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SUNDAY, AUGUST 5

40TH ANNUAL PRIDE PARADE

12 A.M. TO 3 P.M. @ WEST END

Celebrate, protest and party at the annual Pride Parade.

FREE

VANCOUVER MURAL FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

VANCOUVER MURAL FESTIVAL STREET PARTY

12 P.M. TO 6 P.M. @ MOUNT PLEASANT

Attend the culmination of the city's largest free public art celebration.

FREE

evo CAR SHARE SUMMER CINEMA

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21

TITANIC

8:20 P.M. @ SECOND BEACH

Watch the last outdoor movie in the summer cinema series.

FREE

ON THE COVER

COVER BY

Samantha McCabe, Elizabeth Wang, Lucie Hygont, Moira Wyton

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THE UBYSSEY

JULY 31, 2018 | VOLUME C| ISSUE III

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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to acknowledge that this paper and the land on which we study and work is the traditional, occupied, unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples, including the territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), Stəl̓ilo and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

OUR CAMPUS

From submarines to puzzles, UBC VP Finance and Operations Peter Smailes' work goes beyond just numbers

"I think I probably have an equally or even more exciting job in the university than what might have been." COURTESY PAUL JOSEPH/ UBC

Cassandra Betts
Contributor

Apart from being a lover of travel, cooking, hikes and biking, Peter Smailes has recently been appointed UBC's Vice President Finance and Operations after acting in the role since January. Despite how they may seem scattered, Smailes compared his diverse professional and educational experience to pieces of a puzzle.

"They all have slightly different areas of focus," said Smailes. "Bringing all of those together is what helps me to do my job."

A graduate of Carleton University with a degree in economics, Smailes began working at UBC in 1992 while he was completing his accounting designation. After leaving briefly to do private consulting, Smailes returned to UBC in 2001 when he had the opportunity to work in debt management.

Since then, Smailes has applied the fundamental principles of economics to his work at UBC, working first as UBC's associate treasurer, then interim treasurer, and finally the official treasurer, a position he has held since 2007. His experience consulting taught him how to be responsible for every decision he made and to take responsibility for its impact.

Despite his long history at UBC, Smailes didn't always imagine himself as a university employee. "When I was in university I was very interested in developmental economics and working in developing countries around some of the economic models."

But, he pointed out that sometimes the things that you want to do don't always turn out. "I think I probably have an equally or even more exciting job in the university than what might have been."

One of the reasons that Smailes has been happy at UBC for so long is his commitment to education.

"I like the idea that it contributes to society, and just the excitement of contributing to people's education," said Smailes. "I'm a big believer in education and I like the fact that, in some small way, I hope I make a difference to people and improve their lives."

Another part of what keeps Smailes loving his job is the opportunity to learn something new and different every day. "You only have to go talk to a researcher about what they're working on, and their excitement is infectious.

"I worked with a professor who wanted to buy a submarine. I didn't know the first thing about submarines! Anyways, we had to learn sometime about submarines, and what would that look like, and why would he buy it as opposed to rent one and that sort of thing.

"Where else are you going to get a question like that in an accounting job?"

His enthusiasm for the position is not limited to interactions with faculty members looking to purchase underwater vessels either. "It's that engagement with people and that opportunity to connect with people whether it be faculty or students or staff," said Smailes. "They're always very excited and passionate about what they're doing. That part of it is very rewarding."

Smailes' focus on people extends to everyone he interacts with, including his own staff. One of his goals as VP Finance and Operations is to make sure that employees are satisfied and growing.

"We have the opportunity with the integrated renewal program — that's the big HR, finance and student systems change — to allow people to have different experiences in different areas to help build their careers and encourage people to stay. It takes time, but if you work at it, it can make a big difference in the teams."

Smailes looks forward to working with students in all capacities, whether it be through the AMS, budget consultations or more casual interactions. "I'd love the students to reach out to me," he said, noting that one of the the hardest questions he has ever received at a Board of Governors meeting was from a student.

While most students won't be perplexing Smailes at meetings, he still encourages them to learn a bit about the budgeting process and the finances of UBC, even if the university's finances can be "a little daunting for some."

"Accounting is more than just the numbers," he said.

"When I look across the university at what many of the accountants do, I see the way that they contribute to all the areas of the university in financial strategy ... they work with their deans and others in the faculty to provide financial knowledge and support them so the faculties can achieve their goals."

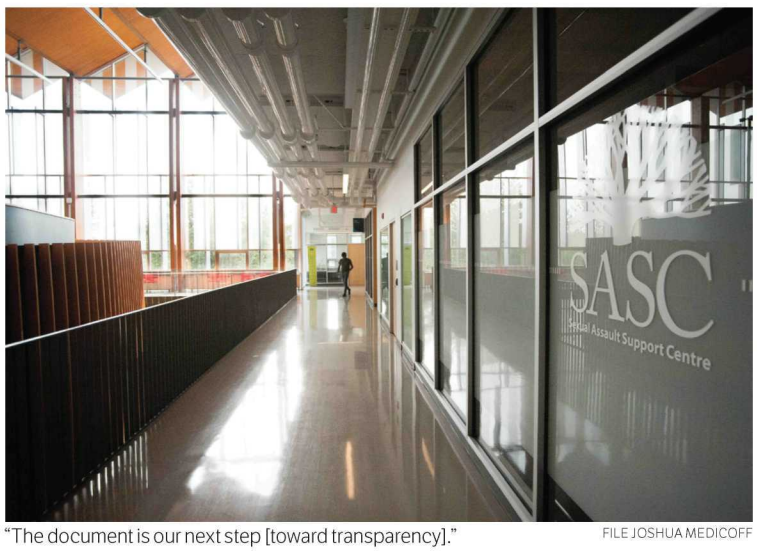
Smailes himself isn't daunted, even while having to manage a budget of over $2 billion.

"You break it down into manageable pieces," he explained, noting that his team is one of the reasons he feels confident as he takes on this new role.

"It's a really great team of people, so the opportunity to work with them and lead them and continue on is actually very exciting for me."

TRANSPARENCY //

AMS releases previously secret meeting minutes, documents on reversed SASC's support services cut



"The document is our next step [toward transparency]." FILE JOSHUA MEDICOFF

Alex Nguyen & Zak Vescera
News Editors

The AMS has released a 22-page document that provides updates and information regarding the Sexual Assault Support Centre (SASC), a month after the society announced its now-reversed decision to cut the centre's support services.

The document was initially planned to act as a recap of the July 5 AMS town hall's minutes, including unanswered questions from that meeting and SASC's financial information.

But it has now been expanded to include the minutes of a closed session that took place during the June 20 AMS Council meeting, in which the society's executives informed Council about the now-reversed decision to SASC's support services — as well as the benefits and challenges of making SASC an independent society.

"The Town Hall Meeting was an important step toward transparency, clarity, and a robust dialogue between the AMS and our members on this issue," reads the document.

"This document is our next step."

PREVIOUSLY SECRET MINUTES

AMS Council voted on July 11 to "authorize" the executives to release meeting minutes, but the scope of what gets published was determined by the executives themselves. Law Councillor Dylan Braam noted that Council could vote to release the minutes in their entirety at their August 1 meeting if the executives failed to do so.

According to AMS VP Academic and University Affairs Max Holmes, the document includes the "full and unedited version of in-camera minutes."

These notes point to a rocky relationship between the AMS and SASC, where "SASC has been going through bumps, especially with turnover of staff." In particular, SASC has been without a manager since the beginning of April and the position of coordinator has also been vacant, putting a high degree of stress on the SASC team.

"We had a giant list of managerial duties that we divided during the summer that was sent to the AMS," said SASC support worker Nazanin Moghadami. "But no one so far has been compensated for that."

Among the managerial and coordinating duties are being "on call" for survivors who need immediate support outside of SASC operating hours. Support worker Lindsay Cucins said that fielding those tasks "put a lot of extra pressure on the staff."

The minutes highlight "the volatility of SASC" as something that led to this change. But SASC workers said the recent turnover is due to mismanagement on the part of the AMS, pointing out that they did not start the search to hire a SASC coordinator or regulate conflict between SASC and a previous manager.

The minutes also indicate that the ending of SASC's support services had "been an issue from previous Executive teams which has led to this change."

In a June 22 interview with *The Ubyssey*, Holmes stated that the decision "had been discussed with past SASC managers" and that it was the current executives' decision.

During the town hall, the AMS executives indicated that the decision was underway before they even came into office.

One councillor appeared to have called for a "legal contract with UBC in regards to SVPRO," due to concerns about the "stability and continuity of the resources of SVPRO" — but the minutes do not detail where that discussion went.

The minutes confirm that a Council vote would have been required to change SASC's mandate under AMS Code — something that AMS communications did not express to the public. The AMS did not respond to requests for comment on the matter.

Overall, Braam said that he is appreciative for the document and thinks the information released is "adequate," with "no glaring omissions."

"I think putting it to context works so that members of the AMS have the whole story... with all the thought processes that led to this," said Braam.

SASC AS A SEPARATE SOCIETY?

The document also discusses the benefits and challenges of giving SASC more independence. Besides being brought up in the AMS Resource Groups' July 4 open letter, this was also a topic of discussion between SASC staff and the AMS in their first meeting following the June 25 reversal of the cut to the centre's support services.

One solution is to transition SASC toward being an independent society, similar to CiTR's structure.

In this case, the centre would operate separately from the AMS, but would still be able to "provide support, advocacy, education and outreach services to AMS members" via a service contract. SASC would also be able to employ its own staff and form its own board with distinct codes and bylaws from the AMS.

The document also points out that since the society has previously went through a similar separation with CiTR, this case could be served as a "useful roadmap."

On the other hand, it notes that it would be "complex" to both create and maintain a new society. For instance, the document says that not only would it be "costly and time consuming" to become a separate society, SASC would also have to consider the creation and maintenance by-laws, board of directors personnel, annual corporate requirements as well as how the AMS fits into these aspects.

While CiTR Station Manager Ana Rose Carrico could not speak to the process of creating an independent society for CiTR in the 1980s, she indicated that the maintenance aspect for the radio station has been manageable.

"It's more of a mental real estate eater, you have to think about it a lot — but as far as sitting down and getting it done, it doesn't take that long," said Carrico about annual corporate requirements like filing taxes and holding annual meetings.

She also noted that it has been "helpful" to have AMS members on CiTR Board of Directors as well as frequent communication between the two societies.

Programming Director Madeline Taylor added that SASC could reach out to external organizations like how CiTR is supported by the National Campus Radio Organization, while acknowledging that the radio station's structure can be quite different from that of the support centre.

"So there are a lot of resources and support structures that exist outside of our organizations that provide road maps for what we might need help on or in terms of developing policy or navigating any kind of issues, even around things like finance. So I'm sure that there are similar organizations that SASC could reach out to and model themselves after."

Additionally, there are also concerns in the documents about "finances, insurance and allocation of risks" between the AMS and SASC, if the centre were to become an independent society.

An independent SASC society would still be financed by the SASC Fund, which currently charges $3.63 per AMS member — but this is already considered to be unsustainable by the executives.

"... in order for SASC Society to be able to function with all its functions, a fee change of more than double that of the amount charged currently would have to be successful with the entire AMS membership," the document reads.

Overall, this section cautions that this is just a preliminary discussion.

"As such, it is not conclusive of the many considerations that will have to be factored in the creation," reads the document. "Further exploration will need to be conducted for any option that is ultimately chosen."

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

The AMS have also become more vocal with concerns about SASC's financial sustainability during and after the July 5 town hall meeting.

Hamid indicated in a June 22 interview with *The Ubyssey* that the centre's support services were being cut "to focus SASC on advocacy and outreach." Financial concerns were also not mentioned in the AMS's public statement about the cut that was released on the same day.

But at the town hall, Hamid said SASC "wasn't sustainable."

In an interview with *The Ubyssey* this April, AMS VP Finance Kuol Akbeucheny said that SASC was not in any immediate financial danger, saying "Right now, we're okay." Later, at the July 5 town hall, he called the centre "unsustainable."

Currently, SASC is funded by a $3.63 fee paid by all AMS community members, a fund that totalled $180,173 last year. In the July 11 presentation to AMS Council, Akbeucheny stated that SASC's total expenses were $310,165, exceeding its $ 276,984 budget by $33,181.

But while SASC's financial situation was not bright, it also was not unexpected. The increase in operating costs was the result of hour extensions that came after a partnership with UBC hospital in February 2017.

In March 2018, the AMS also proposed a referendum to double SASC's fee — but this was bundled with a broad fee restructuring that could have put funding for resource groups on campus in limbo every three years.

"[The resource groups] did not even know we were campaigning against SASC," said Social Justice Centre Co-Chair Jacob Fischer-Schmidt during the town hall. The referendum eventually failed to meet quorum.

The document outlines action items that the AMS "is taking immediately" to repair its relationship with SASC and community members, which mainly focus on improving their communications and ensuring their representation during decision-making processes.

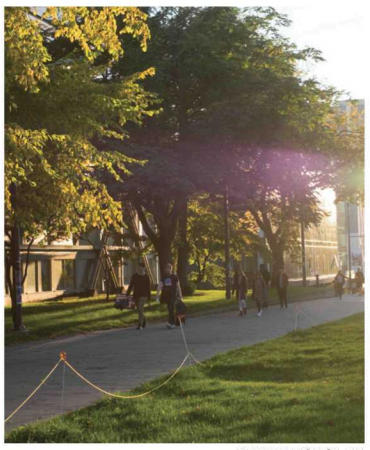
The document states that the society is carrying out the promise it made following the reversal to liaise more regularly with SASC. As hiring for unfilled positions within the centre is underway, Hamid and SASC have also both indicated that a collective agreement is in the works after SASC joined the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) in February 2018.

Efforts to resolve SASC's financial troubles are also on the horizon. AMS Council has already mentioned the prospect of a new 'exclusive' referendum to double SASC's fee next year.

"These actions, however, are just the beginning of what we want to accomplish this year," reads the document. "We are committed to continually updating our community and disseminating information about our progress throughout this year."

FUNDING //

UBC receives $75,000 from province to improve co-op programs



FILE PATRIICK GILLIN

Part of the funding will go toward a website redesign.

