of Hatch tell a story of concerts held in the main foyer of Brock Hall, of a Miss UBC pageant whose contestants were drawn from the different faculties and lined up outside its front doors, and the 1954 fire that burnt down the building's entire second-storey.

Next, you will see blueprints for the 1968 construction of the old sub, the bowling alley and video arcade that resided in the basement, and the old-timey diner called Lickety Split that was a student favorite for burgers and milkshakes.

For Trim, the most important aspect of this exhibit is the "concentration on student life," which is she believes *Relocating Space* is "a great way to open the gallery" and to celebrate UBC's newest student space.

The Hatch is also looking to feature work from current and past UBC students, and are accepting submissions throughout the year.

The exhibit will be open to the public from September 1 - 18. Students interested in volunteering at the Hatch are encouraged to contact the art gallery. [u](#)

MUSIC //

Campus musicians among best in country



PHOTO COURTESY NYO

UBC students are part of Canada's most prolific orchestra for young people.

Karen Wang
Contributor

This summer, 92 musicians between the ages of 16 and 26 trained and performed with the prestigious National Youth Orchestra (NYO) of Canada,

including eight UBC students and alumni.

The annual seven week long program has a competitive audition process, accepting just 90-100 of the finest young musicians from across the country. For the first five weeks, the musicians trained at the Wilfred Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario starting with smaller chamber music ensembles before progressing into larger orchestral works.

"It was awesome because all we did was rehearse and practice, and we didn't have to think about

anything else," said Julia Chien, a recent UBC alumnus with a Bachelor of Music in Percussion Performance. "It was wake up, eat breakfast, rehearse, eat lunch, rehearse, eat dinner, rehearse, and then go and sleep and restart the next day."

Following the intensive training phase, the program finishes off with a two week Canada-wide tour showcasing their summers' efforts.

John-Paul Radelet, a third-year music student at UBC and violinist in the 2015 NYO, found out about the summer opportunity when

he was 10, and first auditioned at the age of 14, unsuccessfully. During his first year as a part of the NYO this summer, touring with the orchestra one of Radelet's most memorable experiences.

"It's weird to think of musicians as a sports team but we all lived together for five weeks in residence and then ate all our meals together and went on a bus trip and planes and stuff together," said Radelet. "So just going to venue to venue as a group was a cool experience."

"My favourite part of touring was just being in these music halls that professional musicians play in," said Lucas O'Fee, a UBC alumnus with a Bachelor of Music in Trombone Performance. "It was like being in a professional orchestra — you'd just go in through the backstage entrance and set up your stuff in the dressing room where all the pros set up."

Chien also found that her experiences were very close to the professional world.

"When the actual orchestral part started, our conductor, the maestro, didn't come in until four days before we were on for our first concert," said Chien. "[That was] way closer to the actual experience of going into a professional gig."

This year, the National Youth Orchestra had eight performances in four provinces, including one here at UBC. For the eight UBC students in the program, their home concert hall at the Chan Centre was a special stop, although they were now playing among a different orchestra group.

Chien, Radelet, and O'Fee were all members of the UBC Symphony Orchestra, another group of high calibre musicians based on campus. For Radelet, the NYO allowed him to focus all of his energy on his music, something that was not feasible while he was studying at UBC.

On the other hand, O'Fee found he had more opportunities to play major repertoire during his longer stay at UBC.

"UBC Symphony a couple years ago did Stravinsky's Rite of Spring," said O'Fee. "It just wouldn't be feasible to take an ensemble like that on tour with the NYO, so the NYO had to do smaller works."

O'Fee just entered his Masters program in Trombone Performance at the Indian University this fall, and hopes to become a professional trombonist.

"I'm hoping that the insane competition here will help me really put in the effort I need to put in to take my playing to the next level." [u](#)

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SEPT. 14 - 18

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drug research

Are we ready to fill the knowledge gap?

Moira Warburton
News Editor

From marijuana's potential benefits for HIV patients to MDMA's healing potential for people suffering from various psychological disorders, UBC scientists are doing more and more research looking into the world of illicit drugs.

After speaking to researchers who have spent their careers trying to fill the knowledge gaps with regards to drugs like marijuana, psychedelics and heroin, it is clear that two things continue to pose challenges: money and stigma.

"[It's] a line of scientific inquiry that's essentially laid dormant for decades," said UBC professor Evan Wood, a Canada Research Chair in Inner City Medicine. "There's been a small, committed group of scientists internationally that have slowly been trying to keep this area of science alive."

Funding is "competitive and difficult," said Jon Page, a geneticist and UBC adjunct professor in the Department of Botany studying cannabis. "When you start saying we need more money to put in security measures and we have all these licensing [regulations], it adds complications to any project," making it less desirable for potential funders.

