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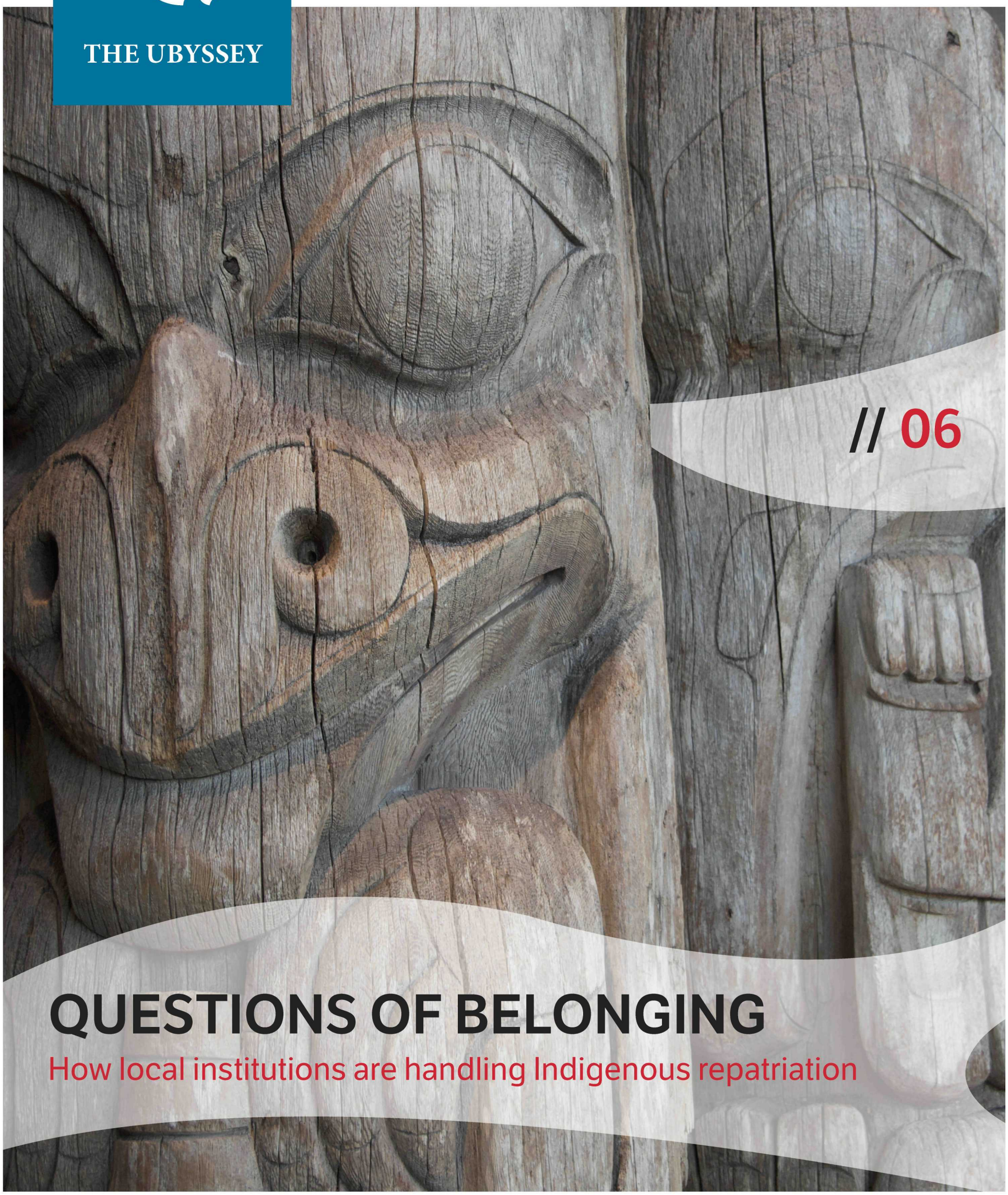

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How local institutions are handling Indigenous repatriation

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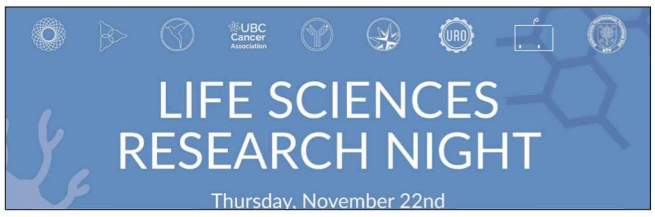

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LIFE SCIENCES RESEARCH NIGHT
5 TO 8 P.M. @ LIFESCI CENTRE (2350 HEALTH SCI MALL)
An annual night of public science, research and networking!
FREE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24

KOERNER'S HOUSE PARTY: FINAL ROUND
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The last chance to go ham before we settle in for finals!
$5-15 online/limited at the door

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25

ONCE UPON A MEAL
5 TO 9 P.M. @ AMS NEST GREAT HALL
An annual exploration of complex stories through food.
$30-45

ON THE COVER

COVER BY
Bridget Chase

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THE UBYSSEY

NOVEMBER 20, 2018 | VOLUME C| ISSUE XV

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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), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), Stó:lō and Sel̓ílwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

OUR CAMPUS

Dr. Mark Turin is helping mobilize and revitalize Indigenous languages

"Not knowing anything is not a problem, but not being willing to try to understand more is."

PHOTO COURTESY MARK TURIN/ART LUA PRESIDIO

Cassandra Betts
Senior Staff Writer

Associate Professor of Anthropology Dr. Mark Turin has always loved languages.

Growing up in the UK with an Italian father and a Dutch mother, Turin had been exposed to different languages. He realized he had an aptitude for them and decided to pursue them at Cambridge. A gap year in Nepal completely reshaped his ambitions — he had never foreseen that this love would take him to Bella Bella, home of the Heiltsuk Nation, to work on language revitalization as the former chair of the First Nations and Endangered Languages Program.

"I lived and worked as a sort of English conversation teacher in northwestern Nepal and that really turned my life — my thinking — upside down," said Turin. "Until that point, languages seemed to be easy and fun to learn and they seemed to be a goal in themselves. But in Nepal, I was exposed to a level of linguistic diversity I had never seen before."

In Nepal, Turin also discovered anthropology.

"[The field] seemed to be complete, holistic. It involved history and geography and language and society and philosophy and I thought that's what I'd like to study."

Throughout his career, Turin has married these two interests, having obtained a PhD and worked on numerous Himalayan language revitalization projects.

But according to him, the Heiltsuk project is different than anything he has previously worked on. Most Indigenous languages in the Himalayas are undocumented, whereas most have been documented to some degree in the Pacific Northwest.

"I had the privilege and the responsibility — which is a non-trivial responsibility — of engaging in the primary documentation of an Indigenous language in Nepal," said Turin, noting that work in Pacific Northwest languages is more about continuing what has already been done.

"Yes they're endangered, yes there's more work to be done for sure ... but the primary level of documentation is there."

Although this documentation exists, it often does not exist in a form that is usable by local communities.

"We had great materials to work with," said Turin. "[For] many of them there was already an orthography, but it was an orthography that had been written at a time when the constraints were that of a typewriter."

Turin explained that the Heiltsuk language — often written as *Hílzaqv* or *Háiłzaqv* — was documented before the widespread use of computers, so the researchers used special typewriter keys to represent the special characters. The problem is that these characters won't render on a computer screen.

"People are taking photos with cameras ... and sending it as a jpeg to each other by text message," noted Turin. "That's not an easy way to mobilize language!"

He added that the goal of the project also became to digitize, re-key, mobilize and activate those materials. "There's all this material, now let's find a way to get it back into the hands, the voices, the keyboards and the textbooks of the community."

Turin sees this project as incredibly important. How to convey this importance is something he teaches his students.

"We have a whole section of [one of my] course[s] which is basically called 'taking it to the people' or 'what you do or why does this matter, explained to your grumpy uncle,'" said Turin, noting that there are numerous reasons to focus on language revitalization.

"We spend so much money preserving old buildings. ... Why not also spend some money documenting the extraordinary linguistic diversity of our species — that thing that makes us human?" he asked. "We know intimate things about English and Sanskrit and Latin and German. Yet we know next to nothing about most of the world's linguistic diversity.

"What a terrible thing, to imagine presiding over that demise and doing nothing, right?"

Another reason preservation is important is because of its significance for Indigenous communities in particular.

"I have been struck by how communities here, despite everything that's been done to them and 150 years of colonization, have found ways to keep the languages alive because these are languages indexically related to a sense of place and belonging and culture," said Turin.

"There are research projects coming out of BC and other places that show that communities that have cultural continuity — they call it linguistic continuity — often have much reduced incidents of all the negative socioeconomic indicators and health indicators that you often find in Indigenous communities."

Although Turin admits it's still unclear whether this is due to correlation or causation, he said the government — including Prime Minister Trudeau himself — is beginning to speak on this subject and recognize its importance.

"Supporting communities to revitalize their own languages is not just a nice thing to do," said Turin. "It has massive impact in terms of wider healing, wider reconciliation and a sense of self and rootedness."

For those unsure about their role in this reconciliatory process, Turin has some advice, especially for non-Indigenous and settler students and faculty.

"I would ask everybody to think critically and carefully about where they are [and] what does it mean to do these land acknowledgements that UBC does," said Turin.

"As arrivals, we need to take responsibility to educate ourselves, not wait to be educated by our Indigenous hosts ... not knowing anything is not a problem, but not being willing to try to understand more is."

—With files from Katie Martin

ADVOCACY //

AMS opposes all proposed tuition and fee increases by the university

Alex Nguyen
News Editor

The AMS is opposing all proposed tuition and fees increases put forward by UBC for next year.

While the society has usually pushed back against tuition hikes beyond the two per cent domestic cap — such as international tuition raises — because of its affordability policy, it is now also advocating against any increases within the cap.

AMS VP Academic and University Affairs Max Holmes attributed the society's stance partly to the university's "lack of effort" in responding to student's overwhelming opposition to the increases.

Out of 1,799 responses in last year's consultation, 92 per cent were against the proposed raises.

"If the university is going to increase tuition and negatively affect the lives of students and their ability to afford to go to this university by increasing tuition, then UBC needs to tell students how they're going to benefit from this increase," he said.

In a submission to the Board of Governors, Holmes noted the AMS 2018 Academic Experience Survey shows that only 22 per cent of students agree that UBC cares about their thoughts on the cost of education, stressing the importance of the university to be responsive.

The AMS also argued this year's tuition consultation was not "transparent enough."

Holmes said the society did not receive budget models showing how increasing or maintaining the same tuition and fee levels would impact UBC and its faculties, despite repeated requests. He added that these numbers should be publicly available so all community members can understand the comprehensive effects of the hikes.

"The AMS wants to see the numbers, students should be able to see the numbers," Holmes said, "... and until [UBC does] that, they cannot call this a transparent consultation process."

The society has also been calling for a "public long-term enrolment plan" from UBC since last year to better understand how the university calculates revenue and addresses over-enrolment.

"There were so many issues that the AMS brought up last year and we have not seen enough progress on those issues," Holmes said. "And so we're opposing the increase because if we're going to have this tuition consultation every year, there needs to at least be progress year to year."

UBC VP Finance Peter Smailes and interim VP Students Andrew Parr said in an emailed statement that the university is "considering the AMS submission and all student feedback," but declined to say more.

"As the decision on how to proceed will ultimately rest with the Board of Governors and UBC has yet to make a final submission on this matter, it would be inappropriate to comment further," they wrote.

Whether or not the increases are approved, the AMS hopes its opposition will spark a "serious conversation" about affordability.

"The AMS hopes that this will be an opportunity for both the Board of Governors and the university administration to reflect [and] realize that they are not doing enough to address the issues of affordability," Holmes said.

He added the society will continue its broad advocacy on the issue, such as expanding open educational resources, exploring Excellence Fund allocations and maintaining a cap on price increases for some campus housing units.

Smailes and Parr acknowledged that "costs of a university education in Canada can be challenging," especially in cities with high housing costs like Vancouver.

FILE PATRICK GILLIN

The AMS also argued this year's tuition consultation was not "transparent enough."

In particular, they said UBC has been offering "extensive financial supports," with more than 16,000 students receiving $87.2 million in funding support in 2017/18.

