THE UBYSSEY

APRIL 5, 2016 | VOLUME XCVII | ISSUE XXVI
SLEEPING AT THE UBYSSEY OFFICE SINCE 1918

P / 04
NEWS
UBC alumna files complaint with human rights tribunal

P / 09
CULTURE
Stó:lõ storyteller begins with a song

P / 09
OPINIONS
More problems with silencing and "privacy"

P / 10
SPORTS
Take a road trip through California

HOME SWEET HOME

UBC IS SURROUNDED BY ONE OF THE MOST EXPENSIVE AND IN-DEMAND REAL ESTATE MARKETS IN THE COUNTRY. HOW DO YOU RENT RIGHT? **PAGE 6**

m the country. This leaves many students scrambling to find affordable housing – often for the first time. Facing troubles ranging from dysfunctional appliances t dlords and lost dam istent chipped wa ers often risk being take especially if they're uni eir rights as tenants. The dents what problem first-time renters and what advice they could offer for the many students hunting for

EVENTS

FRIDAY 8

BLOCKPARTY 2 P.M. @ THUNDERBIRD STADIUM
The perfect end-of-term mix: seven hours of music, food carts and crazy fun games. Crazy fun.
$30

MONDAY 11

HUNGRY 4 CHANGE 5:30 P.M. @ THE NEST
Get fancy and enjoy the night with a Syrian inspired dinner, performances and more. Proceeds will go to supporting Syrian refugees.
$40

JUNE 8 (REGISTRATION CLOSED)

ROAD RACE @ UBC
It's going to be a very long day. At least you'll be out and active! Live entertainment will be present.
$28 - $38

ON THE COVER

PHOTO/ART BY
Kosta Prodanovic and Aiken Lao

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THE UBYSSEY

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OUR CAMPUS

Economist Eric Snowberg says economics isn't bullshit

PHOTO COURTESY RICH LAM

UBC will receive $10 million from the federal government over seven years to fund Snowberg and his research team.

Vassilena Sharlandjieva
Features Editor

Eric Snowberg's path to becoming UBC's new Canada Excellence Research Chair in Data-Intensive Methods in Economics wasn't always smooth.

He dropped out of MIT as an undergrad — although he eventually returned and graduated with a degree in physics and math — secured a job using chocolate-covered strawberries, attempted to rally students into caring about the political affairs of Cambridge, Massachusetts, joined a start-up and became a millionaire for a while.

"It's a long story," Snowberg warned *The Ubyssey*.

Snowberg went to MIT, intending to major in physics and economics. However, his roommate's father — himself an MIT physics graduate — influenced him to focus solely on physics by sending articles about why economics was "B.S."

"That, combined with a 9 a.m. class in the furthest building from where I lived in the middle of winter, convinced me to drop my economics major."

While he was pursuing physics at MIT, a reception in Washington, DC — where Snowberg was working an internship — took him on a detour into politics.

"I stole a plate of chocolate-covered strawberries and this guy really wanted the chocolate-covered strawberries. I basically asked him what he did. He told me ... and I said, 'Oh, sounds interesting. If you give me a job, I'll give you the strawberries.'"

And that's how Snowberg ended up working for the Democratic party in Washington. When he returned to MIT, he wanted to get others student engaged in politics too.

"In Cambridge, there were about 10,000 people who cast votes in the city election and there were 60,000 students who were eligible to vote there. If the students voted, they would control the entire city apparatus," he explained. When he couldn't find a good candidate whom students would support, he successfully ran for city council himself.

By then, Snowberg had become disenchanted with physics.

However, there was a "machismo" associated with being a physics major, the program with a reputation for being the toughest at MIT. "I didn't want to drop it because I wanted to prove I could do that," said Snowberg.

Then a single weekend threw a wrench in the works.

"What happened — my lab caught fire so I couldn't finish my thesis on time. I was waitlisted for the Marshall Scholarship — the scholarship to go to Oxford — but essentially 'waitlisted' means you're waiting for somebody to die because nobody doesn't take this scholarship. I slept through the LSAT because I thought it was on Sunday instead of Saturday and I slept in on Saturday," recounted Snowberg.

He took a job at a start-up and soon after leaving it, Snowberg discovered an economics textbook on behavioural game theory which challenged misconceptions about economics.

"It basically solved all the things that my best friend's father had been telling me was wrong with economics," said Snowberg. The father's criticisms had been that economists made wrong predictions by assuming people made rational decisions when, in fact, people are not rational. Behavioural game theory challenged the neoclassical model in economics, which assumed rationality.

Convinced that economics wasn't actually the "B.S" that his friend's father had suggested, Snowberg went on to graduate school for economics. It's all quite "normal" from there, he said.

One of his recent papers, "Overconfidence in Political Behaviour," used both theoretical methods and data to show that overconfidence in politics can predict ideological extremism as well as voter turnout — a relevant study in light of the rise of Donald Trump down south.

"Out of all of my friends who have threatened to move to Canada, I'm the one who is actually acting on it," said Snowberg on the relation of his study to the Trump phenomenon.

He was sparing with his commentary on UBC's governance turmoil when asked how he felt about joining UBC at the tense aftermath of Guptagate and board member resignations.

"It doesn't feel very tense to me. I've been on campus a handful of times and heard probably the same rumours you guys have. I heard about them because you guys were spreading them," he said. "I think UBC is a robust institution. So there's been some issues at the very top in the leadership, but I don't think that it's going to significantly damage the institution in the long run."

UBC will receive $10 million from the federal government over seven years to fund Snowberg and his research team. But his decision to leave the California Institute of Technology — currently ranked fifth in QS World University Rankings — was not entirely based on the opportunity granted by the Canadian government's money.

"I felt like I was at a point in my career where I'd been at a big name institution and I'd established myself. I no longer had as much value on the name-brand value of what university I was at. I really cared about what the university did and how it treated people and the role it served in the community," explained Snowberg. "Caltech does a lot of incredible research, but an academic outlook is about more than just the research. It's about the role that you play in people's education and the community. UBC has a reputation for doing a really great job of serving the public. That was attractive to me."

Along with Snowberg's arrival, a new Centre for Innovative Data in Economics will open at UBC, where he will be developing innovative ways to interpret and use data.

"We know there's a lot of new types of data that exist and a lot of new ways they could be used," said Snowberg, pointing to the emergence Twitter data and NEO satellite imaging. Researchers are still trying to understand the potential of such data sources. "I want to give researchers who are affiliated with the centre the flexibility to ... get [an idea] done quickly and see if there's value in it."

Snowberg also hopes to drive more interdisciplinary research. As for how students can get involved, he said his ideal research assistants are people who have recently finished their undergraduate degree and have time and an open mind toward new avenues for research. He's open to hiring undergraduates over the summer when they aren't preoccupied with their studies. "They can email me and tell me what they're interested in," he said.

TUTORING //

University to find new place for Writing Centre tutorial services

Samantha McCabe
Senior Staff Writer

The university has increased efforts to find a new permanent home for the Writing Centre's tutorial services in response to protests over the last month against its potential discontinuation.

While a firm decision has not been reached on the matter, university staff are working hard to relocate the centre and hope to see it continue smoothly into September 2016.

Just over three weeks ago, it was announced that the Writing Centre would be shutting down its tutorial services due to budget constraints. In response to this, a petition made its way around campus asking community members to support the Writing Centre. The petition now has over 1,500 signatures and many comments from both students and faculty.

"Because the students were mobilized, it mobilized us," Associate-Provost Academic Innovation Hugh Brock explained, noting that there was always an intention to try and preserve the tutorial centre, but the student response catalyzed their work on the project.

"It's been on our radar, but I would say absolutely that [*The Ubyssey*'s previous] story and the petition have made my office more aware that we really have to do something because it's perceived as a valuable service."

In the face of this perception, Brock put out a widespread call for a meeting to discuss the potential future of the centre. That meeting took place yesterday and included several representatives from the AMS, the UBC Library and Continuing Studies, among others.

"The one piece that we've been assured of is it will be here next year. It will be here in September," said AMS VP Academic and University Affairs Jenna Omassi, the AMS's representative at the meeting.

