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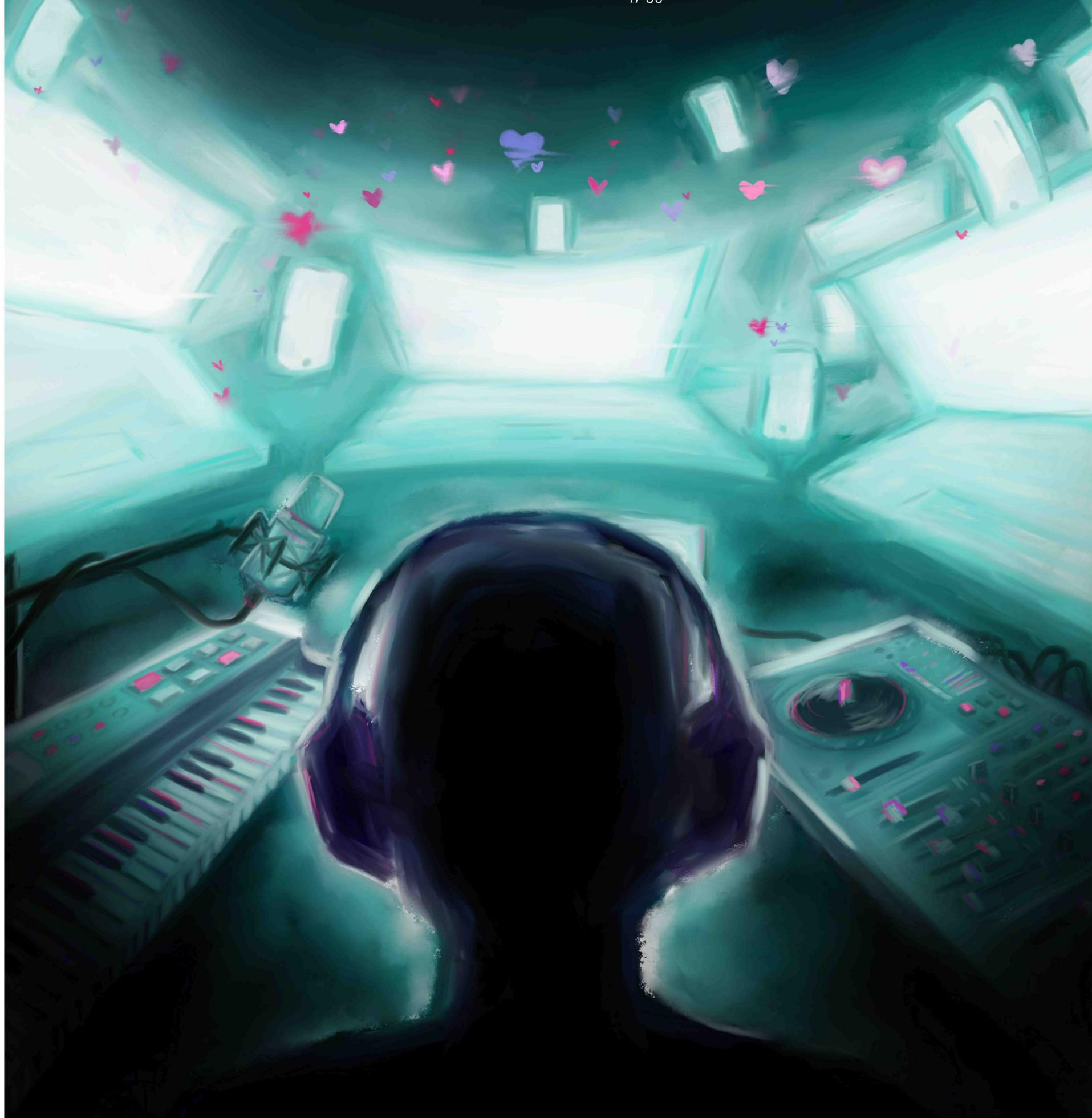
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FILE RACHEL CHEANG

AUGUST 6 AND 20, 2020

HUNGRY? COVID-19 AND FOOD SOURCES

COVID-19 has changed most things. While hunger is a constant, the availability and sourcing of food has changed. The Centre for Sustainable Food Systems (CSFS), the BC Food Web and the Faculty of Land and Food Systems (LFS) are co-hosting a webinar on the future of food. Interested participants can register online.



FILE GEOFF LISTER

AUGUST 27, 2020

PASS THE POPCORN

Join the language society and UBC PhD Candidate Jules Arita Koostachin for a screening of Koostachin's personal documentary on remembering her first language, Inninimowin (Cree). Koostachin will be answering questions after the screening. A CWL account is required to attend this virtual event.

ON THE COVER

COVER BY

Rae Jourard



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THE UBYSSEY

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OUR (DESOLATE) CAMPUS

UBC students grieve a pre-pandemic campus



FILE THE UBYSSEY

In autumn or spring, I'll go to her favourite tree and say 'hi.'

UBC is more than an academic institution. For many, it has been their home. This Our Campus is dedicated to grieving the once bustling campus. As classes stay online for the fall, many students will not be returning to campus. Others may be finishing their degree from home may never trek across West Mall again. For those who have in-person classes or are choosing to live in residence, the campus is unlikely to feel the same. This is how two students are grappling with one of the many changes as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The willow in front of Hennings

Moe Kirkpatrick

Contributor

Yesterday, a friend texted me: 'Yooooo say 'Hi' to my fav tree for me when u go back!!!! I miss her!!!!!!' so I told her I would. What more or less is there to say about it? She doesn't know if she's coming back. Neither of us know if our returns will overlap.

Truth be told, I can't stop thinking about the unimportant stuff. The vending machines in the Nest that always ran out of Dr. Pepper when it was most inconvenient for me. The doorway of Cedar House I somehow broke my umbrella in less than 15 minutes after I bought it. The food court Peter called "the sketchy basement," for the time in second year he got food poisoning so bad he nearly dehydrated

himself to death. The cashiers at Fresh Slice who thought I lived on the opposite side of campus because I walked to the store so often. The tree next to Starbucks where Braedyn and I sat for two hours, even though the grass was wet. There's a poster with a story I wrote on it somewhere in Buchanan D.

I meant to go see it again but didn't make the time.

If you think like a poet, inertia is a kind of promise too. Every Friday, there's a movie night in Buchanan or Hennings. You won't go, but it still happens. The chairs stay uncomfortable. Even the good movies get heckled. It's not the going that I miss but the

option. Not the option that I miss but the tradition, a place and time repeated, something I could come back to.

In autumn or spring, I'll go to her favourite tree and say 'Hi.' It won't be enough. But it'll be more than nothing. 🌿

"I never even got to see a full year of normalcy at UBC, and I left without realizing that I may never see it again. How do you grieve something you never knew you were losing?"

— Rayne Fisher-Quann

Devoid of people

Rayne Fisher-Quann

Contributor

I left UBC in the middle of my second semester, just weeks before COVID-19 took Canada by surprise and well before we began to realize how seriously it would affect our academic futures. I had to move back to my home in Toronto in February due to health issues, but my plan was to move back to Vancouver before the school year was over and officially return to school in January 2021.

Now, I don't know if anybody will be going to school in January. I never got to say goodbye to UBC because I had no idea a goodbye

was even coming — I expected to be back in my friends' dorms in a matter of weeks, but now, my friends are scattered across three continents.

The campus that was once the epicentre of my entire life is empty.

I'm back in Vancouver, and I've been to campus a few times, but even after visiting my favourite spots — the vacant field behind Totem Park, the courtyard in the biology building, the benches outside the Nest — I couldn't seem to find a sense of closure.

I realized that the campus was special to me because of the people who lived and worked there, and without them, it feels almost devoid of the people I care about. I never even got to see a full year of normalcy at UBC, and I left without realizing that I may never see it again. How do you grieve something you never knew you were losing? 🌿



"The campus that was once the epicentre of my entire life is empty."

FILE ZUBAIR HIRJI

#CANCELLED //

Board Chair Michael Korenberg resigns following criticism over 'regressive' liked tweets

Charlotte Alden and Andrew Ha
News Editors

UBC has announced that former Board of Governors (BoG) Chair Michael Korenberg has resigned after he came under fire for liking tweets criticizing anti-fascist and Black Lives Matter protests.

The June 20 email from BoG Vice-Chair Sandra Cawley said that Korenberg's resignation is effective immediately. Cawley will be assuming the role as interim chair.

"The Board of Governors and Mr. Korenberg would like to recognize that this has been deeply hurtful to members of our community and that UBC has zero tolerance for racism and recognizes that real harm is created from both overt and structural racism," Cawley wrote.

After student group Students Against Bigotry tweeted screenshots of Korenberg's liked tweets

from Republican and American right-wing figures, faculty and community members were quick to criticize him on Twitter.

Dr. Jennifer Berdahl, professor in the department of sociology, called for his resignation.

"The values a leader endorses both publicly and implicitly, and the messages those values send to the people who report to that leader and to the people in the broader community under and affected by that leadership, outweigh how the leader might make some people feel personally," she tweeted the morning of June 20 before the broadcast email was sent.

Korenberg said in an interview with *The Ubyyssey* on June 19 that he liked the tweets to save them to look at later. He has since unliked all the offending tweets.

In a media statement sent to *The Ubyyssey* on June 20, Korenberg acknowledged that the tweets he liked "supported regressive

voices and took aim at thousands of brave individuals who are standing up against racism, discrimination and hatred."

"While I do not support violence of any kind, I understand how my actions created questions about who I am and what I believe in. To be clear, I support Black Lives Matter and I support the de-racialization of our educational institutions and our country," he wrote.

"But I accept that, in liking these social media posts, I damaged what I support and that I hurt people. I wholeheartedly apologize to them, particularly to the students, faculty and staff of UBC."

In the broadcast, Cawley thanked Korenberg for his service. He was appointed to the Board in 2016 and was elected chair in 2018.

Cawley also reaffirmed the Board's commitment to anti-rac-



Korenberg was appointed in 2016 and was elected Board chair in 2018. COURTESY UBC

ism. "As Board members, we must also hold ourselves accountable: the Board is committed to internal conversations about how to further these values in the coming months,"

the email reads. "We are committed to personally addressing systemic racism and to upholding the values of the university including dignity, equity, diversity and inclusion." [U](#)

BOGGED DOWN //

The aftermath of chair's resignation at the Board of Governors

Sarah Zhao
Contributor

University community members and those close to the Board of Governors have had to reconcile two facts about Michael Korenberg: his performance as Board chair and what critics have called his racist political views.

The former Board chair resigned in June after facing criticism for liking tweets supporting United States President Donald Trump and attacking Black Lives Matter protests. Though some criticized his actions and views after news of his liked tweets spread, many have noted his strong performance since his appointment in 2016.

In a written statement to *The Ubyyssey*, UBC mathematics professor Dr. Nassif Ghossoub, who served three terms as a Vancouver faculty representative on the Board, described his relationship with Korenberg as "complex" but always "based on mutual respect."

Despite his concerns about

breaches in good governance and exclusion from working groups and task forces, Ghossoub said that he and others at the Board "lived with it," and that Korenberg often showed commitment to what Ghossoub called "progressive" issues including student aid, divestment and academic freedom.

"He made us feel that his vision for UBC was more aligned with ours, and that he supported us in the arduous task of keeping this administration accountable," said Ghossoub.

The CBC reported in June that the former chair's political views were common knowledge among Board members. Both Ghossoub and anthropology professor Dr. Charles Menzies, who also served as a Vancouver faculty representative, were also aware of the incident where Korenberg wore a Make America Great Again hat to a meeting, as reported in that story.

However, fifth-year mining student Shola Fashanu, who served as a UBC Okanagan student governor

for one year, said she was unaware of Korenberg's political ideology. She also said she had a positive experience with Korenberg who, at the time, "seemed like an excellent chair."

Fashanu was disappointed to discover Korenberg's liked tweets, both at his political views and the apparent inaction by the people at the Board whom she looked up to with respect.

"As someone whose family comes from a country that Trump called a shithole, I am very sad to see someone would to your face be very respectful, but then be supporting someone who actively emboldens white supremacists, racists, homophobia."

While Fashanu and Ghossoub both believe that personal politics can be separated from work, they emphasized the distinction between a conservative political affiliation and support for people who Ghossoub said "trade in racism, xenophobia, anti-antifascism and other scourges."

"You cannot separate someone's views on someone else's value in society, someone else's humanity, someone else's ability to love somebody else," Fashanu said. "... That's not politics, that's inequality."

UNDERLYING ISSUES PERSIST

Korenberg's resignation occurred amid increasing attention to anti-Black racism worldwide.

At UBC, graduate student Savoy Williams alleged racial profiling by Campus Security in early June, and the subsequent month has seen many statements by President Santa Ono, with the university pledging to work against systemic racism.

Incidents of racism and discrimination on campus are not isolated. Coupled with other equity, diversity and inclusion issues across the university, systemic racism at UBC has spurred calls for structural changes for years.

This latest controversy has made it apparent that those changes need to extend to the Board of Governors, with some wondering why Korenberg's political views are only now being addressed.

"It's not a matter of politics. It's a matter of holding [to] the values of UBC ... it shouldn't have taken a student-led organization [Students Against Bigotry] to bring to light [something] that should have already been something that was addressed," said Fashanu.

For Menzies, who served a three-year term on the Board from 2017 to 2020, the problem lies in the university administration's treatment of UBC as a corporation, for whom "profit motives ... [are] the sole thing that should be used to manage and make decisions."

As long as people like Korenberg have "utility," Menzies said, other issues won't be addressed until they cause public controversy. He believes that the administration gives its attention to issues such as systemic racism only when there is a potential to undermine the "marketing and

sale" of the university experience.