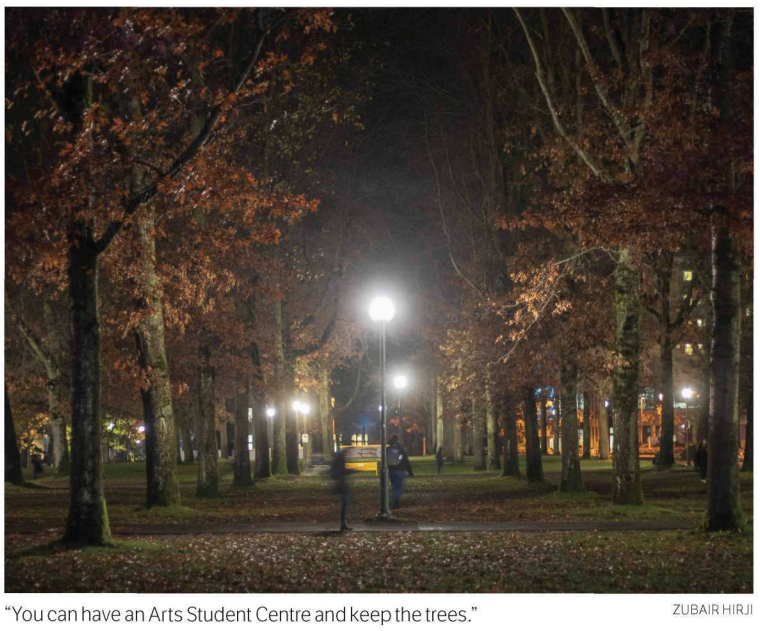
The university is also projected to offer 14,500 on-campus beds by 2022 and has room to build up to 18,000 beds, which would make it "one of the largest providers of student housing in North America."

Looking ahead to next year's consultation, the AMS aims to have a seat at the table to discuss the increases before they are decided upon.

"One of the issues that we currently have is that the income increases are proposed in their final form to students — it's not a conversation," Holmes said.

THE LORAX //

Removal of mature oak trees for Arts Student Centre concerns community members



"You can have an Arts Student Centre and keep the trees." ZUBAIR HIRJI

Andrew Ha
Staff Writer

The Arts Undergraduate Society (AUS) and UBC have received complaints about the removal of trees at the chosen site of the upcoming Arts Student Centre (ASC).

The ASC passed first-stage approval with the Board of Governors for its construction in the Bosque, which would require removing eight mature trees.

Seven sites were originally considered and the options were eventually narrowed down to the Bosque and the Bike Kitchen portable's former location near Brock Hall. The latter site was ultimately dropped.

Eric Jandciu, strategist at the Science Centre for Learning and Teaching, is concerned about the potential removal of trees. He posted on Reddit to raise awareness among students who he believes are not aware of the consequences of the ASC's proposed location.

"It's one of the few spaces right in the heart of campus where there is still a large chunk of green space," he said, adding that compared to when he attended UBC in the early 2000's, "there [are] a lot of lawns, but not even as many ... as there used to be."

After attending a spring Campus and Community Planning (C+CP) consultation, he learned at an October consultation that the Brock Hall site was no longer being considered. He believed that given the long-term nature of the project, C+CP would have known the site could be used for something else.

Gerry McGeough, director of planning and design at C+CP, said the site is being reserved for an "academic building," but it's currently undecided what building that will be or when construction would begin.

"It would be a building for learning and research. [We] don't know what it is," he said.

In 2010, the university envisioned constructing a pavilion in the Bosque. At the beginning of 2018, staff realized that the ASC could potentially fill this role and started the discussion with the AUS about putting the ASC in the area.

McGeough added that the Brock Hall site should be used for a building larger than the 11,000-square-foot ASC.

"As the campus grows and develops ... there [are] fewer and fewer larger sites," said McGeough. "We should ... avoid under-building a particular site."

The AUS supports C+CP's choice.

"People think that there's a lot of unused space on campus, but a lot of that space has already been part of UBC's developmental plans and already been claimed for academic, housing and other projects," said AUS VP Administration Jina Marwood.

She understands why some students are concerned about tree removal, but said the ASC would rebalance the Bosque's ecology with features like a green roof as well as furniture built from the removed trees. She said the building would also strengthen the Arts community by providing a centralized hub for student events.

"The importance of the Arts students having their own space on campus outweighed the building relocation and the trees getting cut down," she said. "Obviously, this wasn't an easy decision."

According to McGeough, C+CP plans to improve the Bosque's ecology with "additional planting" during the construction of the ASC and the building of elevated "boardwalk-type" walkways "so that the roots and the understory [have a] much stronger chance of thriving."

C+CP also hopes to plant eight replacement trees in the Library Gardens by Irving K. Barber Library, but Jandciu feels this is insufficient.

"I actually find it kind of insulting that they are equating chopping down eight 60-foot mature trees to planting eight new baby trees," he said.

McGeough acknowledged that the amount of carbon absorption and benefits small trees provide is less than that of mature trees, but he stressed they are consulting an ecologist to minimize the project's impact.

Jandciu said he hopes the AUS and C+CP can find another solution.

"The way it's presented is you can have the Arts Student Centre but we have to chop down trees, or you can keep the trees but there's not going to be an Arts Student Centre," he said.

"I don't think those two things are opposites. You can have an Arts Student Centre and keep the trees."

NO SATISFACTION //

UBC hasn't addressed unusually low workplace satisfaction at largest Okanagan faculty, profs say

"And look where it got us — nowhere." COURTESY UBCO

David Nixon
Contributor

Professor John Wagner didn't read UBC's third workplace experience survey. He knew what it would say and doubted it would change anything.

UBC has conducted four Workplace Experience Surveys (WES) since 2009 through the third-party consultant TalentMap, the most recent of which was made public in February 2018. All three have shown that the Irving K. Barber School of Arts and Sciences (IKBSAS) at UBC Okanagan (UBCO) — the largest faculty there — has consistently reported the lowest faculty workplace satisfaction.

On the first survey, 28 per cent of IKBSAS faculty responded favourably to the question "I feel involved in decisions that affect me in my day-to-day work," compared to 42 per cent of UBC Vancouver faculty.

On a question of whether they would recommend UBC as a good workplace, 36 per cent of IKBSAS faculty responded favourably compared to 61 per cent for Vancouver faculty.

"It was pretty clear to me by the time they did a second survey that nothing meaningful would happen," said Wagner, an associate professor of anthropology at IKBSAS.

According to the WES, any category where less than 60 per cent of responses are favourable warrants "further investigation." More than two thirds of IKBSAS faculty responses in 2017 across 91 questions were below that threshold.

Results from the IKBSAS in 2017 were especially low on measures of support for faculty, students and research. Only 24 per cent of IKBSAS faculty felt that there were sufficient resources for students, compared to an average of 46 per cent for all of UBC. Only 31 per cent of IKBSAS faculty expressed confidence in senior management, compared to 46 per cent across UBC.

The IKBSAS's lowest response in 2017 was on whether they believed UBC would take meaningful action in response to the survey. Only nine per cent of respondents responded favourably.

In an emailed statement, UBCO media relations Associate Director Nathan Skolski said the IKBSAS "works hard to address all concerns raised by the Faculty Council and the Workplace Experience survey" and "takes the advice and recommendations of faculty, students and staff seriously as it works to create a supportive and productive work environment."

But Wagner said he hasn't seen that progress.

"To be honest, I'm surprised the scores are as positive as they are. Faculty are feeling like they have no voice here ... there's no autonomy," he said. "It robs you of any ... sense of optimism and constructive engagement when your voice doesn't matter."

PROFS SAY UBC IGNORED FACULTY COUNCIL REPORT ON POOR WES RESULTS

When the first WES was published, Wagner was optimistic that things could improve. He said the IKBSAS WES results struck him as so "dramatic" that they "cried out for more analysis."

Wagner went to the IKBSAS faculty council — the body that "makes rules for the government, direction and management" of faculty affairs, subject to approval from UBC Senate. They decided to establish an ad-hoc committee to analyze the data.

The IKBSAS elected eight professors to the committee from each of the IKBSAS's academic units. Wagner was appointed committee chair. Their results — published March 2014 in an internal report obtained by *The Ubyssey* — were worrying.

UBC's official conclusions about the 2011 WES had been that Okanagan professor responses were "generally positive, reflecting an overall engaged workforce."

But the faculty council report concluded that the IKBSAS faculty responses were "generally negative, reflecting an overall disengaged workforce."

The report contained 12 recommendations. One key recommendation, which was immediately ratified by vote, called on UBC to begin an external review. Faculty reviews usually happen every five to six years, but by 2014 the IKBSAS had gone nine years without one. A review recently began in August 2018.

The report also recommended that the IKBSAS establish faculty committees for input on strategic direction and the budget; that administrators keep and publish minutes from leadership meetings and that the IKBSAS develop a workload flexibility policy, since some professors were reporting "overly heavy workload assignments."

UBCO said that three of the recommendations that related to wording of WES questions "were taken into account, and the survey has evolved since 2014."

"[The WES] clearly identify that problems exist," said Professor Michael Pidwirny, who has served as an Okanagan member of the UBC Faculty Association's (UBCFA) member grievance committee. "But UBC has made little attempt to fix these items over the last 12 years."

Pidwirny ran for UBCFA president in March on a platform that Okanagan faculty were "tired of being treated poorly by the university and their faculty association."

Wagner said that Pidwirny's campaign was a rare public statement, but he has little hope for change. He pointed to a faculty forum scheduled by the IKBSAS in July to discuss the WES results that was canceled last-minute by the dean's office due to "lack of interest."

"[This] report was commissioned at my insistence, without my dean's support, and it took a great deal of time away from my career," Wagner said.

"And look where it got us — nowhere."

JOB INSECURITY //

Campus security director departs after just 10 months on the job

Samantha McCabe & Zak Vescera
Coordinating & News Editors

Just 10 months after its last hire, UBC is looking for another executive director of Campus Security.

RCMP veteran Rob McCloy started at UBC on January 1 after a hiring process that spanned all of 2017. He stopped working as of November 1, for reasons that UBC cannot disclose due to privacy law.

University Community Services Manager and Bookstore Director Debbie Harvie, McCloy's immediate superior, said that hiring a replacement will take at least three to six months. During that time, Operations Manager Ali Mojdehi will serve as interim director.

"[Mojdehi] has worked here at UBC for over eight years, and has an excellent working knowledge about the campus and great relationships with many of the student groups and faculty groups on campus," said Harvie. "I feel very comfortable that he will be in a good position to lead us for the next period of time."

McCloy was hired to help UBC enact security recommendations made in a 2016 external review, which called attention to "dissonance" and "lack of clarity" around Campus Security's role and recommended a new leadership format led by a "head of profession."

UBC opted to keep the already-existing role of executive director, and is in the process of deciding whether it will be reworking the job description after McCloy's departure.

According to the 2017 Security Report presented by McCloy, he spent his first months in the position organizing a community watch model and strengthening Campus Security's partnerships with local and external stakeholders, like the University RCMP and the University Neighbourhoods Association.

Harvie said the university is still working on that community watch model in partnership with groups like student housing.

"We're looking to find a few pilot areas where we can test this out because I don't want it to be launched and fail. I would like to launch it smaller first and then see if we can grow," said Harvie.

Mojdehi said his priority in the role will be reducing theft on campus. There were 366 reported incidents of theft in 2017 according to the annual security report, with most involving bikes, laptops and cell phones.

"Always, our goal is to have the safest campus and that has not changed, and so with that we're going to try to build that strong team around us to support the community, to have that safe community in place," he said

McCloy could not be reached for comment by press time.

WORK IN PROGRESS //

UBC struggles to acquire records for 'nuanced' residential school information database

Bridget Chase
Culture Editor

Seven months after opening, the UBC Indian Residential History and Dialogue Centre (IRSHDC) still doesn't have all the records it needs to complete its mission.

And signs of improvement are slow to come.

In a September interview with *The Ubyssey*, Associate Director of Data and Curation Elizabeth Schaffer said she expected archival holdings gathered by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) about BC's Indian Residential School System to be available upon her arrival.

But the Centre still does not have all of the records that it needs to conduct its programming.

Director for the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) Ry Moran was unable to provide specifics about how many documents pertain to BC. He also could not comment on why Schaffer had this expectation, adding no documents were legally promised.

"If we look back at the agreements, [they] don't specify any sort of specific quantity of records, they specify a relationship," Moran said.

"They talk about how we're going to work on this material together."

NUANCED ACCESS

Even if UBC had all the records it needed, the Centre wouldn't be complete overnight because it needs to ensure the protection of private information.

According to Schaffer, the IRSHDC works under a strict mandate informed by Indigenous protocol to allow for nuanced levels of access.

Since these documents are considered government records of the Indian Residential School System, they could be made public through freedom of information requests. But the Centre believes access should be tiered to protect sensitive records, like survivors' testimonies about their experiences.

"We take a position here that even though technically we could make some of those records [publicly] available, we choose not to because we are a dialogue space that is designed to listen and ... figure out ... to whom they should be accessible," said Schaffer.

"It's a very ethical approach ... and it takes time to do well."

Moran echoed these sentiments, "We have to recognize that this is very personal for a lot of people."

Schaffer said the IRSHDC needs more access to the full set of documents to improve their database — and that their mandate to safeguard private information makes the situation complex to navigate.

"There are many [private] records that ... we wouldn't publish on our sites, but we need to use to develop our site with robust permissions and access that we haven't been given yet," she said.