For Brock, the plan is to not only find a viable placement for the centre, but to reevaluate the entire business model. Student testimonies support that while those that use the service find it extremely helpful, not many are using it. Brock estimates that "1,600 students roughly, in big round numbers, use the tutorial service and another 1,400 are reached in things like workshops and classroom visits." This number equates to about two per cent of the student body.

"I would say that our aspirations are to increase the number of students using it and increase the number of times they use it," said Brock.

"I don't think there was ever a doubt that this was a vital program and a very useful program," said Peter Moroney, executive director of Continuing Studies — the office that previously housed the program and can no longer afford to do so. "I think really the challenge is [to find] operationally where is the best home for it and I can see a real effort now to maintain the core benefit of the program."

FILE PHOTO GEOFF LISTER/THE UBYSSEY

The Writing Centre was located in Irving K. Barber

The AMS and the UBC Library are both potential new homes for the tutorial centre. However, Omassi said that the AMS would prefer to work closely with the tutorial centre, but not house the service.

"[It's] just not really appropriate for the AMS to be housing [the tutorial centre] — rather, we would work with them to make sure we are offering services that are complementary rather than overlapping," said Omassi.

Although a firm decision has not been made, multiple sources confirm that Continuing Studies will almost certainly not house the tutorial centre this fall. A better fit would be a location that can financially support the centre, Brock explained, which Continuing Studies can't do. Since it is a self-funded department, funding a service is counter-intuitive — especially in the face of budget cuts.

"I think that things will be rolling by mid-April," Brock estimated. "I'd like to have improvements in place for September."

TRANSIT//

Provincial minister of transportation visits UBC for transit town hall

FILE PHOTO GEOFF LISTER/THE UBYSSEY

Fassbender hinted at a future where your transit card can buy you coffee.

Joshua Azizi
Senior Staff Writer

The BC minister of transportation, Peter Fassbender, participated in an AMS-organized transit town hall meeting in the Nest on Thursday to answer students' questions about the future of Vancouver's public transit system.

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Fassbender opened the event with a speech that mainly addressed Translink's reputation following the 2015 transit referendum. Citing a lack of confidence from the public as the reason why the referendum did not pass, Fassbender said that he would work to restore morale within Translink. He also said he plans to collaborate with the federal government on upcoming investments into transportation and infrastructure such as the upcoming Broadway Corridor and Fraser Rapid Skytrain lines.

Fassbender took time to discuss the issue of ride-sharing apps such as Uber, insisting that the BC government will not rush into a decision regarding the ride-sharing economy.

"We are going to do it in a thoughtful and a pragmatic fashion to make sure that the safety of those who use any ride-sharing or taxi-opportunity are protected," he said. "We also are going to make sure that we are going to protect the taxi industry and the investments they've made over the history of their presence, not only here in Metro Vancouver but also throughout the province."

The first question of the event asked if it would be possible to have a student transit pass valid everywhere in BC regardless of the transit company. Fassbender said that Translink is considering the mobility of peoples all over BC and that a single card is already being distributed for people with disabilities between both Translink and BC Transit, the public transit company which services the rest of the province outside of metro Vancouver.

"I see a day in the future where your transit card will be able to get you your Starbucks coffee or allow you to get entrance into a movie theatre because you load it up," he said, hinting the possibility of this card becoming available to the public.

Another student asked whether or not Translink will raise fare prices in the future as a result of the creation of the one-zone bus fare system. Fassbender responded by saying they will increase fare prices eventually while simultaneously keeping fares affordable to the public.

One student asked Fassbender why the BC Liberals held a plebiscite to raise taxes despite research showing that people are generally unwilling to approve taxes in plebiscites regardless of the issue. According to Fassbender, asking the public whether or not they would approve of a new tax was something they promised in the election.

The same student later said that his answer was "kind of a cop-out" and asked what the thought process was behind organizing a plebiscite. To this, Fassbender answered by saying that they saw it as their responsibility to ask the public their opinion.

On the topic of Translink's environmental targets, Fassbender said that their ultimate objective to reduce congestion, which contributes to greenhouse gases.

AMS //

Several high-use clubs moving to new spaces

FILE PHOTO GEOFF LISTER/THE UBYSSEY

Sprouts will soon have a new home, along with some other popular clubs.

Aidan Qualizza
Staff Writer

The AMS is moving several popular clubs that are currently in the old SUB to create a multi-use space for academic departments and the remaining clubs.

The Bike Co-op and Kitchen, Sprouts, the Aqua Society and the Pottery Club are among those that will be moved to new spaces around campus once the renovations to the old SUB begin this summer. The clubs that remain in the old SUB did not make the move to the Nest originally because they heavily rely on their unique space. These specific spatial needs couldn't be met in the Nest.

Although the clubs might have difficulty maintaining their membership levels during the move, the AMS has made a promise of long-term benefits for the evicted clubs such as a permanent space that will be designed specifically for each club in coordination with club executives.

"The high level of function of these clubs and their dependency on space is why the resources are being put towards giving them that highly specialized renovated space with exactly what they need," said Ava Nasiri, AMS VP Administration, saying that despite these rewards, she sees any feelings of anxiety on the part of club execs as completely valid.

That anxiety may come from being unsure of where each club will be in the next academic year. However, the AMS VP Admin office — the primary point of communication for all clubs being affected by the renovation — is trying to alleviate these anxieties by proper communication regarding all issues that may arise.

According to Renee Proulx, vice-president of Sprouts, after being told that the plans were moved forward, they were given the new building plans. Proulx noted that the AMS has made a commitment to being as transparent as possible with the displacement of the clubs.

"The AMS is being accommodating in that they know we need a space and they are not going to leave us high and dry," she said. "This has been years in the making ... we've had people come in and talk to us about what we needed and what kind of things we would look for in an ideal space and we have been going over plans for years."

The exact placement of each club will be decided within the next few months while the renovations of the basement are estimated to be completed in September 2017.

HUMAN RIGHTS TIRBUNAL //

Human rights complaint filed against UBC for handling of sexual assaults

Emma Partridge
News Editor

Glynnis Kirchmeier, former UBC master's student in the department of history, has now fulfilled what she pledged to do following last term's sexual assault scandal — file a human rights complaint against the university for the discrimination entailed in their untimely response to multiple reports about harassment and assault committed by one PhD student, Dmirty Mordvinov.

UBC came under fire last November after a CBC investigation revealed that other students living at the same residence as the assailant had reported his concerning behaviour and assaults, to which the university responded slowly and allegedly suggested some stay quiet.

One survivor and former UBC student, Caitlin Cunningham, stated that the response or lack thereof by the university was more traumatic than the attack itself. Kirchmeier was involved with the survivors in a support capacity, alerting the graduate supervisor in history, Michel Ducharme, to concerns about Mordvinov in 2014. However, Mordvinov was not expelled until 2015.

On March 21, Kirchmeier filed a human rights complaint to address the allegations of students feeling silenced, as well as what UBC's own report found to be obvious "delays in the handling of complaints."

Kirchmeier and her lawyer, Clea Parfitt, have yet to hear back from the Human Rights Tribunal about receiving the complaint, although Parfitt acknowledged to her client that there is usually a slight delay.

According to the complaint, it is being filed at this time because the university's involvement with Mordvinov has come to an end and sufficient information is available through media, FOI requests and other sources to describe relevant facts.

What would happen after confirmation of receiving the complaint is possibly asking Kirchmeier any questions, then sending the complaint to the defendant.

"We indicated that we're willing to have an early settlement meeting with them," said Kirchmeier. "[If] the university maybe wants to do that, they don't have to formally respond, or we could say 'no, we want you to respond formally to the complaint.' So there's a number of opportunities built into the process for the parties to work it out."

The complaint alleges that the university discriminated for a number of reasons, such as "when it failed to develop and publish a formal sexual harassment and assault policy which included detailed requirements for the steps that would be taken once an internal complaint was filed."

The complaint also points to a lack of "a fact-finding process which could accept and process complaints about the University's liability," and a failure to "formally accept third-party reporting of sexual harassment, sexual violence and sexual assault."

The fact-finding process called for is different from the independent review that UBC created to look into the concerns brought forward by the survivors of this particular case and highlighted by the CBC investigation.

According to Kirchmeier, what she really hopes come from the process is helping UBC become free of harassment and discrimination.

"To that end, if it turns out that the university wants to meet the specific critiques that I've offered, and say 'here are the ways that we will correct these,' then potentially we could settle it early," said Kirchmeier.