"That's the wrong reason to pay attention to it," he said. "We need to pay attention to it because we actually believe that the combination of capitalism with this systemic oppression works in a way that is unfair and unjust."

He believes that the Board needs fewer governors with business-related backgrounds and more people like community organizers, trade union activists and housing advocates. Fashanu also pointed to longer student terms as a potential solution to allow student governors to become more comfortable in the space and advocate more effectively. All three former governors wanted more careful vetting before the selection of a Board chair.

Two current governors contacted for this story declined interviews, telling *The Ubyyssey* that they had been told to direct media requests to UBC media relations. In the past, governors have routinely spoken to *The Ubyyssey* and other media outlets despite the Board of Governors' code of conduct expectation that governors "acknowledge that the Board Chair is the only official spokesperson of the Board." It is unclear whether enforcement of the rule in the agreement — which all governors sign at the start of their term — has changed.

In the days after Korenberg's resignation, Ghossoub tweeted that, in his mind, "every major crisis" at UBC since 2015 has "had to do — in one way or another — with race."

He elaborated on his concern to *The Ubyyssey* that public controversy at the top levels of the institution are indicative of problems at the bottom, too.

"[There] are clear manifestations of unhealthy interracial relations at the very top of our institution ... What could be happening at the other less visible levels of UBC's power structure, and who is paying the price for our yet-to-be-decolonized institution?" [U](#)



"It's not a matter of politics. It's a matter of holding the values of UBC."

FILE: JOSHUA MEDICOFF

FREE EXPRESSION //

A dated academic freedom statement permits hate speech on campus. How should it change?

After UBC denounced racism, community members are skeptical with the university's past behaviour of allowing far-right speakers on campus — which it justifies with an academic freedom statement that hasn't been changed since 1976.

Taman Mohamed
Contributor

In light of Black Lives Matter protests worldwide, President Santa Ono's statements denouncing anti-Black and anti-Asian racism and outlining goals to combat discrimination have been met with skepticism from members of the UBC community.

Ono's statements raised questions about UBC's past decisions to allow several far-right speakers to come to the Vancouver campus, decisions critics have described as promoting racist or otherwise discriminatory speech.

UBC Black Student Union (BSU) Co-Presidents Maia Wallace and Tracy Odhiambo said that Ono's commitment to fighting racism does not reflect the university's past actions.

"[UBC] allowing speakers like that shows that it aligns itself with the racist systems that they are also speaking against. So there's a contradiction in terms of words and actual institutional decisions," said Wallace.

HATE SPEECH AND FREE SPEECH

Free speech groups often use the university's statement on academic freedom to defend the various speakers whose events have been allowed to take place, despite growing concerns that they could incite harm on campus.

Not having been revised since its inception in 1976, UBC's statement defines academic freedom as an individual's right "to pursue what seems to them as fruitful avenues of inquiry, to teach and to learn unhindered by external or non-academic constraints, and to engage in full and unrestricted consideration of any opinion."

However, Dr. Emma Cunliffe, professor at the Allard School of Law suggested that academic freedom should be interpreted as described by Justice Lynn Smith in her 2015 report.

"One of the key things that [Smith] identified as a condition for academic freedom is that academic freedom should be the product of an honest search for ... truth or a form of knowledge."

Cunliffe emphasized that the pursuit of truth is what differentiates freedom of expression from academic freedom. She pointed out that free expression is not "purpose driven," such that an individual could say something that was evidently false and claim that they were exercising their freedom of speech. However, since the individual's statements were not based on scholarly methods, they aren't protected by academic freedom.

In a written statement to *The Ubyyssey*, Provost and VP Academic Andrew Szeri said it was important that UBC "uphold its commitment to academic freedom," even if the views of campus speakers do not represent those of the university.

"Our 1976 Senate Statement on

Academic Freedom ... outlines why ideas, even those which are seen by many or even the majority as unpopular or abhorrent, must be allowed to be discussed, debated and challenged within the University's forum," he said.

Szeri also highlighted UBC's dedication to the principles of equity and inclusion included in the university's strategic plan, Shaping UBC's Next Century, but did not say how academic freedom and equity worked together.

In her paper summarizing the university's institutional responsibilities regarding academic freedom and free speech, Cunliffe illustrates that because there is no hierarchy of rights and freedoms, one's freedom of expression may be entitled to stronger or weaker protection depending on whether their statements advance or undermine another individual's right to substantive equality.

"What the Supreme Court of Canada has said is that the right to the protection of freedom of expression is strongest in circumstances where freedom of expression advances democratic ideals, and that it will be weaker in circumstances where it is in tension with other charter values such as equality," she said.

"[This] is to say that racist statements will be weighed against the harm that they [cause] in deciding whether it's entitled to the protection that freedom of expression gives."

Aside from this, Cunliffe pointed out a particular ambiguity in UBC's statement on academic freedom.

When deciding whether someone qualifies for academic freedom, such as anti-sexual orientation and gender identity speaker Jenn Smith, Cunliffe explained that uninvited guests like Smith may not fulfill the criteria.

"The academic calendar refers to members of the academic community and invited guests. And so someone who just makes a commercial room booking, such as Mr. Jenn Smith, is not entitled to any claim to academic freedom — they are entitled to free speech in the same way as any other person."

For Wallace and Odhiambo, it's not only a matter of who is allowed to speak on campus, but what they are allowed to promote.

"You can let whoever speak," said Wallace. "But if you don't acknowledge the hypocrisy in your actions versus your statements, and your allowance and endorsement of events taking [place] on UBC property ... then it doesn't really matter who you let speak."

Odhiambo felt the same way: "When it comes to any message that is hate speech, then it should be stopped."

COMBATING RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION

An open letter addressed to President Ono that called for university administrators to amend the academic freedom statement to align with recent anti-racist commitments has already garnered hundreds of signatures from students, staff, faculty and alumni.

However, in an interview with

The Ubyyssey last fall, Cunliffe said she didn't feel as though the statement needed to be amended. When asked if she still felt this way, Cunliffe agreed, saying that instead, "we'd be better served establishing policies for how we interpret that statement."

Sociology professor Dr. Neil Guppy, former senior advisor on academic freedom, did not have the same concerns as Cunliffe with updating the academic freedom statement.

"The policy that we have currently at UBC was instituted in 1976 and [it] just makes sense to me that these things be reviewed as we move along. So, I think it's good that we do have another look at that," he said.

Guppy also mentioned the Chicago principles, which college campuses in the United States use as a guide to fostering the free exchange of ideas. Included in the principles is the idea that the concept of free speech will be tolerated "so long as it doesn't undermine ... the proper functioning of the university."

"I myself believe in freedom of expression and think that we want to make sure that we don't censor," said Guppy. "At the same time, I think it is the case that sensibilities change and people need to think a bit about it."

Dr. Margaret Schabas, current academic freedom senior advisor to the provosts, presented her interpretation and advised the Board of Governors at a June 16 meeting. In the discussion, several governors agreed that the university

needed to reconcile academic freedom with community members' equality rights.

Board student representative Jeanie Malone characterized it as a matter of UBC's workplace obligations to its employees and human rights obligations to all students and faculty. "I think it has huge optical impacts on the university itself," she said at the meeting.

Moving forward, Cunliffe still wants to see UBC's senior administrators commit to promoting the guidelines outlined in Justice Smith's academic freedom report.

"We as a university community ... don't seem to be making great progress on the question of how we protect and advance the substantive equality of racialized students, LGBTQ students, women, and feminists and other groups who've been marginalized while also protecting and advancing academic freedom," she said. "And I think that lack of progress reflects a lack of will on the part of university administrators to actually establish and commit to having clear guidelines."

Wallace and Odhiambo also acknowledged the work that needs to be done, calling for more Black counsellors, more Black people in positions of power and better funding for Black studies programs.

"Black Lives Matter is not a movement, it's life," said Wallace. "It's people's livelihoods ... and universities and institutions can only claim that statement when they actively recognize what non-Black people already have granted to them." 🌍



The university's academic freedom statement hasn't been revised since its inception in 1976.

BUSINESS ETHICS //



FILE NADYA RAHMAN

Sauder students defend economics of slavery in 'tone-deaf' class presentation

Charlotte Alden and Andrew Ha
News Editors

A group of students reportedly said in a class presentation that although Black lives matter, they would use slavery in a pitch to secure venture capital.

The presentation came to light with backlash against the assignment after a June 24 UBC Confessions post said they were part of COMM 382, Economics of Entrepreneurship and Innovation. Commenters blasted both the assignment and the presentation for their insensitivity given UBC's anti-racist and Indigenous reconciliation commitments.

"They're very tone-deaf and very stupid to put [slavery] down as a reason," said a 2020 Sauder graduate who had taken the course in the summer of 2018 and wished to remain anonymous out of concern for job prospects.

A PITCH TO FUND COLONIZATION

Jenny Zhao, a third-year Sauder student, wasn't expecting a comment of that nature to be made in the Collaborate Ultra lecture. She said the group members' cameras were off and that afterward, the professor thanked them for their work as he did with all groups.

Course instructor Dr. Steven Minns has been a Sauder lecturer since 2014, and has run the assignment since at least 2018, according to three students interviewed.

The Ubyyssey obtained a copy of the assignment, which asks students to pitch a business idea to the Queen of Spain for venture capital. Christopher Columbus is implied to be giving the pitch,

which involves Spain's attempts to find a trading route to India.

The assignment encouraged students to "be creative and make any assumptions you would like to make." Minns did not respond to requests for comment.

An eight-page prelude establishes the historical context of around the year 1400, when Christopher Columbus colonized North America and performed what *The Guardian* called the "killing, kidnapping and looting" of Indigenous peoples. Monuments to Columbus have since toppled around the world after anti-racist activist movements.

At one point, the narrative — a first-person reimagining of the Queen of Spain's mental monologue — describes the queen's concern for Portugal's success in colonizing Africa.

"[T]hey started discovering new countries and new resources along the coast. They became richer this way. And what did they do with that new wealth? They invested it, sending out more ships to go down the western coast of Africa ... No one had been able to do this before."

Dated 2009, the document credits a Thomas Hellman. A former Sauder instructor by the same name who now works at Oxford University did not respond to a request for comment.

"This fictional monologue is loosely based on assorted historical facts and some fiction. It is meant to be used as a case study in entrepreneurship and venture capital," a footnote in Hellman's assignment reads.

"All the political incorrectness is meant to be taken in jest, and is not meant to offend anyone."

'WHY ARE YOU SO SENSITIVE ABOUT IT?'

Minns instructed students to read Hellman's assignment along with his own additional instructions. Minns's instructions note that "this case does not mention the social impact that followed the age of discovery (in particular colonization and exploitation)," suggesting that students consider a "social entrepreneurship" venture.

"If you decide to do this, you would want to appeal to the Queen's 'better nature' and make a case for a truly innovative social enterprise (they were rare in those days!) and possibly a novel world view!" the assignment concludes.

The Social Enterprise Council of Canada defines social enterprise as community-based business that works toward and reinvests profits into environmental or social goals.

Vikashan Muru, a 2019 Sauder graduate, claims Minns only acknowledged a lacking mention of colonization and added the part about social entrepreneurship after Muru raised his concerns about the assignment after class.

Muru, who took the class in 2019, said he and one student were concerned about the assignment that year, and Zhao said she didn't know of any students raising any issues this year. The other student who graduated in 2020 added that no one publicly took issue with the assignment in the summer of 2018.

Muru said that he approached Minns in the summer of 2019 and had a 20-minute conversation with him, pointing out how the "problematic" nature of the assignment was out of touch.

"Two of his comments really stuck out and have just been with

me since," said Muru. "One of his first comments was, 'Why are you so sensitive about it?'"

Muru said Minns also called it a "slippery slope" when certain subjects are censored. Minns did not provide a response about the alleged conversation.

"It was so clear that he had no idea how this is a problem."

QUESTIONING BUSINESS STUDENT ETHICS

All three students agreed that Minns was an adequate instructor: Muru said he was "fine" until the assignment came up, Zhao said he was "enthusiastic" and the 2020 graduate said Minns was one of the "better" instructors he's had.

But Minns's inclusion of a strongly colonial example and the lack of student outcry raises the question of how ethics are being taught in Sauder courses. It's unclear whether Minns was considering changing the course further after changes he made from 2019 to 2020.

According to the Sauder website, commerce general program requirements only include two ethics courses in total: COMM 186, Values, Ethics and Community, which students take in first year, and COMM 394, a course about government business ethics. Students also receive a dose of ethics in a COMM 101 unit. Aside from this, students have the option to take at least two upper-level electives on business ethics.

Sara Ghebremusse, assistant professor at the Allard School of Law with expertise in African legal rights and human rights, said not prefacing the assignment with the devastating impacts of Columbus's

colonization has negative impacts.

"I would encourage professors to rethink the ways in which they teach these materials in their classrooms, because ... it is a disservice to the Black and racialized students in that class," she said. "It does a disservice for members of our Indigenous community and broader Black and racialized communities on campus."

The lack of discussion around colonization could have contributed to what the 2020 graduate called a "business-first mindset" where students treat the impacts of their comments as an afterthought.

Kin Lo, Sauder senior associate dean, students, apologized for the effects of the students' presentation.

"We recognize how one student group's response to the assignment in question was triggering for some students in today's context and had a harmful impact, and for this we sincerely apologize," said Lo in a statement to *The Ubyyssey*. He added that the faculty will be speaking with the students who gave the presentation and will be offering resources to any affected students.

"We are equally looking at how we can learn from this and how we can better inform ourselves as educators in this area," he said.

Ghebremusse said the university has an obligation to graduate a generation that is well-informed about ethics and social issues.