"WORKING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION"

Schaffer arrived expecting the Centre would have the materials it needed to begin operations. Instead, she said she had to build relationships from the ground up.

"We build the bridge together as we walk on it." FILE BRIDGET CHASE

"I think when I came on board to do this work, I had anticipated that we would have more collaboration and greater access to far more records to build a robust system on the coast for Western Canada availability," she said.

"That hasn't happened, yet. I'm hoping it will."

The Memorandum of Agreement between the IRSHDC and the NCTR states the designated UBC contact is the director of the First Nations House of Learning until a director is appointed at the IRSHDC. While Dr. Linc Kesler was technically still in his role as the director at the IRSHDC between the April 9 opening and when the director started her role, it was unclear who served as the liaison after the Centre 'opened.'

"You know I'm not certain, to tell you the truth," said Moran, who was unable to name the UBC point of contact during this time.

In a written statement to *The Ubyssey*, UBC Vice-Provost and Associate VP Academic Affairs Eric Eich said contact between the centres was then "primarily at the staff level" and that "researchers and archivists worked on the exchange of records and data under the process initiated by leadership."

Still, Moran is optimistic about their ability to resolve the issues.

"Everybody is working in the right direction," Moran said.

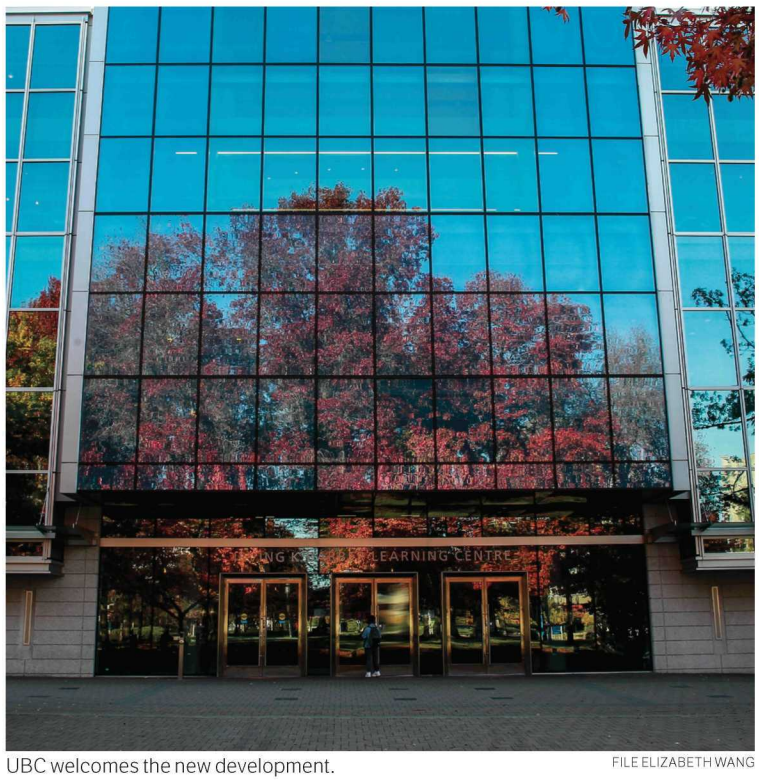
"Obviously the goal is to get things a little more synced up. But I think we're going to look back on this time ... and say 'You know, the ... misalignment of about a 10 or 12 month period is going to be quickly rectified.'"

He anticipated that the process would speed up once the centres finalize their data sharing agreements, adding that he has recently been in contact with IRSHDC Director Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond. Moran said UBC and the NCTR did not finalize their data sharing agreements before the centre's opening because "sometimes, this stuff takes time," especially as they are "charting new ground."

"We build the bridge together as we walk on it," said Moran.

DIPLOMACY //

Some Saudi Arabian students can now finish their degrees in Canada


UBC welcomes the new development. FILE ELIZABETH WANG

Dalya Al Masri
Contributor

The Government of Canada has confirmed that Saudi undergraduate students in the final years of their degrees, graduate students and medical trainees will be allowed to complete their studies in Canada.

There is no update on whether thousands of other students in lower-level years of study will be able to finish their degrees.

This follows an intensifying diplomatic battle between the countries over the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's treatment of detained activists, including UBC alumna Loujain Al-Hathloul.

On August 3, Global Affairs Canada tweeted that "Canada is gravely concerned about additional arrests of civil society and women's rights activists in Saudi Arabia including Samar Badawi. We urge the Saudi authorities to immediately release them and all other peaceful human rights activists."

A few days later, the kingdom expelled the Canadian ambassador, cut off pending trade deals and suspended scholarships for over 10,000 Saudi students in Canada.

In September, Saudi students were ordered to leave Canada by the end of the month and transfer their scholarships to allied educational programs in the United Kingdom and the United States.

UBC, which said it had 280 new and returning Saudi students attending this year, welcomed the recent change in policy.

"UBC is pleased that undergraduate and graduate students from Saudi Arabia in their final year of study will be permitted to complete their studies in Canada," reads a recent statement from Vice-Provost and Associate VP Enrolment and Academic Facilities Pam Ratner.

"We continue to work with those students to ensure they have the supports they require."

Although the kingdom's decision to allow the three categories of students to remain, not all Saudi-sponsored students remained in Canada following the announcement to cancel the scholarships this past summer.

"Students allowed to stay may have already left and not returned, some may have left planning to return to in January, some may have left with no plans to return at all having enrolled somewhere else," wrote Matt Ramsey, UBC's strategic communications director, in an emailed statement to *The Ubyssey*.

"The Government of Canada continues to welcome Saudi citizens, whether they wish to come temporarily to visit, work or study, or to live permanently in the country," Peter Liang, a communications advisor from Immigrants, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada, wrote in an emailed statement to *The Ubyssey*.

"Our rules and processes have not changed."

QUESTIONS O

How local institutions are ha

WORDS AND DESIGN BY BRIDGET CHASE

While museum efforts in British Columbia were previously focused on collecting Indigenous objects for display, many museums now have a new mandate: giving them back.

The act of returning something to its original home or owner is called repatriation. This process, which is often financially and emotionally complex, has been a priority for the Museum of Anthropology (MOA) and UBC's Lab of Archaeology (LOA) for almost 30 years.

In 1990, the United States passed a piece of legislation called the *Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act* (NAGPRA), which effectively changed the landscape for how museums and other institutions consider the Indigenous collections in their possession. The act requires any institution that receives federal funding to document what is held in collections and provide this information to Indigenous communities. These communities can then request repatriation of any objects of great cultural significance.

"There was a real fear when NAGPRA came into effect that museums would be cleared out," said Dr. Sue Rowley, curator of public archaeology at MOA and a LOA committee member. "In fact, what museums have found is that that isn't the case — and they've also all of a sudden established relationships with communities that have opened up [possibilities] they had never imagined before."

"[Repatriation] just comes about naturally when you're working with communities," echoed Dr. Sharon Fortney, UBC alumna and curator of Indigenous collections and engagement at the Museum of Vancouver (MOV).

It was actually one of Fortney's PhD advisors, Anthropology Professor Bruce Miller, who started the repatriation program at the MOV 11 years ago.

Rowley, Fortney and Miller have all seen massive shifts to favour of this work over the past 20 years. Just last year, the British Columbia provincial government created a repatriation grant fund, with a total of $500,000 available for grants through the Royal BC Museum.

"That's a game changer," said Rowley, "because that will help a lot with bringing home ancestors and bringing home belongings from institutions."

Fortney argued that now is the time for museums to start thinking about these bigger questions of belonging.

"Times have changed," she said. "Things came into the museum in a way we wouldn't accept today and so it gives you a chance to re-examine the collection and the reasons behind 'Why is this here?'"

Facilitating homecoming

While MOA works primarily in the repatriation of belongings, LOA often facilitates the repatriation of ancestral remains.

"This is the idea of helping communities to become whole again [by] bringing the ancestors back to the land where they were laid to rest and where they belong," explained Rowley.

The most recent example of a major ancestral repatriation occurred back in August, when LOA partnered with Stó:lō and Yale First Nations to return ancestors from a part of their shared territory.

"That was really lovely because it was the coming together of two communities working together to bring those ancestors home," Rowley said.

Outside of the baseline care that is taken during this process, LOA is also able to offer more academic services, using the knowledge and equipment that is available within the lab. With non-destructive analysis, bio-anthropologists like Dr. Darlene Weston may be able to provide community members with information about the age, height, sex and even potential long-term disabilities of the ancestors whose remains are coming home.

"[The Stó:lō] had a relationship with Weston, and a spiritual person from the community sat with her while she took the samples so that they knew that it was done in a good way," said Rowley.

Weston was able to answer questions that the community had about these remains and provide them with additional information for their own community histories. Through the use of destructive analysis, which involves destroying a fragment of the bone, archaeologists are able to provide details about diet and nutrition.

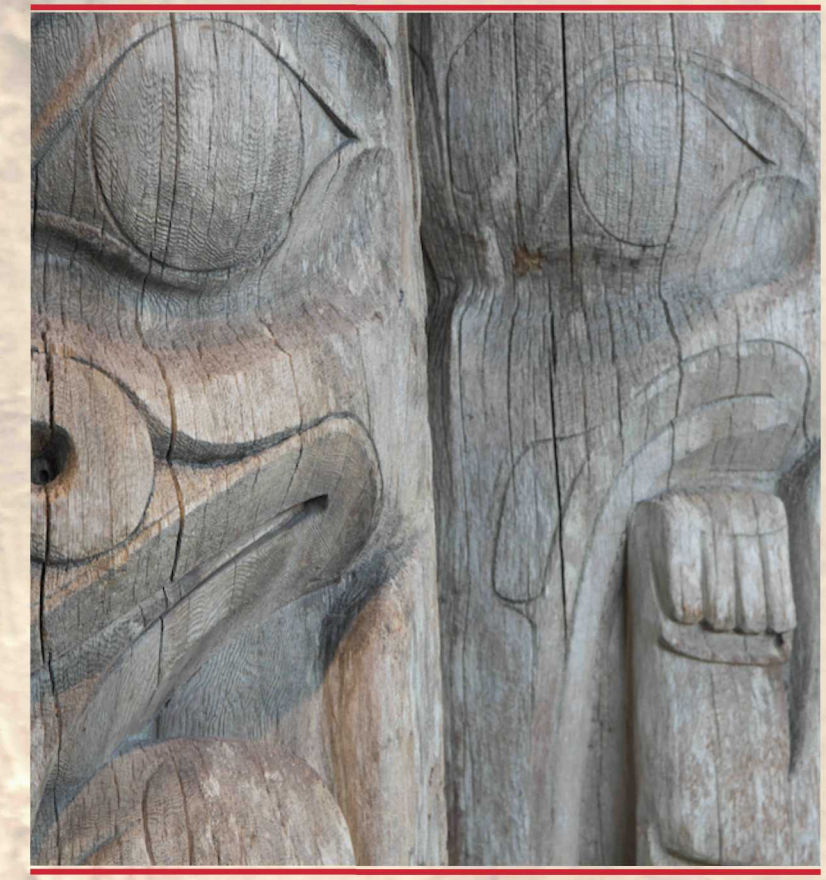
Asking difficult questions

The repatriation timeline can vary depending on a number of factors, both internal to the university and externally within Indigenous communities.

Repatriation from MOA falls under UBC's Policy 128, which sets out "the circumstances, conditions and protocol for disposing of works in the Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery, the University Library, and the Museum of Anthropology." MOA's process would generally begin with an individual, family or community contacting them about the object or objects in question.