Samantha McCabe
Coordinating Editor

The provincial government announced that almost $1.9 million will be distributed to post-secondary institutions across BC to support co-op programs and other work-learn opportunities for students.

Each of BC's 25 public universities, colleges and institutes will receive $75,000 in funding. UBC plans to allocate theirs toward supporting marketing resources and strategies for its co-op programs across both campuses.

This is the third year in a row that the government has awarded a grant of this size for co-op programs. The funds are meant to help schools "improve their capacity to place students in meaningful workplace-based learning opportunities," according to a media release.

"These co-op opportunities allow students to apply what they learn in the classroom in the real world," said Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training Melanie Mark during the announcement. "Employers get the chance to identify new talent and benefit from the fresh ideas and energy students bring."

In an emailed statement, UBC Vice Provost & Associate Vice President Academic Eric Eich wrote that the university would put the funding toward a redesign for the UBC co-op website to make it easier for employers to recruit across departments and disciplines, as well as to advertise to key markets like Toronto and the Silicon Valley.

Last year's funding went towards promotional measures such as the production of a video and the development of a social media strategy.

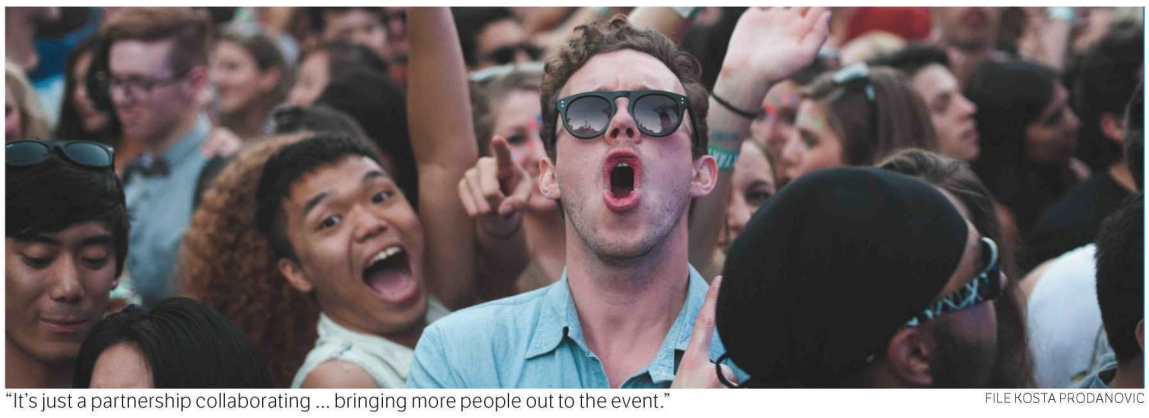
Most UBC co-op students are in engineering and the sciences, but the funding will be used to market the program as a whole.

"Overall, this funding is enabling UBC Co-op to work together to market our co-op programs, providing easier access for employers to our students, thereby increasing opportunities for UBC co-op students," wrote Eich.

EVENT PLANNING //

'A small partnership': SFU students to attend AMS Welcome Back BBQ

Alex Nguyen & Zak Vescera
News Editors



"It's just a partnership collaborating ... bringing more people out to the event." FILE KOSTA PRODANOVIC

AMS Events is doing a "small partnership" with the Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS) for this year's annual AMS Welcome Back BBQ on September 14, after SFSS cancelled their own start-of-the-year event. The two student societies are still in the process of finalizing the details, and the AMS expects to roll out the information for students later.

The AMS Welcome Back BBQ is the society's second-largest annual event in terms of attendance after Block Party, with 5,000 tickets originally in circulation. According to AMS President Marium Hamid, UBC students will see no changes to ticket availability or cost.

"The amount of tickets available to UBC students will still remain the same," she said. "The tickets sold to UBC students will also be the same price."

Instead, the event's attendance cap will increase from 5,000 to 6,500 — the same number of tickets offered for Block Party — to include additional tickets reserved for Simon Fraser University (SFU) students.

AMS Programming and Events Manager Asad Ali said that the ticket pricing for SFU is still being negotiated. But he expects them to be around $37 for general tier and $45 for final tier, which are more than what UBC students pay but lower than the $55 public tier.

"We subsidize our prices for UBC students," he said. "For the SFU side, it will be a bit higher just to ensure that it's fair to everyone all around."

Ali added that AMS Events will continue to manage most of the planning for Welcome Back BBQ and has so far pitched only the funding for more security to SFSS, anticipating the need for 10 to potentially 20 more personnel. The total number of guards will range between 60 and 70, and the AMS has also promised to ensure adequate support from first-aid and wellness crews.

"We still manage pretty much the whole event itself," he said. It's just a partnership collaborating ... bringing more people out to the event."

AMS Events expects the total cost to be "between $25,000 and $35,000" after setting a preliminary budget of $25,000, which is just over half of last year's budget of $48,965. Last year's Fall Kickoff at SFU had over 2,600 attendees and made over $9,000 in profit, according to an SFSS report.

"We have to see how ticket sales are going for both UBC and SFU sides [and] we have to see how costs are going," Ali said.

Currently, the event has sold approximately 1,000 tickets — the AMS expect the sales to pick up in the second week of August as students begin returning to campus.

"As a student society, our goal is always to break even on an event — our goal is not to make money. If we have a budget for $35,000, my goal is to minimize the loss as much as possible and I'll ensure we get more sponsorship revenue, more ticket revenue, alcohol sales, etc," Ali said.

WHY A PARTNERSHIP?

This AMS-SFSS partnership followed the cancellation of SFSS's annual Fall Kickoff concert, as SFU's student newspaper *The Peak* reported on July 18.

According to an SFSS press release, their annual Fall Kickoff concert was originally "pencilled in" for Friday, September 21. But on July 9, the society was notified that the location was booked for another event. The proposed alternate date of Friday, September 28 was also rejected by SFU.

The SFSS was offered two alternative dates — September 14 and 20 — but did not accept them. *The Peak* reported that the SFSS was concerned about hosting the event on the same day as Welcome Back BBQ, and was worried that hosting on the 20 September — a Thursday — would harm attendance.

"We understand and sympathize with the frustrations felt over the cancellation of this year's concert, and we've worked to find an alternative solution for our students," reads the SFSS statement.

"Although we acknowledge this event is not the same as the concert experience we could provide here on Burnaby campus, this partnership was the best alternative for our members given the circumstances."

Now, the AMS is looking at this partnership with the SFSS as a way to foster collaboration between student societies in close proximity and to test the feasibility of larger events.

"We have done parties of this scale before and our Block Party is of that scale," said Hamid. "We look forward to what this new evolving relationship with other student societies would look like."

"It just goes to an overarching goal if we ever want to do a Block Party or Welcome Back for 10,000 people — this is the first step to showing that it can be done through collaboration with other student unions," said Ali. "This is a great example and the first push to ensure that we can make something like that happens."

TRANSPORTATION //

Cancellation of Greyhound bus service in Western Canada leaves UBC community members in the lurch

The cut is to take effect on October 31. CLAIRE LLOYD

Moira Wyton
Features Editor

UBC's community members are "surprised and dismayed" by Greyhound Canada's recent announcement that it will cancel all bus routes in Western Canada, except for the Vancouver-Seattle route run by its American counterpart.

The cut, taking effect on October 31, has been attributed to a steady decrease in ridership and profit for these routes in recent years. But this decision would take away an affordable and accessible option for travelling, especially for low-income individuals and those who live in remote communities, according to UBC's community members.

For third-year student Casey Broughton, who has traveled home to Kelowna often on a monthly basis over the last two years, the cost for his trips will "now more than double (at least)."

"I'll probably just have to cut my visits down to Christmas and other longer visits where flying makes economic sense," Broughton said in a message to *The Ubyssey*. "I was already flying in winter to avoid the wrath of a Coquihalla snowstorm, but I can't afford to fly as much as I bus currently."

The big difference in cost between bussing with Greyhound Canada and taking a flight to its major destinations is another common discussion.

"What?! It's only 260 bucks to go to Toronto on the Greyhound from Vancouver. That blows, the airlines aren't that cheap at all," commented Reddit user 5ur3540t.

Greyhound acknowledged that students may be particularly impacted by these changes, while reiterating that they wouldn't take effect until the end of October.

"We appreciate that these route changes are difficult for our customers, including students who are among our most frequent travelers," wrote Greyhound Regional VP for Western Canada Peter Hamel in an emailed statement to *The Ubyssey*.

Beyond the issue of affordability, significant concerns have also been raised about how the decision would impact the accessibility and safety of individuals living in rural or remote communities, where public transportation is limited. In particular, this gap has long been considered a contributing factor to the disappearances and murders of Indigenous women and girls, as they were forced to hitchhike to travel.

"Bus service is not just another perk, it is a vital service for many people who don't or can't drive in all smaller towns in BC," wrote student Ilya Kapralov in a Facebook post. "I don't quite understand what are the alternatives for a million people who are left cut out from the transportation infrastructure."

"The recent cuts to Greyhound routes throughout the western provinces will exacerbate the risk and vulnerability of Indigenous Women and Girls," reads the July 11 media release from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

"The National Inquiry calls on all levels of government, federal, provincial and Indigenous, to step in and provide solutions on this urgent matter."

IMPACT ON UBC

Greyhound's decision could also have an impact on UBC itself.

Dr. Gordon Lovegrove, a UBC Okanagan (UBCO) associate professor of applied science with a focus in transportation planning, said the cut could make in-person research collaborations between the two UBC campuses more difficult and even limit student research opportunities as well.

"More research funding will be used to pay for faculty trips between campuses, unless they can Skype or teleconference," said Lovegrove, noting that senior faculty may have more financial means to fly back and forth than junior faculty members.

"[Faculty] could [also] be taking research money away that could have been able to support more student researchers [and] the opportunity cost may be fewer opportunities for student research positions."

UBCO VP Research Philip Barker responded that the university will monitor this issue in the coming months.

"It's too early to say what impact the route cancellations could have on research costs and collaborations as they've to take place," said Barker in an emailed statement to *The Ubyssey*.

Lovegrove noted that alternative solutions do exist, such as ridesharing for students who still need affordable ground travel. Electric rail is another solution that has been mentioned, but it remains a long ways away from realization if ever approved.

"Everybody's talking about this. We've grown up with Greyhound," said Lovegrove. "The alternatives are out there, but it's just the convenience factor has gone out the window."

He also expressed optimism for what this drastic cut could mean for future strategic planning for transportation in BC and beyond. The BC provincial government recently announced that it would "fast-track" applications from companies offering inter-city bus service to communities left without service after Greyhound's departure from Western Canada.

"It's just sad that it no longer works," he said. "People are despairing, but we'll pick ourselves up and find a way to make it work without Greyhound.

"And it's my hope that this will spur some long-term strategic discussions about what's a more sustainable way [and] a healthier way to travel."

CIVIL CLAIM //

Student sues UBC for negligence after 2016 dorm attack left her with 'pain, suffering'

"The safety of all members of our community is of utmost priority." SAMANTHA MCCABE

Alex Nguyen & Zak Vescera
News Editors

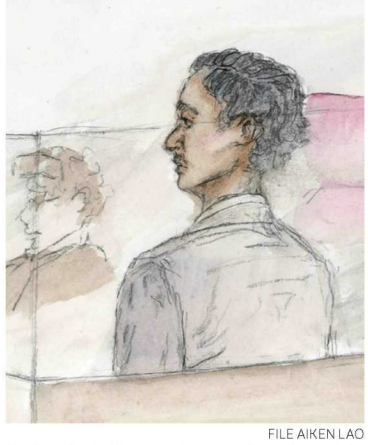
UBC student Mary Hare, the victim of an attack that took place at Totem Park in 2016, is suing the university for negligence in failing to ensure adequate safety measures in its residences. This follows last year's trial of former UBC student Thamer Almestadi, who attacked Hare with a knife when she answered the door to her third-floor dorm room.

Almestadi appeared before BC Supreme Court Judge Margot L. Fleming in October 2017 on charges of attempted murder, aggravated assault and assault with a weapon. The judge found Almestadi to be not criminally responsible after the Crown and defence eventually agreed that he had "proven mental health issues."

Almestadi was sent back to his home in Saudi Arabia after the BC Review Board found that he did not pose "a significant threat" to the public in December 2017. While there is still the possibility of a relapse, the board noted that "ongoing care, monitoring and early access to treatment" facilitated by his family would make the risk "manageable."

In a notice of civil claim, Hare alleges that the attack left her with lasting physical injuries as well as depression, post-traumatic stress and anxiety.

"The injuries, loss, and damage sustained by the Plaintiff have caused and continue to cause the Plaintiff pain, suffering, loss of enjoyment of life and permanent physical and mental disability," reads her notice.



FILE AIKEN LAO
A sketch of Almestadi at his October trial.

Accordingly, Hare is seeking relief for physical and psychological damages caused by the attack as well as compensation for ongoing trauma, medical care and wage loss.

The claim argues that UBC "knew or should have been aware" about the general risk of assault via forced entry, as well as the specific risk posed to Hare's safety in face of "imminent danger."

It also says that UBC should have installed extra security features like bolts and door viewers to avert the risk.

On the first day of the October trial, Hare testified that she barely knew Almestadi, having only spoken to him once. She did not indicate that there were any signs of violent or threatening behaviour from Almestadi before the attack.

Janani Rangarajan, a UBC residence advisor, testified during this previous trial that in a brief conversation with Almestadi "a few nights before the attack," he sounded stressed and his tone concerned her.

In a subsequent conversation, Rangarajan asked Almestadi if he was thinking about self-harm — while he said he wasn't considering it, he felt "paranoid and nervousness" and they talked about counselling options. She testified that this conversation took place after Almestadi's situation was brought up to her student supervisor and staff supervisor at Totem Park.

UBC's acting VP Students Janet Teasdale acknowledged Hare's notice of civil claim, but declined to comment on it further as it is before the courts.

"The safety of all members of our community is of utmost priority," Teasdale said in a written statement to *The Ubyssey*. "The incident was shocking and unprecedented, and we care about the impact on all of those involved."

DOLLA DOLLA BILL Y'ALL //

UBC's fundraising campaign for student awards nearly half-way to $100 million target

Thea Udwadia
Contributor

Billed as the "largest campaign for scholarships for students in the history of British Columbia," UBC's Blue and Gold campaign, which aims to raise $100 million for leadership and needs-based student awards in three years, has received $40.2 million as of July 3.

