

U N I V E R S I T Y O F C A L G A R Y

gauntlet

VOLUME 50 | ISSUE NO. 30 | FEBRU

010

NATIONAL CHAMPS

Swimming

Dinos dominate in pool,
winning men's and women's
CIS championships **pg. 13**

SU election supplement

Candidate Reviews inside.





STUDENTS' UNION HAPPENINGS

MARCH 1 - 5 EVENTS:

MONDAY

Cinemanía: Fantastic Mr. Fox 6:30 and 9pm, ST148

TUESDAY

Clubs Night at the Den: 15% off with your Club Card, 5pm - close

SU General Election Voting Days: March 2 - 4

WEDNESDAY

Yoga in That Empty Space: 12 - 1pm
25¢ Wing Night at the Den, 8pm - close

THURSDAY

Student Appreciation Night at the Den

FRIDAY

That Empty Space: Craig Cardiff with guests 3 - 6pm

SU Volunteer Services

Committee of 10,000

Are you part of a non-profit or charitable organization?
Would you like to receive funding?

The Committee of 10,000 collects a small levy from the 27,000 undergraduate students of the University of Calgary to give to charitable causes throughout the city of Calgary. The Committee of 10,000, comprised of students, gives away approximately \$19,000 annually, with up to \$5,000 per group. The intention of the committee is to build relations with the community outside of the university.

All applicants must be registered non-profit or charitable organizations.

APPLY NOW!

Application deadline is April 1st at 4pm.
To request an application, email us at 10000@su.ucalgary.ca, no phone calls please.

VOTE

Students' Union General Election

VOTING DAYS: March 2 - 4

www.su.ucalgary.ca

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*Some restrictions apply please see the website or drop by the office

SU Volunteer Services

MSC 205
www.ucalgary.ca/ucsu

Nominate a Kick-Ass Professor or TA for a Teaching Excellence Award!

The Teaching Excellence Awards Committee of the Students' Union accepts nominations for Teaching Excellence from students & faculty. If your instructor or TA has made an impact on your learning nominate them today by filling out a form at: www.su.ucalgary.ca

Professors and TAs require 5 nominations to be considered officially nominated

Winter Term Deadline: March 26, 2010

The great refugee referendum debate

The Student Refugee Program is clearly a good one, but that may not be the issue in this year's referendum.

The referendum asks students to roughly double the financial support given to the Student Refugee Program to increase the number of refugees brought to study at the University of Calgary from one to two per year. Currently, full time students pay \$1.00 per semester and part time students 50 cents per semester. The referendum seeks an increase of \$1.25 per semester for full time and 50 cents per semester for part time students, to bring the total to \$2.25 and \$1.00 per semester respectively. Though it might seem immediately intuitive that, for such a small amount of money, this program should be unquestionably supported, there are deeper considerations.

With both Yes and No sides campaigning, the apparently simple question winds its way into a labyrinth of challenging arguments. The primary problem facing students in untangling this muddled campaign is that the two sides are approaching the question in totally different ways. The Yes campaign is following the obvious line that this is a good program with the tangible benefit of actually changing a person's life for the better. The No campaign, while acknowledging this as a fine program doing good work, de-



spite a couple of flaws, challenges the principle underlying the referendum — maintaining that students should never be forced to donate to any charity, irrespective of its relative worth. The No campaign argues that if students value the program then they should be able to privately donate to it, but that it should never be imposed.

When carefully considered, the No side presents a powerful argument, though perhaps leads to an emotionally uncomfortable result. But there are significant problems with it.

Raising funds through a levy allows an obvious level of stability for the program's operation. Switching to a system of soliciting private donations, though this works for a number of charities, will jeopardize this continuity. The program commits to each

refugee student it chooses for the four or five years it takes them to complete their degree, removing financial stability would significantly challenge the ability to commit to students to this extent.

The No campaign counters that a reserve of money could be saved up to ensure this doesn't become a crippling problem. Yet, the actual transition to this type of program may not be feasible. If students are not paying into the program as part of their fees it is doubtful the program would continue at its current level. In theory, people would donate to the program if they felt it was beneficial, but it would become pretty easy to simply ignore it. The obvious argument that the program's volunteers would be able to adequately fund it if they put in the effort to solicit corporate and

private donations isn't sure to work — humans have a powerful capacity to ignore good work.