As for stigma, few can speak to such challenges better than Eugenia Oveido-Joekes, an associate professor with UBC's School of Population and Public Health.

As a researcher renowned for her work on such studies as the Study to Assess Long-term Opioid Maintenance Effectiveness (SALOME), she has dealt with more than her fair share of run-ins with the bureaucracy that so often plague such trials. The SALOME study examined the effects of

prescribing heroin in specific forms to chronically addicted heroin patients who had not responded to other forms of treatment.

"Nobody wants to hear this bad news: people are going to use drugs," Oveido-Joekes said, with a broken, humourless laugh. "People use drugs. Period. I don't want it, I don't like it, but they do. So everybody's looking for the research that's going to bring the vaccine that's going to stop everybody injecting heroin or injecting cocaine in the streets."

According to Wood, the stigma and funding challenges have serious repercussions for public health, saying that the prohibitions have forced most research to focus on more traditional pharmaceutical drugs.

"That hasn't been a particularly fruitful endeavour from a healing perspective," said Wood, noting that scientists have struggled in treating people suffering from depression, addiction and other maladies with the legal drugs currently available.

The prohibitions and the resulting stigma surrounding illicit drugs, influenced in part by past unethical research – Project MKUltra, for example, codename for the infamous tests with LSD carried out by the US military in the 1960s – has led to a blind spot in drug research.

In 1971, as an undergraduate student at UBC, Denis Doyle experienced such questionable research firsthand as a participant in a government experiment on the effects of marijuana on driving based out of Point Grey.

"You would smoke a cigarette and you wouldn't know what was in it, whether it was placebo or marijuana itself," said Doyle of these experiments. "Then they'd follow you out to the car ... and then they had an obstacle course set up with cones."

Researchers say some of the current controversy surrounding drug research is a product of these types of studies, decades ago.

"When they're being portrayed in a way that brings back the fears of the 1970s ... then you could still touch a nerve with some people. But that's just not the reality," Wood said.

Doyle said that he later suspected the results of the study – that marijuana did not have a seriously detrimental impact on driving – have been suppressed.

Now, with proper ethical controls available, in place and a search for serious medical treatment at stake, scientists are frustrated with the lack of research that has been done in the intervening years.

"There's still this knowledge gap," said Page. For him cannabis is "fertile ground" for study, given the few resources being

dedicated to learning its effects. "There's all these questions that haven't been answered.... Society is still coming to grips with its uses as a medicinal plant."

The search for answers also drives M-J Milloy, an assistant professor at UBC, in his research on medical marijuana. "We need to answer the question," said Milloy. "Is this of medical benefit or not?"

Despite the hurdles, Page and Milloy are both optimistic. According to Page, the field has "totally changed in the sense that people now phone me up and say 'Hey, how can we work together?'" whereas they formerly viewed him as a loner on the fringe of academia.

Milloy recently received a major grant from NG Biomed to start clinical trials on medical marijuana. In a world where funding for research in any field is cutthroat and competitive, the grant is incredibly encouraging for those studying illegal drugs.

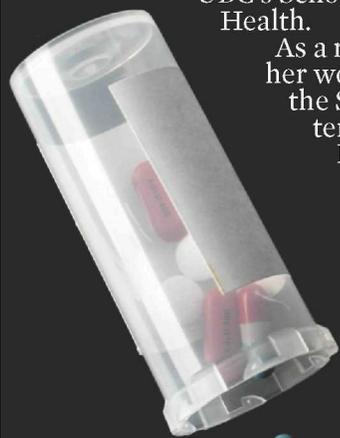
As the public conversation around illicit drugs and the mental health issues they may be able to treat slowly opens up, researchers like Oveido-Joekes, Milloy, Wood, Page and others see new hope in dealing with already-stigmatized illnesses such as depression, PTSD, HIV and addiction.

"We're talking about HIV and addiction which take a terrible toll on people," said Milloy. "We're fortunate in Vancouver that people are looking to these drugs as ... agents that could benefit people.... I think students should be really excited to be in an institution [like UBC] that supports this."

“ There’s still this knowledge gap. There’s all these questions that haven’t been answered... Society is still coming up to grips with its uses as a medicinal plant. ”
- Jon Page

Still, things are not changing fast enough for people like Oveido-Joekes. The struggles she and her colleagues face are significant obstacles in the fight to close the knowledge gap and change the multitude of problems when it comes to treating mental illnesses and HIV.