Depending on the circumstance, some people may feel as if their belongings are doing valuable work for them in

> We will be coming to you
> **for our**



GyaaGang (House front pole), Museum of Anthropology. Bridget Chase

OF BELONGING

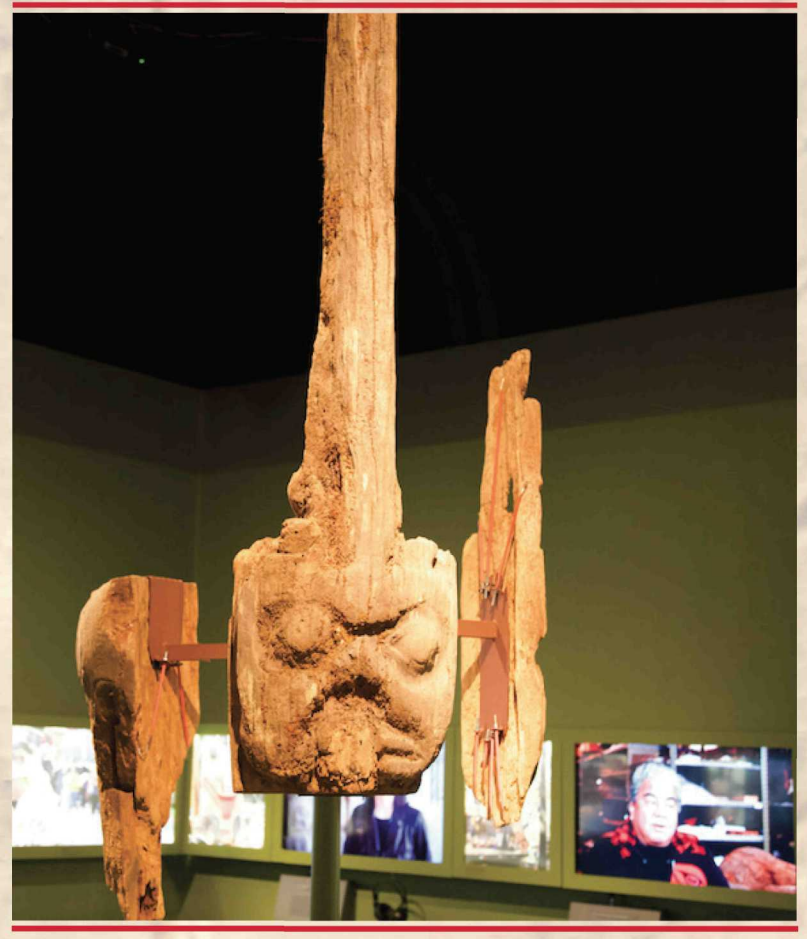
andling Indigenous repatriation

belongings
when we're ready.

Dr. Susan Rowley

Collins Maina

Pole fragments at the Museum of Vancouver exhibit "Haida Now," which have been identified for repatriation.



a museum by showcasing their community to the world. Miller said that museum resources may also provide value with access to preservation specialists, which could add an incentive to keep the objects in the care of institutions.

"They may make a determination [that] some pieces stay here in order to do that work. They may make a determination that, 'No, those pieces should come home,'" explained Rowley.

Once an object has been requested for return, the museum's repatriation committee has to ask itself the hard questions about the piece's history.

"How was it acquired? Was it taken through theft? Was it taken through coercion? Was the item made for sale? Was it gifted to us by the person who made it? All of those have different ramifications for whether or not a piece would be repatriated," said Rowley.

If the history is murky — if information about how exactly the piece was acquired is not fully known — that would extend the committee's investigation.

"It [can] involve a lot of archival work to find out where things are from, how they got there [and] what the provenance is," Miller explained. "Sometimes it takes a lot of sleuthing and detective work."

Once the committee agrees to support a repatriation, it must be approved by the administrative side of MOA before moving onto the university level. At this point, the piece is appraised to find its monetary value. Depending on the value, the decision may be lifted to the Provost's office and potentially even the Board of Governors.

In institutions like the MOV, the collections technically belong to Vancouver and thus approval must come from the city.

"The city lawyers would say things like, 'Well, why do you want to give things back?'" said Miller. "But they don't belong with us and they do have a place where they originated from."

Miller stressed that museums have an inherent responsibility to work with communities and return things to their rightful homes.

"We have to act on it."

Returning home

According to the annual end-of-year reports from the Board of Governors, Policy 128 has not been put into effect to repatriate anything from MOA for the past 10 years. That will change this year.

In June, a request was forwarded to the Board on the recommendation of President Santa Ono that a Haida Mortuary Pole be repatriated to the Haida Nation.

"The pole was exhibited on University Boulevard in 1958 as part of UBC's celebration of the centenary of the British Columbia becoming a crown colony," the Board report states. "When the current museum building opened in 1976, this pole was on display in the Great Hall."

In 2003, the Haida Repatriation Committee informed MOA that it would be seeking to repatriate the pole in the future and requested that MOA remove the pole from public view in 2009.

"[It's] a Haida mortuary pole, which means that ... it was erected in order for someone to be buried in it. At some point in its history, it was someone's grave," Rowley said.

Details of this pole's return are currently being worked out by the Haida Repatriation Committee and more information will be available come 2019. Until the time of its removal, MOA is safeguarding the pole in a "culturally sensitive storage area."

The MOV is also accustomed to the workflow of repatriating Haida belongings, as it is currently going through a similar repatriation process with the nation.

"The Haida have a strong history of repatriation work," Fortney said. "They have [a] process that they are working with."

Here when they're ready

Outside of this particular instance, MOA is prepared for more communities to come forward with requests in the future.

"We have had a number of communities who have said to us, 'We will be coming to you for our belongings, when we're ready,'" Rowley said. "It's a lot of hard work to bring the ancestors home and to bring belongings back."

"We are in the era of repatriation," said Miller. "And it's a really deep part of reconciliation. ... There are many versions of reconciliation, to me this is one of the most significant. This is where the communities really take control of their material culture and of their ancestors."

Whatever the time frame looks like, the end result is always worthy of celebration.

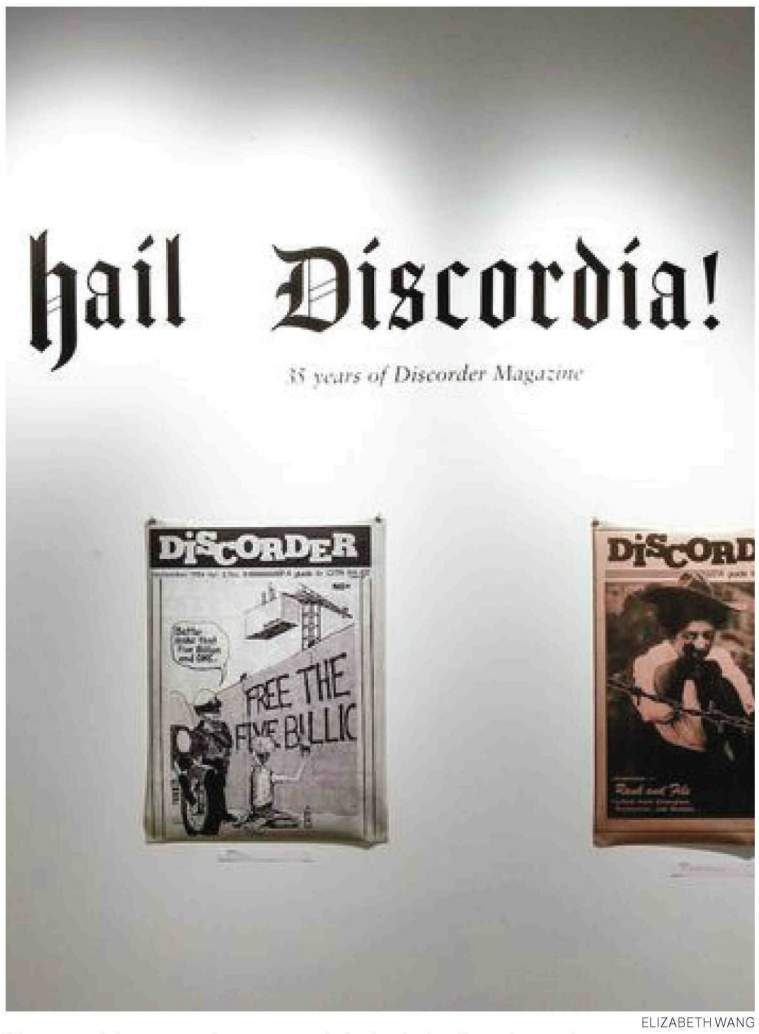
"Repatriation is not something that has an end date, or an expiry date. It's an ongoing process and the response that we always say is, 'We'll be here,'" said Rowley.

"We did a repatriation of an ancestor from Klahoose, which is where my grandmother is from — it was very moving for me," said Fortney. "I think you're just happy for the community when it happens. When people come in and things are going home."

— With files from Colins Maina

HAPPY BIRTHDAY //

Discorder Magazine celebrates 35 years of diversity and being 'freaky' at the Hatch Art Gallery



ELIZABETH WANG

The artwork has a certain avant-garde feel to it. A subversive undertone.

Hina Zahir Imam
Contributor

Discorder Magazine is celebrating its 35th anniversary by showcasing a diverse range of artwork at the Hatch Art Gallery. Titled *Hail Discordia*, the exhibit displayed one cover from each year of the magazine's existence.

"When it came down to one [cover] every year, I mostly selected for what showcased *Discorder*'s diversity," said Ricky Castanedo Laredo, art director at *Discorder Magazine*.

Laredo didn't want to only choose photos or illustations, but "wanted to show the many ways in which *Discorder* has been at the forefront of larger conversations, and also, just how freaky [they] are."

At the exhibit, it is intriguing to witness how the meaning of representation for the magazine has broadened over time, encompassing more voices. The artwork has a certain avant-garde feel to it. A subversive undertone is apparent.

"We wanted to use the cover art of the magazine as a way to tell the story of its ever-changing nature and showcase some of the wildest moments from our history," explained Laredo. Over the course of the years, *Discorder* has seen itself revisiting old forms and aesthetics while also endlessly changing with time.

The exhibit was primarily the brainchild of Laredo, former Editor-in-Chief Brit Bachmann and Halla Bertrand, accounts manager at CiTR radio station and *Discorder*.

"The exhibit is just meant to serve as a celebration and a small sample of the magazine's history," said Laredo.

He also shared a heartfelt letter that hung with the exhibit, writing that, "*Discorder* is a publication that can get away with being exactly what it wants to be. We can prioritize the underrepresented and misrepresented, the independent, and the entirely-not-mainstream creators of the small morsel of the world we affect."

He further talked about covers being the entry point for an issue of any publication.

Published by CiTR since 1983, the magazine is the longest-running independent music magazine in Vancouver. Founded by Michael Mines and Jennifer Farni, the magazine's focus was initially on radio and specifically music. Over time, the masthead reflected and engaged in art forms beyond music, like politics, comedy and activism.

With globalization at its peak, it is easy to become disconnected with one's city — thus, the magazine has refocused on the hyperlocal. "I think *Discorder* currently is trying to fill that void," said Laredo.

"[It's] a place that celebrates the people of our community doing great things but also remaining critical of our vicinity."

DO BEE DO BEE DO //

Even without knowing about the structure or history of the genre, the music was moving.

COURTESY JON BROWN

Still Dreaming provides an intimate spectacle for jazz admirers and fanatics alike

Iain Coates and Angela O'Donnell
Staff Writer and Senior Staff Writer

In the grand Chan Centre, a stage is set for a cozy jazz performance. Still Dreaming — a quartet of Joshua Redman, Ron Miles, Scott Colley and Brian Blade — delighted audiences with their effortless fusion of different jazz genres, all wrapped up in one big performance. The quartet played a mix of music off of their new album, *Still Dreaming*, some songs from the band Old and New Dreams, and a tune from jazz composer Ornette Coleman for the encore.

The concert was a combination of pre-written melodies and improvised solos, featuring the virtuosic playing of the four expert musicians. Band leader Joshua Redman was clearly a master of the saxophone. Ron Miles, on flügelhorn and trumpet, added another layer to the melody with his instruments' bright tones. Bassist Scott Colley's agile solos were a pleasure to listen to — and his rhythmic jelling with drummer Brian Blade, whose modern playing style added a fresh dimension, is what tied the whole sound together.

The quartet's music carried on the tradition of Coleman, who was an experimental saxophonist, and the band Old and New Dreams, of which Redman's father was a member. Coleman's music is often called "free jazz" for its indifference to the traditional rules of Western music and emphasis on melody over structure. It has a unique sound that sets it apart from other styles, and Still Dreaming has mastered this. The bass and drums often follow whoever is playing the melody, changing rhythms and time signatures when they see fit. The musicians experiment with making unexpected sounds with their instruments, like hitting saxophone keys to make a beat, amplifying breath sounds through a trumpet or snapping bass strings against its fingerboard.

There was a talk before the show on the specific context of the performance, which touched on a brief history of jazz. But even without knowing about the structure or history of the genre, the music was moving. The show had the intimate feeling of watching a group of friends joking around with each other, with Redman often taking time to compliment the solos of his fellow performers.

Redman and his quartet's performance delivered a welcoming introduction for newer jazz admirers and a spectacle for jazz fanatics.

MOBILITY //

Letter: The electoral referendum does not accommodate students' lifestyles

Emily Paterson & Helen Zhou
Contributors

British Columbia is having a referendum about electoral reform, but does anyone actually know or care about it? On campus, there have been a few student groups organizing, but it appears that the student population remains vastly unaware.

The ballots have now for the most part been mailed out, but as of November 14, only 18 per cent of registered voters ballots have been received by Elections BC. And where are the student voters?

Referendums, as well as the elections process more broadly, do not actively engage with youth voters. Except for BC Premier John Horgan saying that "pro rep is lit" at the leaders debate, the system in place is unable to connect with a young, unstable and mobile population.

The majority of university students move around throughout their education. Students often live in one place throughout the school year while moving home in the summers for work opportunities. The mobility of young voters makes the format of a mail-in ballot somewhat difficult even at surface level. Mail-in ballots rely on voter registration information to provide constituents with their ballot. So if you have moved recently or move frequently, there is decent chance you haven't updated your voter registration, which would lead to you missing a ballot.