According to Janine Root, Development and Alumni Engagement (DAE) director of campus initiatives and awards, the campaign received the "largest number of donations of any single fund at UBC last year." This helped created 113 new awards and increased the funding for renewable entrance awards.

"Many of the funds that we have raised over the first year of the campaign will be handed out to students for the first time in the fall," Root said.

"Though some of the money we raised last year was handed out to students in the same year — it depends on the timing of their gift and when in the school year that gift was handed out."

But this $40.2 million figure is not limited to just donations that UBC received after the official launch on November 27, 2017. According to Richard Fisher, DAE chief communications officer, the number of donations is counted from the start of the campaign launch's fiscal year on April 1, 2017 — which he called "quite typical in fundraising."

This means that the campaign has raised a total of $31.6 million in the first fiscal year, or between April 1, 2017 and March 31, 2018. Of this amount, just under $200,000 was raised for the Blue and Gold bursary fund, which is "the focus of the broad based fundraising appeal," since the fund was not collected until the campaign was launched in November.

"We only count donations that were made to student awards and support (It's actually illegal to take a donation for one purpose and use it for another!)," said Fisher in an emailed response on how donations were counted if they were given prior to the campaign's official launch.

UBC also matched more than $4 million by the end of the 2017/18 school year, out of the $5 million that the university has committed to in matching funds. This funding comes out of the Excellence Fund.

THE NITTY-GRITTY

Fisher noted that in the first fiscal year, the average donation for gifts under $25,000 was $827, while the average donation for those over $25,000 was $113,000. He added that 2.2 per cent of donors accounted for 82 per cent of all funds raised over $25,000, and the remaining 97.8 per cent accounted for 18 per cent of funds raised under $25,000.

Of the donations collected for this campaign, many go directly to existing awards, according to Root. For new awards, their allocation and distribution is largely up to the donors themselves.

"For the awards that are being created by donors, we respond to the interests of donors while also sharing the priorities for the university," she said.

"When I look at the trends over the past three years, we tend to have [a] slightly higher percentage of merit versus need, but this is quite close."

The distribution of awards between domestic and international students, as well as those between undergraduates and graduates, is also at the donors' discretion. Looking at general trends, Root noted that awards tend to be "relatively evenly split" between those accessible by undergraduates, graduates and those that make no distinction between the two.

One prominent example of donations has been the recent $500,000 gift from the Djavad Mowafaghian Foundation, which will be matched by UBC to establish the first Presidential Scholar Award. It is the largest award created with the Blue & Gold campaign so far.

This new $1 million endowment will fund $20,000 renewable entrance awards to domestic students entering UBC directly from secondary schools or transferring from other universities in Canada or abroad. Its criteria will be based on the student's "demonstrated academic and leadership achievements in the arts, community, athletics, or school."

"As a society, to get better and stronger in the future, we need to invest in children today," said Hamid Eshghi, president of the Djavad Mowafaghian Foundation in a UBC media release. "Many of these students will be very successful leaders of the future. This is an excellent program."

"AN ACCESSIBLE UNIVERSITY TO ALL STUDENTS"

AMS VP Academic and University Affairs Max Holmes views the Blue & Gold Campaign as a "great initiative" so far.

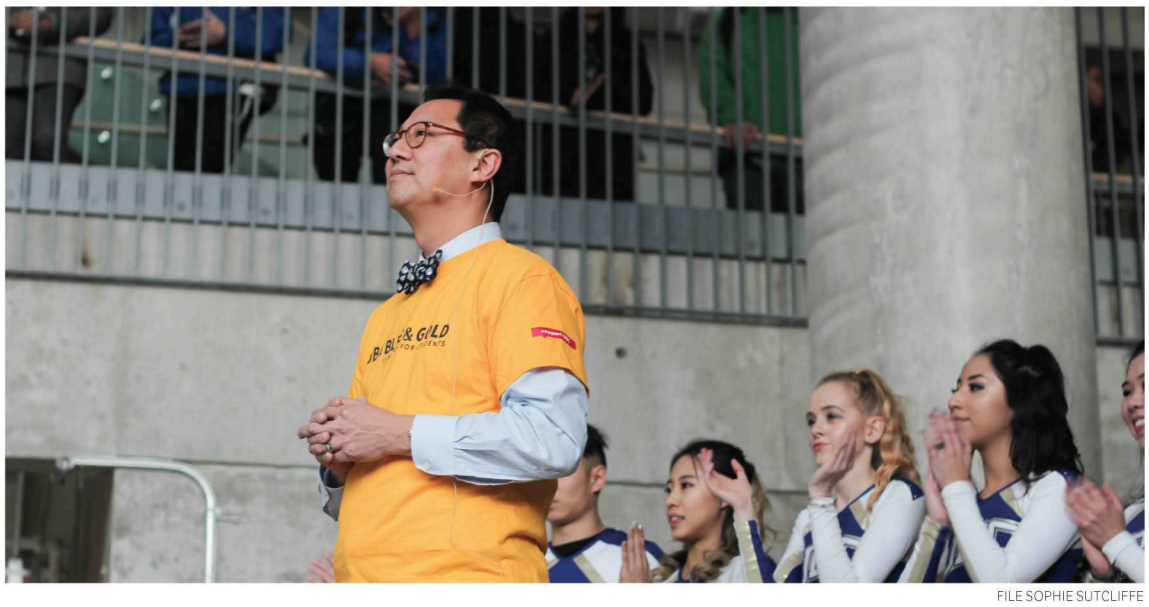
"Overall, we've seen that they've done a very good job with this campaign, and that they've had a really good first year," he said. "We really hope that they not only reach their goal, but exceed their goal at the end of this campaign."

But Holmes also stressed the need to use the campaign as a way to make UBC more accessible, especially for those who are not eligible under the university's policy on access like international students and some domestic students. For instance, the policy states that "Undergraduate Students without a Permanent Disability must be enrolled in 60% or more of a full course load for the program in which they are registered" to be considered eligible.

He believes that since the campaign just recently started, the AMS will have time to discuss these considerations and how financial support would work following the campaign with UBC — especially in the "final leg of the campaign."

"I think it's really important that we think about our international students when we're having these campaigns, and that we're offering support for all of the students that are attending our university," Holmes said. "When the campaign finishes, the focus should really be about access, and that this campaign was done to make sure that this is an accessible university to all students."

— with files from Andrew Hung and Alex Nguyen



FILE SOPHIE SUTCLIFFE
"When the campaign finishes, the focus should really be about access, and that this campaign was done to make sure that this is an accessible university to all students."

LITERATURE //

"I struggled with the idea of being defined by my ethnicity as a writer": Professor Kevin Chong on LiterASIAN and Asian-Canadian narratives

Helena Zhang
Contributor

Taking place from September 21 to 23, this year's LiterASIAN Festival honours the late Jim Wong-Chu, a local organizer and pioneer in Asian Canadian writing. Wong-Chu founded *Ricepaper Magazine*, the Asian Canadian Writers' Workshop (ACWW) and the festival itself.

As the name suggests, LiterASIAN celebrates and creates community around Asian-Canadian writers, both seasoned and emerging. This year's panel features Kevin Chong, UBC alumnus and creative writing professor.

While this may be Chong's first appearance at LiterASIAN, his relationship to Wong-Chu and the local Asian-Canadian writing community goes back decades.

"One of my very first readings was as a result of Jim Wong-Chu," he said.

"About 20 years ago, he called the UBC creative writing department's secretary and asked basically for all the names of the Asian students. So I got a call out of the blue from Jim Wong-Chu."

Chong has also written pieces for *Ricepaper*, the first one dating back to 2000 when fellow UBC alumna and author Madeleine Thien was the editor.

Fresh off the release of his latest novel, *The Plague*, Chong will be running a workshop on dystopian writing.

"I'm going to talk about dystopia as far as what it means to me, keeping in mind I didn't necessarily think of my book as a dystopian novel ... [s]omething terrible happens, and we see how people react in the face of it. It's more of a philosophical novel, you know?"

Attendees can expect Chong to discuss the power that dystopias have to highlight the difficult and uncomfortable inequalities of our world. In *The Plague*, those inequalities are examined through the different social divisions in Vancouver and how they cope with a deadly epidemic.

"When we write about inequality, I think a lot of Asian-Canadians are in some ways protected ... because of an economic advantage or a historical advantage," he said.

"But we don't have to go very far back to realize that we were treated less than fully human, you know? And we have to recognize that there are people today that have to go through the same plight and use our imaginations to humanize other countries like us."

Asian-Canadians and diasporic-Asian writing worldwide have come a long way since the Gold Rush stories Chong grew up with.

"[W]hen I was younger, I struggled with the idea of being defined by my ethnicity as a writer and being expected to write 'Asian-Canadian' stories, whatever those are, whatever 'Asian-Canadian' writing is," he said, referring to common narratives of immigrant toils and being caught between worlds.

Professor Kevin Chong is presenting at the LiterASIAN festival. COURTESY ANDREW QUERNER

Chong has since made peace with those narratives, and said that the older generation of Asian-Canadian writers helped pave the way for younger Asian-Canadians to write freely.

"I think it's the voices that have been the least represented that are the most exciting ... They're not just following in the footsteps of someone else. What they're going to do is going to be inevitably different," he explained.

While Asian-Canadians face obstacles both in and out of the literary world, Chong noted the importance of solidarity amongst the many cultures that exist in Canada.

"We're a part of it all ... my great grandfather was buried in Mountain View Cemetery. He paid the head tax. But I was born in Hong Kong because he raised his family in China. We all have these curious ... stories about how our families arrived here. I think that's pretty interesting. I feel like our story is unique but you know, it's part of the mosaic of this country."

EVENT //

SNAG takes the intimidation out of art collecting with *Synesthesia*

"Art can be a little intimidating sometimes, the idea of collecting art, like it's for fancy people, but it can be for anyone." LAURA JONES

Laura Jones
Contributor

My first experience upon entering *The American* is a stamp on my arm that says "Don't Be A Dick." The music is almost too loud to talk over, but after the first beer, it hardly matters. SNAG's event, *Synesthesia,* was listed to start at 8 p.m., but the place was mostly empty until closer to 10 p.m. Then, things picked up as the artists were given two hours to complete their murals. If that wasn't cool enough to watch, there was also a live model that anyone could draw — paper and pencils were handed out on request.

The artsy vibe was curated by Drew Young and Nick Pound, coordinators of the event series.

Young started SNAG - Alternative Contemporary Arts five years ago in cooperation with The Cobalt. They had weekly art raffles for three years before expanding across the street to The American. Pound came into the picture near the beginning of the series.

"[Drew] was a host that did not like doing it. Eventually I expressed that I wanted to be on the stage talking about the event, and he was like 'Oh! You do it for me then!'" Pound explained. "I've got to meet so many ... people that I would find intimidatingly talented ... and now they think I'm cool too because I'm willing to say their name on a stage."

"Art can be a little intimidating sometimes, the idea of collecting art, like it's for fancy people, but it can be for anyone," Pound added.

"I think ... one of the real values of SNAG is allowing people ... space to create a community."

There were artists and attendees from a wide array of backgrounds and the art styles included 3D wood-block paintings, murals and 2D illustrations.

"Art gets really boring when you just focus on one thing ... I think the whole beauty of it is being able to share these things and open your mind to new possibilities," said Pound.

"We really try not to keep ourselves in one style because we know there are people doing different things. We have a really ... loose environment, we like to be very open and welcoming to everyone. You can be into something super super weird and we want you to come find your place here."

New artists are always welcome to contact them on their Facebook page or live at an event. They just ask for an Instagram or website as their portfolio. SNAG events are free and the art is raffled at the end of the night for as little as $5 for five raffle tickets. The American has the best cheeseburgers in all of Vancouver and a rotating tap, which adds to the appeal.

Their events went on a six-month hiatus due to "busy-ness and laziness," but they have another on August 7 in conjunction with the Vancouver Mural Festival. They also intend to do a SNAG event every month.

"I think that's the main thing we care about here at SNAG, is caring what we're all doing and trying to make that available and inclusive to everyone," Pound emphasized. "We want to put art in people's homes, we want to put it in people's brains and we want to make new friends and have everyone enjoy what each other are doing."

JAPANESE-CANADIAN //

COURTESY LUCAS LAU/POWELL STREET FESTIVAL

Powell Street Festival pushes the boundaries of what 'Japanese-Canadian' means

Anne Nguyen
Contributor

The area surrounding Powell Street used to host a thriving Japanese-Canadian community, but the Japanese-Canadians in the vicinity were taken from their homes and interned in camps during WWII. Now, every year, the Powell Street Festival Society runs an event to cultivate Japanese-Canadian art and culture in the area.

"The Powell Street Festival almost acts as a way of reclaiming that space ... and we celebrate it with people who live in the area now," said Leanne Dunic, the society's artistic director and a candidate in UBC's master of fine arts program.

"[The people living here now] are also traditionally displaced ... [there are] a lot of First Nations people in the area. We welcome everyone to partake in the Powell Street Festival."

As artistic director, Dunic maintains "the artistic vision of the festival" and organizes the society's other programs that occur throughout the year. Dunic's position also entails working with the local Japanese-Canadian artistic community.

"The [community] is small, so it's a limited pool of artists ... That is kind of exciting for us, because we can get behind our artists and support them by giving them opportunities like the festival."

The festival offers a variety of entertainment such as live music, theatre, dance, film and participatory installations. It also hosts a slew of Japanese-Canadian food vendors, offering authentic cuisine.

Dunic believes the festival is important to Vancouver for its huge promotion of diversity, connectedness and understanding. Prior to becoming the artistic director, Dunic was a recurring attendee of the festival for over a decade.

"Powell Street Festival has been known to take risks ... artistically and to also be very inclusive of the type of artists they have. I found that the programming was always pushing the boundaries of what the idea of Japanese-Canadian meant."

MEMOIR //

Memoir: Requiem for the old Pit

Zak Vescera
News Editor

The original Pit in the SUB basement was by all accounts a hive of scum and villainy.

FILE CARTER BRUNDAGE

My dad, like me, was once a student studying international relations at UBC. He was the first person to tell me about the old Pit.