"I would hope that the topics important topics like that ... will be infused throughout the curriculum so that Sauder is graduating students that are well equipped to go into this world and become active anti-racist entrepreneurs, and active anti-racist accountants, or even active anti-racist businesspeople, generally." [@](#)

FOLKLORE //

Playing on pause: Resilient UBC performers face changes to the music scene amid COVID-19

Charlotte Alden
Print News Editor

Clubs and music venues were among the first to go.

When COVID-19 exploded in Canada this March, the world shut down in what felt like a split second. But now, four months later, restaurants are opening up seating, people are allowed to expand their bubbles and businesses are starting to reopen.

For clubs and music venues it's been a different story. While some are starting to reopen, they're operating at nowhere close to normal capacity.

At UBC, DJs, musicians and performers have had to adjust to a life without live-music venues and clubs. For some, performing was their main source of income.

Stephanie Tsamis, who performs as DJ Tsunami, graduated from UBC last year with an education degree. She works at Yaletown Brewery and often plays shows there, but has also played at various parties and other venues around Vancouver. When COVID-19 worsened, Yaletown Brewery closed, along with all of the other venues she played at.

"Pubs were closed. Restaurants were closed. Nightclubs were closed. Everything was closed," she said.

Initially when these venues shut as a result of physical distancing, events were simply postponed, but as the reality of the virus sunk in, events started being flat out cancelled.

"There wasn't even anything to look forward to ... there's no real light at the end of the tunnel, there's no date that I could say, 'Hey, this will roughly be when my next event is or this is when I can go to a festival again,'" Tsamis said.

"So that's been kinda crappy." But as the initial disappointment about the closures wore off Tsamis started noticing a large number of people — mostly DJs she knew — starting to livestream sets from their houses.

"I'd had never streamed before in my life and I'm not the most techie person, but I was like, 'You know what, I'm not gonna let this stop me from doing what I love,'" Tsamis said.

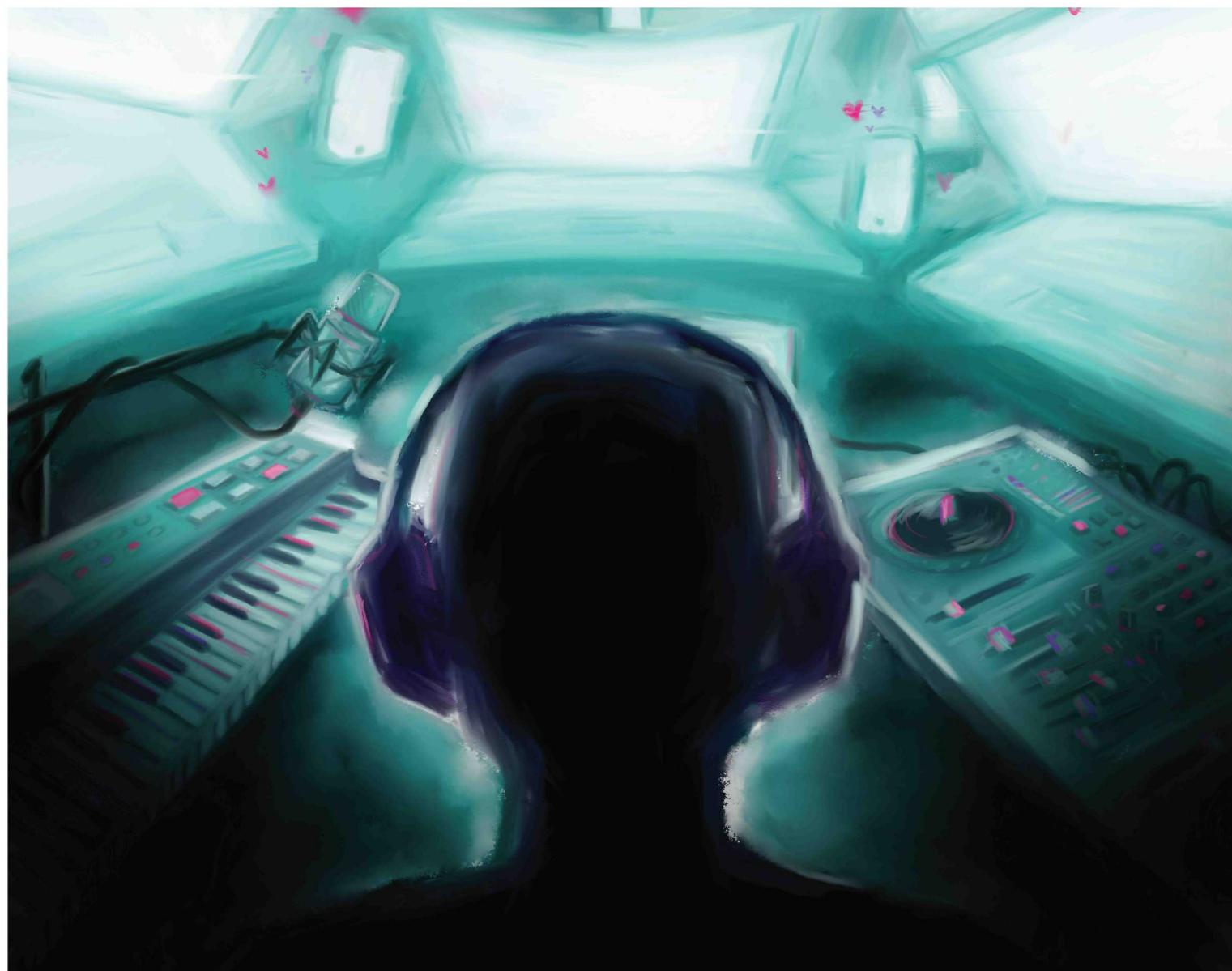
"I bought some new equipment, I downloaded the software and I just practiced ... [now] I do streams every Wednesday."

A STREAMING BOOM

Streaming has quickly become one of the only ways for artists to be able to play and connect with audiences.

But playing in front of a camera is very different than playing for a live audience — and adjusting to the new format has been hard for some.

Angelica Poversky, a spoken word artist and recent graduate of the UBC media studies program, has been doing



As the reality of the virus sunk in, events started being flat out cancelled.

RAEJOURARD

livestreams on their personal Instagram and has participated in a few spoken word festivals online.

They noted that the energy an artist is required to give in an online performance is significantly different.

"The energy you give for an online performance is quite intense, [whereas] a live performance when there are a thousand people around you cheering you on is a lot different," they said.

"I find that it's easy to burn out [doing online performances]."

Chris Wan, a third-year engineering student who DJs as MOST WANT3D identified two types of performers: ones who feed off the energy of the crowd, and others who have instinctive energy and are able to pretend a crowd is there, even when it isn't.

He says that he's the first type, and finds live streaming a challenge as a result, especially the first few times he did it.

"Without the energy, without the physical presence of a crowd, I was standing there and just looking down on my laptop ... I didn't know what to play, I didn't know what exactly to do. So it was definitely different," he said.

"But I like that it pushed [me] to kind of step up and find out ways to almost act and pretend [like] there was a crowd there."

While veteran performers have

found the switch difficult, Frannie Fleming, a fourth-year and half of the DJing duo The Cancers said that live streaming has given the pair confidence in performing.

The Cancers only formed last year, and Fleming and her partner Lydia Lukyanov haven't performed live that many times yet.

"A huge part of mixing is feeding off the crowd you're performing for, but I think [streaming] is helping us gain confidence in that area," Fleming said.

"So in the future when we do perform live, we'll be ready to perform [in front of] people."

A TURN TO TWITCH

Most notably known for gaming videos, the streaming platform Twitch has become a favourite for many DJs.

Livestreams on Instagram and Facebook often get cut off due to issues of copyright. But Tsamis says that happens much less on Twitch. The Twitch community guidelines note that music played in streams must be "owned by you," "licensed to you" or a "Twitch Sings performance."

Technically, the DJs aren't allowed to play music owned by other people, but the DJs *The Ubysey* spoke to have not experienced any repercussions.

"It hasn't seemed that Twitch

has really cut out many DJs and if they have, it's been someone who's maybe very high profile and has a lot of viewers. Whereas my friends' little radio show, [is] very low key so we kind of fly under the radar," Tsamis said.

BENEFITS OF BREAKDOWN

Victoria Stafford (Victoria Staff), a singer-songwriter who recently graduated with a major in neuroscience, said that her songwriting has changed during the pandemic.

"I had to go back and think more about things that had already happened. Usually when the regular world is occurring, there's lots for me to write about. But no one wants me to write 17 songs about quarantine," Stafford said.

She said she's been going back to old songs and rewriting them.

"I've been able to go into old songs and take them apart and put them back together and create something new out of old things, which I don't think I would have had time to do otherwise."

Poversky released an EP, *After Consent*, in May, a project that they said was influenced by the experience of quarantining and living through a pandemic.

"I think [quarantine] definitely gave [me] some time to reflect and create in a way that's very different from usual," they said.

Emma Jay, a recent history and international relations graduate said that quarantine "hasn't necessarily been the worst thing [for her music] because [she has] nothing else to do now." Jay performs under the stage name LOUP and is half of the DJ duo PhaseShift.

"I'm not working, I'm not DJing for money, so all I really do is just sit at home and sit on Ableton for hours and hours," she said.

Anjalica Solomon, a multidisciplinary artist who specializes in spoken word and a recent English honours graduate, was able to participate in an online version of Queer Slam, a poetry slam held in Toronto every year targeting 2SLGBTQIA+ folks.

"It was really exciting because I got to be featured at a poetry slam across the country. There's no way that I would have travelled there during [COVID] times," she said. "Because I featured there I was connected to a whole different community."

ADJUSTMENTS AT UBC

At UBC, Blank Vinyl Project (BVP), a student organization for performers, has transitioned to operating online, while trying to support musicians through this time.

The president of BVP, Ethan

Fernandez, called the transition to online not an “obstacle, but an opportunity.”

The club is working on creating workshops for musicians to help them develop their skills while they’re not performing as much.

“Since a lot of musicians won’t have the opportunity to get up on stage and perform for people for a while, this is the perfect time to really hone your skills [and] learn some more about the world of music,” Fernandez said.

The club has organized a songwriting workshop with local musician Jamie Ruddick, which took place on July 18 with more planned for the future.

The external team is also looking to connect student musicians as much as possible with local venues for when shows do begin happening again, and pushing for musicians to get paid, given the circumstances.

“We would really be stepping in and advocating for musicians in that sense,” he said.

A virtual form of Pit Night has also been operating at UBC. Wan has been playing almost every week since it began in May.

AMS President Cole Evans said that virtual Pit Night was a project of AMS events and that the AMS is trying to be “as adaptable as possible.”

“We’re really looking to come up with new, creative [and] innovative ways to engage students on the social side of things,” Evans said.

Virtual Pit Night allows Wan to continue DJing in that space

even without a packed Wednesday night crowd.

Evans said that the future of the Pit for the fall is still up in the air.

“We’re evaluating what we’re doing in the interim until we can open up again in terms of potentially bringing programming to students that isn’t just about nightclub experience,” he said.

“Whether it be virtual Pit Night, or opening up the Pit for a more bar, restaurant style opening instead of a nightclub-style opening ... there are a lot of options [that are still] on the table.”

THE FUTURE OF THE PERFORMING SCENE

Artists are worried about how long it will take the industry to get back to some normalcy — but also how easily the industry will bounce back.

Stafford said she’s worried about what the live scene will look like for smaller artists once the pandemic lessens and venues open at full capacity again.

“There’s a risk of a lot of smaller artists being shoved out of the music scene because every band ever is going to be fighting for every venue,” she said. “Over the last three months, no one’s been playing anywhere so all of those shows that got backlogged are all going to need to get played.”

The nightlife industry has taken a major hit throughout the pandemic, and BC’s Restart Plan indicates that its unlikely clubs

will open again normally until phase four.

“Right now we just feel as an industry like we’re just twisting in the wind in a larger extent than anyone else.

“It’s scary because I can’t imagine the future with no nightlife because it is such a big part of my life,” Tsamis said.

Clubs are slowly starting to open again, with restrictions in place.

But recent outbreaks at the Hotel Belmont bar and nightclub and the No5 Orange entertainment club may put all nightclubs in danger of being closed down again.

Quarantine hasn’t been easy for artists. Lost income, jobs and purpose have impacted many of these performers.

“There have been days when it’s really hard to find the motivation [to make music] and you’re just anxious about the general state of the world,” Jay said.

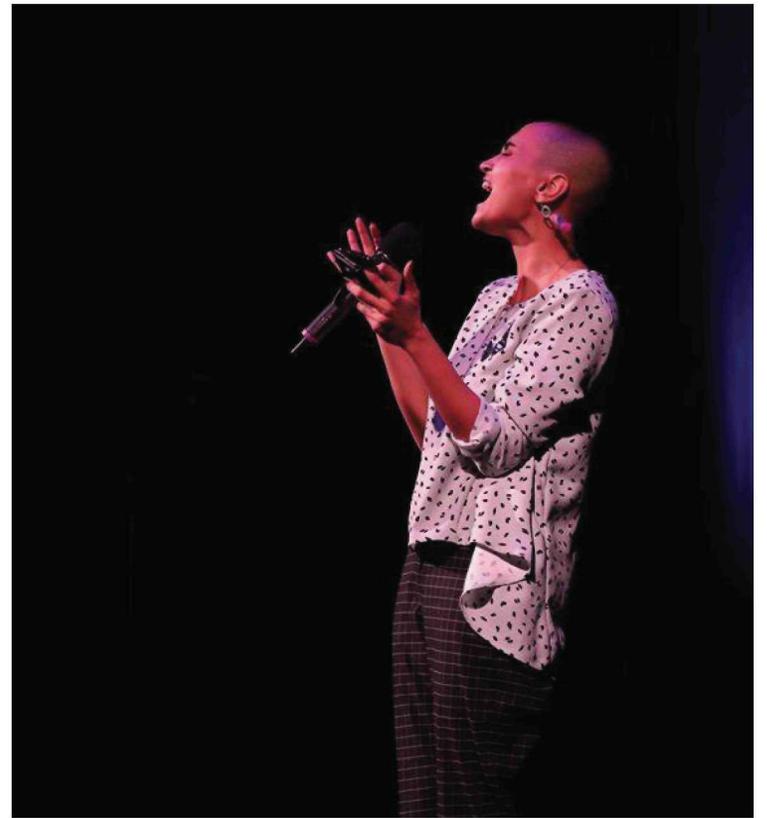
But the sense of community remains.