"The other day somebody comes and says to me, 'now that SALOME is over, we need people like you doing research in psychedelics!'" said Oveido-Joekes, who estimates 95 per cent of her work on the heroin trial was ensuring the study precisely followed government regulations, and only five per cent on actually doing the research. "And I looked at him and I say 'are you crazy? I can't wait to not be doing this anymore. I'm done. I'm exhausted of going against the system. I'm exhausted.'" ❧



AMS FIRST WEEK

presents

SATURDAY SEPT 5

AMS FAIR AT REZ
Totem & Vanier
1PM - 5PM

THURSDAY SEPT 10

COFFEE FOR COMMUTERS
Bus Loop
8:30 - 10:30AM

LIVE AT LUNCH
The Nest
12 - 2PM

OUTDOOR YOGA
Main Mall
12PM

ULTIMATE PAINT PARTY
The Great Hall
9PM - 1AM

BICYCLE BEACH CRAWL
Bike Kitchen
5PM

TUESDAY SEPT 15

PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Agora
8:30 - 10:30PM

LIVE AT LUNCH
The Nest
12 - 2PM

IMPROV SHOW
Totem Ballroom
7PM

ULTIMATE TRIVIA NIGHT
The Pit
7PM

SUNDAY SEPT 6

AMS FAIR AT REZ
Totem & Vanier
1PM - 5PM

FRIDAY SEPT 11

COFFEE FOR COMMUTERS
Bus Loop
8:30 - 10:30AM

LIVE AT LUNCH
The Nest
12 - 2PM

AMS WELCOME BACK BBQ
6190 Agronomy Road
3 - 9PM

AMS WELCOME BACK BBQ
AFTER PARTY
The Pit/Fortune Sound Club
9PM - 2AM

WEDNESDAY SEPT 16

PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Agora
8:30 - 10:30PM

LIVE AT LUNCH
The Nest
12 - 2PM

IMPROV SHOW
Place Vanier
7PM

PIT NIGHT
The Pit
8PM

MONDAY SEPT 7

EXTREME MAKEOVER:
DORM EDITION
Bed Bath and Beyond
11AM + 3PM

OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT
Totem and Vanier
8PM

SATURDAY SEPT 12

PRE-HOMECOMING
The Nest
1 - 3:30PM

HOMECOMING
Thunderbird Stadium
5 - 8PM

HOMECOMING AFTER PARTY
The Pit
8PM - 2AM

THURSDAY SEPT 17

PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Agora
8:30 - 10:30PM

LIVE AT LUNCH
The Nest
12 - 2PM

IMPROV SHOW
Cage Ballroom
7PM

OPEN MIC
The Pit
9PM

TUESDAY SEPT 8

BLUE WAVE
Bus Loop
8:30 - 10:30AM

LIVE AT LUNCH
The Nest
12 - 2PM

IMAGINE DAY
Main Mall
1 - 5PM

COMEDY SHOW
The Great Hall
7PM

SUNDAY SEPT 13

SHINE DAY
The Nest
All Day

FRIDAY SEPT 18

PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Agora
8:30 - 10:30AM

LIVE AT LUNCH
The Nest
12 - 2PM

FARMADE
The UBC Farm
3 - 8PM

WEDNESDAY SEPT 9

COFFEE FOR COMMUTERS
Bus Loop
8:30 - 10:30AM

LIVE AT LUNCH
The Nest
12 - 2PM

FACULTY WIDE EVENT
The Nest
12PM

PIT NIGHT
The Pit
7PM

SPLASH POOL PARTY
Aquatic Centre
9PM - 12AM

MONDAY SEPT 14

PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Agora
8:30 - 10:30PM

LIVE AT LUNCH
The Nest
12 - 2PM

KARAOKE AT THE PIT
The Pit
8PM



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DRUMS //

Striving for social integration through drumming



PHOTO COURTESY FRASER VALLEY KOREAN ARTS SOCIETY

"Modni" stems from the Korean term for "one who has everything."

Olivia Law
Culture Editor

Modni — a Vancouver Korean drumming project who performed at Jump Start — was created in July of this year by English language student Joon Rho to illustrate a cultural harmony for Korean-Canadians. "Modni" is derived from the

Korean term meaning "one who has everything," or "everyone." Rho chose the name to focus on the broad perspective that can be obtained from exposure to multiple cultures, creating a natural co-blending of Korean and Canadian cultures.

"The reason I made this group as a Korean-Canadian outlet is

that I don't really identify with Korean culture, nor do I fully identify with Canadian culture," said Rho, whose mother exposed him to a wide variety of musical activities from a young age in Abbotsford. The bridging of loyalty and commitment — highly important in a Korean culture — is contrasted with the more individualistic style of Canadian upbringings through the drumming group's music.

"It's a very emotional outlet in terms of the art itself," he said. "At this point it's very raw, almost to the point of being aggressive, especially my style of playing. The music is really an outpour of what you're feeling at the time," he said.

Leading the 10-strong group of drummers, Rho said that the music, although influenced by Western rhythms, is actually closer to the oldest tradition of Korean drumming.

"What we're playing is the same as the very traditional, at the very original roots to Korean drumming," he said. "They had no set rhythms, just played

together, whatever they wanted."