As a Vancouverite and the son of a UBC alumnus, I knew about the Pit before I was allowed to drink and well before I had any interest in going to bars. It was brought up by family friends laughing about the good ol' days, teachers who joked about "how much fun" we were going to have in university and first-year UBC students who visited my high school to show that they were very, very cool.

I had no illusions about the place. The original Pit in the SUB basement was by all accounts a hive of scum and villainy. If old *Ubyssey* pictures are to be trusted, it was one of the dive-iest of dive bars. It was cheap.

If my dad was anything like me, he was also occasionally something of a degenerate and I have no doubt that he found his way to the boozy basement. In his words, it was the only place to go, which meant that everyone was bound to be there.

I never got to experience that Pit. I only arrived on UBC campus in August 2017, so the "Old SUB" is my "New SUB."

The only Pit I've ever visited isn't quite so greasy or dirty. It looks and feels like any typical Kitsilano sports bar, complete with the craft beer, table service and $9 cocktails.

A lot of my friends like the new, sleeker Pit, but I can't shake this weird nostalgia I have for a bar I've never been to. Maybe I'm one of those insufferable "born in the wrong generation" types, but I'm also not the only one who feels this way. Other Vancouverites I've spoken to are equally fascinated by the dive bar we never visited.

When I speak to alumni — relatives, friends, acquaintances — they almost inevitably crack a joke about the old Pit. The new Pit, as nice as it is, feels more like the sad end to an era of drunken college shenanigans.

When my dad recently visited campus, he was amazed by how much it had changed since the 80s. The biggest shocker was that the recipe for UBC's famed cinnamon buns — his guilty pleasure — had changed. The second was that the Pit was actually a nice place to be.

ART //

Museum of Anthropology receives precious $1.1 million Northwest Coast art pieces from late Calgary philanthropist

Selected works in gold and silver by renowned Haida artist Bill Reid

COURTESY UBC MEDIA RELATIONS

Coleman Pete
Contributor

A new collection of Northwest Coast Indigenous art that includes early works by Haida artist Bill Reid was donated to the Museum of Anthropology (MOA) in early July. Margaret Perkins Hess, known to many as "Marmie," was a community leader, art historian, businesswoman and recipient of the Order of Canada. Hess had a particular interest in works by the Group of Seven and by Indigenous artists. When she passed away in September 2016 at the age of 100, her estate made a donation to MOA.

Among the 104 pieces donated are metalworks, carved masks, weavings and totem poles from a number of artists, including Reid and Henry Hunt (Kwakwaka'wakw). The total value of the collection is $1.1 million.

Wooden masks, a golden brooch and a silver box are key pieces from Reid's early works. The son of a Haida mother and a Scottish-German father, Reid initially learned the basics of jewelry making at Ryerson University. A trip to Haida Gwaii in 1954 led him to delve further into his Indigenous ancestry, prompting him to revitalize timeless Haida art forms that had been damaged by the effects of colonialism.

"There weren't many [reference books] available to him at the time; he was trying to get a hold of any resources that he could," said Karen Duffek, curator of Contemporary Visual Arts and Pacific Northwest at MOA. At the time, Reid was using his skills in jewelry-making to attempt to replicate older pieces. A gold brooch with a dogfish motif is an example of his mastery with the material. "It's amazing to see in real life," said Duffek in reference to the piece, which is in the process of being prepared for display at MOA. "He took so much pleasure in the technical aspect of goldsmithing.

In addition to the Bill Reid pieces, early woodworked masks from Henry Hunt add to the diversity of materials in the collection. Hunt's later works of several hand-carved totem poles can already be found permanently on display at MOA's Thunderbird Park.

Vancouver is now home to a full spectrum of Reid's work. Larger pieces *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii* and *Chief of the Undersea World* are available as public art displays, and some of his work from as early as the age of 12 is displayed at the Bill Reid Gallery of Northwest Coast Art. The non-profit gallery is the sole facility that is completely focused on Northwest Coast Art, including contemporary works.

"I am thrilled that these private pieces are now available for public viewing," said Beth Carter, Curator and Interim Director of the Bill Reid Gallery. She said that the treasured jewelry pieces can be hard to track down, often ending up in safety deposit boxes instead of being worn or displayed. And while the gallery does boast Reid's name, they weren't surprised that such a rare collection of his work would be donated to MOA.

"We work in tandem with the folks at MOA, and we are great peers. Major donations like this are the result of long term relationship-building between the parties. MOA has an amazing reputation and a long term relationship with Bill."

Beijing fills the world and now a corner of my heart, too

Moira Wyton
Features Editor

The previous semester — more of an academic and personal marathon than I had expected — ended just 16 hours before my Trans-Pacific flight, leaving me no energy to contemplate China as more than a concept before I landed.

Beijing revealed itself slowly: rising through the smog the red sun of dawn creeping up through the haze and seeming to play hide and seek between the buildings, rose-tinted light rising higher and higher into the sky as we approached. Built in rings originating from the Forbidden City, the landscape grows more dense with each layer deeper you travel.

Three of us waded into a city thick with smog, humidity, cigarette smoke and bodies. I was immediately struck by the sheer volume of people, who seemed to appear out of nowhere — riding bikes, jockeying by us in the street, crowding on the sidewalks outside of the Forbidden City in a line I couldn't be sure had an end. Here, personal space was even more scarce than a reprieve from the heat, and each line we waited in as we moved through the former palace grounds and the adjacent Zhongshan Park made me feel too tall and too warm to exist in this country at all.

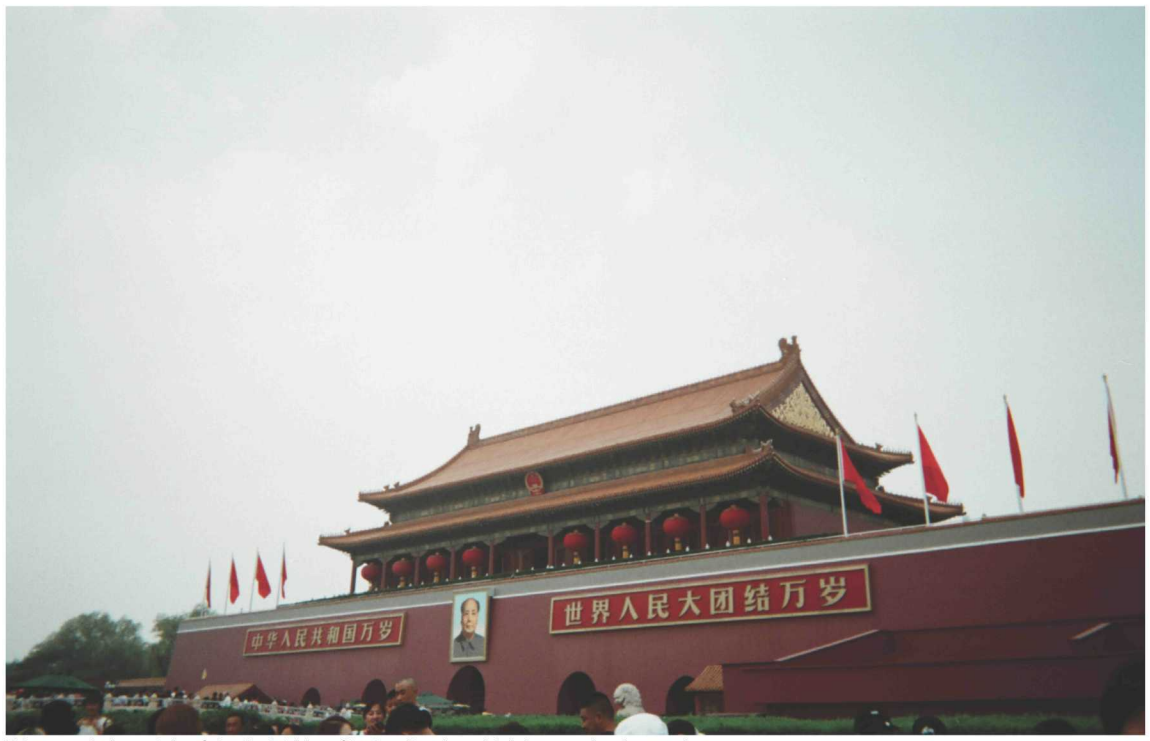
As we entered the park after paying a few *kwai*, parents lined a section of walkways next to the canal with written profiles of their sons and daughters for other parents to peruse should they feel a match could be made. China is more digitally advanced than Canada and most of the world — I felt like a luddite as I used cash to pay for our afternoon snack of spiced packaged sausages instead of WeChat pay on my phone — so it was strange to see what was essentially parent-controlled Tinder still in action.

Tiananmen Square and the shadow of the massacre loomed across the way from where we sat, nearly burning our tongues on hot peppers at lunch. All wide roads and grand monuments, the centre felt strangely like Washington, DC or the wide-set architecture of Place de la Concorde in Paris — both places I hold close to my heart. Everything was grand, but felt empty despite the throngs of people.

Later that day, after a nap that claimed one of my friends until the morning, two of us ventured to Great Leap Brewing for dinner: my friend, nostalgic for the Vancouver craft beer scene he was missing; me, just dying to eat something with enough iron to get me through the jet lag. We each had a beer, a burger and then another beer each, talking about people and problems we hadn't shared in months. Our conversation felt like home as we sat among Chinese hipsters who didn't seem much different than the crowds at our usual haunts in Vancouver. It was the first time I hadn't felt like a foreigner since arriving.

The sentiment could not have changed more when I arrived the next day at a peak on the Mutianyu portion of the Great Wall. I had melted like the trail mix in my backpack midway through my hike to the nineteenth watchtower — five towers over from my starting point, and then 538 steep steps upwards. Dodging an overly friendly fellow hostel guest I had met on the bus, I walked alone for hours, tuning into nearby conversations in the languages I understood and making up my own for those I didn't. Lush forest surrounded the Wall, offering a brief reprieve from the heavy smog of the city and lightening my heart as well as my lungs. Winding down into the village at the base of the mountain for lunch, a string of unanswered texts from a former partner lit up my phone as my phone and my brain tuned back in. Like the sea of text — on signs, in books, on menus — that I could not read here, the messages seemed to ask me for something without saying anything. My country-based illiteracy opened up room in my brain I wasn't sure I wanted at the moment, and I made the short-lived choice to fill it instead with trying to order my meal in Mandarin.

It boggled my mind that Beijing did not fill the whole world. MOIRA WYTON



We crowded outside of the Forbidden City in a line I couldn't be sure had an end. MOIRA WYTON

There's a song called "One Night in Beijing" — it became somewhat of an anthem in later parts of my trip — which I think could have been written about my last evening in the city. Our group of three reunited over warm beef noodles in peanut sauce and beer, hopping to a cocktail bar which was hidden in a *hutong* — a narrow alleyway — before grabbing bike-share bicycles and pedaling through the district to yet another bar. The night had cooled, but the air was still thick on my face as we wove through traffic, avoiding the bar-goers who had spilled onto the street.

The bar we reached was inside a house with high ceilings and wide rafters — and as we took over the small loft and the Tsingtao bottles piled up, I couldn't help but feel like I was being distilled in more than a physical sense by the evening. I struggled the most of the three of us to navigate the city in Mandarin, and my focus had shifted to only the bare minimum: my own needs, my own survival. It was difficult to focus on anything beyond this, to look past the crowds of people and to feel as though what I had left across the ocean was real in any sense.

It boggled my mind that Beijing did not fill the whole world, that the vibrancy of the street as we floated out of the bar left room for anything else to exist at all. As a silent man in a stylish felt bucket hat made me a *jianbing* — a thin scallion pancake filled with soy sauce, chili paste, egg, chicken and a thin cracker — and I said goodbye to my friends in the early hours of the morning, that street felt like the only one in the world. The city surrounded me so completely that I will be happy for any space Beijing opened up in my mind and heart to remain its own.

Feeling grounded 6,271 metres above sea-level in Peru

Samantha McCabe
Coordinating Editor

Peru is best described as climate zones clambering for room. As I stepped out of the international arrivals zone and into the humidity of Lima's oceanside vista, smog slung close to the city and my skin immediately felt sticky. But far away from the stress haven that is the microcosm of Vancouver and university life, I felt clean.

That feeling only tripled as I skipped through weather patterns over the course of the next three weeks. This was my first foray through South America and I was determined to see a little bit of everything: the sunshine-y towns jam-packed with historical significance, the freezing tops of the Peruvian Andes, the sweaty riversides of the Amazon rainforest, the bone-dry beaches of the North.

It was the first time I had packed a toque and gloves, mosquito netting and a bikini in the same suitcase.

During the first week of the trip, my dad, my sister and I decided to undertake the Salkantay Trail, which is the slightly less popular — and, I would soon discover, harder — alternative to the Inca Trail. I would like to preface by saying that as much as I love the outdoors, I'm not a hugely athletic person.

Much like the whole of Peru, our trek seemed to condense a lifetime's worth of nature into a few grueling days. Machu Picchu glistened figuratively in the distance as our group of 10 covered 82 kilometres of slippery inclines, mountain-ringed valleys and dusty footpaths. We would camp at below-freezing temperatures, wearing every layer we had packed, and by the middle of the day be stripped down to shorts and tank tops, sweating until our baseball hats were translucent. At one point, a rocky avalanche had claimed part of the mountainside, and we nervously skirted along what was now a foot-wide path circling a drop-off. Just a few hours later, somehow already dipping our toes into the rainforest, I paused to take a photo of a passionfruit plantation and looked down at my leg, now streaming blood. I had been bitten by a cluster of mystery bugs and my calf swelled to almost twice its size that night.

20,574 feet above sea level.

SAMANTHA MCCABE

I'd be lying if I said I didn't burst into tears at some point along the trail — every extremity hurting, headache pulsing, the knuckles of my right hand third-degree burnt from catching sun as they clutched onto my hiking pole in an imprint that still blooms dark brown. It had been a long, difficult summer on both personal and professional notes (isn't it lovely when everything aligns just so?), but squinting through the blistering sunshine at the next dozen switchbacks — this section of the trail was named the Seven Snakes for a reason — it felt like the saying, "It's all up from here." Forty-five degrees up, to be exact, at an altitude that made it nearly impossible to draw a full breath.

I love a good metaphor.