One of the largest changes called for in the complaint is a formal sexual harassment and assault policy, which UBC has been developing since before this particular scandal broke. The complaint asks that this policy be designed in a "trauma-sensitive, do-no-harm framework."

Kirchmeier confirmed that her lawyer received a letter of confirmation today that the BC Human Rights Tribunal received the complaint.

The university stated that they have not been officially notified that a complaint has been made and will respond accordingly when they have, said Sara-Jane Finlay, associate VP of equity and inclusion in an email to *The Ubyssey*.

"Sexual assault and sexual harassment are unacceptable and are not tolerated at UBC. Work has begun to create a stand-alone sexual assault policy and a draft of the policy will be ready for our Board of Governors' review in June and for final approval in early fall," said Finlay.

FUNDING //

FILE PHOTO CHERIHAN HASSUN/THE UBYSSEY

Trudeau's first budget works in favour of students.

UBC wins big in federal budget

McKenzie Rainey
Contributer

Spending changes in Ottawa affect students' ability to pay for their education, get a summer job and gain research experience. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's first budget created major increases in grants, contributions to student loans and investments in student work placements and campus research.

The biggest change for post-secondary education affordability is the 50 per cent increase in the Canada Student Grant, a program administered by the federal government which makes funds towards post-secondary education available for students from low- and middle-income families. Students from these income brackets are now eligible for $3,000 and $1,200 per year, respectively. The official report predicts this will benefit 347,000 students.

In addition to upfront grants, Canada Student Loans will also be more accessible.

A flat-rate contribution will be introduced as of 2017-18. Under the current system, if a student's income changes through the year, then so does their eligibility status or payment amounts for loans or grants. A flat-rate contribution structure changes this by sticking with the status a student reports at the beginning of the year, therefore allowing students to work during the year without losing their eligibility status for loans and grants.

Repayment options have eased significantly. Previously under the Canada Student Loans Program's Repayment Assistance Plan, students had to start paying back loans when they had an income of $20,210 — barely over full-time minimum wage. Now recent grads have more breathing room as they won't have to repay until they earn at least $25,000 per year. Interest on the loans would be covered by the government until the student reaches this threshold.

The new budget also commits to "investing in summer jobs for youth," according to the official report. In addition to doubling the size of the Canada Summer Jobs Program, the government is enhancing the Youth Employment Strategy from $330 to $495.4 million and creating the Post-Secondary Industry Partnership and Co-operative Placement Initiative. This translates into more co-op positions and enhanced industry partnership on campus.

Although Crasta is pleased with the expansion of funding, he still sees gaps that need to be filled.

"We would like to see more expansion of co-op funding into fields for humanities and social sciences so that arts students can benefit just the same," said Crasta. "We are currently seeing a great deal of the co-op funding for ... STEM [science, technology, engineering and mathematics] fields and we would like to see ... a more balanced approach."

The biggest positive note for Crasta is the increased funding to transit, making it easier for students to get to campus.

"This is an immediate change in the Public Transit Infrastructure Fund and could lend support for the Broadway Corridor and Surrey light rail," he said. "We are looking at much-needed investment in infrastructure in urban communities." The university is also very pleased with the budget.

"From the research and international standpoint — mostly the research standpoint — it was pretty much a universal good news budget," said John Hepburn, UBC's vice-president research and international.

This is most tangible in the increased money allocated towards support for infrastructure of postsecondary research facilities. Hepburn notes that this funding isn't just targeted at STEM fields.

"This money has no strings attached. It basically has to be spent promoting research," he said. An additional $95 million is going to funding for research through granting councils, which administer postgraduate scholarships — roughly a four per cent increase, said Hepburn. This is the highest annual funding increase for discovery research in more than a decade and the first time above the inflation rate.

The emphasis on a diverse range of fields is good news for Hepburn.

"There's a loosening up and recognition of research in all fields. That might mean that [the government recognizes] a lot of the problems facing the world actually have very strong social and cultural dimensions. If all you focus on are the technological dimensions, you're losing something," said Hepburn.

Overall, everyone is happy to see a renewed commitment to Canada's postsecondary landscape on the part of the Liberal government.

"We really appreciate the commitment to youth," said Crasta. "We'd have to say to keep up the direction and the work, not shift the focus away from youth."

MUSIC //

Zeellia revive Vancouver's "golden age" of global music

Olivia Law
Culture Editor

Vancouver's global music scene was at its "golden age" in the early '90s and has recently been revived in conjunction with a renewed fight to protect Ukrainian independence.

Beverly Dobrinsky graduated from UBC in 1986 and five years later, started Ukrainian folk music band Zeellia. Zeellia is known for their powerful, piercing harmonies and mournful, minor key melodies, reminiscent of traditional Ukrainian tunes.

"I've been a musician since I was quite young," said Dobrinsky. "When I performed folk music, I didn't sing any songs from my own folk — I was singing Bob Dylan and Leonard Cohen."

If she was singing any kind of traditional music, it was traditional American music more than anything else.

"By the time I had children and wanted to get back into a music career, my Ukrainian identity was something that I needed to respond to as a musical vehicle," she continued. "It spoke to my soul, there was something about it."

Ukrainian culture is traditionally agriculturally-based and this is clearly reflected in the music.

"The music has a lot of nature imagery. I love the particularities of the sound," said Dobrinsky. "It allowed me to honour my ancestors and the place I came from."

This album, Tse Tak Bulo/ That's How it Was is the first Zeellia album to feature Dobrinsky on the hurdy gurdy, an instrument she picked up to further immerse herself in her Ukrainian roots almost 10 years ago. The hurdy gurdy comes from a minstrel tradition dating back to the 13th century.

When performing on the hurdy gurdy prior to making her new album, Dobrinsky made connections with different groups, listening to different types of music and opening concerts for other musicians.

"That was my affirmation from the world that I wanted to make Zeellia alive again," she said. "It came to me to address that, to acknowledge something that was never meant to be hidden."

Dobrinsky has used voices of now-deceased elders from whom she first learned her folk repertoire, re-working old songs through her own taste in music.

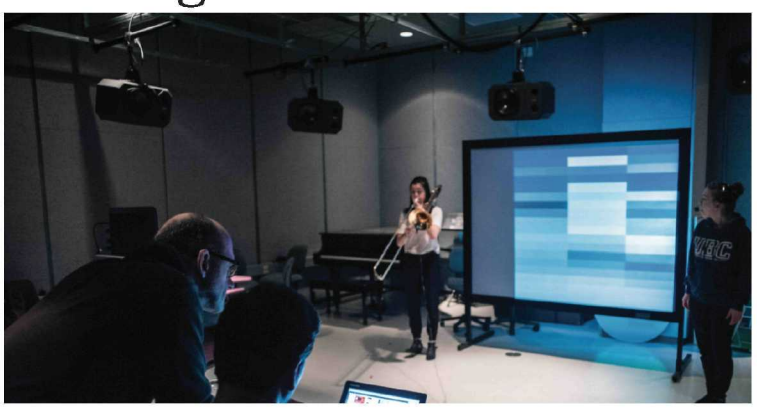
PHOTO COURTESY MARK MONTGOMERY

Dobrinsky plays the hurdy gurdy and sings.

"Perhaps it influences in the sense that there's an authenticity to the folk music that's the same in a certain way," said Dobrinsky. "Folk music is people speaking about their lives, who might not have any other voice. That's consistent."

TECH //

Turning knobs to make music



FILE PHOTO KOSTA PRODANOVIC / THE UBYSSEY

Technology and music are combined in the orchestra.

Sofia Shamsunahar
Staff Writer

The Laptop Orchestra is a unique music group on campus.

With their theme of creating music in new ways, performers could be a dancer performing a routine to trigger different sensors that create sounds or a trombonist starting a video through playing their instrument.

The Laptop Orchestra's concert, which will take place on April 14 at Barnett Hall, will showcase the work of students from Music 403. The course allows students with different backgrounds — be it in engineering, dance or programming — to work together as a group and use their skills to explore creating music.

"You never know what to expect from the students," said Brian Topp, a composer programmer for the orchestra. "With technology, some of the stuff is so accessible and easy to use. Once you start dealing with programming, it's almost unlimited what you can do with technology."