The rhythms used are irregular and stem from the mood felt in the room or stemming from the performance of others in the group. Improvisation practice is key to becoming closer as a team and only improves the more groups perform together.

"After the Jump Start performance the group had a little reflection time, just to see what people thought about the team and how it's affected them so far," Rho said. "The interesting thing was how everyone got something different out of it — we're almost taking it into a new direction, having multiple perspectives within one small area of society."

Rho sees the group as a bridge between Korean and Canadian cultures. "I wanted to really help people to interact more with their community, become more involved, so that's where we want to bridge that gap," he said. "To do that, if we're going to be the bridge between the two cultures, we need to be really grounded in our own identities, beliefs and ideals." ☞

LITERATURE //

Poetry for an outdoorsman



PHOTO OLAMIDE OLANIYAN/THE UBYSSEY

Foreign Park's influences come from Steudel's main passions.

Keagan Perlette
Contributor

Mount Robson looms in vintage postcard sepia from the cover of Vancouver poet Jeff Steudel's debut book, *Foreign Park*. Steudel's book begins here, at Mount Robson, close to the headwaters of the Fraser River. The poems follow the river, both symbolically and geographically, until the water meets the ocean here in the city.

Ecology and domesticity are inseparably interwoven in *Foreign Park*. "The poems came from ... places where the energy is in my life, and what I think about. And that is family and the environment and how those things intersect," said Steudel. "Our relationship with nature is sometimes very similar to the relationships [we have] with other people and with ourselves."

Steudel is an active outdoorsman, and though he grew up on the leeward side of the mountains — in Edmonton — *Foreign Park* is entirely influenced by his current west coast life.

"I spend a lot of time walking, and I spend a lot of time in the woods here," he said. "My family moved to Hornby Island for half a year and I did a lot of writing there, and since then ... there are quite a few poems set on Hornby Island."

The title of the collection is from the Rainer Maria Rilke poem, *In a Foreign Park* While Rilke's poetic structure influenced Steudel's own, it is the concept of the foreign park derived from our current ecological situation that Steudel explores through his poems.

"[The poems] are political in terms of the environmental view. And I think the conservative government are almost environmental terrorists ... things are being pushed through in a thoughtless way, in which, really, we find ourselves in this foreign park, a foreign environment." ☞

GIGS //

Free music from CiTR in the new SUB



PHOTO OLAMIDE OLANIYAN/THE UBYSSEY

Andy Resto is bringing free music to students in the first two weeks of the semester.

Olivia Law
Culture Editor

UBC's radio station CiTR is central to campus music and cultural life, and to kick the new year off they are back with Live @ Lunch — a series of free gigs held at the new SUB from 12-2 p.m. from September 8-18.

CiTR's digital music director, Andy Resto has programmed a

blend of different genres to suit the diverse UBC population.

"One thing we try look for when booking bands and artists is something that is, in a sense, welcoming," he said. "We want for people walking around to hear music outside it won't send them running away."

This year the music is a mix of pop, folk and indie rock, largely made up of local groups.

"Seven of them are from Vancouver and one of them, the Back Homes, is from Victoria," said Resto. "Of those, two or three are student bands — we try to keep the focus on local Vancouver bands. Also this year, the last one on Friday is an artist who's touring from New York originally. She's playing here in Vancouver the night before, so she's going to play Live @ Lunch the next day. That's something we haven't really managed to do before. We're pretty excited."

Late Spring is a band with three UBC alumni, and the members are looking forward to coming back to campus to perform in the new SUB.

"Live music is more than what is advertised, and what's on the radio, so I think that's exciting," said KC, lead guitarist for the band. "Performing for new students gives them recognition of new kind of freedom of expression. I think in university you're in the beginning stages of finding what's right for you, and that's a good place to be."

Ace Martens is performing their "noise lounge" at Live @ Lunch on September 11, bringing their

influences from English groups in the late 80s and early 90s.

"In university there are a lot of people who aren't from here and maybe new to town," Martens said. "They're interested in different sorts of things and want to know how to get involved so it's also a great opportunity for them to check out CiTR and other opportunities."

Vancouver singer Ora Cogan's newest EP has been played a lot recently on CiTR, and the self-taught musician has been touring in Europe and the States for the last seven years.

"Being a part of indie music scene as it were in Vancouver and getting exposed to all sorts of different kinds of bands and different approaches to music is pretty inspiring," she said. "Playing for students is always fun — CiTR support a lot of good indie music and I know there are a lot of good bands lined up."

Resto is looking forward to the first two weeks of the semester. "It makes it a warmer environment," he said. "It really opens the space."