“There has been a lot of coming together as a community, realizing that it’s kind of fucked for everyone,” Jay said.

Solomon said that this time has reminded her how much she needs that community.

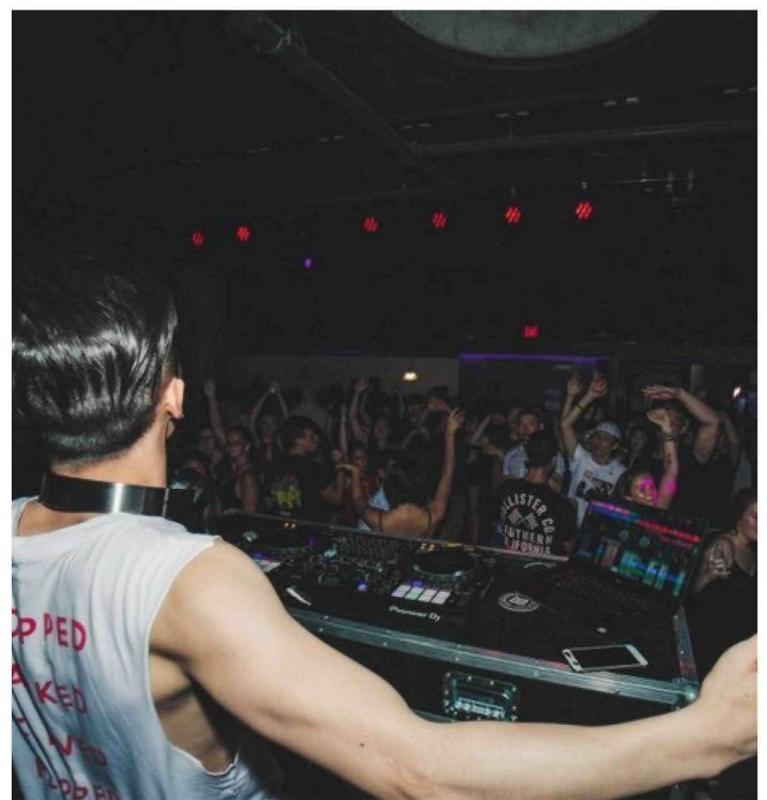
“Spoken word has always just been about the connections I make with people through the art form. That will never go away,” she said.

“Artists are resilient, beyond measure.”



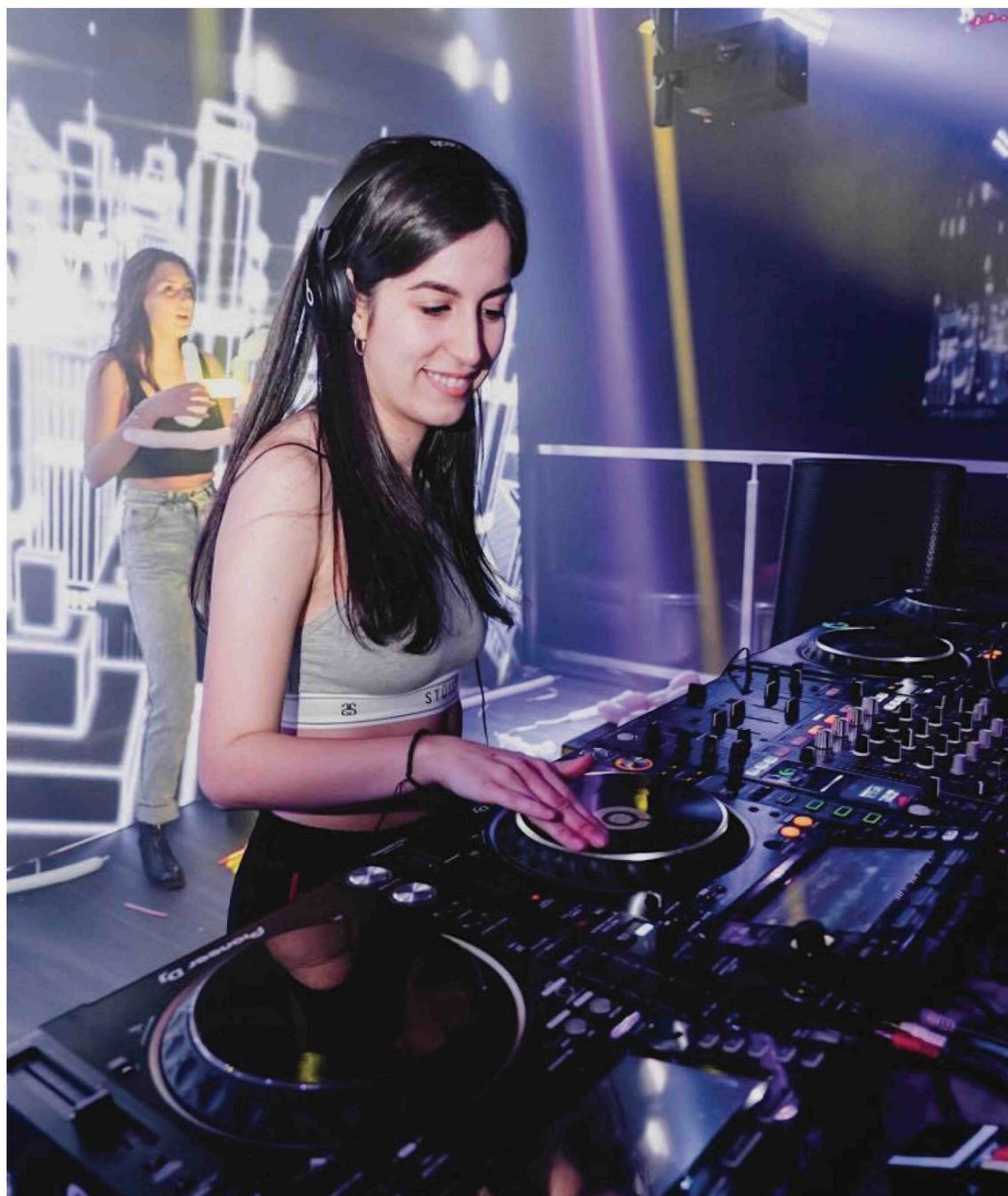
Anjalica Solomon

MERISSA VICTOR



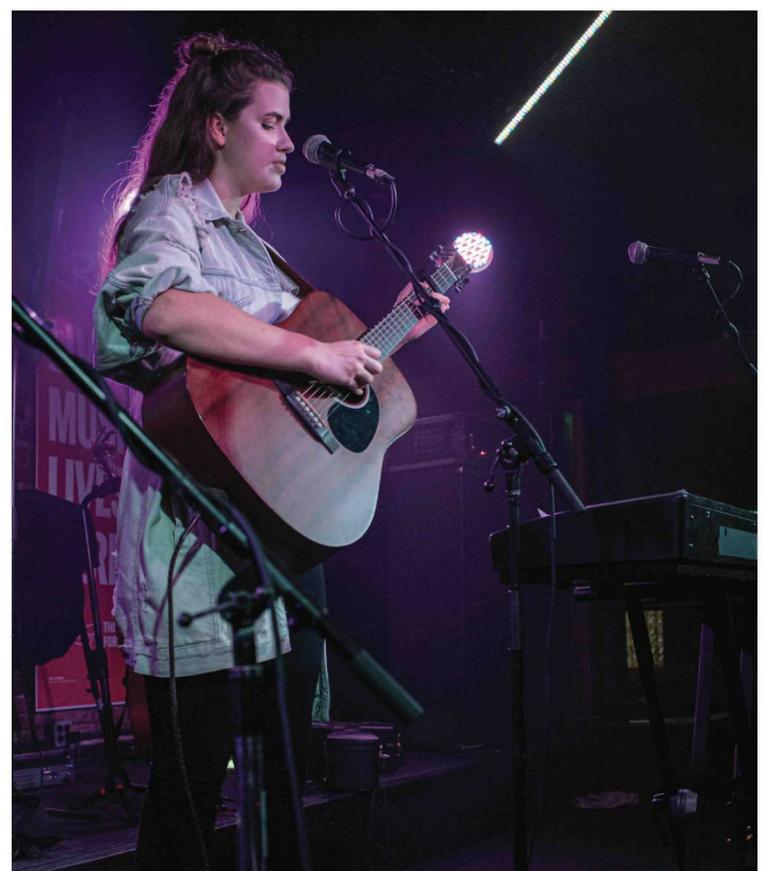
Chris Wan.

KHALIL DAGHFOUS



Stephanie Tsamis is pictured above DJing as DJ Tsunami.

THE CALENDAR



Victoria Stafford

TOM PAILLE

UBC STRIVES FOR INCLUSION — BUT NEARLY A THIRD OF BUILDINGS ARE INACCESSIBLE TO DISABLED STUDENTS

WORDS BY BAILEY MARTENS
ILLUSTRATIONS AND DESIGN BY LUA PRESIDIO

Oliver McDonald, a second year chemistry major, remembers walking towards HEBB for class. When he finally meandered away from the crowds of people with backpacks and books in tow, he made his way around the side to an empty back door. The standalone back entrance is the only accessible option to get into HEBB.

But when he got there, he found a locked door. Other times it was construction blocking the small ramp, workers glaring when he asked for space. Rarely do the accessibility buttons work, leaving him struggling to open

the door and pull his walker through.

"I'm just trying my best to be a good student, while having a disability, which is really hard when you're trying to do both of those things at once. It's hard not to feel hopeless.

"Not only are you given basically no resources to help overcome those or help even get you through the door into the class, but that the other people just don't care," said McDonald.

The ever-present heaviness of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome was in full force when he made it to Buchanan. While the building has

four elevators, these elevators all service different areas, meaning if one is out the entire wing becomes inaccessible.

The elevator was broken, again.

McDonald decided to put himself at risk and slowly make his way up the stairs. He took his backpack out from his walker and waited to ask someone for help lifting his relatively light walker and backpack up the stairs.

"No, I am going to be late," said the other student walking away.

Stranded, again.

HOW ACCESSIBLE IS UBC?

NOT ACCESSIBLE

ACCESSIBLE

NO INFO



* each illustration represents 10 buildings at UBC

LOCKED OUT

There is not a day that goes by that McDonald does not experience accessibility issues at UBC. In large part, this is due to the physical makeup of campus. According to UBC's Wayfinding program, 49 buildings out of the 189 on campus are inaccessible. Of the 140 remaining, 50 have no information on accessibility.

In addition to HEBB which houses the physics department, there are entire faculties that are inaccessible. The chemistry, anthropology and sociology, math and geography buildings are all inaccessible.

Many of the inaccessible buildings have accessibility features, such as a one-off ramp or elevator but many have entire wings or floors that are only accessible by stairs.

There is also no accessibility information on buildings residing on campus that are not owned by the university. This includes the Nest, the Wesbrook community centre and some residence buildings.

Centre for Accessibility Director Janet Mee claims the lack of information is not a gap in data on the built environment, but instead the result of uncoordinated efforts. She claims there are no overarching systems to house accessibility information on residence, faculties and other buildings. Instead, it is scattered in different databases which utilize differing terms.

According to Mee, the Geospatial Data Governance Steering Committee is spearheading efforts to have better data that will be consolidated into a new campus mapping system, but Mee was unable to provide a timeline of when the project would be completed.

But having accessible information does not help McDonald navigate campus. Even the Centre for Accessibility itself is not overly accessible.

The centre, located in Brock Hall, houses a special area for exam proctoring to ensure accommodations such as a distraction-reduced environment, extra time or a scribe are accessible to students. The exam rooms are split up over the ground floor and in the basement through meandering hallways.

"The building is just a Frankenstein nightmare," said McDonald.

McDonald added that there are "tiny sets of stairs everywhere," making it all the more difficult for him to simply travel to and from exams. He said that the only option to avoid the stairs is to take a platform lift over the stairs — but often nobody knows where the key is.

"They ask 'Can you walk up the stairs?' or they have to go and spend 20 minutes finding whoever has the keys so I can load on to the elevator [lift] just to get to the place where it's supposed to be accessible," he said.

Mee told *The Ubysey* she is fully aware of the current accessibility concerns. According to Mee, the exam centre was slated to be moved into Ponderosa C this fall. She said there is also a four-year plan that has also been delayed as a result of the pandemic to move both the exam and Centre for Accessibility into Ponderosa Commons.

"The building has a new ramp at the front door, the ground floor is completely wheelchair accessible and has both groups and individual rooms. There is a second floor for people who can use stairs [and] that has additional rooms, so all of the exams, [and] now all of the midterms too, will be happening in that space," said Mee.

But for McDonald, the segregation of spaces as a result of stairs is the same issue as the centre's current location. In addition, according to Wayfinding, any building that has floors only accessible by stairs are considered inaccessible.

At the time of publication, Wayfinding currently lists Ponderosa A, B, C, D, E and F as inaccessible.

MEANINGFUL ACCESSIBILITY

For Deepi Leihl, the Accessibility Collective Coordinator for CiTR, things are getting better. Leihl has Metatropic Dysplasia, a rare form of dwarfism. As a result, she is an electric wheelchair user.

When she started as a volunteer eight years

ago, she did not have independence. There was only one elevator in the old Student Union Building that she said barely worked. She often had to call maintenance to use the service elevator to get to and from her job.