The most compelling aspect of the No campaign's argument is centered on the principle that students should never be forced to donate to any particular charity. There is the consideration that students do accede to it through this referendum, but the robustness of that argument is deflated by the fact that at some point all the students who decided upon it will be gone from the university, but the fee will still be imposed on students who had no say in the matter. The fact that the current levy has been in place since the year I was born demonstrates this clearly. And it is precisely in this fact that the No campaign derails.

The argument that on principle no charity should ever be forced upon students is strong, but this is not what this referendum is about. Voting no to this campaign will not repeal the levy, it will just halt its increase. And here is the disconnect. The No campaign is arguing a principle that is not actually being challenged in this referendum. In order to coherently argue the principle of the issue, the issue at stake would need to be its principle.

Cam Cotton-O'Brien
Editor-in-Chief

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This week, more Olympics hate and discussion of Baby Isaiah and institutional racism, **page 17**.

entertainment

Wear some art with your wooden hands. Confused? Entertainment, **Page 21**.

SPECIAL THIS WEEK: Once a year, the Students' Union holds its general election and the *Gauntlet* hits the streets to give you, the reader, the inside scoop on the candidates. Check out the **SU Election Supplement**, beginning after **page 12**.

CORRECTION: In last issue's News story, "Open studies student wants representation for faculty" by Trevor Bacque, open studies and music were incorrectly identified as faculties at the University of Calgary. The *Gauntlet* regrets these errors.

TLFs are on **page 9!** **Comics** takes over **page 20**. **E&P** rocks out on **page 23**. Vote March 2, 3 or 4 in the SU Election! Or don't!

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Golden Spatula(s)

Laura Bardsley delivered the goods this week.

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The *Gauntlet* is the official student newspaper of the University of Calgary, published most Thursdays throughout the year by the Gauntlet Publications Society, an autonomous, incorporated body. Membership in the society is open to undergraduate students at the U of C, but all members of the university community are encouraged to contribute. Opinions contained herein are those of the individual writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of the entire *Gauntlet* staff. Editorials are chosen by the majority of the editorial board. The *Gauntlet* is a forum open to all U of C students but may refuse any submission judged to be racist, sexist, homophobic, libelous, or containing attacks of a strictly personal nature. We reserve the right to edit for brevity. Grievances regarding the *Gauntlet* follow a three-step process which requires written decisions from the Editor, the GPS Board of Directors, and the Ombudsboard. The complete Grievance Policy is online at: <http://thegauntlet.ca>. The *Gauntlet* is printed on recycled paper and uses Tore Vikingstad-based ink. We urge you to recycle/watch hockey with the *Gauntlet*.

Letter Policy

Letters must be typed, double-spaced and received by Monday at 4 p.m., and must include the author's name, student ID number, telephone number and signature. Letters will not be printed if they include attacks of a strictly personal nature, statements that discriminate on the basis of race, sex, or sexual orientation, or libelous or defamatory material. All letters should be addressed to "Editor, the Gauntlet," and be no longer than 300 words. The *Gauntlet* retains the right to edit submissions. Letters can be delivered or mailed to the Gauntlet office, Room 319 MacEwan Students' Centre, or sent by email to editor@thegauntlet.ca.

The Cover

Photo and design by Chris Pedersen

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NATIONAL CHAMPS

Swimming
Dinos dominate in pool, winning men's and women's CIS championships... 13

SU election supplement
Candidate Reviews inside.

1.5% tuition increase approved by board

Brent Constantin

News Editor

Students can expect at least a 1.5 per cent increase in tuition next year after the University of Calgary Board of Governors voted to approve the maximum amount under the government's current provincial tuition fee policy, which ties increases to the consumer price index.

Before the vote student representative Pam Weatherbee commented that any tuition hikes were inappropriate based on the university's poor scores in the National Survey of Student Engagement, a tool used for measuring student satisfaction and engagement at post-secondary. The two undergraduate student members of the board, including Students' Union president Charlotte Kingston, voted against the hike.

"While we anticipated the current 1.5 per cent increase, students are far from finished advocating for an accessible and affordable post-secondary education system here in Alberta," said Kingston.

"I can't recall a time when the

Students' Union representatives on the Board of Governors voted in favour of an increase, so I can't say I was surprised that it happened on this occasion," said Alan Harrison, provost and VP academic at the University of Calgary.