CiTR will also be broadcasting the performances every day on 101.9 FM. ☞

Places to make a B-Line for



Elyse Bell
Food columnist

Ah, the 99. If you have yet to experience its pneumatic sighs, its sweaty, tightly-packed confines, and its hurtling death speeds down University Boulevard, I highly endorse the 99 bus as a staple of the UBC experience. One bus driver even wrote a song about it.

Perhaps because it is so quintessential to UBC, it is also a direct route to many student-friendly places to eat. Some on this list are old classics, and some are relatively new to the area — nevertheless,

I'd like to recommend the following cheap and delicious places to eat along the Broadway corridor, organized according to their proximity to a 99 stop.

SASAMAT
Sun Sushi

Don't bother going if you're one of those people who complains about a heavy-handed rice to fish ratio in your sushi: you get what you pay for. You can even phone in an order right before you get on the bus and it'll be ready by the time you get off at Sasamat.

Candia Taverna

This place has been here for

40 years and I'm quite sure that the decor and the music have never changed — but why mess with perfection?

The Kitchen

A small, unassuming Korean restaurant that serves homemade food to order. Tea is complimentary and the beef bulgogi made me want to abandon all common sense and lick the cast iron platter.

ALMA

Sushi Gallery

This is the sophisticated older sibling of student sushi, and if you're sharing with a couple of people their party

trays are a great deal.

Thai Basil

Thai food tends to be surprisingly expensive, but this is a lovely exception to the rule with no sacrifice to quality.

MCDONALD

Harvest Deli

Harvest Deli has some of the biggest, meatiest smoked meat sandwiches I've seen outside of Montreal. If you can't make up your mind, go with whatever is on the blackboard.

ARBUTUS

Sushi Aoki

Their dinner for two is possibly the best deal in the

city. It may not look like much, but this sushi place is incredible.

GRANVILLE

Bob Likes Thai Food

It's hard not to like Bob's enthusiasm for Thai food, as it results in some funky but well-executed takes on traditional dishes.

CAMBIE

La Taqueria

The lineups can be long but the pace is quick and it's kind of fun to watch people in suits narrowly mis dribbling tacos down their shirts. These are tacos at their most classic. ☞

ADVICE //

Ask Natalie: How to get over first-year jitters



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION KOSTA PRODANOVIC/THE UBYSSEY

NATALIE MORRIS
Advice Columnist

“Dear Natalie,

I’m a new student from out of province who’s really worried about everything. Classes, friends, dorms – I’m worried I’ll be doing something wrong. Can you help a lost first-year?”

Nearly every first-year has the same worries at some point.

But for me, and most first-years, none came true.

Here’s the thing to remember when you’re moving your stuff into your dorm: everyone else is the exact same position.

Dorms

The best way to get to know new people! Leave your door open and smile – it’s impossible not to meet people in residence.

If you hate your roommate, I’m sorry. You can put in a room change form, but from what I hear, unless you have someone to switch with, it may be a lengthy process. Your RA (Residence Advisor) will be there to help if things get out of hand.

On the topic of RAs, just remind yourself they aren’t there to punish you, they’re there so the huge group of first-years who just left home and now have control over their own life don’t kill each other or themselves. You’re going to do some dumb things, and sometimes an RA is just someone who has the sense to go tell you not to be dumb.

RAs see some strange things, and they are totally unfazed by things like walking into the floor lounge to find a resident drunkenly eating microwave mac and cheese watching a French nature show alone in the dark at 3 a.m. I mean, not that I would know, specifically.

There are a few things they can’t overlook, and they will go over this

with you on your first floor meeting, but generally it’s the basic “Four Ds”: drugs, drinking games, disruption, and douchebaggery.

Friends

Look around your floor when you move in; in many cases, these are your friends now. During the first few weeks everyone is really nice and you want to be best friends with them all. Then, everyone stops trying so hard and you fall into groups.

And sometimes that doesn’t happen – or your group breaks up – or you just don’t like anyone. That’s fine. You can become friends with people in your classes (this is easier if you’re in a program like Arts One or CAP) or clubs.

Clubs Days are fast approaching, which is a great time to find a group of people you can get involved with.

Friends aren’t hard to make, but you’ll need to put yourself out there.

Classes

Profs and TAs vary as much as the students do, and it’s sometimes hard to match your pace with the prof’s. If you’re terribly worried about your profs, talk to them about the class. Most are willing to talk to students with questions.

Be aware of the distance between the normal student and prof, especially if you’re in lectures of 100+. They aren’t going to know your name, and chances are you won’t even have a conversation with them the whole term, unless you go to office hours. Your TAs are usually a better bet for this kind of stuff.

Remember: if you don’t know what you’re doing, that’s okay. You can always talk to academic advising.