"They didn't even know where the elevator was or how to get there. They were so confused."

This often left her waiting an estimated 10 to 20 minutes for assistance. If it was a lunch hour, she had to wait it out until they were back on the clock in the middle of her workday.

The move to the Nest bought Leihl some autonomy, but she is still excluded from much of campus. She is fascinated with architecture. But instead of roaming the halls taking in the sights of historic buildings, she is left day-dreaming from the outside.

"What does it look like? What are the rooms? What do people even do in there?," she asked.

"UBC says it is for everyone, but it is not if I can't get in the building," she said.



The Rick Hansen Foundation offers accessibility certification and gold certification for meaningful accessibility in institutional buildings.

The foundation rates each building off a rubric that was designed by disabled people with hearing, vision or mobility impairments alongside architects and designers. Each building must check off 60 per cent of the requirements to pass or 80 per cent to achieve gold status.

McDonald and Leihl were both clear that the Nest is by far the most accessible building on campus. Not only does it have buttons at every door, multiple elevators and ramps, these features are not hidden at the back of an alley away from all their peers' main entrance. It is integrated into the main flow of foot traffic.

While universities like Dalhousie University, the University of the Fraser Valley and Vancouver Community College are all listed publicly as being certified, UBC's audit is not publicly available.

According to Mee, 10 buildings across UBC's Vancouver campus have been audited. Newer buildings such as the Nest and Ponderosa Commons were audited alongside the long-standing ones. The math building was not rated as there is no elevator in the building.

"We used a wide variety of buildings and had a variety of outcomes," said Mee.

Mee claimed the Rick Hansen Foundation was granted permission to make results public but they still remain unlisted. When contacted, the Rick Hansen Foundation declined to provide *The Ubysey* with the results of UBC's audit.

STEP INSIDE

For Scout Wasdell, physical accessibility goes beyond getting through the front door.

They are Deaf and rely on a wide range of technology to help them be able to hear their lectures. They still miss words, writing down the blanks in their notes to check after class, but it is when the class breaks into small groups for project work or discussions that leaves them isolated.

"I am supposed to have my own private room so that it is not just a room of chatter, but the profs always forget and scramble to find a room for me, but that takes time," said Wasdell.

They said small group time often lasts no more than 20 minutes and when finding a room for them to meet with their group takes the majority of that time, their time was wasted.

For McDonald, he is shocked he has not failed a class due to accessibility issues.

"There is not a week that goes by where I [do not] ask myself:

'I don't know if I can do this.' 'Should I really continue?' 'Do I need to drop out?'"

As a chemistry student, McDonald has to take many laboratory courses. He said none of the labs he has seen are accessible. Often-times, his walker did not fit in the rows and when it did, it was often removed.

"Bringing my walker into the chemistry labs, everyone treated it as an obstacle," said McDonald. "There were actually some instances where I had put my walker somewhere as I was reaching to get something, [then] someone would push it out of the way so that he could get in and grab something."

In some classes, he requested a chair which resulted in no real improvement. Students would take or move the chair, just as he had with the walker, or push in front of them during demonstrations, leaving them unable to see.

"If all of the lights suddenly went off, people would go, 'Oh the lights are off, I guess we can't have class here,'" McDonald said. "They would either cancel it or move it somewhere else."

"They honestly should do that if it's not accessible, because it's just unreasonable to have a classroom [with] buttons [that] don't work, the doors locked, the elevators broken."

According to Mee, the centre will try their best to move classes if necessary. If an accessibility issue suddenly arises, such as broken buttons or elevators, they will work to get it fixed as soon as possible.

But McDonald has not seen the swift effort that was previously promised. The ability to leave after COVID-19 cancelled in-person classes acted as a much-needed escape hatch. He moved out of his residence after his first month because the accessibility button was broken the entire time.

"Every time that I went to that building the disability button did not work," said McDonald. "I phoned multiple times, I tried talking to people multiple times, and every time they told me 'Oh man, that sucks. We will try to get it fixed.' And then it would never get fixed."

The toll of spending the little energy that McDonald has left to get to class, only to be faced with often insurmountable obstacles, is exhausting.

"Every term I struggle ... But I don't struggle because the content is too challenging. I struggle because I'm so exhausted by all of the extra work that I have to do, just [to] get to the classroom," said McDonald.

But McDonald knows he is not alone in these daily challenges just to exist at the university.

"[I see] seven or eight people who have mobility devices, or who have visible disabilities [across campus]. And I know the faces of every single one because we all see each other."

When asked if he feels seen by UBC, he laughed. ☺

BLACK VOICES MATTER

BUILDING MY OWN TABLE: BLACK IN THE AUS

WRITTEN BY MELANIE MPANJU

As a Black woman, serving in a leadership position at UBC is a unique experience. As an arts student, I always found our faculty to be overwhelmingly large. While this allows for some diversity in thought and culture, it can also leave one feeling disconnected from the program and university as a whole.

I decided to run for the position of AMS representative under the Arts Undergraduate Society (AUS) in October of 2019. Before entering the position, I made it a priority of mine to “get a seat at the table” and advocate for UBC’s Black diaspora. After a successful election and a brief introduction to council meetings, I quickly found myself feeling stagnant. I found that the bureaucratic nature of these council meetings would not allow me to make true systemic change. This made me reflect on the achievements that we, Black students at UBC, have accomplished thus far.

Many of our achievements came from the initiatives and the hard work of our community. It was our Black community that formed the African Awareness Initiative in order to establish an African Studies minor program. It was our Black community that formed the Africa Business Club to connect our studies in the

business world to our cultural roots on the African continent. It was our Black community that formed a Black Student Union to create a safe space where students across campus could come together and be unapologetically Black.

These achievements were not made because we got a seat at the table.

Rather, we built our own table.

And so, I leave you all with this. To non-Black students and faculty: I urge you to learn about and invest in the Black-run clubs that have existed on campus for some time. Before #BlackLivesMatter was trending on Twitter, the Africa Awareness Initiative, Africa Business Club and the Black Student Union were doing extensive anti-racist work on campus. We have been in this fight for our whole lives.

So welcome, and thank you for joining us.

To my Black siblings: I am proud of you. I am proud of you for never failing to remain resilient during these tough times. I am proud of you for fostering communities where we can all find comfort while also advocating for change.

We are beautiful, we are fearless, and I have no doubt that we will continue to hold UBC accountable. 🌱



LUA PRESIDIO

PLAYING ON HARD MODE: BEING BLACK AT UBC

WRITTEN BY ARNAUD DIONE



LUA PRESIDIO

It’s no secret that I love video games, but I don’t think video games love me back.

When I was growing up the characters in games were never Black. There weren’t many video games designed for people like me. I couldn’t even make my avatar look like me. The actors in the adverts were white.

Not only is there also a lack of Black representation inside video games, but the same can be said by those who make the games. Most of the developers do not represent their player base — maybe that’s why they don’t think of adding darker-skinned characters.

In terms of eSports, or competitive video games, it’s the similar story where casters, analysts, tournament organizers and team owners are mostly white and Asian. In fact, as a Black man, there are few professional players to even look up to (Thank God for Aphromoo.) And while there have certainly been improvements, it clearly hasn’t been enough.

This lack of representation has lingered during my time at UBC where being of African descent means you are a minority. Being Black at UBC means you probably don’t have a professor that looks like you and you won’t be sitting next to someone who looks like you. Most importantly, you naturally stand out — but not in a good way.

Despite having many discouraging inherent factors, I went out of my way to host hundreds of tournaments for games that weren’t for me, for students that didn’t look like me either. I hosted these tournaments because despite my difference, I truly loved games and competing. I wanted

to share this love with the rest of UBC. My professional disposition and constant grind eventually led me to become the president of the UBC eSports Association, one of the larger clubs on campus.

The challenges of being in such an under-representative space was accentuated as soon as I became a leader. I had to watch myself for simple things like not losing my cool and never raising my voice in high-stress situations. We unfortunately know that’s enough to cause things to escalate very quickly. I had to make sure the club had a squeaky-clean image, and I couldn’t accept failure because when you stand out like a sore thumb, mistakes don’t go unnoticed in the gaming industry. I knew that I wasn’t just representing an AMS club, I was also carrying the weight of my race.

I vividly recall one of my VPs telling me to not worry, saying ‘You don’t have to take the club work so personally Arnaud!’

But I don’t think they ever understood how the pressure builds up over time. You can’t take a break from being Black. This is why I surround myself with support in the UBC Black Student Union, the BC Super Smash Bros Community and the many allies that have made me feel that I was more than just a colour.

These people have been essential to me because I feel like I’m playing a game on a higher difficulty. I’m not asking you to pity me for being at a disadvantage. I’m not asking you to admire me either for overcoming it. I’m asking you to not make the game any harder than it currently is and help me make the game balanced. 🌱

POLICING //

Letter: It's time to defund the Vancouver Police Department

The UBC Social Justice Centre

As we witness a global uprising against anti-Blackness and police violence, now is the time to reimagine our future and dismantle one of the most violent institutions in our communities: the police. Contrary to common understandings of Canada, police violence and anti-Blackness are not exclusive to the United States — anti-Blackness and colonial violence are integral to the Canadian state.

As an organization led by non-Black students, we strive to honour the weight of the murders of Black and Indigenous folks caused by white supremacist policing, and the labour of organizers fighting for liberation. We strive to follow leadership from Black and Indigenous folks and learn from the generations of abolitionist traditions that have brought us to this moment — a moment where calls for defunding and abolishing police are gaining traction, being echoed across the continent and seeing huge wins, like the planned disbanding of the Minneapolis Police Department.

One way we at the UBC Social Justice Centre take leadership from Black and Indigenous folks is to stand in solidarity with Black Lives Matter Vancouver and echo its demands to defund the Vancouver Police Department (VPD). Since a majority of UBC students live off campus, many of whom live in Vancouver, as a school community, we need to be unequivocal in demanding that all of our politicians take a stance against anti-Blackness and police violence by publicly supporting defunding the Vancouver Police Department in the 2021 City of Vancouver budget.

POLICE AS A VIOLENT AND RACIST INSTITUTION

Policing arose for the violent surveillance of Black and Indigenous people, as well as and other oppressed people: police started as slave patrols and for the suppression of labour strikes. In Canada, the RCMP was formed specifically for violent dispossession and displacement of Indigenous people, and to protect settler economic interests. White supremacy is inherent in policing.

It shouldn't be a surprise, then, that police murder and brutalize Black and Indigenous people and criminalize oppressed people. According to Robyn Maynard's *Policing Black Lives*, Black Ontarians are 10 times more likely to be shot by police than white people, and while only 3.6 per cent of Ontarians are Black, 27 per cent of victims of police murders are Black. Black and Indigenous people are disproportionately impacted in non-lethal encounters with police too, due to racial profiling: in 2017, in Vancouver, Black people accounted for 5 per cent of street checks despite being 1 per cent of Vancouver's population; Indigenous people



"Contrary to common understandings of Canada, police violence and anti-Blackness are not exclusive to the United States."

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY PHOTOGRAPHY/FICKR

comprised 16 per cent of street checks and were 2 per cent of Vancouver's population.

Further, unlike popular imaginaries of police work, the majority of police work — up to 80 per cent — does not address criminal issues, and instead tries (and fails) to address problems associated with mental health and poverty. For instance, in the Downtown Eastside, police often confiscate money and possessions through "shakedowns." According to Pivot Legal Society's Project Inclusion report (pp. 46–52), these policing practices exacerbate the opioid crisis: policing results in less safe use of substances and drives people into isolated locations away from life-saving harm reduction facilities. The Vancouver Police Department has also been involved in the forced displacement of homeless people from tent cities, most recently having enforced the removal of residents of the Namegans 2.0/CRAB Park Tent City.

Police are also sometimes responders to mental health crises and are called to perform wellness checks, despite the fact that police presence can result in traumatization, and that police are not adequately trained in de-escalation. These wellness

checks have resulted in at least four deaths in Canada since April: Regis Korchinski-Paquet, Chantel Moore, D'Andre Campbell and Ejaz Ahmed Choudry have all died during law enforcement wellness checks. And last month, an RCMP-conducted wellness check on a UBCO student resulted in police brutality.

Behind each of these statistics and facts are stories of state-sanctioned harm and violence. These stories demonstrate that police utterly disregard people's lives and well-being, especially for Black and Indigenous people, and do not protect people or 'solve crimes.' That is, police are a fundamentally violent institution that exacerbate social problems and perpetuate harm.

WE MUST DEFUND THE VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT, NOT REFORM IT

The only way to minimize the harm that police perpetrate is by defunding police, because policing isn't broken, it's working exactly how it is supposed to.

Violence is intrinsic to policing and can't be fixed through reforms like body cameras and bias training. Reforms haven't been effective at preventing police violence. They increase

funding to police and perpetuate police power and militarization. Ultimately, reforms entrench police legitimacy and erase that systemic white supremacy is enmeshed in policing.

Defunding the VPD gives police fewer opportunities for violence and allows us to fund housing, healthcare, education and public utilities instead — things people actually benefit from. The VPD swallows up \$339 million, 21 per cent of Vancouver's operating budget; we spend more on the VPD than we do on parks, recreation, arts, culture, community services and libraries — combined. In a city with over 2,200 homeless people, arming police to the teeth — with an array of firearms, including a military-grade sniper rifle — is reprehensible.

In calling for the VPD to be defunded, we have to target the Police Board and City Council. The Police Board, chaired by Mayor Kennedy Stewart, has already refused to abide by City Council's motion to cut the VPD budget by one per cent in response to the city's COVID-19 related shortages in tax revenue. And rather than being a leader, Mayor Stewart has tried to offload responsibility to the province by asking for a review of policing.