This year, the Laptop Orchestra has a big project using video tracks to see whether a dancer can control music with it. Another focus is on whether gyroscopic sensors can control musical parameters.

The Laptop Orchestra is part of Bang! Festival. The festival is a one-day affair with free entry and happens in three presentations. The first part is performances from Music 320, a course on electronic music. The second are students presenting on their capstone projects, which are independent studies on personally chosen research topics. Students will showcase what they have researched and built. The final presentation is the Laptop Orchestra.

The Laptop Orchestra consists of 22 students who worked in groups. This year, there are composers, programmers, trained musicians and performer artists. In the past, there also have been teams from engineering who created technology for the class to use. Their works will be showcased in a series of performances.

"One of the things that happens when you start dealing with programming is that everything is a form of information. They're just numbers and data," said Topp. "Once you get it into computer language, there's very little difference between, 'I'm turning a knob on this computer,' to the actual the sound of an instrument coming on or an actual video. A lot of the project is about what can we explore and control."

"It's a great experience for being able to collaborate, put things together quickly and possibilities. If you're a programmer, it's about, 'How do I think visually or musically,' and if you're a performer it's, 'How do I take the skills that I have and how do work with electronics and make music when there's processing involved,'" said Topp.

Bang! Festival is at the Barnett Music Hall on April 14. Entry is free.

PHOTOGRAPHY//

"I beat": celebrating differences

PHOTO COURTESY DANIELLE TOGNETTI

The models were given no direction, leading the project to grow and grow.

Yasmin Gandham
Staff Writer

Everyone has overcome an obstacle, faced a struggle or dealt with something that made them feel weak. Whether this is something small like a bad day or something severe like mental illness, we all have things that make us unique and problems that we have faced.

Danielle Tognetti, an arts student, has created a photography project detailing the vulnerabilities and obstacles that individuals face on a daily basis. Her powerful project became popular among UBC students and the general public.

The project titled "I beat" included photos of 21 girls wearing t-shirts detailing different obstacles that they have overcome including anxiety, long distance relationships or bullying.

"I didn't give [the models] any direction. I let them choose it on their own," she said. "It grew into this bigger project that stemmed into mental illness."

An old black and white photo featuring model Kate Moss inspired the project.

"I wanted to expand this idea and allow the models to choose and express vulnerabilities they have experienced," said Tognetti. "I realized that this would resonate not just with the people who participated in the project, but for the audience and the greater public to really connect with it and honour the bravery of these girls.

"This project was more for myself to build my portfolio and get more practice, but it became such a powerful message. Even the models themselves were feeling confident and brave. It went beyond the photos and into the message that they portrayed," she continued.

The project not only raised awareness on important issues, but it also showed that one is not alone and all of us face difficulties on a daily basis.

"I Beat is meant to show that although you may not have completely overcome it yet, these individuals are getting there and are on a positive journey," said Tognetti.

"I hope through capturing these photos, these individuals could transform their previous vulnerabilities into strengths. Using this project, I want to empower individuals to break through their barriers and to acknowledge themselves as the strong and powerful people they are today."

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MISADVEN

VANCOUVER'S HO

PHOTO KOSTA PRODANOVIC

UBC is surrounded by one the most expensive and in-demand real estate markets in the country. This leaves many students scrambling to find affordable housing — often for the first time.

"Vancouver has the highest rent in the country. It's natural that students are going to pay higher rents than anywhere else," said Tom Durning, a senior advocate at the Tenant Resource and Advisory Centre (TRAC).

Facing troubles ranging from dysfunctional appliances to creepy landlords and lost damage deposits over non-existent chipped walls, first-time renters often risk being taken advantage of, especially if they're uninformed about their rights as tenants. *The Ubyssey* asked students what problems they've faced as first-time renters and what advice they could offer for the many students hunting for off-campus housing themselves.

NO CONTRACT DEALS

Renting a property without a contract or a written agreement of any kind can be very risky. There is very little holding the landlord accountable and tenants can be subject to a landlord's whims. But in an expensive market, the constraints imposed by a student's budget lead many to take chances.

Third-year international relations student Shermaine Chua's first rental experience was living in a five-bedroom "shed" with four roommates for $500 a month in a property on the University Endowment Lands.

In exchange for the cheap rent and the convenient accommodation, Chua forfeited the advantage of a contract.

"We never signed a contract because I think technically [the landlord] was having people live there illegally. That part of the endowment lands wasn't supposed to be rented out," said Chua. "We thought it was kind of weird — and obviously illegal and sketchy — but it was okay just because the rent was so cheap."

For the most part, Chua said the experience was bearable and the problems felt small, but over time they added up.

At one point, Chua woke up to her landlord walking through her room and into the main rented area. Her requests often bordered on ludicrous — she told Chua and her roommates not to have friends over, cut down their laundry and even refrain from using the washroom too much.

"It was really weird. For example, my roommate has a boyfriend and he would come to stay over. Instead of telling [my roommate] directly, [the landlord would] tell us to tell her to not have him over, but she'd be really weird about it. She'd be like, 'Be careful of him! He is an evil spirit!'"

Although Chua's experience has pushed her away from renting without a contract in the future, she does not believe that all students will follow suit and instead choose to compromise rather than go over budget. Nonetheless, she hopes students will push to have written agreements.

"It does make things easier if you can say, 'Hey! You promised me that on this date this would happen or you said that these conditions would be upheld.' So you have a bit more weight behind your argument," said Chua.

CAUTION WITH CONTRACTS

However, finding an affordable location with a landlord who offers a contract does not solve all problems student tenants can face. In order to live safely, they must know their rights thoroughly and learn to fight back.

Chris von Schellwitz learned this the hard way when he was in the last year of his master's degree in physiotherapy and renting a house for the first time along with three of his friends. The house was in a decaying state when they moved in, but von Schellwitz and his friends would soon find the dirt to be the least of their problems. The stove, oven, washer and dryer all broke down — it took a couple weeks to get each appliance fixed. In February, half the house lost power. When the landlords called in the electrician, he told them that they need to replace the whole system because it was too old. The landlords refused.

"They just said to do a patch job because they didn't want to pay for it — it was too expensive," said von Schellwitz.

It took one month for the "patch job" to be completed. When von Schellwitz and his roommates saw the results, they knew it was time to leave.

"They ended up running extension cords and re-wiring everything from the outside of the house through our windows in order to get power," said von Schellwitz.

Each of these issues was compounded by the difficulties von Schellwitz and his roommates had getting the landlord to listen to them. He said he learnt that for a renter, persistence with landlords is key.

"You have to take [the issue] to them often because they will ignore you the first time. I became quite threatening after a while, always threatening them with the tenancy board because otherwise nothing would get done," said von Schellwitz.

He warns other students and first time renters to know their rights and not to take abuse.

"Everyone knows that they have rights, [but] people rarely

RESOURCES

UBC offers a list of advice and resources students can use when first making the foray into renting their own place.
vancouver.housing.ubc.ca/other-housing/off-campus-housing/

The Tenant Resource Advisory Centre (TRAC) offers advice, advocacy, education and, if eligible, free representation to tenants across BC.
tenants.bc.ca

The Student Legal Fund Society is an AMS-organized legal service that provides subsidies for legal representation as well as education and consultation services.
studentlegal.org

NTURES IN

OUSING MARKET

WORDS BY SRUTHI TADEPALLI

The Law Students' Legal Advice Program pairs up a UBC law student with a client in need for free representation and advice. The student is supported by a faculty member in the law school to make sure they don't screw up massively.
lslap.bc.ca

BC's Access Pro Bono Society provides legal representation at no cost to those in need across the province.
accessprobono.ca

know what those rights are," said von Schellwitz. "Don't let landlords walk all over you and try and tell you what's right. Make sure you educate yourself."

Third-year food, nutrition and health major Evonne Tran agrees. She had to become fluent in BC tenancy law to fight her own residential tenancy case and knows first-hand that being ignorant about your rights when you are in a position of weakness can open students up to abuse.

"Landlords can take advantage of students because they don't know what goes on here. They don't know the laws, they don't know their rights," said Tran.

Albert Reymann, a fourth-year international student majoring in philosophy, provides an example. After losing the residence lottery in his second year, Reymann and nine of his friends decided to rent out a 10-bedroom basement suite on West 4th Avenue and Blanca.