Besides, who sends out mail these days? FILE THE UBYSSEY

A mail-in ballot is also unable to target those who are already disengaged or have mobile living situations. Those who don't have mobile living situations are often homeowners comprised of older portions of the population who most likely haven't recently moved and are registered to vote. This design targets permanence and doesn't reach out to bridge the gap to those who are mobile. The process does not take any steps to actively reconcile this gap, such as to reach out and better inform those who may not be engaged in the process. If the province cared to close this gap, they could have made an effort to connect with this mobile cohort of the population.

Besides, who sends out mail these days? Referendums and elections haven't moved to modernize or keep up with the digital generation. Since 2004, Switzerland has been running e-voting trials all over the country and plans to have e-voting in at least two-thirds of the country by 2019. If you can go online to request your ballot with an identifying number like a drivers licence number, why is it unheard of to be able to vote electronically? Yes, computer failure or corruption is something to keep in mind, but it shouldn't be holding back electoral processes from working to more actively serve voters.

Given the process, we encourage young people to reach out and talk to each other about the referendum. Make sure your friends are voting and ask them to check in with their friends too. As scary and daunting as "electoral reform" sounds, there are lots of resources out there to get informed. UvoteBC is a website put together by UBC political science students to act as a resource for the referendum. It is non-partisan and hopes to better inform British Columbians on their options at all levels of interest, from case studies of different electoral systems to curated media coverage — and there is even a podcast on the way.

Lastly, check the Elections BC website for more information on how to obtain and cast your ballot. You have until November 23 to request a ballot online or pick one up in person. If you still have any unanswered questions or confusions, call Elections BC and they will gladly answer any questions you may have.

All ballots must be received by 4:30 p.m. on November 30. They can also be dropped off at select locations throughout the province. Please take the time to fill out your ballot and think about the way we vote in this province.

Helen Zhou is a fourth-year philosophy student and Emily Paterson is a fifth-year political science student. They are both involved with UvoteBC. The opinions expressed are solely their own.

ASKING FOR HELP //

Mind Your Mind: What happens when you call a crisis line?

Volunteers are trained in active listening and can provide emotional support. FILE STEPHANIE WU

Daphée Lévesque
Mindfulness Columnist

Content warning: This article contains mentions of suicide and self-harm.

For many years, whenever mental health professionals handed me cards with crisis line numbers written in bold letters, I nodded and smiled as if to say, "Of course I will call if I need to. Thank you." In reality, as soon as I got home, I put the cards in the recycling bin or buried them in my desk drawer.

Fast forward a few years later, I can honestly say that I've called a crisis line about a dozen times. Today, my aim is to share my experience because even though calling can be scary as hell, it can also be super helpful.

HOW DO I KNOW WHETHER IT'S APPROPRIATE TO CALL?

Although some crisis lines are advertised as suicide hotlines, many crisis lines are there for you no matter how big or small the problem is. Of course, if you are having suicidal thoughts or if you know someone else at risk of harming themselves or others, it is appropriate to call. But what if you are having an anxiety attack, just had an ugly fight with your partner or feel overwhelmed and stressed out? What if you are being bullied or have the urge to self-harm? All of the above are good reasons to call.

WHO WILL ANSWER THE CALL?

Usually, a trained volunteer will answer the call. These volunteers are trained in active listening and can provide emotional support. They can also help you get immediate assistance or medical attention if that's what you need. They can connect you to appropriate resources or simply listen to what you have to say.

HOW MUCH INFORMATION SHOULD I REVEAL ABOUT MYSELF?

Speaking to a stranger when you're already in distress can be daunting, especially if it's your first time. The great thing about crisis lines is that you're the one in control. You don't even have to introduce yourself or give them your name. You choose how much information to disclose and can talk about anything that's on your mind. If you don't want to talk, that's cool too. Once, I called a crisis line and requested that the volunteer distract me by telling me a story. In that moment, I was trying to reduce my anxiety and listening to someone else's voice was enough to calm me down.

WHAT ABOUT CONFIDENTIALITY?

Although most crisis lines can trace numbers if needed, they will only intervene if they are worried about your or someone else's immediate safety in most cases. Confidentiality has its limits, but keep in mind that these limits are in place to keep you and your loved ones safe. If you are worried about confidentiality and are 20 years old or younger, I recommend calling Kids Help Phone (KHP). KHP is the only Canada-wide, bilingual and totally anonymous crisis line. That means they can't trace your call. What I love about KHP is that its staffed by registered counsellors and they operate on a 24/7 basis.

WHAT IF CRISIS LINES AREN'T HELPFUL?

Although I believe that most of the time, crisis lines are helpful — that's not always the case. Personally, I've had good and not-so-good experiences. Sometimes, you don't click with the person on the other end and that's okay. Other times, they put you on hold for what seems like forever. Whenever that happens to me, I simply end the conversation and try again later — or call a different line. I know that it can be discouraging to try again if you've had a bad experience, but I truly think that the people on the other end are doing the best they can with the resources they have.

Calling a crisis line can be a daunting experience, especially if you've never done it before. Like most things, it requires courage and a little bit faith. I often rely on crisis lines when no one else in my support system is available for help, like in the middle of the night or when my loved ones need a break from supporting me. I worry a lot about being a burden to others, so reaching out to people whom I know have chosen to volunteer their time and energy lessens my guilt. When I do hesitate to reach out, I remember what my therapist once told me: "When it comes down to it, I would rather you call than not call." I wholeheartedly agree.

The authors of this column are not mental health professionals. If you need additional support, please contact Student Health Services, Sexual Assault Support Centre and/or the Wellness Centre. In case of an emergency, call 911.

GET OUT THERE //

Put that compass card to use with these day trips around Vancouver

Anupriya Dasgupta
Staff Writer

I know we're all broke university students, but we all need to get out once in a while and see everything the transit system has to offer. Here's a list of affordable ideas for those days when you just want to get away from the mess that is your academic life.

All you need is a couple of pals and the will to go outside. FILE KOSTA PRODANOVIC

LES ESTHÉTIQUES

If you're an art enthusiast or if you just want to try something different for once, Vancouver has got you covered! Visit the Vancouver Art Gallery or walk the Seawall and look at outdoor art. Entrance to the Gallery is by donation on Tuesday nights!

EXPLORE, WALK, BIKE, ROLLERBLADE

Yes, this is more of a summer activity, but you could still venture out in the rain, rent some bikes and go around Stanley Park. The fog over the trees will give you the perfect fall aesthetic for photo-ops as well.

DISC GOLF IN QUEEN ELIZABETH PARK

The rain can get you dreary, but what better way to turn it into a positive memory than some fun and frolic at QEP? This activity is free! All you need is a couple of pals and the will to go outside.

WATER WATCHING

A big plus of living on the coast is that some days you can just sit by the water and stare out into the void while you contemplate metaphysics. If you're a water aficionado, you can take the False Creek Aquabus or the Lonsdale Quay SeaBus, neither of which will cost you any more than $5.

ADVENTURE OUT TO THE NATURE

Feeling wanderlust? Go on a hike alone or with some friendos. Exercise and beautiful west coast scenery await your soul! Lighthouse Park, the Grouse Grind, Lynn Canyon and the Capilano Suspension Bridge are all great options.

ROAD TRIPS AND ISLAND VISITS

If you want to chip in a few extra bucks, I strongly recommend road-tripping on the Sea-to-Sky Highway or getting on a ferry to any of the nearby islands from Horseshoe Bay. Bowen Island is 10/10 recommended by me; it has a place called Snug Cove — how great is that?

And if you're feeling truly in need of some inspiration, hop on a random bus and see where it takes you (and maybe you can even use the same philosophy with life, but don't quote me on this).

ACADEMIC BOREDOM //

The Dingbat: An open letter from the fifth-year in your first-year elective

I don't think I'm better than you more than a few times a week. FILE GEOFF LISTER

Moira Wyton
Features Editor

Dear first-years,

Using one's victory lap to take junior electives and shit on everything people outside your major care about is a rite of passage at UBC. There's a weathered fifth-year in all your classes — and this year, it's me. I thought it was time I cleared the air.

Not all of us are here because we failed. I was told by my academic advisor that I had to take electives outside of my major concentration or she wouldn't let me graduate. So here I am, being held hostage by the administration, not having done any of the readings and relying on four years of a political science and international relations degree to make nonsense comments in this class about witch history.

Just because I'm in my fifth year doesn't mean I don't remember what it was like to feel the burning desire to insert my comment into every possible discussion for those sweet, sweet participation marks. It just means that my four-plus years of binge drinking have subdued the urge enough that I sit in the back sighing until there's a chance for me to shoehorn knowledge from my major into the discussion.

Oh, you hadn't considered how, exactly as Foucault kind of touched on, *Wicked* exemplifies the neoliberal commodification of the supernatural and how Glinda is the panopticon? Neither had I until I came to this evening's lecture tipsy just to flex on you first-years who can't buy alcohol.

I already made it clear when we did class introductions in the first week that I'm here for general elective credits and not much else. Expanding my academic horizons? I have five grad school applications and the university experience UBC promised in its brochure to cram into this semester; the only thing expanding will be my ego when one of you asks if we're allowed to plagiarize and the TA and I exchange knowing looks. Odds are she's only a year older than me and I've probably slept with one of her roommates during my degree, so we're, like, pretty tight.

Even though I'm just along for the ride in this class that will determine if you get into your preferred major or not, I don't think I'm better than you more than a few times a week. I long for the days when nothing I wrote for a class mattered and professors didn't know my name so they couldn't be disappointed in me personally. Those were simpler times and I should have cherished them before I knew the hell Chicago-style citations would wreak on my thought patterns.

Before I forget, could I please borrow your notes from last class? As a thank you, I'll glance at the term paper you're going to call your mom to cry about anyway.

Sincerely,
[student number redacted]

The Dingbat is The Ubyssey's new humour column. You can submit completed pieces or pitches to a.odonnell@ubyssey.ca.

DREAD //

Contemplate university at these existential places

FILE KATE COLENBRANDER

Amy Shandro
Staff Writer

Many of us go to university unsure of what path lies ahead of us. And truth be told, that uncertainty never really goes away. For those days when you're trying to figure out what's next, here are the best places on campus to contemplate your university career.

THE GALLERY IN THE NEST

With an expansive view of the roofs of buildings on campus and a decent happy hour, the Gallery is a great place to kick back with a beer and realize that you don't know what to do with your degree. Take up one of the booths, or have a seat on the outdoor terrace and panic about the lack of job prospects that await you after you graduate.

TRIPLE O'S

While downing the greasiest burger on campus with a mediocre milkshake as a side, come to terms with the fact that you probably won't get accepted into grad school. Visit on Triple O's Tuesday to get a sweet deal on a burger, and determine that you have neither the money nor the grades to get into a grad program at any university. Also make sure to sit at a table alone when realizing this, so that everyone else there knows that you're really going through some stuff.

LOAFE

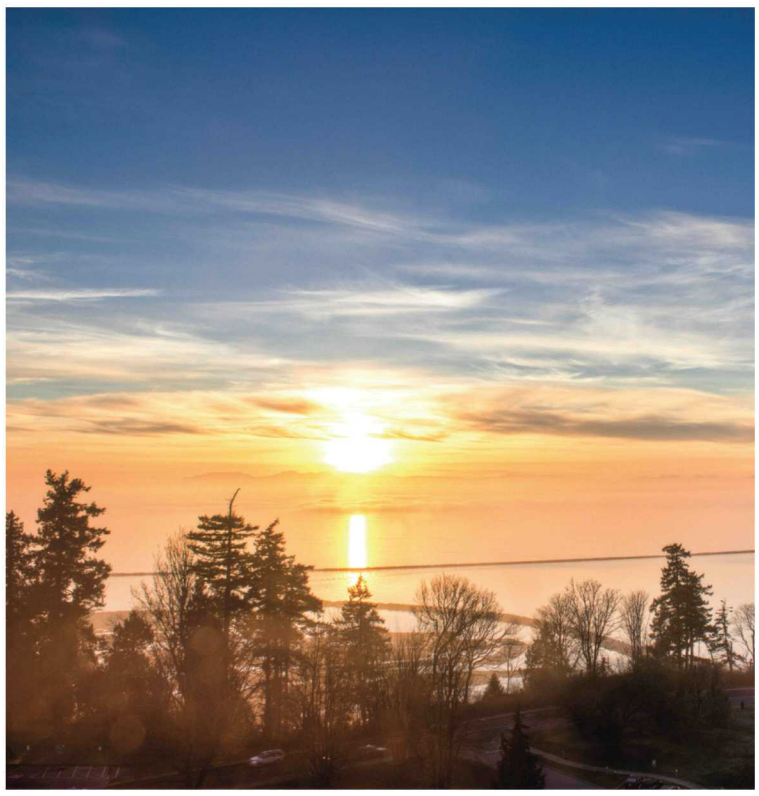
Well-known as being the cafe that serves alcohol on campus, head here for a morning drink and to tackle the fact that you mainly went to university to please your parents. A beer at 11 a.m. will help you admit that you're not really enjoying writing an essay every week and that you probably should have taken that gap year to travel.