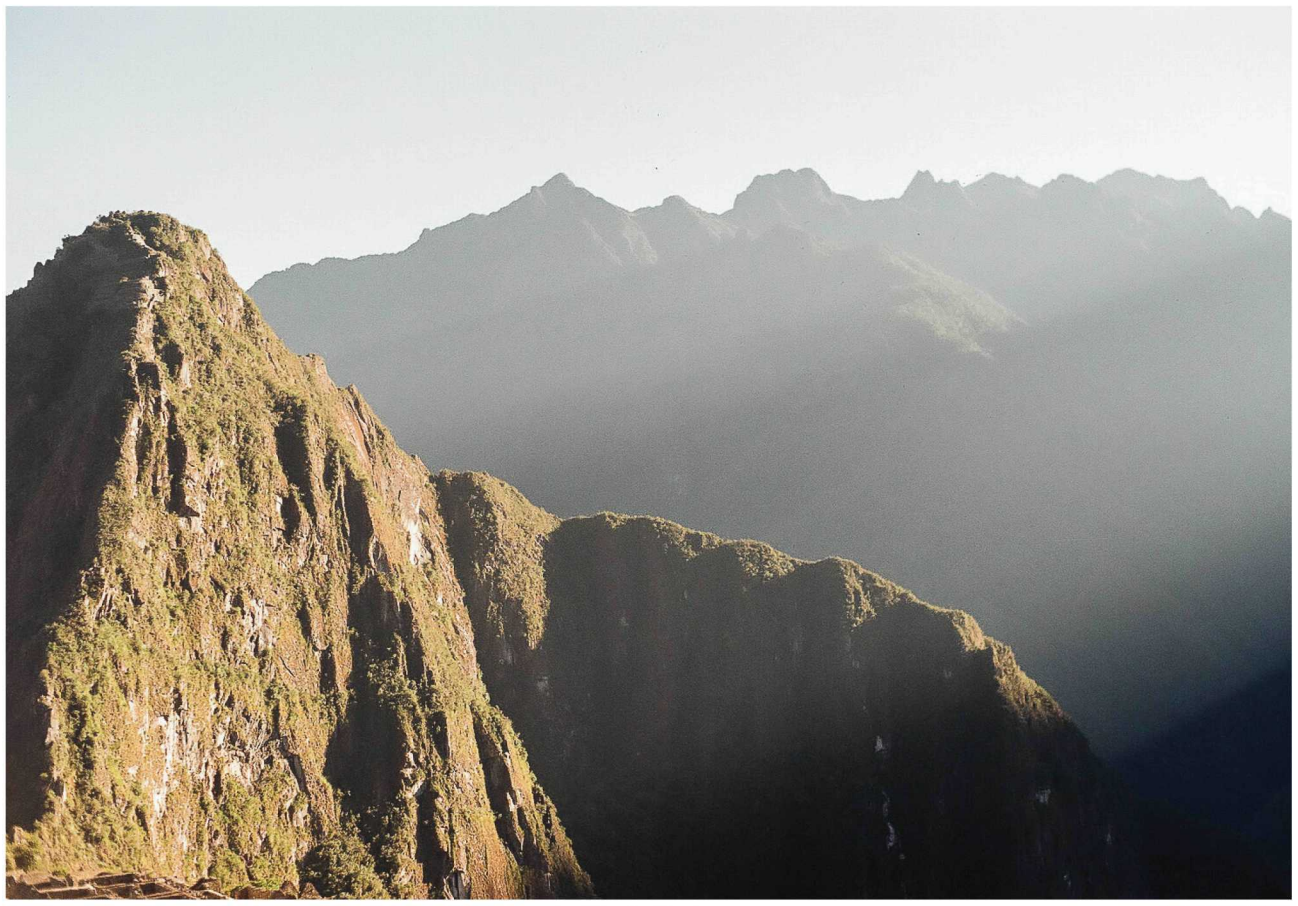
But I wiped my tears, sniffled in what was almost pure carbon dioxide, pulled some bittersweet coca leaves out of my pocket, stuffed them in my gums to chew like tobacco and pushed through.

At midday that second afternoon, we reached what would be the highest point of our trek: 6,271 metres, or 20,574 feet, above sea-level. Feeling like death might be just steps away, forearms greasy with Deet and pockmarked with hair-elastic tan lines, I fist-bumped my dad and looked out over the craggy ranges that cut jagged borders across the sky.

Mouths full of purified water and protein bars, our group overheard a commotion: just steps away, a man was proposing to his girlfriend. She breathlessly accepted and we cheered as they kissed, raucous in our sharing of their happiness. I grinned as the spectacle unwound in front of me and thought about the memory they would share of this day, on top of the world in more ways than one.

Isn't it lovely when everything aligns just so?

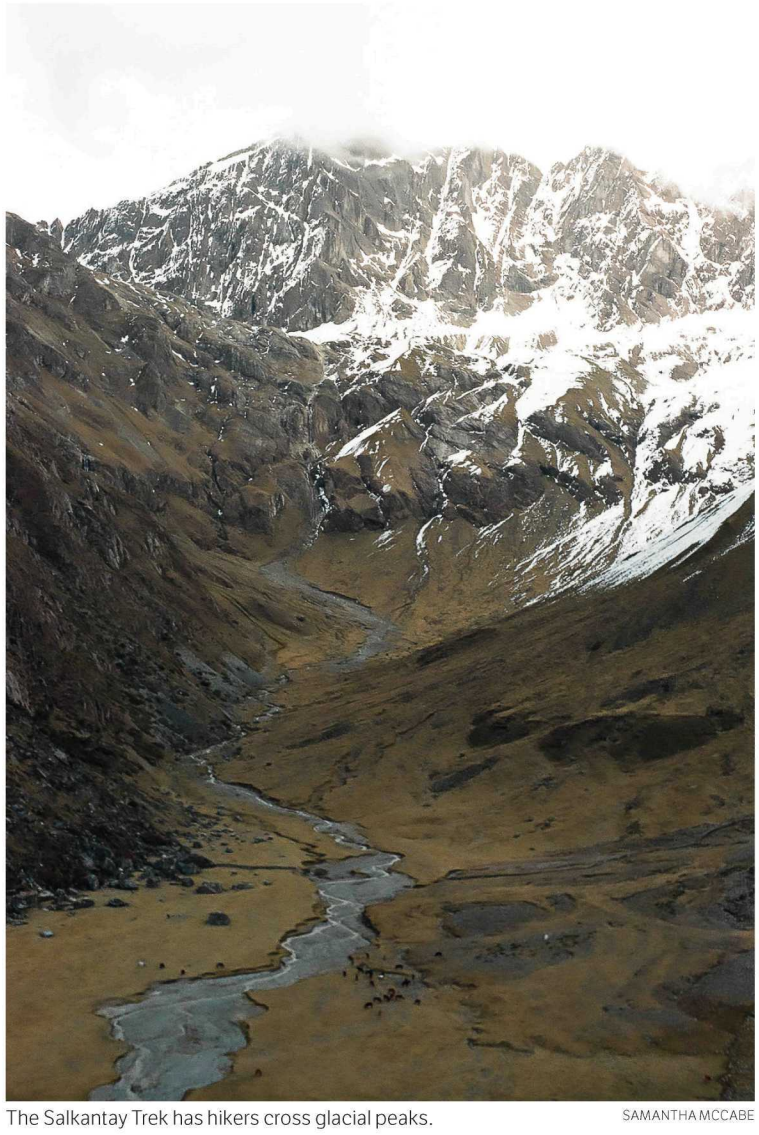
This was a trip of sporadic wifi. I gorged on novels and nature, and felt the best I had in awhile. The rest of the trip unwound in delightful imagery — a teeth-chattering Jeep ride through the Amazon to get to the banks of the slow-moving, ale-tinted Tambopata River, or spotting wild tarantulas with flashlights after nightfall. And for once, I was zeroed in on my surroundings rather than trapped inside my own head. Peru was the cure for self-absorption that I so desperately needed.



Sunrise streams through the famous "Sun Gate" and hits the peak of Machu Picchu. SAMANTHA MCCABE

MOIRA WYTON

Next to a hint of the Fraser Valley, parents lined a section of walkways with written profiles of their children.



The Salkantay Trek has hikers cross glacial peaks. SAMANTHA MCCABE

A local scoops water out of his boat on the banks of the Tambopata River. SAMANTHA MCCABE

SAMANTHA MCCABE

A couple makes their way over a thin path as an avalanche collapses behind them.

The Wall snaked across the lush mountaintop. MOIRA WYTON

SO FAR AWAY //

Ask Pawan: Distance is killing my relationship

Pawan Minhas
Advice Columnist

"I'm doing long distance with my boyfriend over the summer for the first time and the distance has really killed our romance. I love him, but the scheduling of when we can talk, missed connections, and lack of sex is really taking a serious toll. I don't know if I want to break up (I do love him) but the distance is putting that at serious risk."

Long distance is a tough nut to crack. FILE DIVIJA MADHANI

Long distance is a tough nut to crack, especially when it feels like society has just about let that ship sink, what with seemingly every sitcom taking shots at them (I'm looking at you, *Seinfeld*, *Big Bang Theory*, *Friends*, and the like). Most people can probably attest to the metallic taste left in your mouth once you've spent too much time solely communicating over iMessage, or having a Pavlovian fury towards the thousandth "pop-ding!" of Facebook Messenger that day. Despite their best efforts, social media and messaging just aren't as engaging or satisfying as a good old conversation. That certainly doesn't mean they can't be improved though.

Your affection for your boyfriend is readily apparent, so I have some smaller steps for you to test out before going into anything more intense. The first thing is to set up a schedule – romantic, I know. Having a solid hour sometime in the week where there is guaranteed contact gives everyone a few bonuses: you've got a bright spot in the week to look forward to; you have a specially allotted time where your attention is focused and befitting a serious relationship; and you've got a time where you can store up the week's good and bad and have a talk-through with someone you care about. Those three aspects of the set schedule are all aimed around trying to make your time communicating feel less artificial, something that can be aided with things like video-calling to make the time you do have together feel a bit more special. It's easy to take advantage of the seemingly endless hours you have with someone while they're physically reachable, but once you put a time limit on those interactions, it means you've got to put in that much more effort to keep the intimacy strong. Without physical proximity and casual conversations, you have to place more emphasis on things you want your significant other to know, so you can have a better chance at maintaining the depth of your relationship. It may feel inorganic or awkward at times, but keeping an order-of-importance list in your head of things you want to talk about with your significant other can help to keep the classic long-distance relationship drift to a minimum. An added benefit to this extra effort is that should the "long-distance" part be subtracted from the equation, there is less old news to catch up on and even casual conversation with your partner can feel new and fulfilling, again.

The last bit of advice I can give is to ask your partner to give you their full attention for a bit, so you two can have a (virtual) sit-down to talk about what works and what doesn't. What might not be the ideal option may be the most viable one, but to find out what populates those categories, you're going to need to come in with an open mind and understand that you two are working together to find the best solution for both of you, rather than the easiest choice for one.

Keep in mind that the above tips are far from bulletproof. If you've not brought up the romance-deadening distance problem to your partner, I strongly recommend you do because, chances are, they're feeling similar to some extent. If effort is put in on both sides, it can feel more like a team sport rather than the "tug-of-war" of scheduling.

Questions? Comments? Desperate for a stranger's advice? Send in your queries anonymously to advice@ubyssey.ca, or through our website, at ubyssey.ca/advice.

ORGANIZATION //

Mind your mind: Planners to maximize your productivity

Daphnée Lévesque
Columnist

If you ask those who know me well, they'll be the first ones to tell you how obsessed I am with notebooks, pens and school supplies. I take this whole stationery thing rather seriously, and every year before school starts, I begin to search for the perfect planner.

Since I'm very type-A and love office supplies, it's no wonder that having a planner falls under the 'must-have' category. Over the years, I've tried different types of planners, including some of these!

DESIGNER PLANNERS

First up, there are the pretty planners. These planners are usually massive in size and are filled with quotes, patterns and optional stickers. They most often have a monthly, weekly and daily spread, as well as a ton of space to doodle and take notes. The downside with these planners is that they are quite bulky, expensive and take up a lot of space in your backpack. Designer planners can be intimidating if you're a first-time planner user, so you might want to opt for something that requires a little less commitment.

BASIC PLANNERS

Regular planners are cheap, professional-looking and minimalist. They come in different sizes and are usually thinner than designer planners. On the flip side, they can sometimes be poorly designed, too "boring" and not offer enough space. You can't go wrong with a basic planner, but I personally like it when my planner can be customized to reflect some aspect of my personality.

BULLET JOURNALS

A bullet journal is basically a journal that you can customize using coloured pencils, markers, washi tapes and stickers. Bullet journals are aesthetically pleasing and the calligraphy portion can be downright amazing. One summer, I kept a bullet journal and loved how it was both flexible and artsy. However, I don't recommend a bullet journal if you're a first-time user or if you don't have a lot of time to plan. Bullet journals are often popular with artists, but they require a time commitment. It is your own creation, but that also means you are responsible for designing your spreads and organizing your sections.

A good planning style can boost your productivity. FILE STEPHANIE WU

TECHNOLOGY PLANNERS

For those of you who don't like paper planners, there is always the option to organize your schedule using online calendars. After years of owning a paper planner, I got tired of carrying it around in my backpack, and switched to using Google Calendar. I love Google Calendar because it is free, portable, user-friendly and able to colour-code different items. The only downside is that you are most likely going to encounter technological difficulties at some point.

I've owned more than a dozen planners in my life, and I found that each one of them had its pros and cons. At times, I even ditched planners altogether and opted for a big fat calendar hung up on my wall. What works for one person may not work for another. But when you shop for a planner, you want to ask yourself these questions: Am I looking for a thin, small planner, or a thick, bigger one? Do I want a fancy planner, or can I work with something more basic? Will I find it annoying to carry with me everywhere I go, or should I find an app instead? How much time can I dedicate to organizing this planner? And lastly, before purchasing it, you want to ask yourself: will this planner help me maximize my productivity?

Best of luck shopping for your planner!

THE OSCAR GOES TO //

Universities that UBC has pretended to be on screen

Emma Livingstone
Contributor

Dubbed "Hollywood North," it's probably not news to you that a lot of filming is done in Vancouver. Movies such as *Deadpool* and *Twilight*, and TV shows like *Riverdale*, *Supernatural* and the original *21 Jump Street* — with young Johnny Depp — have all used Vancouver as their backdrop.