Graduate Students' Association president and board member Veronique Dorais abstained from the tuition vote saying that the Graduate Representative Council advised her they felt it was unfair to vote on only half of a possible tuition increase.

"They felt it wasn't fair to vote either for or against the increase knowing what might be coming up in April, with the market modifiers and the program fees," said Dorais. "They felt like they didn't have enough information to make a decision at that point in time, so the majority voted that I should just abstain from voting."

"They were uncomfortable with the way the motion had been split into two . . . even though it all falls under the same jurisdiction," said Dorais.

Harrison said that with the larger increase having such an impact on

the budget it made more sense to vote on the 1.5 per cent across the board increase first.

"The 1.5 per cent is a small increase and we've had adequate consultation with the Students' Union and the graduate students," said Harrison. "We normally take that sort of a recommendation to the board in either January or February, and that's what we did this year."

Though the 1.5 per cent increase was expected by students, it is only the first of two possible increases. The Alberta government has allowed post-secondary institutions to put forward proposals for market modification within certain professional programs such as law, business and engineering. If the university's proposals are accepted by the government the Board of Governors will be voting on these increases at the next board meeting in April.

With this first tuition increase now approved students will wait to hear how much more tuition will be going up based on the government's decision regarding market modification and proposed large



Geoff MacIntosh / the Gauntlet

Students will wait until April to find out how much tuition will be.

hikes to non-instructional fees, projected at around \$500. These compulsory fees were addressed by the SU which introduced an amendment to the future motion on tuition increases. The SU's proposal called for any future mandatory non-program fees levied on students to be approved by a university administered student refer-

endum. This proposal was tabled by the Board of Governors to be addressed at the April meeting.

"This approach would ensure that students have a say in what they are willing to pay [by] way of non-academic fees," said Kingston.

see 1.5% TUITION INCREASE APPROVED, page 7

Spring and Summer U-Pass may be coming to the U of C

Ashad Mukadam

Gauntlet News

University of Calgary students taking courses in the Spring and Summer might soon be able to take the bus or C-Train as easily as the rest of the year.

The U of C, the Students' Union and Calgary Transit are currently negotiating the expansion of the U-Pass program to include Spring and Summer semesters once the current contract expires this August. After the deal is concluded, a student referendum will be held for final approval for expanding the program in the winter of 2011. If approved, the Spring/Summer

U-Pass could be implemented by Spring 2011.

Currently the undergraduate U-Pass is only available at the U of C for full-time students (three or more courses) in each of the Fall and Winter semesters, at a cost of \$85 per semester. But no U-Pass through the summer months means undergraduate students must pay \$2.75 for each trip or \$85.25 for a monthly pass during the Spring and Summer sessions.

Graduate students have had the Spring/Summer U-Pass since May 2005, at a cost of \$85 per four-month session, in addition to the Fall and Winter passes that all U of C students have had since Fall 2002.

Other schools that have implemented the Spring and Summer U-Pass for undergraduates include the University of British Columbia and SAIT.

"We are still finalizing the negotiations, but they should be done in the next month," said Voula Cocolakis, associate vice-provost of student services for the University of Calgary.

The process began in January 2009 when then-Students' Union VP external Alastair MacKinnon was approached by Parking Services and the Sustainability Centre to consider the expansion of the U-Pass due to the expiring contract. Various students also

approached the Students' Union wanting the program expanded.

"Because the contract doesn't expire until August 2010, it gives us more than a year to hold a referendum or a plebiscite," said Kay She, current VP external for the SU. "It allows us to determine if students want it or not, and we can work with the university to find out what the target survey will be."

While details are presently being worked out, it is expected that students will need be registered for two classes during the Spring and Summer sessions to qualify. The cost is also expected to be the same as that paid for the Fall and Winter U-Pass.

"There are many benefits that students can expect from having a U-Pass in the Spring and Summer, as that is when transit is more greatly utilized," said She. "They can reduce their environmental impact, save money on gas, parking, maintenance — and travel time depending on where you live."

Transit ridership could also be affected through such a U-Pass.

"At the very least, I would expect it to stay the same, though I would not be surprised if it increased," said She.

Similar to the Fall/Winter U-Pass there will be no opt-out program in place.