WRECK BEACH

A great place to try and find inner peace with the fact that, although you've succeeded in university academically, you haven't bothered to have any fun. Let your hair down and feel the wind blow through it for once, as every other moment of university career has been spent with your nose in a book or cramped over a laptop during a late night at IKB. As you accept that you missed out on multiple opportunities to make new friends and experience the cool events available to you at UBC, watch the tide roll in closer and closer, lapping at your bare toes in the sand. Maybe this can be your first good memory here.

STRICTLY SO //

Get platonic with these great friendship dates on campus



The 466 stairs are worth the ineffable landscapes. FILE BENJAMIN COOKS

Danilo Angulo Molina
Contributor

University can be very overwhelming. We get so busy with assignments, midterms and papers that we often forget to take some time to share a moment with our friends outside of studying.

Maybe you have been thinking about going out with that friend you wish you saw more often or with one of your closest friends. If you're stuck on campus, here's a list of friendship dates you can go on.

HAVE A MEAL AT THE POINT

If you are looking for a more traditional restaurant atmosphere for your friendship date and an escape from the usual kitchen, the Point Grill is the place to go! It has card games to play and a diverse menu with vegan and vegetarian options. You can also get a sit-down meal with your UBC Card here. Isn't that great? It's located on Marine Drive.

WATCH A THUNDERBIRD GAME WITH YOUR FRIEND

If you are looking for a casual friendship date, showing your school spirit by watching a live-action Thunderbirds game is the way to go! Do you want to watch a hockey game for the first time in your life? Ask your friend(s) to watch it with you at Doug Mitchell Thunderbird Sports Centre for just $6. You'll have a lot of fun and it's exciting!

HAVE AN UNFORGETTABLE TIME WATCHING THE SUNSET AT WRECK BEACH

If you feel more like having a relaxing date with your friend, watching the sunset at Wreck Beach while listening to the sound of the waves is one of the best options! The 466 stairs are worth the ineffable landscapes you will encounter. Take advantage of the fact that the sun has stayed out longer this winter, and take some awesome pictures as part of your friendship memories.

EXPLORE PACIFIC SPIRIT REGIONAL PARK

If you feel like you need some time to breathe in some fresh air and prefer walking and wandering around, invite your friend for a walk in Pacific Spirit Regional Park. It's a paradise and a great opportunity to appreciate nature and experience the life of a real Vancouverite!

RENT A BIKE AND GO FOR A RIDE WITH YOUR FRIEND!

If you feel like having an adventurous date with your friend, rent a bike through the Dropbike app, which costs just $1 for up to 60 minutes! You'll be amazed by the number of places you will get to see around UBC in a short period of time.

WATCH CONCERTS AND OPERAS

If you feel like having an engaging date, invite your friend to watch a concert or an opera. You can hang out while also appreciating the talent and effort that other peers put into their art. Check out The School of Music calendar on their website to see the variety of events that will be happening.

What are you waiting for? Choose any of these activities, text your friend and set up a date! The moments you share with your friend are unforgettable and they will help with the development of your friendship here at UBC and beyond!

NUTRITION //

Get some affordable and delicious food at Seedlings

I shared a plate of vegan pancakes and a falafel curry bowl. HENRY ANDERSON

Henry Anderson
Staff Writer

Nestled in the penthouse of the Thea Koerner House on the north side of campus is Seedlings, a café from the people who brought you Sprouts. If you haven't heard of Sprouts, it's a student-run organization that provides affordable food locally- and ethically-sourced in BC and Washington state, including the UBC Farm.

Sprouts' original location in the Nest is not expected to open until later this winter.

Seedlings serves $1 tea or coffee and a variety of $4 vegan specialties such as a bowls, stews, salads and even breakfast food. But perhaps best of all, they have kombucha on tap! For less than $15 dollars, a friend and I shared a plate of vegan pancakes and a falafel curry bowl — each well-portioned and scrumptious — as well as enough kombucha to keep our guts riddled with benevolent flora for the next month.

I'd be negligent if I didn't mention Seedlings's feel-good, eclectic atmosphere. Its furniture and dishware are all donated or cheaply sourced. The eating area is also spacious with floor-length windows and balconies on each side.

Seedlings is open Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you find yourself strolling by the Rose Garden and craving a sustainable snack, give Seedlings a try!

CHEEKY NANOS //

UBC BIOMOD wins recognition for innovative leukemia treatment

Roula Farag
Contributor

On October 27, UBC's BIOMOD (biomolecular design) team won third place at the BIOMOD Jamboree annual conference in San Francisco for its discovery of a potential new treatment for leukemia, a group of cancers originating in bone marrow.

BIOMOD is an undergraduate competition held annually since 2011 that encourages undergraduates worldwide to discover new biomolecular technologies. This year's UBC BIOMOD team, known as the Cheeky Nanos, has developed a targeted therapy for acute myeloid leukemia (AML).

Starting in July, this innovative team of 14 students began its quest to synthesize a drug delivery vehicle that can specifically target AML cells.

AML is present in the blood and bone marrow of patients, so there is no tumor that can be surgically removed. Moreover, AML patients are often too old to withstand the toxic side effects of chemotherapy treatments. Thus, using targeted therapy treatment is highly effective for these patients.

The team had an interest in developing a treatment that targets cancer cells similar to antibody drug conjugates (ADCs) but without the associated complications. ADCs are a means of targeting the delivery of cancer drugs.

"This antibody drug conjugate, Mylotarg, was available for AML. It was helpful for a lot of people, especially people who couldn't recover from traditional chemotherapy," said Siddarth Raghuvanshi, a fourth-year chemical and biological engineering student and president of the UBC BIOMOD team.

" ... It wasn't the best approach in terms of targeted drug delivery so we decided to [use] aptamers and DNA tetrahedrons instead."

The reason Mylotarg was removed from the market was likely due to early release of the chemotherapy drug into the bloodstream instead of into the target AML cells, resulting in toxic effects in patients.

For their efforts, the team took home third place at the BIOMOD conference.

COURTESY UBC BIOMOD

To avoid this issue, the team decided to include DNA tetrahedrons — a structure composed of four DNA strands that can easily enter the cell's nucleus — as part of their drug delivery vehicle. The aim was to allow Doxorubicine, a chemotherapy drug used for AML treatment, to associate with the foreign DNA structure.

"After about 72 hours, the foreign DNA structures are broken down and then it releases this drug [Doxorubicine]. By that time it's hopefully already in the nucleus." said Raghuvanshi.

"So our next step was to add a targeting system. This is where the Mylotarg came in handy. It targeted a specific protein for AML which is called CD33. CD33 is just a surface protein that's expressed on these cells," said Raghuvanshi.

Instead of using an antibody that is specific to the CD33 receptor, the team chose to synthesize aptamers. Nucleotide aptamers are short DNA or RNA strands that have high specificity with the target molecule or protein of interest which, in this case, is CD33.

"Once [the aptamer] binds... then [the drug] is endocytosed using receptor-mediated endocytosis and goes straight to the nucleus. So this way, the DNA tetrahedron structure doesn't just attack every cell, it finds its way to the cells that we want it to attack," said Raghuvanshi.

According to Raghuvanshi, the most challenging part of the project was ensuring that the aptamers in their drug delivery vehicle were properly binding to the CD33 receptors in the AML cells. After running a lot of tests that did not provide conclusive results, the team reached the solution of adding a fluorescent label on the aptamer. This fluorescent label allowed them to visualize when the aptamer is bound to the AML cells.

This is just an example of the numerous experiments and trial runs the UBC BIOMOD team went through to reach its final result. By mid-October the team had wrapped up its project and was preparing for the conference in San Francisco.

During the final weekend of October, the UBC BIOMOD team successfully presented its project and won third place.

"I was really fortunate to have a lot of capable and talented lab members whose skills were varied," said Raghuvanshi.

The UBC BIOMOD team also reached out to UBC faculty members and students to learn from their expertise. This provided the team with opportunities to collaborate in multiple labs and use a variety of resources.

"[You have to talk] to people who are not on the team and [find] out a good way to communicate why your project is important," said Raghuvanshi. "I think that's probably one of the more important experiences I got out of

COURTESY UBC BIOMOD

For their drug-delivery vehicle, the team opted to use DNA tetrahedrons.

The team had an interest in developing a treatment that targets cancer cells.

COURTESY UBC BIOMOD

HUMANITARIANISM //

This year, the UBC chapter will be focusing on the Hello 2030 campaign, advocating better representation of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

COURTESY UBC ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS

UBC Engineers Without Borders aims to generate social change

Krystal Lee
Contributor

Systemic change requires a combination of innovative ideas and dedicated action. The UBC chapter of Engineers Without Borders (EWB) is a group of engineering students who strive to meet this challenge. In the past few years, they have worked to launch a variety of long-term engagement programs, raising awareness on education, sustainability and global advocacy.

One recent project is their new mentorship program, launched last year. This is a four-month program where EWB helps middle-school students implement an initiative in their school or community.

"We pride ourselves in piloting and fostering long term systemic change ... [because] we help students develop ideas ... and guide them through the process from ideation to execution," UBC EWB President Ilakkiyan Jeyakumar said.

In 2017, students prepared proposals for a community garden, a new skateboard rack and a pilot for an annual clothing drive. In 2018, EWB will be partnering with Eric Hamber Secondary School to continue delivering these mentorship programs.

As part of their food sustainability venture, UBC EWB has implemented the "Scrapless" App. In partnership with Bluechip Café, The Grocery Checkout and Porch, the app aims to reduce food waste on UBC campus. The app is currently in development and will soon be available in the App Store.

"A number of grocers and cafes on campus typically have a lot of food left unsold ... that just gets thrown out," said Jeyakumar. "[Our] idea was to pair [these grocers] with students who can receive notification of food available at discounted prices."

The UBC chapter has also contributed to numerous social enterprise ventures. One of these ventures is the African Academy for Internships (AAI), which provides internship and mentorship opportunities to youth in Africa. This is an eight-week program that provides students with technical training and internship opportunities at host companies including Jumia and Stanbic Bank.

Another social enterprise the UBC chapter has supported is LishaBora, which promotes sustainable dairy farming in Kenya. LishaBora is dedicated towards assisting smallholder dairy farmers with business development and credit solutions.

EWB has been active in advocacy, working with Liberal MP Joyce Murray to apply political pressure on international topics. In 2017, the UBC chapter campaigned to provide increased funding for Canadian foreign aid and investments abroad. The club was pleased to see that the federal government proposed a $2 billion increase in overseas development assistance in their 2018/19 budget.

"Canada is lagging behind every other G7 country in terms of official development assistance, and this $2 billion increase has helped push us further ahead ... These incremental changes are what [EWB] strives to achieve," Jeyyakumar said.

This year, the UBC chapter will be focusing on the Hello 2030 campaign, a nationwide campaign advocating for better representation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG). They will be delivering presentations on the UBC campus to promote UNSDG and their policies on equality, sustainability and prosperity.

"With the federal elections coming, this is the moment [for EWB] to apply pressure [on international topics]," said Jeyakumar.

Everyone has a role to play in inciting change and the UBC chapter is determined to use their voice to build a better future.

Notice of Development Permit Application - DP 18045

Public Open House

MacInnes Field and Public Realm Upgrades

Join us on **Tuesday, November 27** to view and comment on the proposed MacInnes Field and adjacent public realm upgrades in the University Boulevard precinct.

Date: Tuesday, November 27, 2018 **Times:** 11:00AM - 1:00PM
Place: Lobby, Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre, 6163 University Boulevard

This event is wheelchair accessible.

Plans will be displayed for the layout and design of MacInnes Field (4,945m2) for athletic and recreational use and adjacent public realm landscape upgrades.

Representatives from the project team and Campus + Community Planning will be available to provide information and respond to inquiries about this project.

For further information: Please direct questions to Karen Russell, Manager, Development Services karen.russell@ubc.ca 604-822-1586

Can't attend in person? Online feedback will be accepted until **December 4, 2018.** To learn more or to comment on this project, please visit: planning.ubc.ca/vancouver/projects-consultations

This notice contains important information which may affect you. Please ask someone to translate it for you.

此通告包含重要信息，这可能会影响你。请找人为你翻译。

이 통지는 영향을 미칠 수 있는 중요한 정보가 들어 있습니다. 당신을 위해 그 것을 번역하는 사람을 문의하시기 바랍니다.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Campus + Community Planning

ROCK WALLS //

Athletes 'Get Sendy' at Aviary's first-ever climbing competition

James Vogl
Science Editor

On November 8, scores of people packed into the Aviary climbing gym on the second floor of the Nest to watch the finals of its first-ever climbing competition, "Get Sendy." Four of UBC's finest were crowned champions in their respective categories.