UBC's campus has also taken part and served as the setting for movies and television, even posing as other real and fictional universities. Unfortunately, UBC has never portrayed itself on the silver screen, but there's still time — we're holding out hope for a Trudeau biopic. Here are some noteworthy films where UBC has tried on its acting skills and posed as another university for the big screen.

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY IN *FIFTY SHADES OF GREY*

In the first instalment of the romance trilogy, there is a scene where the main character, Anastasia Steele, graduates from Washington State University. The university on screen though is actually UBC thanks to a few Washington State banners on Main Mall. Christian Grey also delivers his convocation speech at the Chan Centre. Who thought graduation ceremonies could be filled with so much sexual tension?

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS IN *SMALLVILLE*

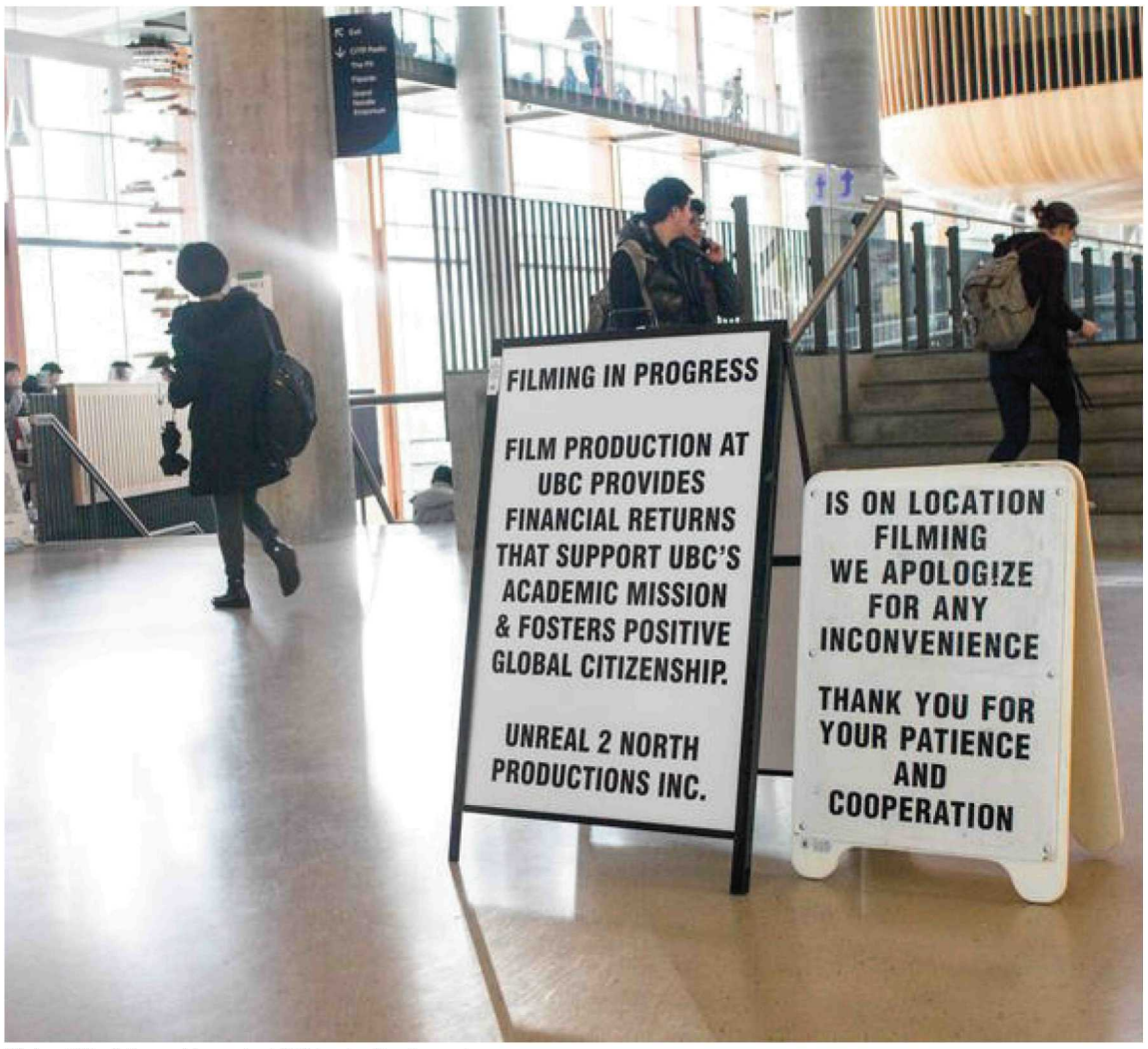
In this Superman origin story, Clark Kent attends the University of Kansas. Portraying the prairies may be a far stretch for mountainous British Columbia, but with the sign outside Koerner library and the right camera angle, who could ever tell you aren't, and never were, in Kansas anymore.

UNNAMED UNIVERSITY IN *THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT*

In this time-travelling thriller, the university scenes are shot on UBC campus in the most generic university areas to become this unnamed university. You can recognize the main character, Evan Treborn, biking down main mall and sitting in the rose garden.

ILLYRIA HIGH SCHOOL IN *SHE'S THE MAN*

Lord Byng Secondary may be the high school of choice for exterior shots in shows such as *Riverdale*, *Pretty Little Liars* and *X-Men Origins: Wolverine*, but for the teen rom-com, *She's The Man*, UBC also got involved and Thunderbird Stadium became the Illyria Preparatory soccer fields.



We're still holding out hope for UBC to play itself one day. FILE JACK HAUEN

STUDENT BUDGET //

Make the most of your summer with these Vancouver discounts

Having fun isn't hard with a UBC student card. SAMANTHA MCCABE

Emma Livingstone
Contributor

There's only one month of summer left before we're back to classes, projects and deadlines.

If your summer has been spent mostly at work saving up for September or at school saving yourself some work in September, don't worry! We've compiled student discounts and some tips for getting better prices on Vancouver activities so you can still get your summer fun in without breaking into your textbook funds.

ACTIVITIES

Escape Rooms
At i-Exit downtown, students pay $20 instead of the regular $30. Take your club's new executive team there as a bonding activity and predict how the rest of the year might pan out. Test out that teamwork and see how quickly your new president starts barking orders.

Science World
Not just for fifth-grade field trips! Science World is fun no matter how old you are and university students receive a discount with a valid student ID. Check out the Pixar exhibit while you're there because you're never too old for Disney either.

The Vancouver Aquarium
Explore the underwater world of the BC coast without getting your feet wet. Just show your student ID to receive $8 off the regular price. The belugas may be gone but there are still lots of other creatures to enjoy, from dolphins to otters to that famous sloth.

Capilano Suspension Bridge
What's a Vancouver summer without hiking? Capilano has the benefits of beautiful scenery and is easily accessible through transit but the downside is it costs. Don't worry, there's a student discount for that! Show your UBC card and you'll get a ticket for $34.95 as opposed to the regular $46.95.

MOVIES

Go to the movies on Tuesday for cheaper tickets! It's the money savvy way to see all the summer blockbusters.

And if you don't care too much about seeing the newest releases, check out second-run theatres. They show movies after they've left Cineplex but before they're available on DVD (if anyone still keeps up their DVD collections). There's Cottonwood 4 Cinemas in Chilliwack — where they still have Toonie Tuesday with $2 admission — and Hollywood 3 Cinemas in Surrey.

If you have a car you can also head out to the Twilight Drive-In in Aldergrove. On Tuesdays it's only $10 to watch three movies.

CLUBS

Get ready to dance at these student nights. Celebrities has reduced entry on Tuesdays for students, Wednesdays is The Bimini's student night where they have lots of drink specials, and the Yale Saloon has "Country College Night" on Thursdays.

MORE TIPS

Buy online
Plan ahead and save yourself the fear of not getting tickets, as well as saving a few bucks. A lot of summer activities have reduced rates for buying ahead of time, including Playland and the Sea to Sky Gondola.

Go later
This advice is applicable to food and drinks as well as activities. Lots of restaurants and bars have late night specials including the Keg, Cactus Club and Earls. A lot of places also have deals for the last few hours they're open. Cultus Lake Waterpark has Twilight savings for the last four hours they're open where tickets are $10 cheaper. BC Ferries also has a Sunset Savings promotion with discounted tickets for a vehicle and driver on select one way trips to Nanaimo and Victoria and round trips to Langdale to save you money on your island getaway.

Go earlier
Hit up happy hours for better deals on drinks and for leaving you more time to recover for whatever you have planned the next morning.

Get ready to flash that UBC card and make the most of the last few weeks!

COMMUNITY //

Former UBC collective aims to make science accessible to the public

Emma Ng
Contributor

Although science is a large faculty within UBC and many institutions, accessing science outside of the classrooms is challenging for the general public. How can a citizen participate in science without equipment, lab time, expertise or even collaborators?

In 2009, a group of UBC students and staff recognized these barriers and teamed up to democratize science, increase its accessibility and create an interdisciplinary platform for exchanging ideas. They created the Open Science Network (OSN).

The OSN is a non-profit society that serves the science and "maker" community (a community for technology-based DIY) through education, outreach and the provision of space. Currently, they run an open community lab out of the MakerLabs space on East Cordova and Main Street, which is a compact space housing microscopes, a freezer, basic lab equipment and an impressive amount of activity.

The lab is home to a community of citizen scientists, professional scientists, artists, designers and makers of all ages who are pursuing their own science projects.

"The original idea was to have a lab where people could work on projects ... where people with an idea, but [who] did not have access to a lab could come and try those ideas out and get a little help," said Wes Wong, a staff member of UBC Botany and a founding member of OSN.

Members who are interested in lab work can receive some training in "basic microbiology techniques like pipetting, growing bacteria, using the Polymerase Chain Reaction machine (PCR) (to amplify DNA) and running gels (through a gel ectrophoresis machine to separate DNA fragments by size) from Scott Pownall, a PhD graduate from UBC and the resident microbiologist," said Wong.

The group has also made further efforts to serve their members by offering more advanced synthetic biology classes and workshops at their lab.

Beyond their lab, the OSN is equally busy creating science engagement opportunities through the city. Notably, they host STEM Mentoring Cafés for grade eight students to increase the exposure to scientific fields for youths.

Most recently, they also hosted the Science and Maker Jamboree on June 17 at Chain and Forge, as part of the Granville Island Activation project. The event showcased diverse programming, with science-inspired slam poetry, activities for kids, booths from local science organizations and speakers from UBC science departments.

The Science and Maker Jamboree showcased diverse programming. COURTESY SCOTT POWNALL

"We just wanted to engage people with science, just get people out and doing things. We wanted to make it accessible," said Wong.

"[Some] barriers to science are finding out where to do it and having the means to afford it ... so [the Jamboree] is a fun free thing to experience."

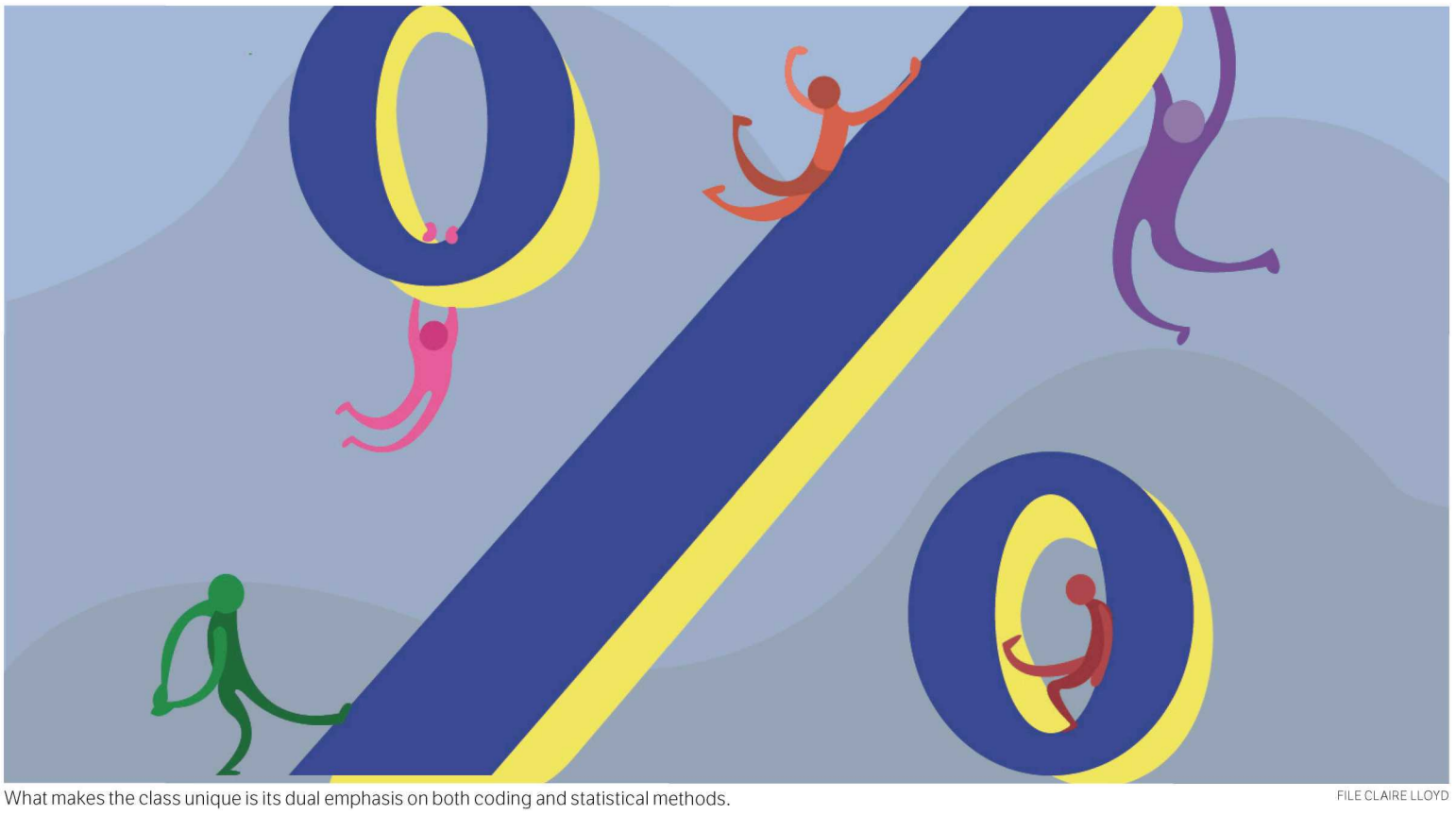
Wong, who is instrumental in running outreach events, said he advocates for public engagement in science because STEM is an important evidence-based component in our decision-making process, especially with issues like climate change and city planning.