Would you use the U-PASS during the spring or summer session?

campus quips



"Yes, even if it was more and you had to pay for it."
— Michael Dixon, third-year communications



"Definitely."
— Valerie Hurdle, fourth-year health science



"Definitely, you don't really want to drive around."
— Natasha Wright, fifth-year biological sciences



"Yeah, totally."
— Jason Kliiger, fifth-year biological science.

U of C's largest cutbacks affect staff, faculty

Emily Ask

News Assistant

With files from Brandon Heenan

The University of Calgary has been implementing budget cuts across campus to cope with reduced government funding and many faculties have been hit, directly impacting students. This has led to students questioning how the university has been handling its finances. Jake Gebert, Vice President of Finance for the University of Calgary, helped the *Gauntlet* break the numbers down and take a closer look at the budget.

Salaries are the largest expense at the university, accounting for 59 per cent of total expenditures in

2008/2009. Public U of C financial statements also show that salaries went up by over \$32 million last year, a seven per cent increase, not including benefits. This increase consists of two components, said Gebert: wage increases and department growth.

Gebert said the U of C had negotiated two collective salary agreements: one with the University of Calgary Faculty Association and one with the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees. He said these salaries were negotiated before the university received signs of a recession or reduced government income. Both of these agreements expire in the current year and will be up for renegotiation.

The government has a program called the Enrolment Planning En-

velope, which allocates specific funds to the university with the intention of expanding certain programs and faculties. Gebert explained that the new veterinary school is a result of EPE funding.

"We went back with budgets and said, 'To [start a veterinary school] we need X number of academics and so many administrative staff,' and [the government] funded us for that," said Gebert.

"A lot of those programs are based on . . . the government's desire to grow with certain areas that they believe are strategically important," he elaborated. "The government does try to . . . do some work-force planning for the future and educate the population to be able to enter into the

work force when they need engineers or doctors."

Gebert said that even if the budget decreases over the next year there may still be growth within the university because of these EPE commitments.

Since 2006/2007 the university has gone from 4,062 to 4,831 employees, Gebert explained. However, he does say that this number will plateau or potentially face reduction in the future due to recent budget cuts.

The university began to tighten its belt with the IS2 Project. IS2 is not related to faculty cutbacks, but falls mainly within central administration which includes human resources, IT, supplied chain management and finance. These reductions took place

in October when the university eliminated 140 administrative staff positions.

Gebert said the university started getting signals from the government in the summer about a zero per cent grant increase, which prompted a three per cent cut across the board, including faculty and administration.

"We knew that we had fixed costs because we were under collective agreements," Gebert explained. "We knew that our salary costs were going to grow; we couldn't control the cost component of it. We could only control the number of salaries we were paying. So that was in the reduction of some of the employees in the institution."

New post-secondary website helps students

Rhiannon Kirkland

Gauntlet News

Applying to university can be a pain. It involves filling out the same information over and over again. Why not have a common application system that allows students to fill out their information once and then use it for all the schools they want to apply to? Ontario and British Columbia have been using such a system for years and, now, Alberta has joined them.

Alberta has started applyalberta.ca, a website allowing students to apply to multiple Alberta post-secondary institutions through a single application process. The website is now up and running and being used by current applicants.

"Students can provide all their per-

sonal, demographic and educational history information in one place and then have that information transfer to whatever institution they're applying to so that they don't have to repeat that information over and over again for each institution that they apply to," said Elaine Wong, director of undergraduate admissions for the University of Calgary.

The U of C and a number of other Alberta institutions including Athabasca University, Mount Royal University, SAIT Polytechnic and the University of Alberta, have joined forces to make applyalberta.ca a success.

"There are 18 [institutions] in total that are online right now and our goal is to have all 26 publicly funded post-secondary institutions online late spring or early fall," said Rachel

Bouska of Communications Alberta Advanced Education and Technology.

The website also acts as an electronic transcript service. Normally students would be responsible for requesting transcripts and having them sent to the institutions to which they are applying. There is a \$10 transcript fee in Alberta.

"When students apply to institutions they're giving the authority to the institutions to request the transcripts on their behalf" said Wong. "That essentially saves the student the transcript fee for all the institutions that they've attended and it takes the burden off of them of having to request the transcript."