"We were almost all international students, none of us ever having any experience with tenancy or renting or anything in BC," said Reymann. "It was getting late in the year [and] we hadn't worried about it too much. We didn't realize how bad the housing market here was, so we were pressed to find a place to live."

The rental worked out fine until the end of summer after Reymann had sublet his room and gone home to Germany. It was August when Reymann got an email from one of his roommates who was still in Vancouver asking him to pay an extra $100 on the previous month's rent that the landlord was demanding because of the "damages they feared the sublets might have caused." When Reymann refused to pay the illegal fee, the landlord would not return any of the $3750 security deposit. Reymann and his friends decided it was time to enter the litigation process.

While going over their case, Reymann found out that the lease contract he and his roommates had signed was full of clauses that were illegal under the BC Tenancy Act such as dictating if, when and for how long Reymann and his fellow tenants could have guests over. Landlords are not allowed to place such restrictions.

"Students, especially international students and students from other provinces, have no idea what they're getting into when it comes to living here. It's very expensive and oftentimes the competition is so high, the quality of living is abysmal and they don't have to do anything about it because they'll fill it anyway because there's so much demand for it," said Reymann.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

One campus resource which provides legal assistance to students with residential tenancy issues such as Reymann's is the Student Legal Fund Society (SLFS). Their president, Jude Crasta, said that he has found affordability, availability and rent control to be the major issues faced by students renting off-campus.

"I've definitely seen cases of many of my student friends who ... can't afford to renew their leases. So they search for other places that are cheaper even, if their financial situation remains the same," said Crasta.

As for availability, he feels students face two unique issues. For one, many students prefer an eight-month lease so that they can go home for summer. This is not easy to find as many landlords prefer the convenience of a year-long lease. Crasta said many landlords are also very reluctant to rent out to students, decreasing an already-small market.

"There is the market perception that students are bad for property damage, they can't maintain the security of the property, they can't pay the rent on time. That can lead to many students being rejected from access to tenancy options," said Crasta.

However, Crasta felt that the perception that students can be damaging to property might have some basis.

"Although it is not fair to single out students completely, we can do our part to defeat that perception and make sure that people are being given all the options that they need in order to live, work and thrive in this area," said Crasta.

Crasta also cautioned students to be aware of their rights, pointing to online and AMS resources such as the SLFS.

Durning, the senior advocate at TRAC, also noted TRAC's informative website and tenant hotline.

"Plus, they have the law students over at UBC if they ever need any help with tenancy issues," he added, referring to the Law Students' Legal Advice Program — run out of UBC's Allard School of Law — which sets law students up with low-income earners for free legal advice and representation.

The only thing he cautioned students to be aware of is the transparency of the agreement they are entering.

"Just make sure you rent it from the owner or an authorized rep of the owner," he emphasized. "If you think it's too good to be true, it's a lot cheaper than anything else around and the agents or the landlord seems shady, ask for identification and don't get scammed."

PERFORMANCE //

PHOTO VIA TWITTER

Maracle's work combines music and spoken word effortlessly

Sharing stories: Lee Maracle

Katharina Friege
Staff Writer

Stó:lō storyteller and writer Lee Maracle began her hour-long talk hosted by the Social Justice Institute and the Indigenous Pedagogies Research Network with a story about her grandfather.

In 1967, she combined music with spoken word in an unprecedented way. At the Canadian centennial that year, she used this combination to share a subversive political message condemning the European appropriation of Native land.

The relationship between music, song and stories is important to Maracle's work, as is the influence of her family and her community. She returned to both of these influences again and again during the lecture as well as in her 2014 novel, *Celia's Song*.

"Song begins everything. Everything begins with song," she said after letting a deep sonorous note ring out. "I'm not a singer but I do know the key note."

Maracle read from *Celia's Song* and also presented a small selection of her poetry at the Liu Institute for Global Issues last Thursday. The atmosphere was relaxed and the audience was genuinely interested. Maracle spoke from a place of openness and honesty that was easy to connect to. Her hoarse, infectious laughter and conversational tone kept the audience engaged throughout.

Celia's Song builds on the stories of several characters – notably Celia. Celia is a character who previously appeared in her 1993 novel *Ravensong*. It is the story about the two-headed sea serpent that is bipolar disorder, about natural disasters and how they impact communities and the intergenerational struggle of one Nuu'Chahlnuth family in the face of colonial oppression.

"There is something helpless in being a witness," the book opens. The necessary act of witnessing despite feeling powerless and the role stories play in that witnessing are themes Maracle alluded to in the rest of her talk as well. An interesting aspect of this appeared in the instances in which she referred to how her stories connect to her political beliefs and activities. The violence against Indigenous women, the misguided perspectives of the one per cent and the immensity of global climate change are no small topics to take on.

Maracle does so because it is necessary to witness and speak about even those issues that seem too overwhelming to ever change.

Why does she write? Because she cannot stop.

She briefly outlined her writing process – while her approach to poetry is a deliberate one, she doesn't always know what's going to happen when it comes to prose stories.

Maracle was not always sure she would become a writer. She shared how scary the idea was to her as she was starting out. "What if I don't want to be a writer?" She had asked herself then. "What if I'm good at it?"

Today there is no question – she is good at it. And writes constantly.

"I have a computer with no letters on the keyboard – that's how much I write," she said during the talk. Witnessing Lee Maracle read her writing, tell her stories and share some of her life experiences was an extraordinary and thought-provoking privilege.

GET TO KNOW YOUR ROOTS

ILLUSTRATION JERRY YIN/THE UBYSSEY

Vegetables are weird.

Elysse Bell
Food columnist

Let's get to the root of the matter – you may be in the dark about this category of vegetables. Gnarly tubers deserve their day in the sun too. Some of these underground gems might be buried in obscurity, but their secrets are easily unearthed. Dig in for some delicious info on common root vegetables and what to do with them.

SWEET POTATO

The lowly sweet potato has recently been raised to the kingly status of root vegetabledom by its ubiquity on chain restaurant menus in the form of sweet potato fries. Not to be confused with yams, they are different varieties entirely and come in some of the same colours. The orange ones are often referred to as sweet potatoes in North America.

Delicious roasted (either whole with skins or peeled and cubed) with a drizzle of olive oil and a pinch of salt or as a substitute for mashed potatoes with some cinnamon, cayenne and smoked paprika sprinkled in. Try making scalloped sweet potatoes too.

CARROTS

The reputation of raw carrot sticks has been seriously damaged by miserable crudité platters of dried out vegetables. But fresh farmer's market carrots are a true delight – the best time of the year is when you can pick up a bunch and eat them plain. For now, satisfy your carroty cravings by cutting them into sticks and roasting them with balsamic vinegar and a drizzle of honey (375° for about half an hour usually does the trick – line your pan with tin foil for easier cleanup).

PARSNIPS

The sad, pale cousin of the carrot, the best known preparation of the parsnip tends to be the famed parsnip mash of winter holiday occasions. But, like carrots, they can also be roasted in sticks or cubes. They have a starchy, sweet and slightly spicy taste to them – surprising considering their bland appearance. They are also one of the best vegetables to use when making stock (whether vegetable or meat-based) from scratch.

JICAMA

Pronounced "hick-uh-muh," this unattractive vegetable is strangely delicious like a cross between an apple and a potato – crunchy and mildly sweet. It is amazing julienned and served raw in slaws and salads or on tacos with other julienned vegetables like carrots and cucumbers. It can also be roasted, sautéed in stir fries and probably spiralized if you're into that.

BEETS

Can't be beat! Peel, roast and eat them hot or cold, in salad or as a side dish. They are often spotted alongside goat cheese, arugula and walnuts. Also try golden beets – a lovely, non-hand-staining alternative.

TURNIPS

That weird half-white, half-purple-brown round thing that comes in the same shape as a beet. Peel it, cube it and roast it – it is surprisingly delicious. Like the parsnip's portly cousin.

CELERY ROOT (AKA CELERIAC)

Potentially the gnarliest and ugliest vegetable out there. What it lacks in appearance it seriously makes up for in flavour, so much so that Yotam Ottolenghi, famed vegetable genius, featured a whole roasted celery root in his new high-end cookbook, NOPI. Recipe linked in online version of this article.

Spring Service Changes start April 11!