UBC may be big and full of confusing buildings (looking at you, Buchanan) but it’s also beautiful and super fun. Enjoy your time here because for what we’re paying for it, we all deserve an amazing four (or five or six) years here. ☺

RESIDENCE HALL ASSOCIATION //

The RHA’s self-indulgence hurts students



FILE PHOTO CHERIHAN HASSUN/THE UBYSSEY

JAKE MULLAN
Letter

As the founding Ponderosa Commons President, I’m well-known for being critical of UBC Student Housing and Hospitality Services (SHHS) and their inaction when it comes to dealing with residents and their residence associations. This letter, however, is directed at the very organization that I was part of – the Residence Hall Association (RHA).

The RHA is the student association that represents the residents of all SHHS-operated residences. It’s composed of respective residence council presidents and an executive team of four elected residents. Our councils’ and executive board’s purpose is twofold: to be the unified voice for residents at UBC, and to promote social interaction by putting on events for those residents. As such, we receive a pretty generous budget from SHHS based on the number of residents in each respective residence. That budget is often

referred to as “residents’ money” – to be spent in the best interests of the residents.

I believe the RHA spends too much time and money celebrating themselves, instead of putting more effort into making UBC residences a better place to live.

The RHA, while being essentially a student-funded organization like the AMS, operates more like a self-indulgent social club.”

While councils spend the majority of their money on events, a lot of money from each residence council is fed back to the RHA. This is so that they can send a select few of its many council members to residence hall conferences across the US three times a year. Put another way, roughly \$23,000+ of “residents’ money” per year is put towards giving approximately ten residence council members and execs a free trip to places like North Dakota or California to indulge in seminars,

boardrooms and pep rallies that have given very little back to the residents of UBC.

Another big theme in the RHA is self-recognition – so much so that there is an entire national conference dedicated to it. The No Frills Conference focuses on writing pleas for awards months beforehand in hopes that the UBC RHA is recognized at a national level. This single conference costs the RHA more time and money than most events their members put on. Heck, they do this internal bid writing process all year, and recognize one another for their efforts by writing page-long essays every month.

I’ve sat in RHA meetings where we argued that we didn’t have enough money for big exciting inter-council events, and as a result, we’d have to scale back spending on said event. Yet no one (besides me) has ever stood up to say that the RHA shouldn’t be funnelling over \$23,000 into conferences that do not directly benefit residents. The RHA, while being essentially a student-funded organization like the AMS, operates more like a self-indulgent social club.

The RHA puts on some awesome events, and has made great strides in advocating for its residents – but I never wanted to be PCRA President so that I could have an all-expenses-paid trip to Pomona, California. I urge this year’s RHA executive committee to seriously reconsider whose interests they have been elected for – their residents, or their own.

Jake Mullan is the former Ponderosa Commons Residence Association President and a recent UBC graduate. ☺

public consultation climate action plan 2020

UBC is beginning the process to **develop a new Climate Action Plan** for the Vancouver campus. Our climate action target for 2020 is to **reduce our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from 2007 levels by 67%**.

Over the next 4 months, we will be seeking input from the campus community on what actions UBC could take to achieve this ambitious target. We want to hear what your ideas are for reducing campus GHG emissions, particularly on:

- Energy supply options
- UBC-owned vehicles
- Energy use in buildings (e.g. building design, maintenance and operations)
- Individual behaviours

UBC is on track to achieve the 2015 reduction target set out in the 2010 UBC Climate Action Plan. Join the conversation and help us set the stage for climate action success in 2020.

submit your ideas!

When: September 14 - 27 Where: planning.ubc.ca

Questions? Please contact Gabrielle Armstrong, Senior Manager, Consultation at gabrielle.armstrong@ubc.ca or 604-822-9984.

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PLACES TO BE

THE TUSK

BY KOBY MICHAELS

It imposes on the already formidable skyline of the Sea-to-Sky. It stands vanguard; this giant, volcanic, blackened pinnacle that beckons and tempts. Black Tusk has been on my mind since I first saw its jagged peak almost two years ago. It sticks its mighty head above the surrounding mountains and I, gazing from the window of the car, knew I was going to climb it.

Music pumps in the background and mingles with drunken laughter. I lay my head back, resting it on the cool glass of the window behind me. I lazily reach out for my beer and bring the cold glass to my lips, sipping slowly. The drink goes to my already exhausted brain and a smile creeps onto my face. Someone cracks a joke at the table and everyone starts laughing but I'm in my own world, the long day running through my head over and over again.

The day started off with a very different kind of drink — the caffeinated kind. It was to be a long day so the start was early and the warm, energy-filled fuel of Galileo Coffee Company was a welcome stop on the two hour drive to Garibaldi and the trailhead. Everyone grouped up, clutching their coffee's tight, as the last minute details were ironed out. Then we packed back into the cars and onto the highway.

The keys clatter on the concrete of my doorstep. I am too tired to hold onto them as I fit them in the lock. My body creaks as I lean down to pick them, my legs threatening to collapse from under me. Finally, the lock clicked and the door swung open. I stumble in and unpack the few supplies that accompanied me up the mountain.