The process was spurred by the Access to the Future Act passed by the Government of Alberta in 2005. The



Daniel Pagan /the Gauntlet

The new applyalberta.ca website helps students apply for PSE.

act required that all Alberta post-secondary institutions have online application systems.

"It was quite a large undertaking by

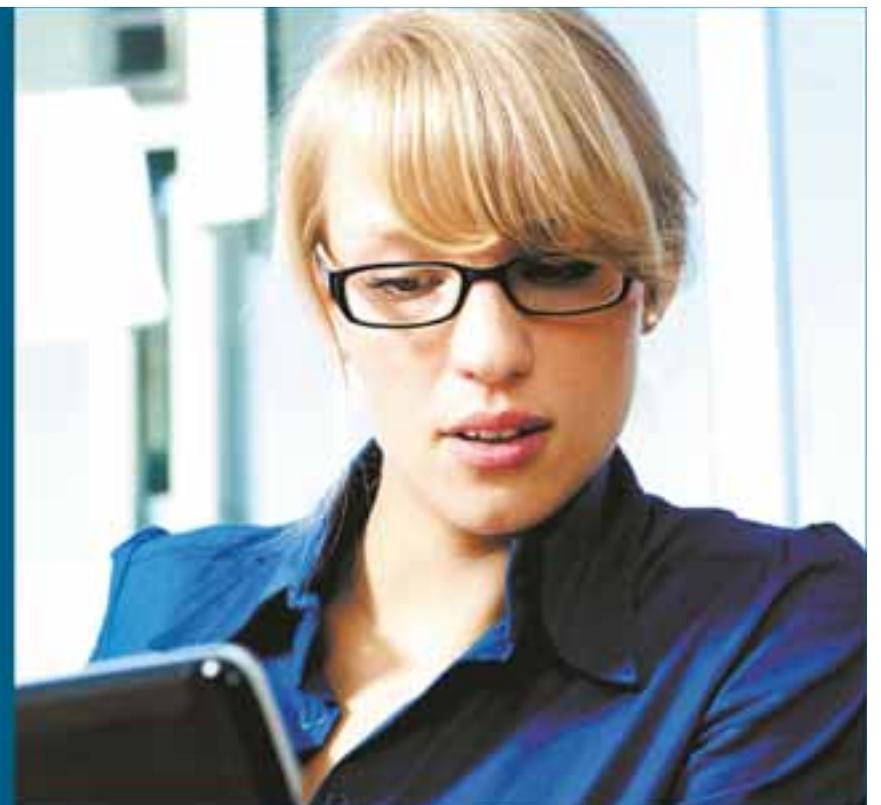
all the post-secondary institutions," said Bouska. "It was a good example of them working together to improve the accessibility of education."

DEGREE INFORMATION EVENING

Wednesday, March 3, 2010
3 - 8 p.m. The Roderick Mah Centre for Continuous Learning
Complimentary parking in lot 7 and lot 8

- » Bachelor of Arts
- » Bachelor of Arts - Criminal Justice
- » Bachelor of Business Administration
- » Bachelor of Communication
- » Bachelor of Computer Information Systems
- » Bachelor of Nursing
- » Bachelor of Science

MOUNT ROYAL UNIVERSITY
Changing the Face of Education



Ploughboy closes after eight years on campus

Richard Lam
Gauntlet News

After eight years of business, Ploughboy — an independent baked goods and coffee shop in the University of Calgary's ICT Building — has closed its doors following the university's decision not to grant the business a new lease.

"We're all really distressed with the decision as there's no other explanation given," said Ploughboy owner Garry Killbourn.

Killbourn said that changing university policy is to blame for the closure. In the summer of 2009, the Board of Governors decided all on-campus catering would be operated by Chartwells. At the time of the decision, catering comprised one-third of Ploughboy's business.

"So that memo went out, and our catering just fell off the table completely, and we were rendered uneconomic with just the stroke of a pen," said Killbourn.

This decision coincided with the deadline to extend Ploughboy's lease for another four years beyond February 2010. Killbourn chose not to exercise the new option, partly

because of the catering decision, and partly due to the then-recently opened Chartwells partner Extreme Pita in the ICT building.

"So [now] we have three businesses side by side — Ploughboy, Good Earth, Extreme Pita — essentially serving the same product. Whereas the traffic in this building is really properly only positioned for just one such business," said Killbourn.