Get ready for bus service changes in Vancouver and UBC that better match service to demand.

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FILE PHOTO CHERIHAN HASSUN/THE UBYSSEY

More problems of silencing and "privacy"

Paul Krause
History professor

The most important years of my education were spent at a Quaker college near Philadelphia. Life there was meant to be ruled by an all-embracing honour-code, one that compelled each member of the community to strive for utmost integrity and if someone seemed to fall short, to actively confront that person. Perhaps it is time for UBC to try to reinvent itself along such lines, to repair its moral compass — one that has been so sadly damaged as we are reminded almost on a daily basis by the Board of Governors and by all those who failed to listen to the women in the department of history and elsewhere, who suffered at the hands of predatory men and their enablers.

While I have followed UBC's descent into administrative and moral chaos — one sympathetic administrator told a faculty group that the university now seemed to be following the course of The Titanic. I have been most closely involved in what has happened in the department of history where I teach and of how one very large issue in our department has been overlooked. The issue: the only reason that the graduate student Caitlin Cunningham, with the support of other graduate students, initially came forward to report on matters of sexual assault was because they suspected, and then learned with certainty, that there was, as they called it, "a larger narrative" of what their colleague Dmitry Mordvinov had been doing. The women understood that UBC would not act unless some sort of complaint was made, even as the complaint could not, because of UBC's rules, address directly Mordvinov's alleged rape of at least two other women. The decision to come forward and the complaint that Ms. Cunningham made then were in direct response to the willful blindness of UBC faculty and administrators, and the decision was by no means an easy one. It was something the students talked and talked about for months and in no way can it possibly be seen as self-serving or in some way directed at the history department. It was, in plain truth, an effort to stop an alleged serial rapist from raping and assaulting more women. The timeline assembled by the graduate students and one independently put forward by the CBC make it clear that Mordvinov engaged in sexual assaults after reports about him were made by members of the UBC community.

In the wake of the recent release of the "executive summary" of the outside review commissioned by UBC and of the presentation of the history department's own mediator, I have a few additional observations.

> *"The mediator succeeded in blaming the grad students and the CBC, and moreover fully exonerated the department without once identifying what precisely has been the problem."*

Regarding the presentation by the departmental mediator, my hope was that she would place herself in a position to follow her own advice regarding the virtual impossibility of mediating issues between parties who have vast power differentials between them — in this case, graduate students and faculty — unless an outside authority is willing to place itself in a position to elicit from the more powerful a sense of the injustice that has been perpetrated.

In this regard, I know from extended conversations with our graduate students that an unequivocal apology from the department and a far less ambiguous and perfunctory one than that offered by Dr. Martha Piper, the president of UBC, remain, for starters, the appropriate response. I hope that our colleagues can find a way to do this directly to our students and that there will be a realization that public pronouncements of regret are not likely to cut it. At stake, I would suggest, is nothing less than the future of our graduate program, even if the institutional memory of what has happened may, in the view of some, simply fade away when the courageous students who dared to speak out have moved on to what no doubt will be careers and lives of great import.

"One cannot eat as much as one would like to puke." These words, roughly translated, were spoken by a prominent German-Jewish artist when Adolph Hitler came to power. The stakes at UBC are of course much, much lower, but I, for one, certainly feel queasy: the mediator succeeded in blaming the grad students and the CBC, and moreover fully exonerated the department without once identifying what precisely has been the problem. That she did not understand why Ms. Cunningham came forward with her complaint in light of the university's unwillingness to move against Mr. Mordvinov remains a troubling question. Ms. Cunningham and those colleagues who supported her possessed an accurate picture of what Mr. Mordvinov had done and was doing — that the mediator and the university's outside reviewer, despite her erudite suggestions about our departmental failures, chose not to recognize this undeniable fact is beyond merely troubling. That the departmental mediator failed to interview Ms. Cunningham is incomprehensible.

But much good has come out of what Ms. Cunningham and her colleagues have done: there will be a sexual assault policy and there will be a sexual assault response team. And for this, we owe our gutsy students an enormous thanks. The culture of predation and denial of it remain of course, and why this is so remains an interesting political and historical problem. We're talking big-time hegemony here — patriarchal equilibrium even and the specifics of how and why this is the case is a very, very important thing to map out.

Although I am gratified that the university reviewer had the courage to tell some of the truth, I am not surprised that she followed the evident institutional line: while it is impolitic to blame directly the faculty or students in public, why not take aim at the "media"? This is a cheap shot; I hope that that the CBC will figure out a way to respond effectively. The good news is what the reviewer found: plenty of personal oversights. But the true dimensions of these oversights remain obscure as the reviewer but fingered nameless individuals who, admittedly, did nothing for months. In the end, it was a nameless, institutional failure.

Where is the moral compass in all of this? Who is to be held accountable? Where does the question of personal responsibility lie?

In Jane Doe v. Metropolitan Toronto Police (1998), the court held that duly constituted authorities have a legal obligation to warn women who are at risk of rape. Failure to do so, the court found, is rooted in deeply held sexist mythologies and moreover constitutes a direct violation of Charter rights. The Toronto Police were adjudicated to have failed to warn Jane Doe because she would be inclined to panic, they said, and thereby scare off or effectively warn the serial rapist known by police to be operating in her neighbourhood. Striking indeed are the parallels of our students having been told twice, by two different administrators, that acknowledging Mr. Mordvinov's actions would be "like saying there is a snake in the room and turning off the lights."

The problem, of course, was that there was a snake in the room and that we failed to turn on the lights in a timely way. This ethos was captured in a Kafkaesque sentence by one of the many administrators who, officially having been found to have acted in good faith throughout this two-year ordeal, explained why "privacy" was the paramount issue and that talking about the Mordvinov case was ill-advised: "If we talked, no one would come forward and the campus wouldn't be a safer place." Moreover, this administrator argued, our department could only discipline Mr. Mordvinov for academic transgressions; non-academic complaints are meant to be handled by other units in the university. But the problem was that other units had extensive knowledge of what Mr. Mordvinov had done – and they too did nothing.

Most of my colleagues in the Faculty of Arts for years have committed their professional lives to the investigation of injustices across the planet, implicitly accepting the argument that the pursuit of knowledge is most worthwhile – most necessary – when it is bound up with the big questions of what is the good and of how we might construct polities of justice and equality.

Why so many across the UBC campus have been unable to endorse this fundamental principle of the Western Enlightenment when in the recent past, push came to shove and the you-know-what hit the fan is, I think, a question worth considering.

Paul Krause is a professor in the department of history at UBC.

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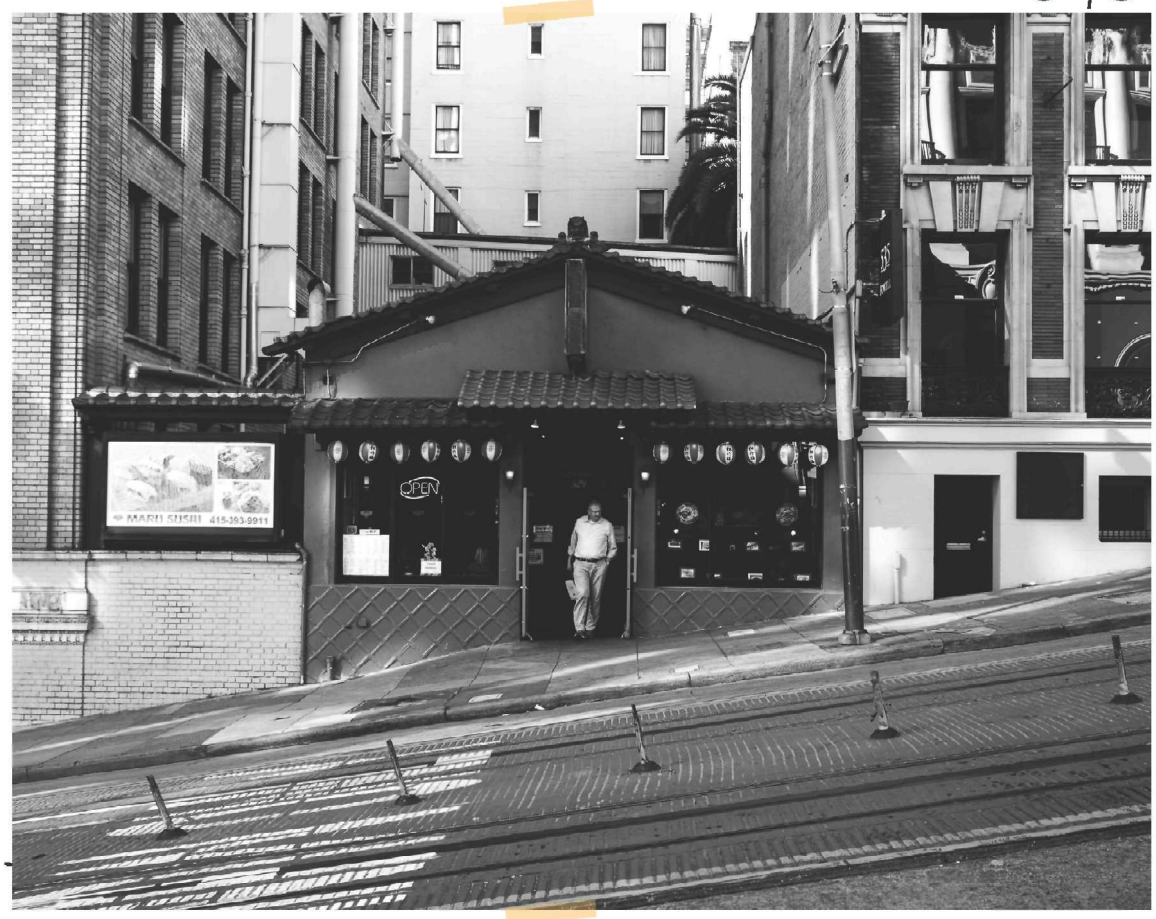
PLACES TO BE: Road Tripping to California