Mayor Stewart's response is fundamentally inadequate, erases the systemic violence of policing, and ignores the thousands of voices demanding systemic change.

We need to follow Black and Indigenous people who have been fighting police violence for generations, and learn from Black scholars and organizers who have been demanding abolition for centuries. By defunding, disarming and disbanding the VPD, we can begin to dismantle white supremacy, give ourselves opportunities to reimagine how we address harm and create space to build systems grounded in community safety and liberation. [U](#)

The Social Justice Centre is a resource group that works toward progressive social change, inclusivity and equity through a survivor-centric, harm reduction, radical, feminist, decolonial, anti-oppression framework. It operates through horizontal structures and consensus-based decision-making to engage students in and provide tools for activism, and to promote discussions of social justice issues. This piece was primarily written by members Ishmam Bhuiyan and Gabby Doebeli, with input from other members of the UBC Social Justice Centre.

ASYNCHRONOUS //

The Dingbat: So your university says she doesn't want to see you in person anymore

Tait Gamble
Contributor

My university and I have been seeing each other for two years now. I can't say it's been all 'early admission' and 'Dean's List' for us, but it's certainly been good for my career prospects. In the early days of our relationship, it was all consuming. I cannot even begin to explain how much reading we had, not to mention the unexpected costs of a budding post-secondary education. But I wouldn't do anything differently knowing what I know now, knee deep into my bachelor's degree with her.

Some might even say we've been happy. Some might even say we've fallen into a rhythm of sorts. A rhythm of readings, midterms, exams, repeat. They say predictability isn't what you want in a relationship, but it works for UBC and me. She whispers "*Tuum Est*" to me almost everyday, and I use UBC Confessions to broadcast our poor communication.

But this past March, everything changed.

For a few weeks, she was saying, "Don't worry! I'm not gonna change. I'm gonna proceed as normal. I know all the other universities are changing, but I'm different. I'm not like the other universities."

Then she started saying, "I'm gonna proceed with caution! I still really want this, but I just want you to know I'm being cautious now."



Obviously, this is paraphrasing, not plagiarism. I'd never do that to her. But you get the gist.

And then she was like, "Well, I'm just not sure if I want to see you in person anymore." And I was like, "What?"

"For like, how long?" I asked. "Just for the rest of term?" And she was like, "Yeah... maybe? I really can't be sure. I think we should take some time apart. For our physical and mental health."

Obviously, this is paraphrasing, not plagiarism. I'd never do that to her. But you get the gist.

I tried to act like everything was normal. I'd still go to class with her, but she was really different. She'd be uploading things to Canvas, which I used to find exciting and cute, but now it just stressed me out. My heart used to skip a beat everytime I got an email from UBC, but I started to leave her emails unread in my inbox for a day or two.

Did it all change when she adjusted the grade scheme for

some of our courses mid-April? Or when she thought written reflections could replace the discussions we used to have in tutorials? Or maybe it was when she started to pre-record her lectures for me. Lectures were something we used to do *together!*

Moving our relationship online had its challenges (needless to say, we were doing a lot less reading). But it also came with some serious benefits. If I could sense

a particularly difficult discussion coming on, I was able to prepare for it with notes. She even accepted a few late assignments because I told her my "Wi-Fi was down" or my WeBWorK "glitched" — things I never used to get away with.

So for sure, 2020W won't be the same as 2019W, or 2018W. But we'll take it one syllabus at a time. I'll stick around whether she's synchronous or asynchronous. Or at least until I'm ready to graduate. 📖

FILE GEOFF LISTER

SOMEONE WHO IS GOOD AT MONEY PLEASE HELP //

The Dingbat: Not spending \$35 on coffee every day suddenly made me a millionaire



At first, not buying my coffee from Loafe and Great Dane was a really big shock.

Sam Smart

Opinion + Blog Editor

When I stopped spending \$35 on coffee every day due to the pandemic, my financial life took a huge turn.

At first, not buying my coffee from Loafe and Great Dane was a really big shock. I had to learn how to make coffee (extremely difficult) and learn how to make my own breakfast sandwiches (I almost burned down my dorm). But after a few weeks, I realized that the pros way outweighed the cons.

I looked in my wallet and suddenly there were a thousand \$100 bills in there. And every week, I keep seeing more. I just keep accumulating these bills, Robert Borden staring me in the face every time I see them. I no longer even have a place to store these bills, it's becoming almost too much.

Seeing how much money I've saved by not spending \$35 on coffee every day feels like a massive win. I was informed by my roommate that I have been "sleep walking" and "going to the ATM to take out \$100, coming back to my room and collapsing on my bed." But I refuse to believe this. I believe that

spending less money on coffee has made me a millionaire and the universe is literally placing money in my wallet and I never plan on going back.

Sure, over the last few weeks I've been fined for "urinating on the ATM while I was asleep," allegedly, which I will dispute in court because I absolutely am not sleep walking to the ATM every night to put this money in my wallet. And sure, I have been spending 70 per cent of this money on candles and essential oils, which literally have essential in the name, so I consider this to be a very essential purchase. I also needed a \$5,000 espresso machine to make this transition as seamless as possible. This was written off as an educational expense. I also had to buy seven espresso glasses and seven cappuccino mugs, one for every day of the week.

Now that I have this enormous amount of money, I can't help but imagine what I can pay for. I can pay my tuition without a single worry. I can afford a down payment on a one-bedroom condo in Langley! I can maybe even afford car insurance! The possibilities are endless. 📖

FILE PETER WOJNAR

NOT MY WILE E //

Increased coyote sightings on campus a cause for concern among students

Vik Sangar
Contributor

In the months since campus activity has wound down due to the COVID-19 pandemic, UBC has seen a sudden influx of coyote sightings.

A callout made by *The Ubysey* to UBC Facebook groups yielded over a dozen reports of individuals who have come across coyotes in the past few months. Some coyotes were even aggressive.

“Early in the spring [and] summer period is when coyotes are raising pups and have increased nutritional requirements,” said Dr. Cole Burton, assistant professor in the department of forest resources management and principal investigator of the Wildlife Coexistence Lab at UBC. He suggested that the increase in sightings could be due to food stress causing coyotes to search for food from humans.

“One of the phenomena that we’re studying under this pandemic is how wildlife are responding to these significant changes in human activity levels and UBC would be a great example of a place that’s normally very busy and full of cars and people, that has become much

quieter,” said Burton.

“When we have these animals that are living on the margins of human society like coyotes, that provides them an opportunity to become more active and to use human areas more frequently.”

Second-year student Kira Bryan was at the Nest with a friend at around 4 p.m. on a sunny June day when she suddenly saw a coyote run past a group of people.

Initially she mistook the coyote for a large dog, adding that “it was so close to people that we actually thought it was their pet ... it was right on the sidewalk.”

Fourth-year student Lilia Laihem was driving toward Totem Park in the early hours of the morning when a coyote suddenly jumped in front of her car. She quickly reacted and swerved, but still hit its tail.

“I was traumatized because I didn’t expect anything. I was looking in my rearview mirror and then [the coyote] just came out,” she said.

Second-year student Nazia Nadir was going for her usual morning jog behind Marine Drive Residence when she noticed that a coyote was following her. Suddenly, the coyote began chasing after her.

“I tried to cross the highway [but] the traffic was running, everything was scary ... it started following me even while I was crossing the road,” said Nadir.

“I got really tired, so I had to wave towards the traffic, and then show them the coyote behind me ... A truck was coming from the front, then the driver started the horn. Then the coyote stopped for a while and that gave me a chance to get out.”

Nadir was chased for around seven minutes before she finally managed to escape. She claims she and other people have seen the same coyote in nearby areas.

“I looked into its eyes and I was very close to it, so I can definitely tell [it apart from other coyotes],” she said.

According to Urban Coyote Research, a coyote that follows or aggressively approaches people should be treated with a high level of concern as they may pose a safety risk.

“They tend to avoid people by having more of their activity at night,” said Burton. As such, recent coyote behaviour reported on campus is unusual.



“I was traumatized because I didn’t expect anything.”

U/K200YVR/Reddit

Campus Security confirmed that they have received reports of unusually bold coyotes.

According to Ali Mojdehi, acting director of Campus Security, coyotes are normally harmless but “can be aggressive when people get too close.”

If you encounter a coyote, Campus Security recommends that you:

- Do not feed it,
- Do not approach it,
- Make loud noises, wave your arms to try and appear as big as possible,
- Back away slowly, and
- Give the animal a wide berth and do not run or turn your

back.

“You don’t want to run away from any kind of predator animal because it could trigger their predatory response where they think [you are] a prey animal fleeing,” said Burton.

Feeding coyotes can cause them to lose their natural fear of humans. Doing so is prohibited by the Provincial Wildlife Act and carries a \$345 fine. This fine is enforceable by UBC Security.

“Maybe the silver lining of these encounters, which no doubt can be intimidating and troubling for people ... will be helping to remind people or make them aware that we share the environment with these animals,” Burton added. [T](#)

FUNKY ‘SCIENCE’ //

Debunking your favourite COVID-19 conspiracy theories



“We want to understand the world ... we want to feel safe in the world.”

FILE EISHA SHARDA

Shanzeh Chaudhry
Contributor

Your local Costco runs out of toilet paper, restaurants and businesses shut down and all non-essential travel is brought to a halt.

The unprecedented situations the pandemic brought about have forced people all over the world to search for answers as to how their day-to-day lives changed in a matter of weeks. The rapid spread of pseudoscience in the wake of the pandemic has allowed some absurd theories to take over the place of the truth.

According to a recent study conducted by the Carleton University School of Journalism in Ottawa, nearly 46 per cent of Canadians believe in at least one COVID-19 conspiracy theory circulating online.

We debunked some of the most widespread COVID-19 conspiracy theories to date.

COVID-19 WAS ENGINEERED IN A CHINESE LAB AND WAS RELEASED INTO THE GENERAL POPULATION

Let’s start with what is, according to the study, the most popular theory: that the virus was released from a Chinese laboratory. Although this rumour was popularized because Wuhan is home to China’s only biosafety level-four (BSL-4) laboratory that researches human infectious diseases — where researchers have been studying coronaviruses — it’s false.

BSL-4 facilities maintain the highest level of bio-containment precautions as they work on life-threatening viruses such as Ebola. The universal standard set by the Centers for Disease Control includes ventilation systems, reinforced walls and security systems. Thus, the chances of COVID-19 escaping a BSL-4 facility are extremely low.

Furthermore, scientific evidence of a natural rather than synthetic origin of COVID-19 has risen from a study recently published in *Nature Medicine*. After analyzing the genetic sequences coding for the protein spikes on the surface of SARS-CoV-2 — the virus responsible for COVID-19 — researchers found that the virus contains multiple spikes made to

latch on to and invade cells.

Portions of these spike proteins are efficient in targeting receptors on human cells. The study concluded that this feature could have evolved over time naturally and not with existing technologies.

COVID-19 IS NOT A SERIOUS ILLNESS BUT IS BEING SPREAD TO COVER THE HARMFUL EFFECTS ASSOCIATED WITH EXPOSURE TO 5G WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY

One of the many 5G COVID-19 theories claims that the virus is transmitted through 5G radio waves and that the technology can weaken immune systems.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has busted this myth by confirming that viruses such as COVID-19 are unable to travel on radio waves or mobile networks and that COVID-19 is rapidly spreading in countries without 5G mobile networks.

In February, the organization stated that “exposure from 5G infrastructure at around 3.5 GHz is similar to that of existing mobile phone base stations.” It also explained that extensive research has shown that “no adverse health effects have been causally linked with exposure to wireless technology.”

SPRAYING OR INTRODUCING BLEACH OR ANY OTHER DISINFECTANT INTO YOUR BODY WILL PROTECT YOU AGAINST COVID-19

Contrary to US President Donald Trump’s belief, putting any strong disinfectant into your body such as bleach will not protect against COVID-19. The WHO has

urged people to not, under any circumstance, spray or introduce bleach or other disinfectants into their bodies.

Dr. Aaron Shapiro, a toxicologist and clinical assistant professor in UBC’s department of pathology and laboratory medicine, explained that the side effects of ingesting bleach can be fatal.

“When [bleach is] administered internally ... it reacts in the body to produce hypochlorous acid, which can lead to cell death and tissue damage. If administered in large quantities, bleach can cause chemical burns, dangerous increases in serum sodium and chloride levels, lead to metabolic changes and cause kidney damage.

“... Additionally, the amount of bleach that would actually reach the target site of infection is unlikely to completely eliminate the viral load in the host.”

BEING ABLE TO HOLD YOUR BREATH FOR 10 SECONDS OR MORE WITHOUT COUGHING OR FEELING DISCOMFORT MEANS YOU ARE FREE FROM THE CORONAVIRUS OR ANY OTHER LUNG DISEASE

Wrong! Just because you are able to hold your breath for 10 seconds without any discomfort does not mean you are COVID-19 free.

University of Maryland Chief Quality Officer and Chief of Infectious Diseases Dr. Faheem Younus tweeted that many young patients with coronavirus will be able to hold their breaths for much longer than just 10 seconds.

The WHO suggests that the best way to confirm your COVID-19 diagnosis is with a proper laboratory test. This breathing exercise can’t confirm if you have

the virus producing COVID-19.

REGULARLY RINSING YOUR NOSE WITH SALINE SOLUTION CAN HELP PROTECT FROM INFECTION WITH THE CORONAVIRUS

Nearly 17 per cent of Canadians believe the myth that rinsing your nose with a saline solution can help in protecting from the infection which causes COVID-19. There is some limited evidence that rinsing noses with saline solution can help in recovering from the common cold. However, the WHO notes that there is “no evidence” that regularly rinsing the nose prevents respiratory infections like COVID-19.