"We want to encourage [people] to not be scared of science, not to be scared of math," he said.

"In a lot of the activities we run, people say 'No, no that is too hard to understand,' but we show them it isn't — we break it down to concepts they understand. So now they know it is not so scary, [and we] direct them to the right resources so if they have to make a decision it isn't just based on what they hear from the loudest talking head on television."

SCHOOL STATS //

UBC to offer first dedicated data science course in winter 2018/19



What makes the class unique is its dual emphasis on both coding and statistical methods. FILE CLAIRE LLOYD

James Vogl
Science Editor

Data is everywhere in our daily lives, behind everything from the advertisements we see online to the predicted drive times our favourite mapping software supplies whenever we need directions.

Given the increasing importance of data analytics in many fields and the unprecedented amount of information we have access to in the internet age, a basic understanding of statistical concepts and the ability to manipulate data sets are highly valuable assets for the future job candidate and the general consumer of information alike.

It was in part because of the rapidly changing position data plays in our world that UBC's first dedicated data science course — offered for the first time in the winter 2018/19 term — was created.

"It used to be that data collection was a problem and that's not a problem anymore," said Dr. Tiffany Timbers, the course instructor.

"We have devices like our cell phones that are collecting all kinds of information, we're wearing Fitbits, you can track people's activity on the internet, sensors in your home are collecting information so information is being collected quite widely and the bottleneck now comes down to making sense of that data."

According to Timbers, what makes the class unique is its dual emphasis on both coding and statistical methods.

As can be seen from the course outline, publicly available on GitHub, the course material is broken into two general sections. The first part of the material introduces students to the basics of using R — a program commonly used for data science — to organize and visualize data. The second part of the material moves on to cover some basic statistical methods for analyzing and understanding data.

The course, open to students from all faculties, is structured to provide ample opportunity for hands-on learning, with much of the twice-weekly lectures set aside for students to work through exercises using R and Jupyter Notebooks, another popular data science tool.

All of the class exercises will utilize real data from different fields, allowing students to see more concretely the potential real-world applications of what they are learning. In keeping with the emphasis on experiential learning and real-world applicability, the course will culminate in a final group project in addition to a final exam, allowing students to put some of the skills they have learned into practice on actual data sets.

According to the course learning objectives — also available on GitHub — by the end of the term, students will be able to collect data from a variety of online sources, shape it into a usable format and use basic statistical tools to analyze and interpret it.

Timbers believes that this new course will offer students valuable preparation for both future coursework at UBC and future careers.

"To keep up with the world, it's important to develop these skills," she said.

SOCCER //

Where in the World Cup?

Surrounded by football in Mexico City

Anya Elias
Contributor

In Mexico, we often say there are three things we shouldn't talk about: religion, politics and football. While the first two seem pretty standard, football might seem a bit odd on that list. However, if you've ever been to a football game in Mexico, or if you have ever been in the country during a World Cup, you know that Mexicans take football very seriously. It is an essential part of our culture.

There are three things to know about Mexican football, whether you like the sport or not. First, the Cruz Azul Futbol Club will always lose, and it will probably happen in the last few minutes of the game. Second, Club América is a team that you are either passionate about or absolutely despise. Third, if the Mexican national team is playing, you stop whatever it is you are doing and watch the game.

Even if you are not a big fan of football, there is no way you will be unaware of what is going on with each team if you are in Mexico because of how much football surrounds the nation — we are in constant contact with it. People wear teams' jerseys everywhere and games are always on TVs.

Growing up with a brother who is a massive Real Madrid fan, I now know names of people who played years ago without even being a huge fan myself. However, the fact that he supports a non-Mexican team doesn't stop my brother from knowing everything that's going on in Mexican football. If anything, it has opened his eyes and allowed him to understand how intertwined all football clubs are, which has made it easy for him to know dozens of players and follow their careers. Besides, he is not the only one who's a big fan of an international team. I know several Mexicans who support a Mexican football club and an international one too. And if they're only fans of one or the other, they still know what is going on in other football leagues, which allows people to talk about the sport and bond over football. My brother does this often with my uncles and cousins.

So imagine how crazy it gets in Mexico City, where I am for the summer, when the World Cup is happening. Though a bit overwhelming for those who don't know about the Mexican football passion, being here during the World Cup is always extremely fun.

Mexicans are often more opinionated about football than they are about politics. Juan Carlos Osorio, the current manager of the Mexican team, was strongly disliked before the World Cup. My mom would say that it seemed like he wanted the other team to win. After beating Germany, however, he was praised and loved by the same people who denounced him. While we do love football, Germany is a powerhouse in the sport — it would be an upset to beat them, which we did. It was a big surprise, and one we celebrated as if we had won the World Cup. As 'El Chicharito' — striker Javier Hernández — said, "*Imaginemos cosas chingonas*": "Let's imagine great things."

Despite the criticism shown towards the national squad, football does unite us all. After beating Germany, thousands of Mexicans made their way to places like The Angel of Independence — a Mexican symbol and very well-known monument in Mexico City — and the Zocalo, the main square in the city, to celebrate the victory. We wore the Mexican flag's colours with pride, as Mexicans are always very proud when our team does something great. When we defeated South Korea, Mexicans celebrated at the same spot, but this time sharing the road with those celebrating Pride as the World Cup festivities coincided with the national LGBTQ+ march that had been scheduled on that day months ago. Then, when we qualified thanks to Korea's victory over Germany, Mexicans carried their Korean friends on their shoulders and celebrated them. Mexican fans even stood outside South Korea's embassy in Mexico City and kept chanting "*Coreano, hermano, ya eres mexicano*": "Korean, brother, you are Mexican now."

And while not everyone celebrates in such a big way, Mexicans are brought together through football. We watch the games at our offices; schools come together to watch the games; people stay at home to catch a glimpse of the national team on the world stage. Families will have big breakfasts together. Friends will organize small parties to drink beer or tequila and spend time together. Even restaurants will have breakfast specials and hotels will have special screenings.

So, while football is indeed a controversial topic in Mexico that should perhaps be avoided at any other time, we are all one nation supporting one team during the World Cup. We celebrate our victories together, cry over our losses together, question the decisions of the manager together and most importantly, are proud of our team and of our country together. Because it is during the World Cup that we all proudly say we're Mexican.

No matter where our writers were in the world in this summer, World Cup fever surrounded them. KRISTINE HO

Quadrennial English patriotism in Vancouver

Lucy Fox
Sports Editor

I was born and raised watching, playing and loving soccer. Why? My family is from Yorkshire. And thus, I am a fan of England, for better or for worse. In past years, I admit, my pride for the team has come with a grain of salt — generally the English team is made up of older, celebrated but has-been players that haven't performed on the world stage. And so I don't get my hopes up past the group stage.

This year was different. For the first time in the twenty-something years I've watched the Cup, I actually believed they could go far, if not win it all.

I bought a jersey. I revelled in the online memes and the English supporters' slogan "It's coming home." To put this into context, my dad was three years old the last and only time England brought the Cup home. I have no idea what it's like to have the Cup come home, but now I know what serious anticipation and nerves around that feel like.

Most importantly, the Cup brought me together with my family. I spoke to my dad and cousin every day about games. We messaged each other excitedly when England plays. It became a shared event, no matter where we were watching.

And for the first time in my soccer history, I really, truly, felt English. I am a first-generation Canadian. My family is from northern England — where the accents are hard to understand, that northern England. We have Sunday roasts; we watch the English Premier League, though my dad and uncle are die-hard Sheffield Wednesday fans; we use sayings like "bless 'im," "I'm knackered" and "fancy a cuppa?" But, honestly, I've never felt that attached to this identity.

It hit me in the round of 16 though, like a ton of bricks.

I spent the first half of the England and Colombia game listening on the radio, and sat comfortably in our office's bistro watching the second half, ready for England to coast to their 1-0 win. And then, the unthinkable. In the 93rd minute, Colombia scored — and my stomach seized.

I was in shock as I walked back to my desk, tuning back in to the radio feed for extra time. Thirty minutes went by with no goals and my phone started blowing up with texts from my cousin and sister. The whistle blew, penalties were set up and my sister called me in need of "support."

With the game projected on my office's wall, I stood with the two other England fans in our department and my sister on the phone line, feeling my beef teriyaki bowl turning in my stomach.

England missed their third shot and I put my head between my knees, breathing as if I'd just taken a soccer ball to the stomach. Colombia missed their fourth shot and my heart started racing. My sister was silent on the phone too. Neither of us were breathing.

Kieran Trippier stepped up to take for England and sent the ball past the Colombian keeper. Tied at 3-3, I walked back to my cubicle unable to watch. Carlos Bacca took the fifth penalty for Colombia and I felt my knees go weak — he missed!

Eric Dier stepped up for England. There was a silence in my office and on the end of the phone line with my sister's office in Toronto. A collective breath held.

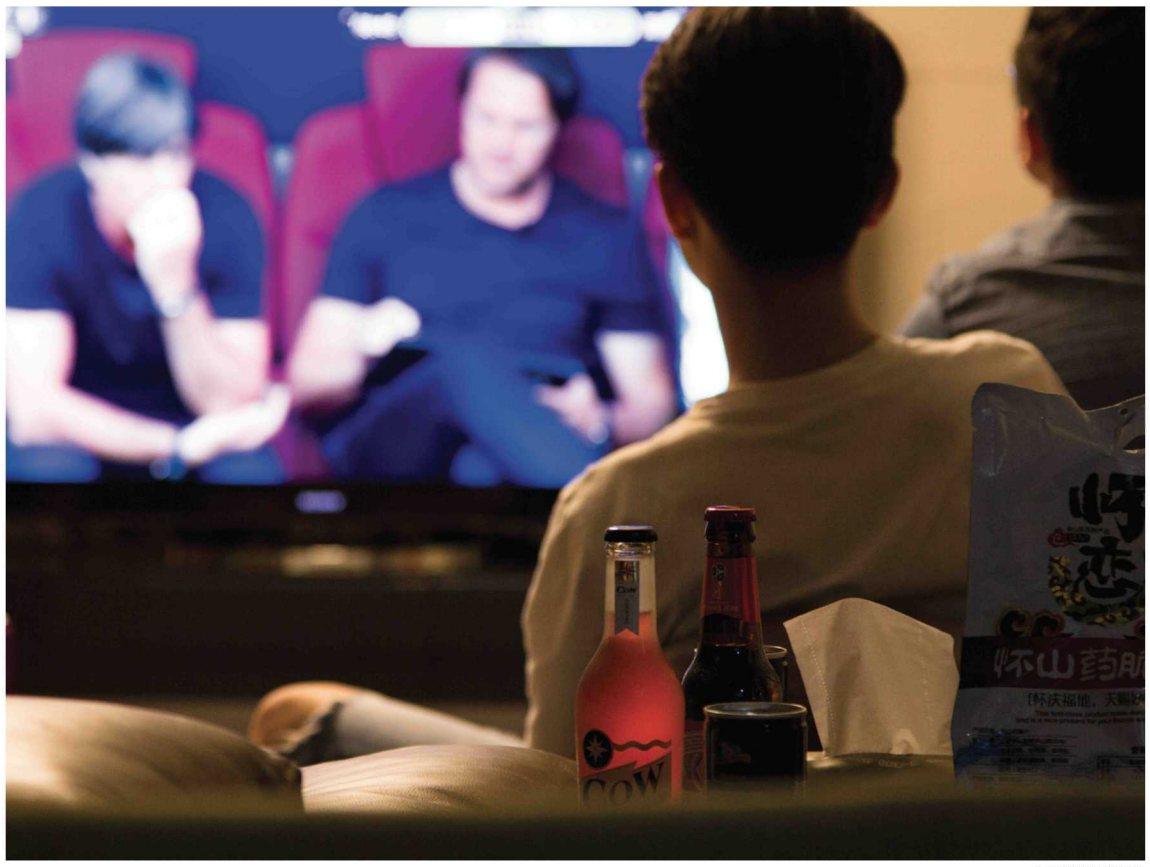
He scored — and I almost cried in front of 10 co-workers as I threw my hands in the air.

My boss laughed as she saw me and I said, "Every four years, I am an English fan." And then I sat back at my desk again, shaking as I texted the family and we all breathed a sigh of relief.

I got an email from my dad: "It's coming home." I texted my aunt to organize a bacon butty breakfast for the quarterfinal against Sweden. And I thought about how I was this close to not being able to wear my 1966 England shirt — it went on for work that week.

My roots have started to show.

WHERE IN THE WORLD CUP //



Friends watching the German team play. ELIZABETH WANG

In China, we cheer for everyone

Elizabeth Wang
Photo Editor

To Canadian soccer fans out there, Chinese fans' dedication to the World Cup might be tough to understand. We don't even have a national team that made the tournament this year! But Chinese fans purchased over 37,000 tickets to support other countries in Russia this summer, making them one of the largest supporter groups at the tournament.

This confused me.

To be honest, I was never a big fan of soccer. However, since the start of the World Cup, all my friends and relatives (including my 70-year-old grandparents) turned themselves into enthusiastic followers of Cristiano Ronaldo. Why? Overwhelmed by the atmosphere, I decided to sit down with my friends and figure it out by watching a late night soccer game — this time, an Argentina versus Croatia game.

After a whole night of drinking, screaming, eating and pinching myself to keep awake, I found my pathway to understanding the subtle relationship between the Chinese people and their extraordinary passion for the World Cup.

Here are a few things you might want to know about Chinese fans when they're watching soccer and my experience watching in Shenzhen, China:

AN AWKWARD HISTORY

China has only qualified for the World Cup once — yes, only once. In 2002, the China national soccer team made their first World Cup appearance in Gwangju, South Korea. Within only nine days, China saw nine goals overall go past them from three different countries: 2-0 to Costa Rica, 4-0 to Brazil and 3-0 to Turkey. They finished 31st out of 32 teams that year. Ever since, many Chinese fans barely dream of seeing our national team playing top-tier international soccer.