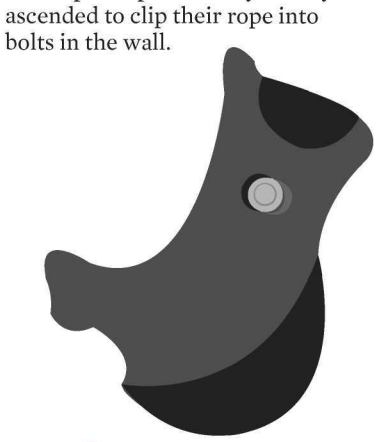
The competition, which began on October 22, was open to climbers of all ability levels. To participate, climbers paid $5 for a scorecard — they were to try and climb as many of the routes in the gym as they could.

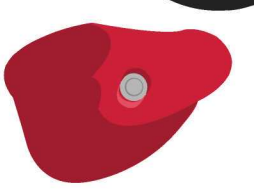
Points for each successful climb were awarded based on how many other people successfully climbed each route. The fewer people who were able to climb a route, the more points it was worth.

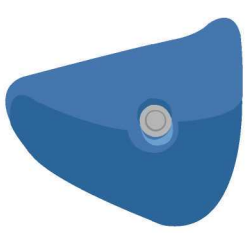
Based on their preliminary scores, competitors were split into two divisions: open and recreational. The top three men and women in each category then advanced through to the final round.

Recreational competitors faced a route that began easy and became progressively harder, featuring a string of holds that required strenuous pinch and crimp grips and an upper crux that required a series of more gymnastic movements.

The open route began with a series of crimpy sidepulls before moving through a strenuous move up and left into less powerful but more technical climbing, requiring a precise series of moves on thin holds. In addition, open climbers were lead climbing, meaning they had to pause periodically as they ascended to clip their rope into bolts in the wall.







WOMEN'S REC

Kaeli Flannagan climbed first, getting off to a strong start through the lower section of the route, but slowing progressively through the middle before falling just a few moves from the top.

Up next was Rachel Tseng. Despite a smooth start to the route, Tseng couldn't quite figure out the magic series of moves in the upper crux, which proved to be tough for shorter climbers. She peeled off just below where Flannagan fell.

Rounding out the women's rec division was Crystal Song. Getting off to a powerful start, Song appeared to have a good chance at being the first competitor to send the route. After some thoughtful deliberation, she was able to work through the crux sections that had eluded Flannagan and Song, but fell just short of the top. Despite not topping out, Song still scored top spot in the women's rec category, followed by Flannagan and Tseng.

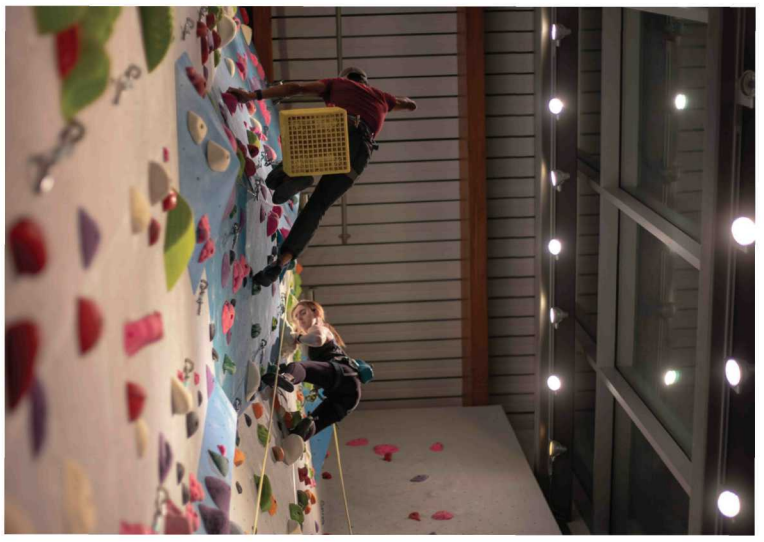
MEN'S REC

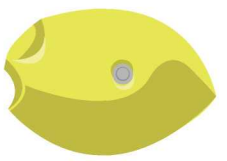
The first of the men to climb was Willem Stewart, who used a heel to hook a hold entering the middle section of the route and went on to efficiently dispatch the crux. He was the first of all the recreational competitors to top out.

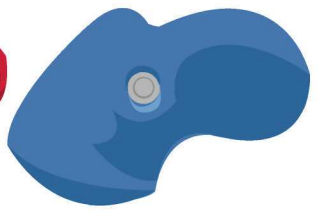
Following Stewart was Oliver Mann. Proceeding steadily up the route, Mann managed to battle his way to the top of the upper crux, but couldn't stick the last move, peeling off just below the top.

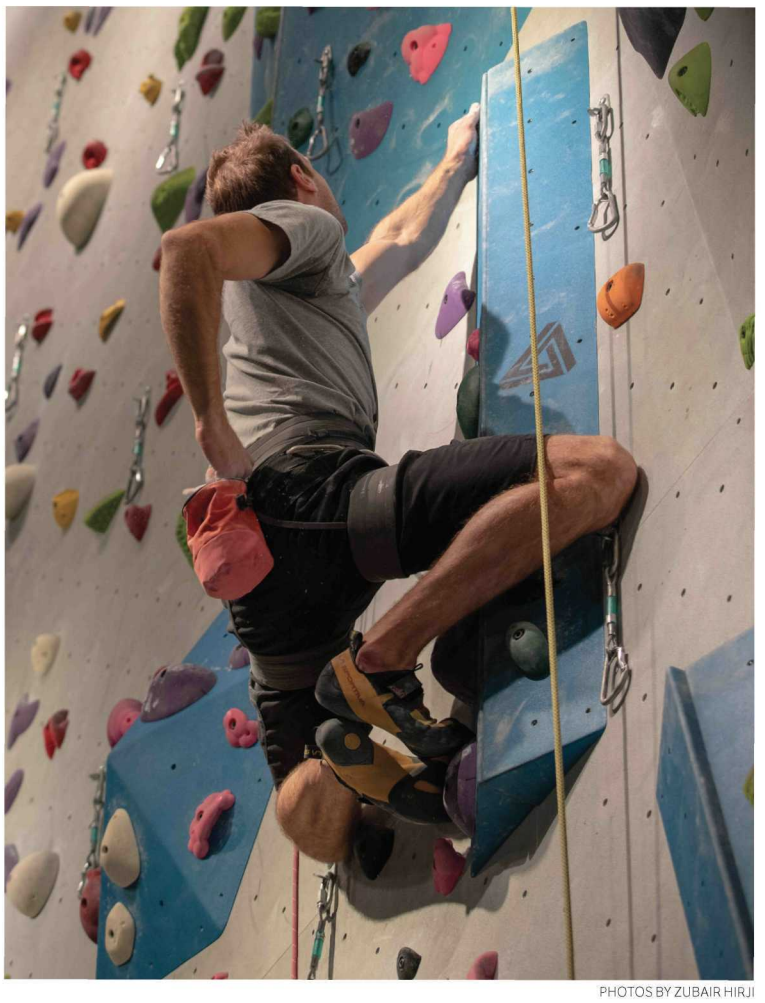
Last to climb in the men's rec division was Kai Czarnowski. Czarnowski used the same cheeky heel hook as Stewart to gain access to the middle of the route. Despite appearing to struggle slightly more on the upper crux, he was the second to top out on the route, tying with Stewart.

In a climb-off to break the tie, Stewart couldn't stick the first series of moves on the open route, while Czarnowski was able to make it through the first crux. Czarnowski claimed first place, with Stewart and Mann taking second and third respectively.

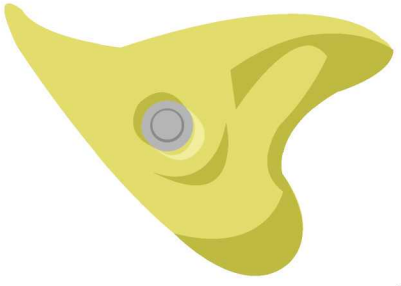


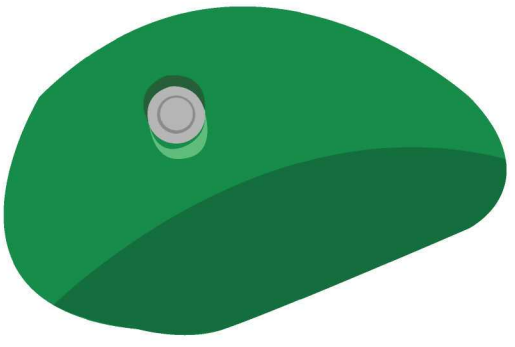






PHOTOS BY ZUBAIR HIRJI





ILLUSTRATIONS BY CLAIRE LLOYD

WOMEN'S OPEN

With a tie in the preliminary round, four women made the women's open final.

Climbing first in the women's open division was Sabrina Kentel. While she smoothly dispatched the initial series of sidepulls, Kentel couldn't hold on while making a dynamic move out left above the fourth clip and came off.

Following Kentel was Veronika Schmitt. Schmitt methodically worked her way through the first set of crimps, but wasn't able to figure out a sequence to pull through the first crux, falling below Kentel's high point.

Next to climb was Jasmine Vianne Tordenro, who looked smooth through the first crux, but couldn't nail the delicate footwork the upper half of the route demanded. She peeled off at the sixth clip.

The final women's open contender was Anna Mittelholtz, who came into the finals as the only women's open competitor to have climbed every route in prelims. Despite a nearly disastrous slip in the first moves of the route that elicited a gasp from the crowd, Mittelholtz was able to regain her composure enough to equal Tordenro's high point, forcing the second tie-breaker of the night.

"I was super nervous," said Mittelholtz. "I'm not used to climbing in front of people."

"I thought it was fun, it was well-set, I need to go back and climb the whole thing," she joked.

On her second attempt of the route, Tordenro was able to best her previous high point, but got out of sequence at the beginning of the upper crimps, peeling off just below the eighth clip. Having had more time to shake off her initial slip, Mittelholtz looked in much smoother form on her second climb, figuring out the right moves to make the eighth clip, but falling just above it.

She claimed the top spot of the night, followed by Tordenro, Kentel and Schmitt.

MEN'S OPEN

Leading off the men's open division was Juan Fercovic, who moved smoothly and strongly through every crux on the route to become the first and only climber of the night to top out on the route.

"It was a very nice route, very sustained," he said. "Not really hard, but it had two sections that were insecure."

Following Fercovic was Jonathan Zajonc, who made quick progress through the initial sections of the route, but couldn't figure out the sequence to move up and left from there, falling at the fourth clip.

Rounding out the men's open division was Lucas Falch. After moving quickly through the first half of the route, Falch took a long rest at the sixth clip to shake out, but it wasn't enough to ward off the pump, which caught him just below the top.

Fercovic would take first in the division, followed by Falch and Zajonc.

Jessica Sevick's TRACK OF LIFE

Words by Lucy Fox
Illustration Claire Lloyd/Courtesy Jessica Sevick

On her final day of training at the Calgary Olympic Park, 12-year-old Jessica Sevick stepped up to take a run from the ladies' starting mark on the luge track. She had been gradually moving up from the junior start over the previous few weeks. A week earlier she had had an accident on the same start. She was back again.

Today, the neuroscience student is a key member of UBC's varsity rowing team in the women's 8 and double sculls event with hopes of making the Canadian national team in the future. Just two weeks ago, her crew won gold at the Canadian University Rowing Championships.

The last thing Sevick remembers before that final training run at 12 years old was a game of laser tag the evening before. The following three weeks are almost entirely gone.

On one of the final turns of that run, Sevick's sled hit the bottom of a curve and then slammed up against the top of the track. Her helmet came off and she hurtled down the final feet of the track bare-headed, "just ping-ponging." The last time she was clocked, she was going 86 kilometres an hour.

When her team finally reached her at the bottom of the course, she was unconscious, choking on her own vomit as her jaw locked. She was airlifted to hospital and assessed on the Glasgow coma scale for cognitive impairments. Fifteen out of fifteen means there are no cognitive impairments. Eight or less is comatose. Three is a deep coma.

Sevick scored a four.

Afterwards, Sevick's family was told she may not survive. If she did, she might be disabled for the rest of her life. She was in the hospital for a month.