According to Dr. Kristin Laurin, an associate professor in the UBC department of psychology, there are many reasons why people believe in conspiracy theories.

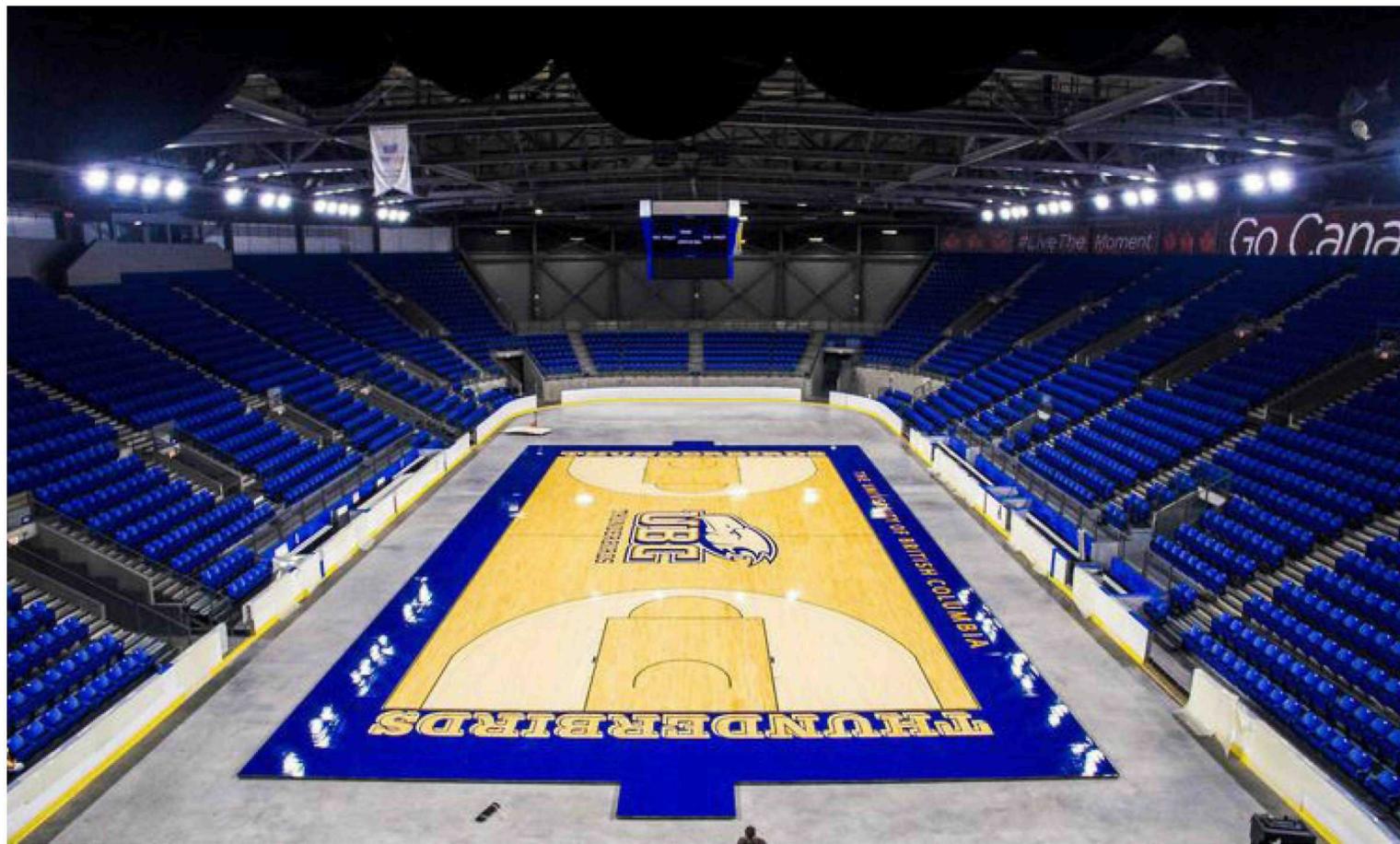
These reasons include confirmation bias, the phenomenon where people tend to seek out information that they already believe to be true; individual differences in rational and evidence-based thinking; and motivated reasoning, where people tend to believe in what they desire rather than what evidence suggests. For example, believing that they’re going to be okay regardless of the reality of COVID-19 in their location.

“There’s a bunch of work looking at what makes us want to believe conspiracy theories,” said Laurin.

“[T]here are epistemic reasons, because we want to understand the world; existential reasons, because we want to feel safe in the world; and more social reasons — we want to feel good about ourselves and the groups we belong to.” [T](#)

COLLEGIATE GAMES //

A tale of two leagues: Differences between U Sports and the NCAA



But U Sports is never going to be as big as the NCAA, not even on a proportional scale.

UBCATHLETICS

**Salomon Micko Benrimoh and
Brendan Smith**
Contributors

The COVID-19 pandemic started to make its impact in North America just as U Sports, Canada's leading collegiate athletics league, was entering its spring championship season. The immediate result was the last-minute cancellation of most championships, including women's and men's ice hockey in March.

Even with most of Canada emerging from the first wave of the virus, U Sports has made the hard but logical decision to cancel first-term competitions for the 2020/21 season, which includes six national championships.

The call didn't come without controversy. U Sports does not allow athletes to play past the age cap of 24, which results in some players facing a loss of eligibility before play resumes.

It's pushed some athletes to look elsewhere, a notable example being former University of Calgary Dino Deane Leonard, who's signed on to play American college football at the University of Mississippi in the fall.

And that's if there even is a football season this year at Ole Miss. Last month, the school announced that it did intend on still having full crowds for the upcoming football season despite other conferences of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) — U Sports' American counterpart — scrambling for a solution.

Ole Miss and countless other schools across the NCAA's major conferences have since walked back plans to facilitate sports in the fall. For a country

where college campuses feature 80,000-seat football stadiums and basketball arenas that make Rogers Arena look small, the lack of fall sports is going to be noticeable.

If university sports return, things are going to look very different.

Both U Sports and the NCAA were and are due for major changes even without COVID-19.

U Sports rebranded itself to its current form four years ago, dropping "Canadian Interuniversity Sport" for something both easier to remember and bilingual.

With the rebrand came the hunt for more corporate sponsorship and even television deals for national championship coverage with CBC Sports, a reliable, accessible alternative to the expensive, pay-per-view U Sports TV.

But U Sports is never going to be as big as the NCAA, not even on a proportional scale.

Spanning 3 divisions and over 1,200 member schools, the NCAA is a billion-dollar business even before counting major events like the football championships or March Madness.

A full or partial NCAA scholarship can cover tuition, fees, food, board and course-related books — hence, the reference to NCAA scholarships being a 'full ride.' U Sports scholarships only cover the student's exact amount of tuition and student fees, and they cannot cover any costs related to housing or other living expenses.

The biggest argument around American collegiate play going into 2020 surrounded the strict amateur rules for NCAA athletes. Legislation allowing NCAA

athletes to receive compensation for their name and likeness comes down to the state level, and Florida became the first state to allow athletes to receive payment for their "name, image and likeness" starting in July 2021.

U Sports athletes are already able to sign sponsorship deals, though Canadian university sponsorships are not nearly as lucrative as professional athletes' deals — a local example being UBC's own Emily Overholt and Markus Thormeyer, who are signed to and endorsed by swimwear giant Speedo.

While we could look at the financial statistics or regulatory differences when comparing different leagues like U Sports and the NCAA, an often-overlooked source are the student-athletes themselves. This is especially true for UBC, where only a few Thunderbirds have played on both sides of the border.

For former women's field hockey player Abby MacLellan, playing at Boston's Northeastern University was another world compared to Thunderbirds.

"[At Northeastern] you're treated almost like a professional athlete and you're just taken all over the place. But, with that too, there's obviously that expectation to perform," said MacLellan.

"They pay for your tuition, your books, your housing. You get [a] weekly allowance, like spending money ... You basically get everything you could ever need," MacLellan added, since the Prince Edward Island-born athlete attended Northeastern on a full ride scholarship.

When MacLellan was part of the UBC Thunderbirds, she won two national championships

while embracing the ability to explore new avenues academically. "Being at UBC, I'm a student and I'm also an athlete. I wear both of those hats and school is highly prioritized," MacLellan said.

"[At Northeastern] they want you to do well in [academics] as well, but sports are more prioritized. So I find I was missing more school with Northeastern 'cause we'd be travelling all the time ... there'd be a lot less time that I could dedicate to academics because of the intense schedule," MacLellan added.

For retired rower and former UBC student Joel Barrette, the experience was similar.

Barrette signed to row for the University of California, Berkeley Golden Bears. While at Berkeley, Barrette enrolled in the school's electrical engineering and computer science program.

While the school did provide Barrette with tutoring and counselling services, there was always a lingering feeling that he should have stuck to an easier program and focused more on athletics.

"The thing that kind of stuck with that was I'd go there and they were, basically the entire time, trying to force me to change my major," Barrette explained. "I would say it's physically impossible to get an electrical engineering degree there as well as row with the rowing team ... There's not enough time in the day."

He was not struggling with academics during his freshman year due to a career-ending lower back injury.

"I basically was pretty [active] in physio all the time, but a lot of

that was just heat and painkillers. I would get stuff done, but ... I wouldn't say that it was getting fixed," Barrette explained.

The injury eventually led Barrette to retire from the sport and leave Berkeley for UBC as, without his scholarship, staying at Berkeley would have meant paying US\$55,000 a year in tuition alone.

In her first game as a T-Bird, MacLellan suffered a serious facial injury which caused her to miss the season. Looking back at it, it's something she's glad happened at UBC and not Northeastern.

"For me to be injured [at UBC], that [didn't] mean that my academics [had] to stop. Whereas if I had been injured at Northeastern, because the contracts are renewable each year, there could have been a chance that they would have not renewed my contract and [I] would have lost my scholarship and I wouldn't have been able to finish my degree."

By now, there's a well-established idea that the levels of intensity and academic importance exist on completely different levels between U Sports and the NCAA. Choosing to play south of the border doesn't guarantee a path of success, but choosing Canada also doesn't necessarily mean an immediate hurdle.

It's a big reason why graduating standout point guard Jadon Cohee came home after time spent at Seattle University and Southern Utah, joining UBC in 2018 instead of finishing off his NCAA career at premier programs like those in Oregon, Louisville or Xavier.

"I feel like if you're a top-level player in U Sports, you have a good chance of going professional. That's the reason I came home — because I saw top guys at the U Sports level getting good [professional] contracts, oftentimes getting better contracts than a major player at the [NCAA] division one level," Cohee explained.

Cohee's former teammate Conor Morgan confirms this, having gone professional in Spain while still maintaining a regular presence on the Canadian national team, despite the growing number of NBA talent on the roster.

Experiences and results will differ on an individual basis, but it doesn't take much to see that U Sports and the NCAA are two very different leagues with different philosophies surrounding athletics and academics.

Whether it's U Sports trying to maintain similar, or at least proportional, footing to the NCAA in Canada or its counterpart trying to navigate the idea of having to let its amateur athletes claim a rightfully deserved piece of the billion-dollar pie, both leagues are going to come out of this pandemic and season looking very different from each other. 

CONDOLENCES //

Remembering former T-Birds running back Kory Nagata



"He put himself before others."

FILE SALOMON MICKO BENRIMOH

Diana Hong
Sports Editor

Twenty-four-year-old Kory Nagata died in Richmond on Sunday, July 5 after attempting to retrieve a football from the Fraser River.

Nagata made an impact on UBC from 2016 to 2020 with many of his friends and teammates remembering him as a kind person with an infectious smile.

Nagata played three seasons for the T-Birds, from 2016 to 2018. During his third season, he suffered from a broken foot and was not able to return to play even with a year of recovery, meaning his early retirement from football.

Despite that, Nagata still achieved the Governor General's Academic All-Canadian Commendation in his final season. He graduated from the Sauder School of Business.

"Kory was an exceptional young man who touched the lives of so many people around him. His loss will be felt deeply by all members of the Thunderbirds community," reads a UBC Athletics statement.

'A GREAT PERSON ON AND OFF THE FIELD'

Nagata made a considerable impact on the lives of his friends and teammates.

T-Birds receiver Liam Wishart played two seasons with Nagata at UBC. They also played junior football together with the Okanagan Sun.

"There's so much to say about Kory. I cannot express enough the quality ... guy that Kory was," said Wishart.

"Kory had such a positive impact on everybody that he knew and everybody that he met. I am so blessed to ever have gotten the opportunity to meet him, to get to know him, to be his friend. He will forever influence me and he did so much, especially when we were younger."

Former T-Birds receiver Trivel Pinto called Nagata the "nicest person I've ever met."

"[He was] always positive and his smile was infectious. A great person on and off the field who uplifted those around him with his presence alone," said Pinto. "He may not be with us physically but he will live on forever in our hearts."

A friend of former T-Birds basketball player Jadon Cohee introduced him to Nagata and they became good friends.

"The best way I could describe Kory was [that] his personality just lit up the room. He made everyone else happy and always made sure everyone was enjoying themselves and having a good time," said Cohee.

"He put himself before others and everybody I know that knew him, loved him. You can't say that about most people."

Additionally, T-Birds linebacker Lake Korte-Moore shared few words about Nagata in a tweet, saying: "He was truly an inspiration to everyone he met and a true role model of the student athlete we all [aspire] to be!"

SAFE COMMUNITY //

TAC raises money to support Black Health Alliance

Diana Hong
Sports Editor

The Thunderbird Athletes Council (TAC) has raised a total of \$1,793 as part of a fundraising initiative for the Black Health Alliance.

TAC created a fundraiser for the Black Health Alliance through Facebook, aiming to raise \$1,000.