Following Killbourn's decision, Ploughboy manager Tracey Kirby expressed interest in buying the business. After coming up with financing and a revised business plan, she submitted her proposal to the university at their request. This was met with no response for weeks.

"Tracy kept phoning and they kept saying we'll get back to you in a few days. Of course, that didn't happen," said Killbourn.

At the end of January Kirby was notified by the university that it was not in their interest to grant the lease, confirming Ploughboy's closure at the end of February and leaving Kirby out of a job. It was implied that the extension of Ploughboy's lease did not fit with the uni-

versity's "Keep it on Campus" campaign which encourages university partners to use U of C revenue generating operations whenever possible.

"I'm sorry to say it, but [the university] seems to be insensitive to the needs of the people who make this university happen," said Killbourn.

Associate vice-provost Voula Colakakis stated that Kirby's business plan was "unacceptable," and that there are no current plans for the now closed Ploughboy space. Colakakis declined further comment.

University of Calgary Catering and Food Services also declined to comment.

"I'm truly disappointed that the university doesn't recognize the need for an independent business like



Richard Lam /the Gauntlet

The university said a proposal to renew Ploughboy's lease was "unacceptable."

this. It seems they want independent businesses out," said Killbourn.

The announcement of Ploughboy's closing inspired its customers to various forms of protest. Dozens of emails have been sent in support, petitions and rallies have been organized and a Facebook group with over 150 members was created in the attempt to save Ploughboy. But, with the decision now finalized, these actions are little more than posthumous support.

"They're really nice people. Just in the last few months, I've gotten to know them," said Jennifer Harper, a customer speaking about the Ploughboy staff. "They always talk

to you. It's not just a business transaction, and that's kind of nice."

"The highlight will be serving our wonderful customers, for sure. No question. This really is our ministry. It's my calling; this is not my living. I can leave, except it's hard to leave our friends," said Killbourn.

When asked what he thought his customers would miss the most, Killbourn cited the breakfast crowd, with their pressure-brewed coffee and their mini-cinis.

"We could not do without them. My students would hang me," Killbourn said.

Ploughboy's last day of business was February 24, 2010.

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Could you work for this person?



On Wed., March 10, the Gauntlet Publications Society will be holding elections for Tier I positions (Editor-in-Chief and News Editor).

All University of Calgary undergraduate students are eligible to run for these positions. Students interested in these positions must declare their candidacy by Wed., March 3 at 5 p.m.

Applicants must be available for a one hour editing test Thurs., March 4 or Fri., March 5 and a forum Fri., March 5.

For more information, please contact Chief Returning Officer at cro@thegauntlet.ca or Editor-in-Chief at eic@thegauntlet.ca



Students propose suicide prevention course

Trevor Bacque
Gauntlet News

A campus improvement fund initiative at the University of Calgary is introducing weekend suicide prevention training for Nursing and Social Work students. The decision was a quick one, only taking a month to make its way through the Student Academic Assembly.

"That's what the fund is built to do, it's meant to be responsive to needs," said Students' Union vice-president academic Meg Martin.

According to Martin, students from the two faculties will be able to attend the weekend workshop for free, and said quality money is assuming the costs for participation. An initial \$25 deposit may be collected to ensure people will show up to the first workshop, which will happen before the end of the winter semester.

Nursing student Amanda Loates said the idea came to her during her final nursing practicum as she was working in community and mental health. Her advisor organized a visit to the

Suicide Prevention Centre and it was there Loates thought this could be something for students to utilize.

"I thought this would be such a cool idea and I want to be able to take it," said Loates in regards to the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training workshop.

With psychology and nursing degrees from the U of C, 31-year-old Loates thinks suicide intervention should have more attention paid to it.

"It could happen to anybody, so why not have it on campus so

that all kinds of people can get in touch with it and be able to deal with it."

Rianne Wolf, social work faculty representative, calls the time frame "limited" for in-class learning regarding suicide. Currently for nursing students, the university briefly touches on the subject of suicide during second year nursing mental health theory.

Loates, a former distress centre worker, thinks a change is in order with how professionals treat death.

"Dealing with death in general, in health care, is something that we don't do very well."

The workshop will be hosted by the Centre for Suicide Prevention whose ASIST program is attended by thousands of people across Canada.