Instead, poking lighthearted fun at our national team has become something to do in China when international soccer is on. And who knows? Maybe we'll make it to the next one — Qatar 2022.

THE CRAYFISH CULTURE

The "crayfish & watermelon" pairing is kind of like the Chinese version of fish and chips, at least where I've been this summer. In China, crayfish are called *xiaolongxia*, which means "tiny lobster." Crayfish cuisine is a bit of a pop culture symbol of Chinese food. It's a well-known late night snack in bars and clubs. We also have crayfish pizza, crayfish burgers and crayfish paninis (from KFC). You name it, we have it. In case you want to know what it tastes like, it's like lobster but with only one difference: it's more difficult to eat because you have to peel off its tiny, fussy shell before you eat it. Before we started to watch the game, my friends ordered five pounds of crayfish.

"Me and my five roommates can finish 10 pounds in one night," my friend said. He also told me that before the World Cup started, China exported over 100,000 crayfish to Russia as frozen food. "Even my crayfish went to the World Cup."

GAMBLING

I probably shouldn't talk about this too much. You only need to know that gambling is still largely forbidden by the government in China. But it's still fun to consider who you would place bets on. My hypothetical money was on Argentina to win that night against Croatia — it didn't pan out.

So, here comes the question from the beginning: why watch the World Cup? As an international student from China, I'd say it's fairly simple. After all, we are like all other people in the world, we all just need a little bit of festivity to light up the long, hot summer — maybe with some crayfish too, though.

Drinks and snacks are a must-have for World Cup watching. ELIZABETH WANG

LE FOOT //

Celebrating French victory on French soil

World Cup celebrations in France. COURTESY LUCIE HYGONT

Gabriel Robinson-Leith
Contributor

I flew into Paris hours before France was set to play Uruguay in the quarterfinals of the World Cup. When I finally managed to find a TV, I saw the last three minutes countdown to a 2–0 victory for France. As soon as the match ended, the town square turned into a mosh pit. Kids were climbing on top of buses, others were trying to flip cars in the street and everyone was screaming the national anthem.

I was planning on traveling through France for only a couple days before heading on to Italy, but I decided to stay at least until the semi-finals.

France won again, this time 1-0 against Belgium. As I was walking back to camp that night, I heard two kids say "*Allez les bleus.*" I responded in kind and decided to stay in France another couple of days for the World Cup final.

I stayed in Chamonix for that week, an outdoor adventure town at the base of Mont Blanc. The main road into town was packed on both sides with camper vans filled with climbers and mountaineers. All along the city streets, men and women streamed in and out of cafés with large packs and ice axes.

My climbing partner Alex and I were wrapping up our day at the cliff when the final was about to start. I was heading towards the nearest pub when I heard a citywide uproar and realized I had missed the first goal. I found my place in the bar among all the other climbers huddled around the screen. When Croatia scored an equalizer a few minutes later, the bar erupted in cheers — I had managed to find the town's English pub and the only bar in the whole city cheering against France.

Near the end of the first half, the ball deflected off the hand of Croatian player Ivan Perišić in the box. The referee called a handball and awarded France a penalty kick. Although the score was tied, Croatia was playing much better than France. The Croatian team controlled most of the possession and it seemed like the French could not get the ball out of their half. This looked like their only chance to get ahead. France's Antoine Griezmann lined up the shot, the goalie dove right, the ball slid across the ground to the left and *goal*! France managed to finish the first half 2-1.

France hasn't had this kind of a shot at the World Cup since 2006, when they lost against Italy. I remember watching the game on a projector in my driveway with my neighbours and being devastated when team captain — and my hero — Zinédine Zidane finished his football career with a red card and a loss. Twelve years later, France had her chance at redemption and she only needed to last through the second half.

The Croatian team continued to dominate. With double the shots on goal compared to the French, it was just a matter of time until they equalized the match. Every once in a while, the camera would turn to France's President Emmanuel Macron watching from his box, just as nervous as the rest of us.

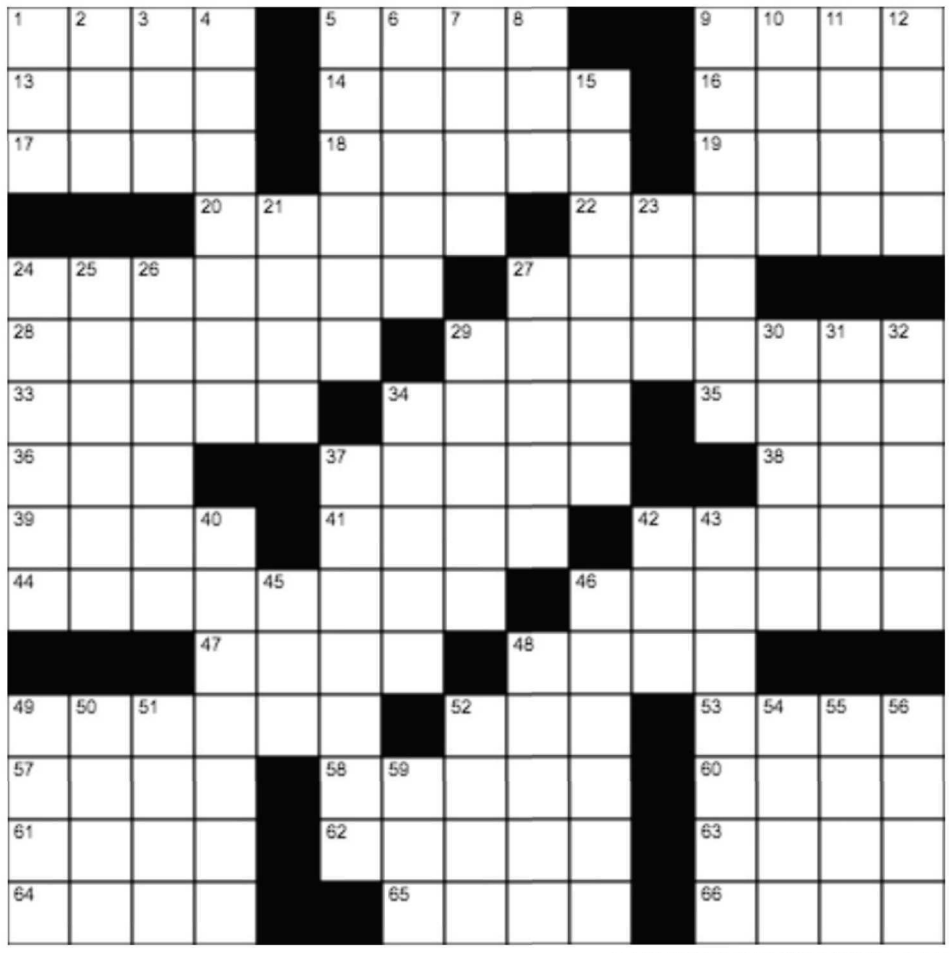
But at 59 minutes, goal for France! I screamed and the surrounding Brits booed. I felt as if the French could actually pull it off. Six minutes later, the French scored again to reach 4-1 — virtually unheard of in a World Cup final. I stopped counting down the minutes and began preemptively celebrating. A French defender passed the ball towards his goalie Hugo Lloris. Just as Lloris attempted to clear the ball, Croatian attacker Mario Mandžukic intercepted the kick for an embarrassing second goal. I resumed counting down minutes, unsure if the Croatians would be able to bring the game back.

The last five minutes of extra time played out and the French stormed the field — we won 4-2. I left the pub and headed downtown to join the celebrations. "La Marseillaise" blared through the streets, cars streamed through the town centre and French flags waved. People set off all their remaining fireworks from Bastille Day the night before and everyone was screaming in good humour. Bus drivers and police officers were all joining in the commotion. Kids hung out of speeding car windows yelling "*Nous sommes champions*!"

I made my way back to my tent through all the ruckus. From my spot up on the mountain, I could hear all of France celebrating.

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

COURTESY KRAZYDAD.COM



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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

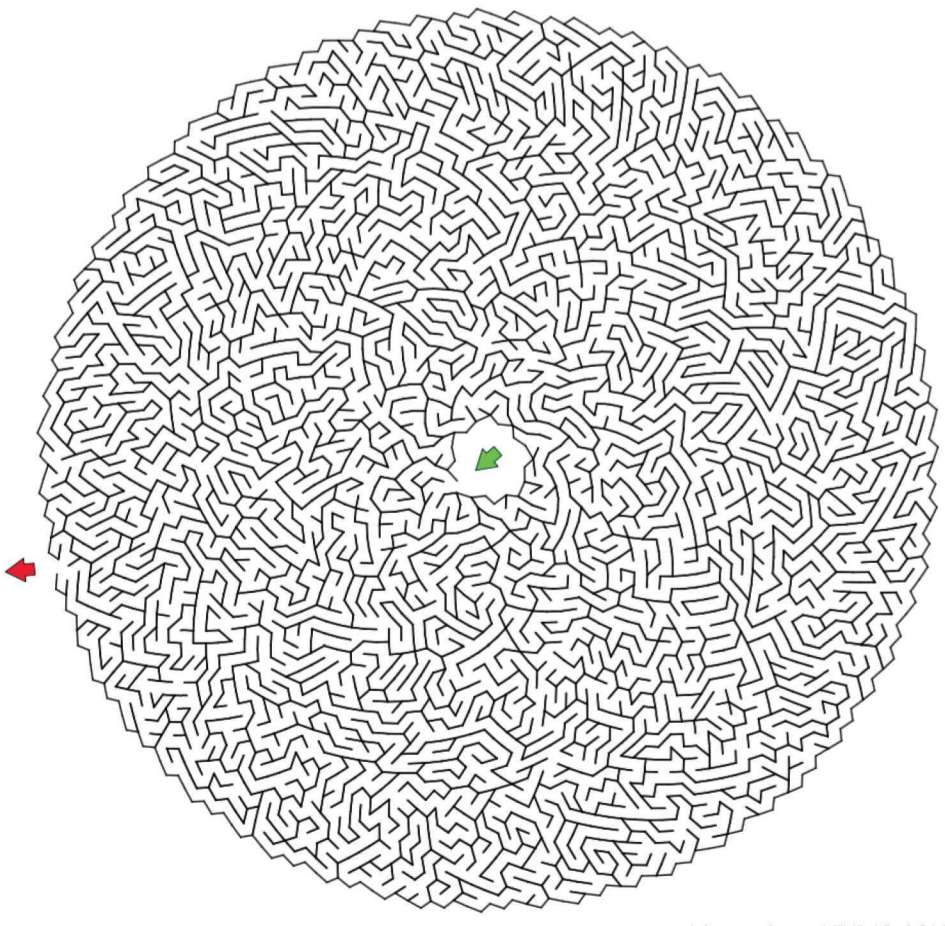
ACROSS

1 Snakes;
5 Basilica area;
9 Spitting sound;
13 Overfill;
14 Muse of love poetry;
16 Univ. recruiting group;
17 Shoo!;
18 Geeky guys;
19 Fish eating eagle;
20 Cornered;
22 Owner of a slave;
24 Some sausage;
27 Prepare to be shot;
28 Assails;
29 Temerity;
33 ___ nous;
34 Himalayan legend;
35 Hardware fastener;
36 Rock's ___ Speedwagon;
37 For ___ sake!;
38 Leaves in a bag;
39 Like ___ not;
41 Strong ___ ox;
42 Like untended yards;
44 Intending;
46 Frightens;
47 Pro ___ (free);
48 Cong. meeting;
49 Three lines of verse;
52 King Kong, e.g.;
53 Brouhaha;
57 Converse competitor;
58 Bar, legally;
60 ___ uproar;
61 Diana of "The Avengers";
62 Knot again;
63 Title;
64 Caesar's wings;
65 ___ Lang Syne;
66 Growl;

DOWN

1 Biblical beast;
2 Anatomical pouch;
3 School org.;
4 Pioneer;
5 Trojan War hero;
6 Primp;
7 Reddish brown gem;
8 Airport abbr.;
9 Gift;
10 Legal wrong;
11 Magazine founder Eric;
12 Champagne bucket;
15 Subtle absorption;
21 Ceremonial act;
23 Volcanic output;
24 Spain and Portugal;
25 Beliefs;
26 Bent over;
27 Communion plate;
29 Put a new price on;
30 Go into;
31 Kid leather;
32 Remains;
34 Type of question;
37 Artist;
40 Enclosure formed by the ribs;
42 Loos;
43 Shifting eastward;
45 Wade opponent;
46 Oozed;
48 Ruin;
49 Skater Lipinski;
50 Devil's doing;
51 Capital of Latvia;
52 Westernmost of the Aleutians;
54 ___ even keel;
55 Lady of Spain;
56 Lulu;
59 Poseidon's domain;

ubyssey.ca/volunteer



COURTESY KRAZYDAD.COM

MAY 29 ANSWERS

1 S	W	E	A	R		6 A	B	A	9 C	10 A		11 A	12 N	13 A
14 T	I	T	L	E		15 L	A	N	A	I		16 L	I	Z
17 U	N	C	O	N	18 N	E	C	T	E	D		19 E	S	T
20 B	E	H	E	M	O	T	H		21 S	I	22 R	R	E	E
				23 I	D	A		24 F	A	N	A	T	I	C
25 Y	26 E	27 A	28 R	N	S		29 L	A	R	G	E			
30 E	S	T	A	B		31 T	A	T	E			32 R	33 I	34 A
35 N	O	T	W	I	36 T	H	S	T	A	37 N	38 D	I	N	G
39 S	S	N			40 E	A	S	Y		41 E	N	E	R	O
			42 R	43 E	C	T	O		44 S	C	A	L	E	D
45 A	46 S	47 S	E	R	T	S		48 A	O	K				
49 V	O	O	D	O	O		50 G	E	O	L	51 O	52 G	53 I	54 C
55 O	R	D		56 I	N	57 C	E	R	T	I	T	U	D	E
58 I	T	A		59 C	I	R	R	I		60 N	O	S	E	D
61 D	A	S		62 A	C	U	T	E		63 E	S	T	E	E