The trail is deceitful. It starts gently, slopping up over several kilometres. The trail is a highway of switchbacks, slowly working its way up to Lake Garibaldi. The long weekend had attracted the crowds and the characters hiking up to the lake to spend their weekends lounging and camping by the water. It was great to see such a diverse crowd out exploring BC but I couldn't help but chuckle at families lugging up grills, inflatable boats and lawn chairs.

As I pull off my sweaty clothes, I wince. The clothes have stuck to my sunburnt skin. Blood is caked on one knee and the

other elbow. I slowly peel my socks off to reveal my destroyed feet. 30 kilometres later my feet are feeling it. I've ripped a hole in the side of my boot and a rock has lodged itself into my toe.

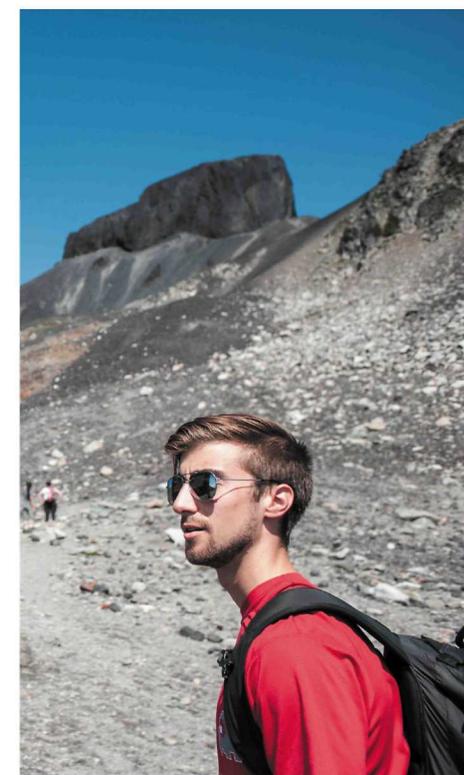
After the switchbacks, we headed towards the lesser-travelled path towards the tusk and left the crowds behind. The forest opened up and the Tusks peaked its mighty head above the surroundings. I stopped to catch my breath and stare down the peak. The sun was shooting down on the open trail, my water supplies were already running low and a blister had formed, digging deeper and deeper into my foot. I stood back up and do a 360. Lake Garibaldi stands, the deepest of blues, below me with its namesake rising to the clouds above it. I turned back around and keep onwards, up towards the volcanic goal.

The peak was within my grasp, but the loose, piled igneous rock slides out from under me, threatening to start a rockfall with my every step. I top out on one rock pile and traverse the ledge over the the crux move of the scramble, the chimney.

The chimney is a narrow scar that leads to the peak of the mountain, serving as the only way reach the peak. I crawled into the crack, sliding my body between the rocks. I avoided looking down or turning around to see the 1700m drop to the bottom of the mountain. I reached my hand over the lip of the chimney and pull myself up. But now I have to jump across the chimney. I shake out my sore legs and take a deep breath and ... I didn't move. I took another deep breath but I'm frozen; I couldn't jump. Another few minutes of deep breaths and false starts before I make the jump and scramble to the top.

It was worth the pain and the fear and the exhaustion. I'd made it to the top of the Tusk. Now I just had 15 more kilometres before the car, my bed and sleep.

The hot water soothes my sore muscles but does little to clean the volcanic dust off my skin. It's caked all over my legs and hands. I've wiped it into my face, under my eyes and in my hair. I scrub, but I'm too tired to bother pulling all the dirt off. I crawl into bed and fall into dreams of the next mountain, the next objective and the next challenge. [👉](#)



LEAGUE OF LEGENDS //

eSports beat Korea's CTU, win big at AICC



FILE PHOTO VICTOR HOGREFFE/THE UBYSSEY
UBC eSports has proven themselves to be a world power in collegiate eSport.

Olamide Olaniyan
Contributor

The UBC eSports League of Legends team defeated Chunnam Techno University (CTU) 2-0 in Gangnam, Korea, in the finals of the AfreecaTV International Collegiate Championship 2015 (AICC), bagging yet another prestigious tournament on Saturday, August 22.

The tournament, hosted by the Korean streaming company AfreecaTV, was a round robin in which four teams, representing North America, Korea, Japan and Taiwan competed against each other for two days in the group stage. The top two teams from the group stage then played against each other in the finals. UBC represented North America after beating Georgia Tech in the Collegiate Starleague AICC qualifiers earlier in August.

UBC initially lost to CTU in its first game on August 20.

But the eSports team bounced back the next day, beating the Japanese and Taiwanese teams on the Friday and managed to secure their place in the AICC final against CTU on Saturday. After an hour and thirty minutes of focused and intense gaming, UBC emerged victorious and became the first ever AICC League of Legends winners.