WORDS AND PHOTOS BY PHILIPPE ROBERGE

It's 10 a.m. and we've been at the border for over an hour now. Apparently dual citizenship ID cards issued in Ghana aren't so hot in the United States. Some paperwork and a six dollar processing fee later, we're back on the road.

First stop: Walmart. If, like me, you grew up overseas, then you might understand my feelings of sheer amazement, admiration and disgust when I entered the Walmart. The store just has everything: clothes, food, electronics, gardening equipment, bikes and fishing equipment. The list goes on and on.

After stocking up on snacks that would make any dietician cringe, we hit the road again. En route to Portland, we passed through the ring road traffic of Seattle — the land of Starbucks, Seahawks and, of course, Amazon. Sticking to the I5, we make good time, arriving just after sundown.



Portland

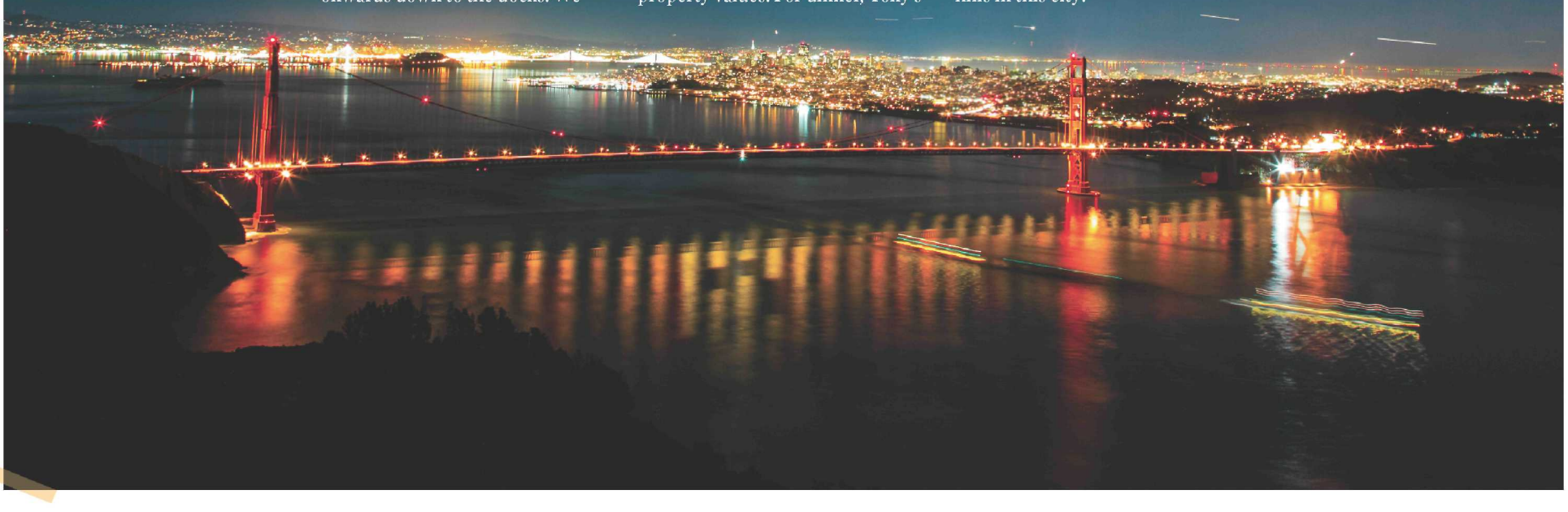
Portland is beautiful. Portland is renowned for its food trucks, so make sure to grab a bite from them if you are passing through. After a good night's rest, we buckled in for the long stretch — Portland, Oregon to Turlock, California in an 11 hour drive.

The drive is beautiful, and the continuous rock and roll being blasted through our trusty Toyota Matrix sound system eventually fuses with our souls and pushed us through the countryside, along the rolling hills and onwards down the I-5. We agreed not to eat again until we find an In-N-Out Burger and, in our naivety, we failed to realize that most of northern California is comprised of towns like weed: small, remote and, more importantly, lacking In-N-Outs. We drove through Stockton, Modesto and an assortment of other cities mentioned in rap.

Upon arriving in Turlock, we were greeted by Steven, our generous host and former UBC student who wasted no time at all driving us to the closest In-N-Out. With our stomachs filled to the brim with Animal Style everything and milkshakes that are just ice cream in a cup, we tucked in for a night of well-deserved sleep before our adventure could truly begin.

San Francisco

The city with the bridge. The sun was out and shining brightly in stark contrast to the usual Vancouver forecast. We headed over to a charming little establishment to get some breakfast. Steven force fed us some of the best seafood we'd ever eaten and we made our way onwards down to the docks. We took a day and toured the city, making sure to see all the sights — the TransAmerica Pyramid, Chinatown, the Golden Gate Park, Ocean Beach and, of course, the world famous Golden Gate Bridge. We all fantasized about living in this city until Steven graciously shut us down by listing some property values. For dinner, Tony's has consistently been ranked among the top five pizzerias in United States and for good reason — each of the pizzas is cooked at a different, custom temperature to achieve the perfect texture and flavour (because science) and the binge eating was completely justified. I mean, have you seen the hills in this city?

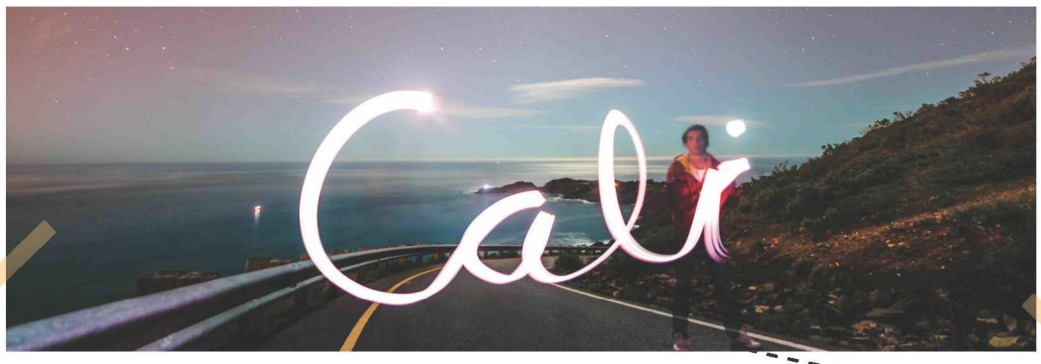


Yosemite

The holy grail of national parks and the former home of the legendary John Muir, who was quoted saying, "No temple made with human hands can compare with Yosemite." The park is visited by 3.3 million people every year, so you if you're on the fence about whether or not you should go, you should probably just get your shit together and go. Yosemite is one of those places that can't really be exaggerated. The whole feel of the place is surreal. It is everything that it's cracked up to be.