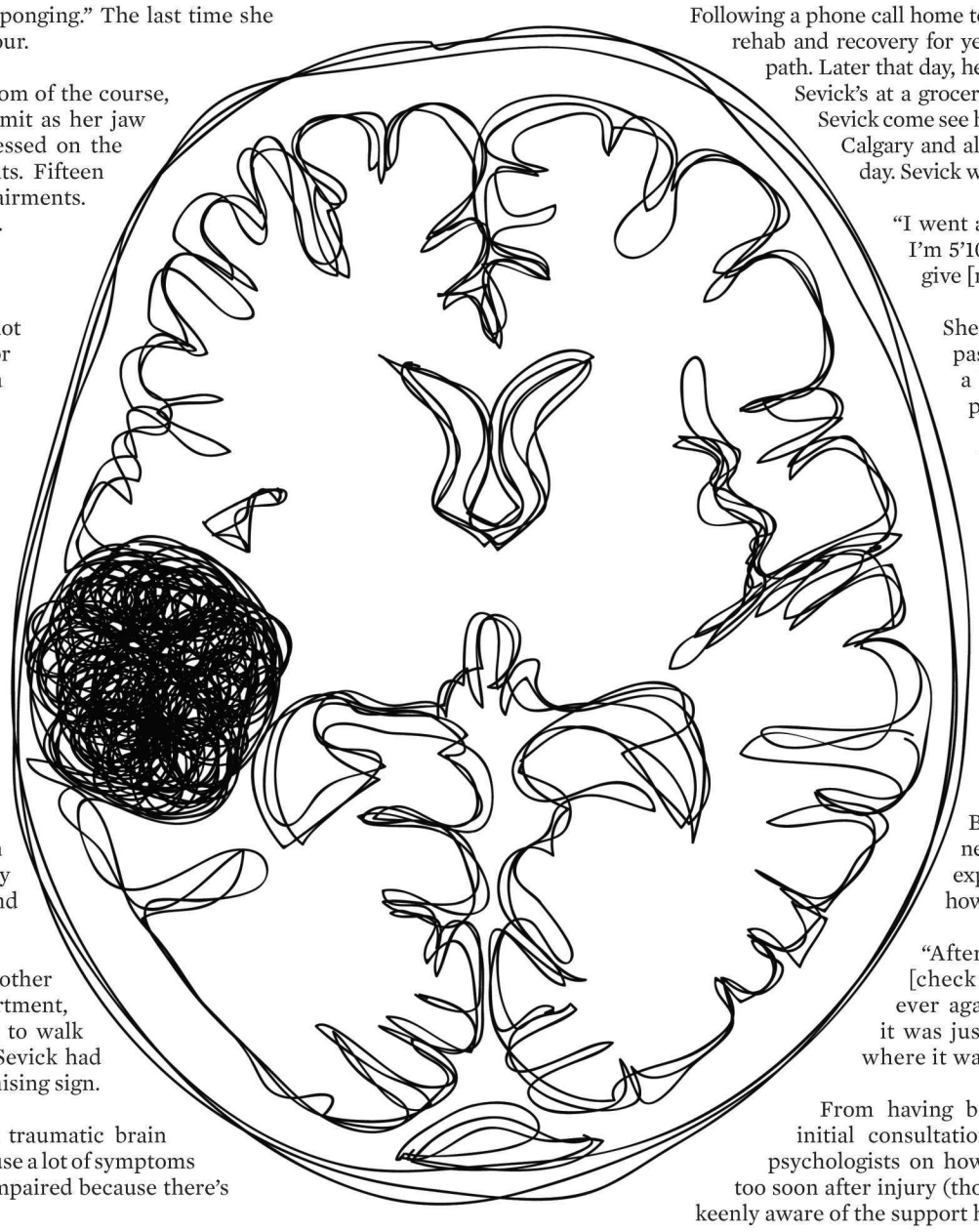
"[The doctors] asked me if I knew what time of day it was and I didn't respond," says Sevick of the day she finally woke up. "They asked me to point to a circle or square or triangle on a chart, and they asked me to compare a cat and a dog, and I really just didn't know how to talk or anything.

"And then they asked if I knew who my sister was and I nodded, and then ... I tried to say [her name], so they thought that was a good sign."

She had spent the first week after the accident in a coma, and then another week in a medically-induced coma due the swelling in her brain. Once the swelling had subsided, they flushed her lungs to prevent pneumonia — and she woke up. It was her sister Jane's birthday.

Sevick was in the intensive care unit for another three days before moving to the neurology department, where she spent another two weeks learning to walk and talk again. By the end of her two weeks, Sevick had scored at a 16-year-old's reading level — a promising sign.

"I was lucky," says Sevick. "Something with traumatic brain injury [is that] if you have the swelling, it can cause a lot of symptoms that aren't actually there — you're just being impaired because there's pathways and stuff being squished, basically."



Just six months after her accident in January, Sevick was back to writing exams in schools and competing for her school's track team; though she felt good, she wore a bright red bike helmet for safety. She began training for biathlon that summer. She had watched the Salt Lake City Olympics while recovering, and for some reason she fell in love with the sport. So she tried it.

But it was a long recovery from her traumatic brain injury — it never really ended, actually.

She eventually got an engineering degree at the University of Alberta and worked as an MRI research assistant at the University of Calgary (U of C). Her work consisted of finding diagnostic tools for early imaging of concussion and traumatic brain injury. She had found her passion.

"I was surprised how in love with it I was, how excited I got about the research," says Sevick. "I would cry at presentations and stuff because it just meant so much to me. It's something I'm just so passionate about, and that's why I wanted to do my research in it."

While at U of C, she volunteered for an MRI study, which not only revealed some unique traits about her brain's physiology but also visually exemplified her continued symptoms. She has poor balance. She also spends more time memorizing tasks than others. The MRI provided some explanation. Sevick had cerebellar atrophy — a loss of brain mass on her left side. There it was.

Her poor balance is one reason why she found her way into the sport of rowing, though not the full story. While in Calgary as an MRI assistant, Sevick tore her ACL playing soccer. The injury came with complications, as much of the ligament was left behind in her knee cavity. A year after her surgery, she still wouldn't be able able to fully extend her knee.

Following a phone call home to her mom, where she cried over having to do rehab and recovery for yet another injury, fate would fall into Sevick's path. Later that day, her mother ran into a former physiotherapist of Sevick's at a grocery store in downtown Calgary, who suggested Sevick come see her again. It was funny; her parents live outside Calgary and almost never go downtown. Her mom did that day. Sevick went for an appointment.

"I went and saw her for my knee but then obviously I'm 5'10" and large so she was like, 'Oh, you should give [rowing] a try,'" Sevick says.

She did give it a try, and instead of finding a passing hobby to make new friends and "get a hot bod," as Sevick said, she found another passion of a lifetime.

"I just fell so in love with it and turned out to be decent at it," she says, smiling. "And it's basically taken over my life."

She came to Vancouver in 2017, both for the academics and the athletics. UBC has one of the top university rowing teams in the country, and her research supervisor was on campus for the five-year, multi-million dollar Canadian Traumatic Brain Injury project. There was perhaps no better fit for the Albertan who hoped to balance her studies and varsity sport.

But things aren't perfect. Her pursuit of neuroscience has made her think about her own experience, and her injury, in a different light — how the health care system worked, for starters.

"After [the doctors] saw me for the three-month [check up], I never saw another doctor about it ever again," Sevick says. "For me at 12 years old, it was just something to do every day — recover — where it was really hard on my family."

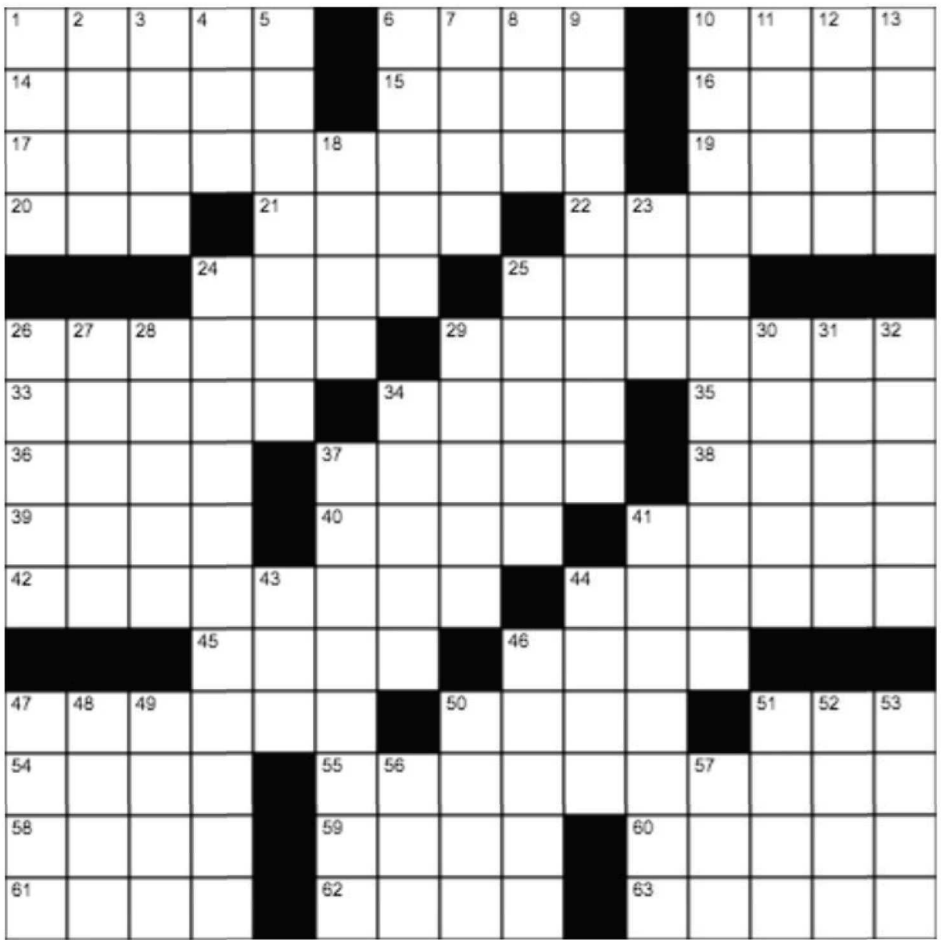
From having been told Sevick may not survive in that initial consultation post-injury to fielding comments from psychologists on how she was reintroducing sport into her life too soon after injury (though medical check-ups had stopped), she is keenly aware of the support her family lacked in a difficult, scary time.

And she still has bad balance. She still has to work harder to remember things than other people do. Her brain is still her brain.

"I don't know if it's because I went back to school last year, but I saw a big change — new city, new school and stuff — but I've been having a lot of trouble with depression and anxiety lately, so they think that that could be part of the traumatic brain injury thing," Sevick says.

The track of life hasn't been easy for the now-UBC student athlete. She's faced twists and turns. She's had the crash outs. But she continues to get back up and try again.

She keeps finding her way to the start line. U



COURTESY BESTCROSSWORDS.COM

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 ___ a time;
6 More than one female sheep;
10 Fruitfilled pie;
14 Head supporters;
15 Liquid container;
16 Regrets;
17 Thorough;
19 Neighbor of Sask.;
20 From ___ Z;
21 Cool!;
22 Marvel;
24 Small batteries;
25 Declines;
26 Cramps, e.g.;
29 Staircase;
33 Singer LaBelle;
34 Wonka's creator;
35 Comedian Johnson;
36 Sock ___ me!;
37 Surfer wannabe;
38 Mrs. Dithers, in "Blondie";
39 Dresden denial;
40 Lena of "Havana";
41 Unit of volume;
42 Surround;
44 Pheasant female;
45 Fifth Avenue store;
46 London jail;
47 Workshop machinery;
50 Pessimist's word;
51 Santa ___;
54 Farming prefix;
55 2 quarts;
58 Unstable particle;
59 Minnesota's St. ___ College;
60 Like most movies;
61 Sudden explosive noise;
62 Window piece;
63 Lace mat;

DOWN

1 ___Day vitamins;
2 Immediately following;
3 Reverberate;
4 Alias letters;
5 Large sea wave;
6 Kett and James;
7 Hold on!;
8 Ltr. holder;
9 Having patches of white and brown;
10 Involving two or more races;
11 ___ Lang Syne;
12 Nerve network;
13 Nicholas II was the last Russian one;
18 Oceans;
23 Japanese sash;
24 Amazing;
25 Patriot Allen;
26 Backbone;
27 Communion plate;
28 Room at the top;
29 Hawkins of Dogpatch;
30 Angry;
31 ___ Grows in Brooklyn;
32 Pine;
34 Kids toys;
37 Pawnshop;
41 Garment worn by dancers;
43 Arctic explorer John;
44 Twinge;
46 Blunder;
47 Gentle creature;
48 Juan's water;
49 1982 Disney film;
50 Family;
51 Prefix with meter;
52 Christmas song;
53 Hardy boy;
56 Carte start;
57 Asian language;

JOKE OF THE WEEK

What do you call a pumpkin pancake?

Answer: A squash!

Send your best jokes to visuals@ubyssey.ca
to be featured in next week's issue!

MAGED

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

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