"The Black Lives Matter movement has my own and the TAC's full support ... The TAC will continuously advance our efforts to strive for racial equality," said TAC VP Internal Logan Carver, who has been involved with TAC's fundraising initiative for the Black Health Alliance and is part of UBC men's golf.

"Furthermore, I would like to reiterate that this movement is for racial justice for everyone. The TAC recognizes the intersections within this movement and understand that freedom can only be reached when everyone is equal," said Carver in an email to *The Ubyyssey*.

"Initially we had a hard time setting a realistic goal and an estimate on how long it will take us to get there. We were pleasantly surprised to see so many people within the Thunderbird community fundraise within their own merits, without much

pleading and advertising," said Carver.

The Black Health Alliance is a charity that focuses on social determinants of health, health inequities, anti-Black racism and building connected communities. Carver mentioned that TAC recognizes the privilege to be in a position to take action to help others.

"After discussing with [UBC] athletics we decided that the Black Health Alliance was doing important work to address racial health disparities specifically in Canada ... This charity fights to limit the disparity of basic health and well-being standards," said Carver.

Along with this fundraiser, Carver added that TAC will be presenting diversity and anti-racism training for athletes as well as for TAC executives.

"We would like to connect with Black, Indigenous and other minority groups on campus to talk about ways our student-athlete community can aid and assist them in any way," said Carver.

Carver says no athletes have brought up their experiences with racism to TAC so far, while acknowledging how they may feel uncomfortable voicing their experiences.

"We want to change that. We are in the midst of discussing the best practices on how to get more opinions from our student athletes and community," said Carver.

"For example, we are looking

into an anonymous survey to learn more about student-athletes' experience with racism and if there are other actions they would like to see from us and the athletics department. We will take all anonymous replies

extremely seriously."

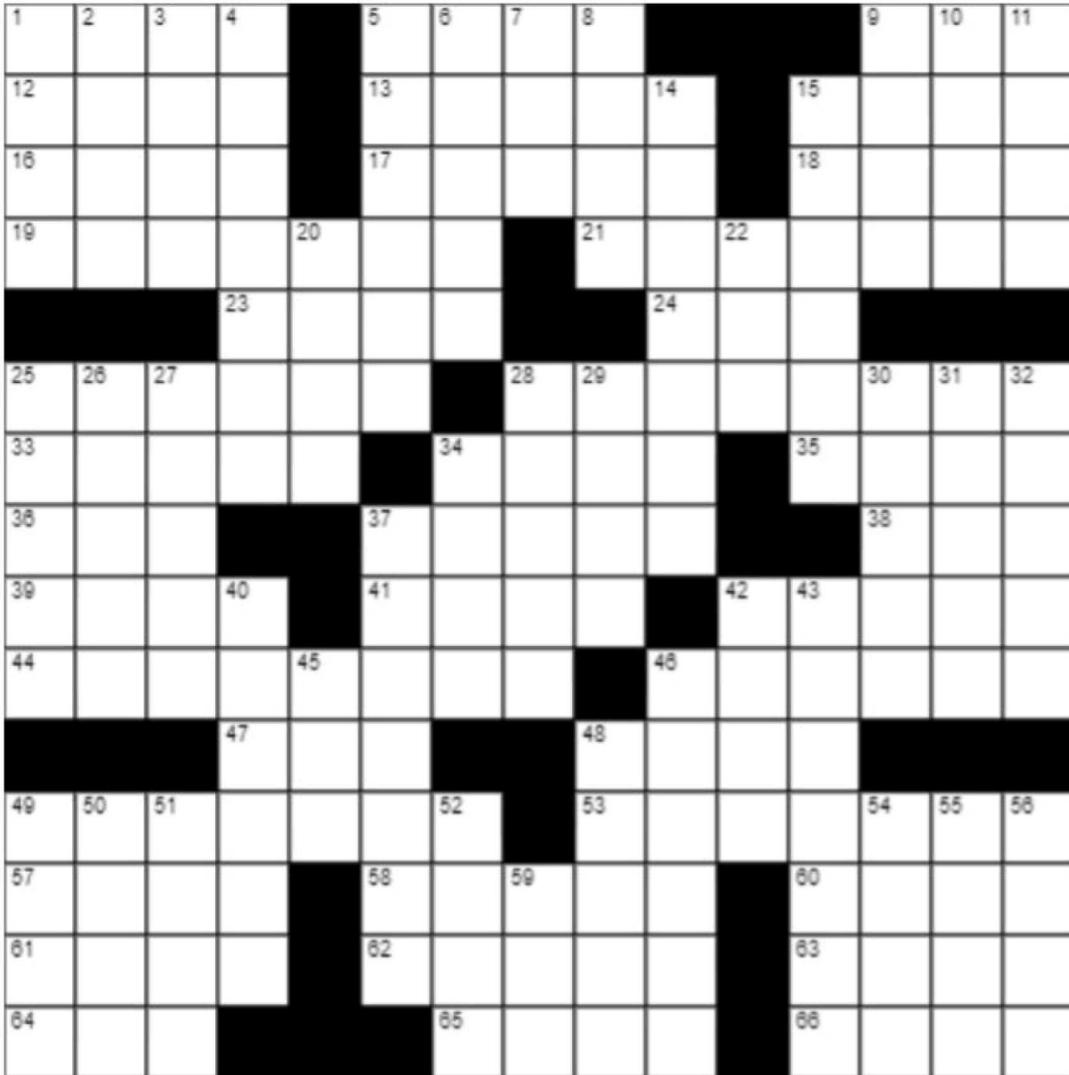
Carver said that the TAC is open to hearing different perspectives and ideas.

"We want the TAC committee and the school to be a safe space for all."



"We would like to connect with Black, Indigenous, and other minority groups on campus to talk about ways our student-athlete community can aid and assist them in any way."

FILE SALOMON MICKO BENRIMOH



COURTESY BESTCROSSWORDS.COM

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1. First name in spydom
- 5. Invites
- 9. St. Louis griddle
- 12. King of comedy
- 13. Iota preceeder
- 15. Defense grp. since 1949
- 16. Bits of thread
- 17. Counterfeit
- 18. Capital of Norway
- 19. Constrain
- 21. Winter wind
- 23. Wine choice
- 24. Ballroom dance, when doubled
- 25. Disclose
- 28. Precedence
- 33. Stand-in
- 34. Greek goddess of the earth
- 35. Long ago
- 36. Capp and Capone
- 37. Knobby
- 38. Took the gold
- 39. Highly ranked competitor in sporting events
- 41. Clanton foe
- 42. Make fit
- 44. Sing for
- 46. Eye membrane
- 47. Feline
- 48. ___ avail
- 49. One on the run
- 53. Sterile
- 57. Phooey!
- 58. Square one
- 60. The last Mrs. Chaplin
- 61. Skeptic's scoff
- 62. Bottom line
- 63. "Trinity" author
- 64. Driving aid
- 65. Prying
- 66. Carry

DOWN

- 1. Germinated grain used in brewing
- 2. Et ___ (and other men)
- 3. Strong taste
- 4. Infectious disease of cattle
- 5. Optimally
- 6. Excelled
- 7. Small cask
- 8. Astound
- 9. Like some decisions
- 10. Salt tree
- 11. Heath
- 14. Reclusive
- 15. ___ public
- 20. Member of the Conservative Party
- 22. 17th letter of the Greek alphabet
- 25. Bridge declaration
- 26. 1957 hit for the Bobbettes
- 27. Difficult question
- 28. Military chaplain
- 29. Get as a result
- 30. Herbert Hoover, for one
- 31. Literary device
- 32. Gossipmonger
- 34. Incite
- 37. Most tidy
- 40. Pour from one container to another
- 42. Outstanding
- 43. Student who withdraws
- 45. Doze
- 46. Expensive
- 48. Gogol's "___ Bulba"
- 49. Prepare a book or film for release
- 50. Kemo ___
- 51. Canadian tribe
- 52. Harrow rival
- 54. Mower brand
- 55. Monogram ltr.
- 56. Matter for Holmes
- 59. From ___ Z

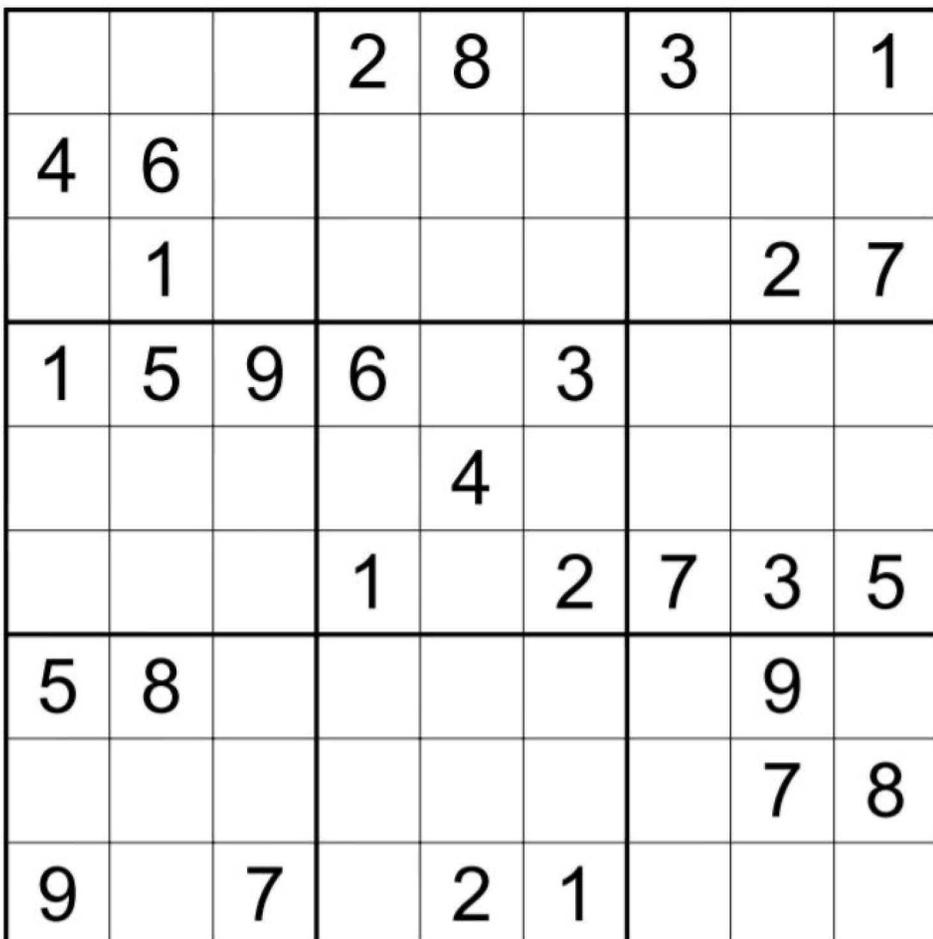


did you know that . . .

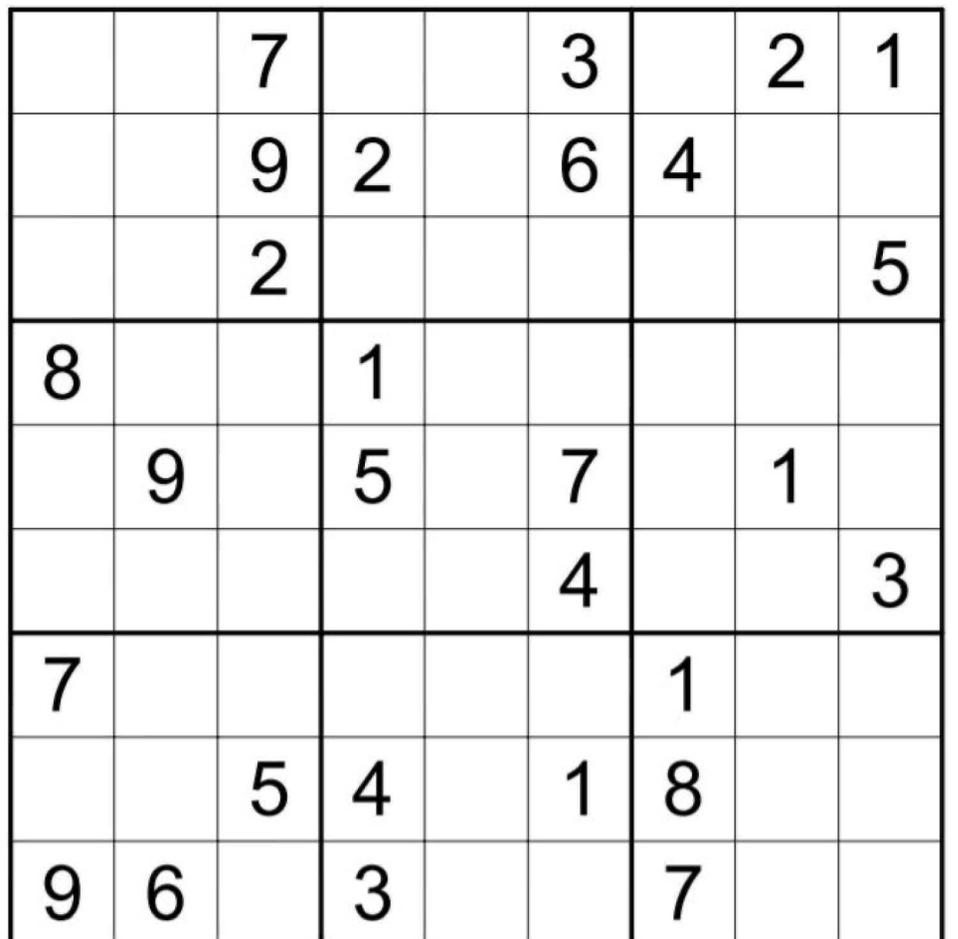
Elephant garlic is not a true garlic and is more closely related to leeks than to garlic.

— Sam S.

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



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