A quick Google search on the way there informed us about some of the things we shouldn't miss. Once a year, in mid to late February, the angle of the earth, sun and the placement of Horsetail Falls all combine to generate an incredible phenomenon — The Firefall.

As the sun went down over the horizon, the last rays of sunlight crawl along the cliff face until they catch the water. The falling water refracts the reddish orange sunlight, giving the falls the appearance of being on fire. It was quite a sight to see dozens of photographers with their tripods and cameras set up, all patiently waiting to capture the annual event. But this is by no means the only thing to see in Yosemite. In fact, you would need far more than a day to see everything. Half Dome, El Capitan — one of the largest granite monoliths in the world — Yosemite Falls, and the list goes on.



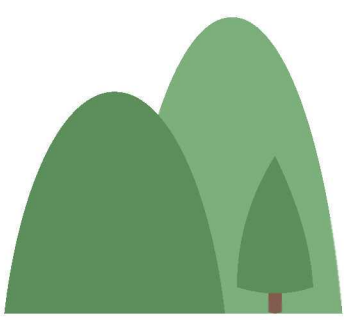
Sequoia National Forest

As the name suggests, this forest contains *Sequoiadendrongiganteum*, commonly known as the Giant Sequoia. At least three species of tree grow taller and two grow wider. But in terms of volume, the Giant Sequoia is the largest tree in the world. Our plan was to go and see the largest Sequoia, effectively the largest tree in the world.

Our adventure was quickly foiled by a closed gate, so we turned back and made for the Widest Sequoia. Good enough. As a student in the Faculty of Forestry, I'm no stranger to huge trees. The Douglas firs and coastal hemlocks surrounding UBC are no small fry, but the sheer girth of these Sequoias is astounding. After wandering on, off and around the trails for far longer than we should, we made our way back to Turlock.

"I don't like the look of this place," said Jojo, rightfully so. Two Dobermans bark and throw themselves at fences as we made our way into a Mexican restaurant, complete with boarded up windows. Let me just say this — California has some seriously delicious Mexican food.

California, it was grand. I truly would go back at a moment's notice and I really hope to live there someday. I have just never been to a place with such a high density of microclimates! Taking Turlock as a starting point: if you drive one hour west, you hit the Pacific. If you drive four hours south, you start to hit desert. One hour east, rolling green hills as far as your eye can see. Another hour east, and you hit Yosemite. There's also the people, the food, the $13.75 1.75 L bottles of vodka at Costco and the sunsets. Someday, California, you will be mine. But as of right now, UBC is calling my name and the car rental company is about to be on our ass. Until next time, it's been a blast!



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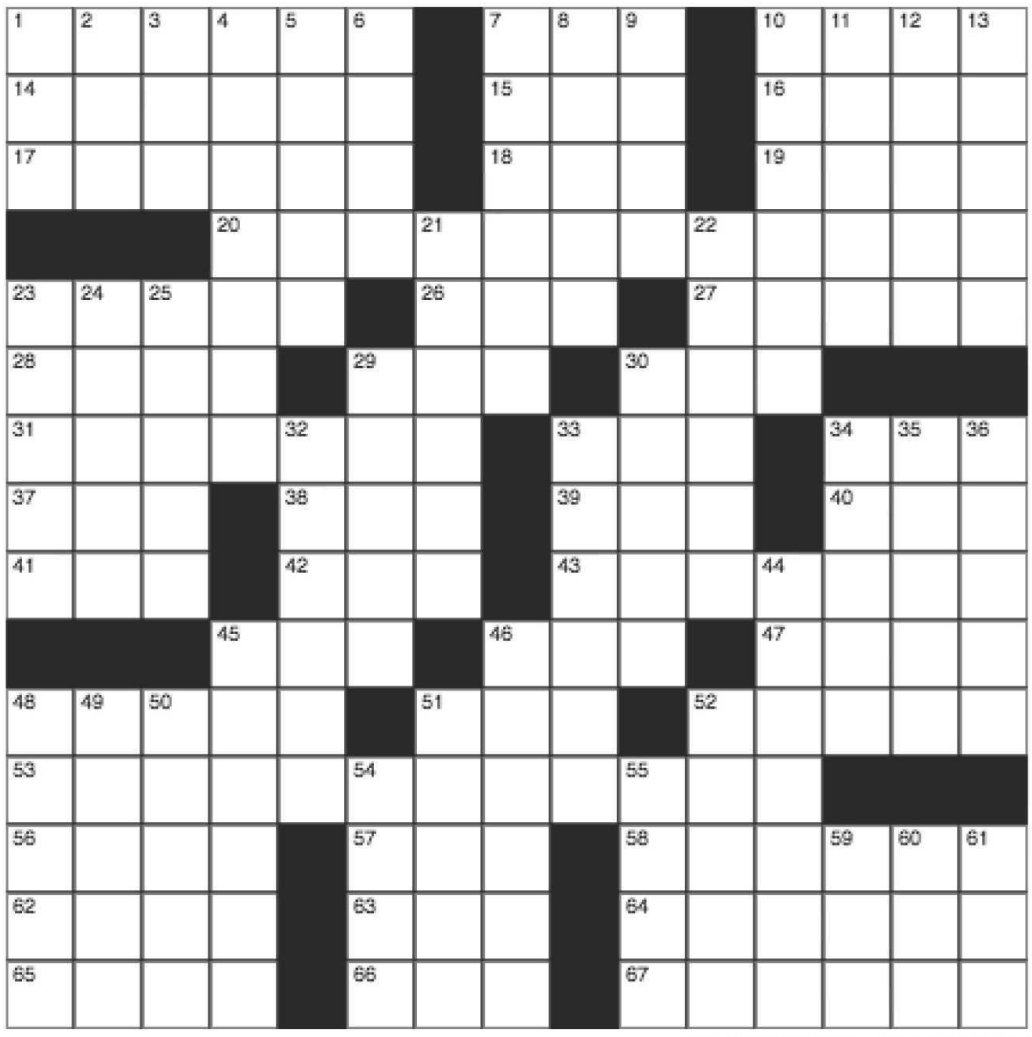

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1- LAX posting;
4- Motown's Franklin;
10- Noncommittal words;
14- Corn unit;
15- Impressionist Pierre;
16- Ready for plucking;
17- Peruvian singer Sumac;
18- Capital of Honduras;
20- Delivery room docs;
21- Plod (through);
22- Conger catcher;
23- In bad shape;
25- ___ Island;
28- 007 creator Fleming;
29- "On the Waterfront" director Kazan;
30- ___ Kick Out of You;
31- Chuck;
32- Tending to have accidents;
35- Sugary suffix;
36- With it;
37- Fellowship;
44- Asta's mistress;
45- Heavy metric weight;
46- Historic times;
48- "Lord, is ___?": Matthew;
49- Davis or Midler;
50- Begin;
51- Basil-based sauce;
53- Ear-related;
55- Magic org.;
56- Potential;
59- Proverb ending?;
60- Hog sound;
61- Unanimously;
62- Alias letters;
63- Capone's nemesis;
64- Greek goddess of the moon;
65- Not pos.;

DOWN

1- Pal of Pooh;
2- Monetary unit of Malawi;
3- Severe;
4- Bohemian;
5- Rod's partner;
6- Swallow greedily;
7- Make tough;
8- Sot's sound;
9- Former Bush spokesman Fleischer;
10- Dies ___;
11- 1000 times 1000;
12- Pacify;
13- Pines for;
19- "Fancy that!";
24- Puget Sound city;
26- Baseball's Mel;
27- Nymph loved by Apollo;
30- Think;
31- Hell;
33- AOL, e.g.;
34- Hi-___ monitor;
37- Clique;
38-Prayers;
39- ___ a chance!;
40- All told;
41- Former;
42- Shah, e.g.;
43- Cook partly in an oven;
44- Japan;
47- "Hogan's Heroes" setting;
49- Hit on the head;
50- View;
52- Sounds of disapproval;
54- Lendl of tennis;
57- UFO pilots;
58- Runner Sebastian;

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7	8	5	3	1	9	6	2	4

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