Chunnam Techno University is well-known as an eSports university and famous for developing world class athletes like Lee Jae-wan (Wolf), Lee Jong-Beom (Peekaboo) and Ha Seung-chan (Hachani) — athletes who have gone on to play for Korean bigwigs such as SK Telecom T1 S and the KT Rolster Arrows. For many, it came as no surprise when CTU crushed UBC in the first game of the AICC.

The UBC team played in a country where eSports were mainstream long before they even reached North America.

The Korean eSports managing body, KeSPA was approved by the Korean Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism as far back as 2000. In 2011, the Korean government passed the Shutdown Law which banned teenagers below the age of 16 from playing online games past midnight, because online gaming addiction was such a widespread problem.

The UBC eSports team, as the sole North American representative, not only had to face the domineering CTU team on their home turf, but also had to handle post-flight fatigue during their first game. To make matters worse, they were unable to scout the Korean team before the game.

“On the first day, we weren’t really sure what to expect because scouting for one thing is really hard, just because we pull up different servers and everything is in a different language. So its hard to research other people,” said Wesley “Daijurjur” Lee, the top laner for the UBC team.

“We went into the tournament completely dark,” he said.

Despite the stacked odds, the team stayed optimistic about their game against CTU and the tournament as a whole.

“[It was a] 50:50 toss-up depending on how well we played,” said Lee about playing the Japanese and Taiwanese teams. “We were pretty confident that we could win.”

“I just kept reminding the guys that even though we lost really terribly, that ‘it’s still okay, we’ve lost like this before, we can still be positive and we can bounce back,” Lee said after losing 2-0 in two games CTU dominated.

When the team stepped out of their gaming booth, after their win against the Japanese team, the crowd that had come to watch the tournament was dead silent.

“They were just shocked. We surprised them because of how dominant they were on the first day against us. Most people thought we were going to just lose but we played much better on the third day and we won,” said Lee.

Having won everything worth winning for a North American team, from the NACC to the AICC, the team might actually decide to “dial back” on League of Legends for now. And they deserve to. With yet another tournament under their belt, their sixth tournament win, this year’s roster have established themselves as collegiate greats, and maybe even the best team in North America.

ATHLETES //

Record-setting race walker sets sights on Rio



PHOTO KOBY MICHAELS/THE UBYSSEY
Thorne holds the Canadian 20km record.

Koby Michaels
Sports and Rec Editor

Race walker Ben Thorne has had one hell of a season. Team Canada, which is comprised of Thorne and former Thunderbirds Inaki Gomez and Evan Dunfee, finished one point off third at the most recent World Team Championships. He finished first at NAIA Championships in the 5km race walk. Then he finished third at IAFF World Championships in Beijing in the 20km race walk.

Thorne, a third-year mechanical engineer and former Thunderbird track athlete, has been working for a long time to win a race walking

medal. Thorne has run for UBC, off and on, due to eligibility issues, since he first came to Vancouver five years ago. Training six days a week, for 60 to 90 minutes each day, race walking at the international level is no easy feat.

Western Canada has built a race walking program with Thorne, Gomez and Dunfee under coach Gerry Dragomir. The team is on track to be one of the world’s most competitive with all three athletes medaling in international competition this summer and trading off the Canadian record for the 20km race walk.

“Race walking is a discipline where you walk as fast as you can, basically,” said Thorne. “There’s two rules: you have to have one foot in contact with the ground at all times, and you have to have one knee straight when you first contact the ground.”

A series of judges surround the track and watch the walkers. If they break a rule, they get a red flag. If you collect three flags from the judges you are disqualified.

Thorne was hoping to finish in the top eight in Beijing, where the prize money starts. He, and his competitors, never expected him

to finish third. Ranked as Canada’s third fastest this summer, behind teammates Gomez and Dunfee, Thorne finished 20th in the 20km race walk at the last world championships in 2013.

The World Championship race started slow and Thorne said he was feeling good for the first 10km.

“At about 12 or 14k, the pack blew up,” said Thorne. “And I was like, ‘What the heck is going on?’”

Thorne ended up in around seventh or eighth when the pack blew up, right on his goal pace. Then a racer doubled over, throwing up.

“Next thing you know, I’m in fourth,” said Thorne. “I chased the guy in third for about a lap. He got disqualified right in front of me; a guy shoved a red paddle in his face... I actually almost hit him.”

“For a 20k walk that last 90 minutes, it was pretty exciting.”

After finding himself in third, Thorne held his position and finished for a bronze.

“I got a medal. I only really dreamed it would happen,” said Thorne.

With the win, Thorne is turning his sights to the 2016 Olympics, where he is now a medal contender, along with Gomez and Dunfee.

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