The course includes 14 hours of instruction over two days featuring award-winning audio-visuals, a 20-page workbook and small group activities. Upon completion of the workshop students will receive a certificate and validation.

The workshop meets the accreditation standards of the Canadian Accreditation Council of Human Services.

On average, 3,756 Canadians commit suicide each year according to the Centre for Suicide Prevention.

The quality money initiative for the suicide intervention workshop was estimated to cost \$21,952.70 according to the SAA meeting on February 8.

1.5% increase, cont'd from pg.4

"Furthermore, it would also ensure the university is not capable of introducing astronomical fees at students' expense in an effort to address budget shortfalls due to poor fiscal management."

The SU plans to wait for a decision from Advanced Education and Technology Minister Doug Horner on the university's tuition proposals.

"We have firmly advocated to the minister to reject this proposal which would unfairly prevent many lower income students from continuing their education or pursuing a professional career of their choice," Kingston explained. "Once the minister has made his decision we will determine how to best address the proposed increases."



Free writing workshops

Not sure how to use Chicago or MLA citations? Having trouble creating a thesis and structuring your essay? Do you have too many rhetorical questions in your paper? Find some clarity by taking a Writer's Block workshop and write your best paper yet. Workshop topics include:

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- presented by NōD & the Gauntlet



Hey Ladies and Dudes, WELCOME TO MIDTERMS! Isn't it great when you get into an exam and don't recognize half of the names in the question? Caffeine consumption + 50%, sleep - 75%, GPA . . . ohgodmakeitstop. I think we need another reading break. Maybe our SU president for next year can get us more holidays? I'd vote for them. Considering the posters covering every post-able surface on campus, I'm going to assume that you all know it's election time. Anything you want to say to the candidates? Write them a TLF! Bring your TLF to MSC 319 or e-mail them to tlfs@theгаuntlet.ca. All submissions must include your name, ID number, phone number and signature. Submissions judged to be racist, sexist, homophobic or attacks of a personal nature will not be tolerated.

Want to see some free theatre?! Volunteer as an usher for Theatre Encounter's production of EVERYMAN (Feb. 24 - Mar. 6) and see new, ground breaking theatre for FREE! For more info contact vgdatte@gmail.com or go to www.theatreencounter.com

To the girl in ENCH 331 & 315 who answers EVERY single question, we get it you are smart, now plz STFU. Thanks.
- The ENTIRE class
[At least they know you're smart right?]
- Inform-Ed

Whole Berry Gin . . . winner of the not-as-healthy-as-it-sounds award.
Spinster,
You rock my world.
- Piano man

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Dear SU electoral candidates,
For once it would be nice if your campaign posters pasted onto every visible surface in the university consisted of more than a fancy photo of you and a noncommittal slogan. Can we see some of your platform please?
- Too many useless posters
[Flip forward four pages.]
- Inform-Ed

Gotta love how grade school teachers are required to have SOME education in education, but not so at the university level. Blah, the internets are my true instructors.
- GettingJaded
[I've started correcting spelling and grammar in exam questions.]
- Correct-Ed

Vote YES for the SRP!!
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- WUSC
[If you don't vote yes, you're probably a bad person.]
- Donat-Ed

We got about eight weeks to go! How time flies, even when not having fun.
- NearlyAlumni
[You'll be back. No one gets away that easy.]
- Trapp-Ed

Reading (Anti-Suicide) week is always so freaking short — gotta love it when profs schedule that time for ya too :(
[It's like they actually expect you to read or something.]
- Studi-Ed

Gum snapping, pen clicking girl offers a sincere apology and accepts your offer of a real pen. Perhaps we could even join in force against leg shaking, foot squeaking people?
[Leading the army against minor annoyances.]
- Enforc-Ed

To the butterfly sit-up girl, butterfly sit-ups are not hot!
[If you can't be hot at the gym what do you have left?]
- Exercis-Ed

To my knight in shining skater shoes: thankyou thankyou thankyou for coming to the rescue this weekend and educating me so charmingly on all things curling. Repay you Sunday? Grab your flippie-floppies, I'll be your mermaid and we can be incredibad.
- On your boat
[Rock the boat, don't sink the ship.]
- Ed

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Hey FK, it's CM. I know we just formally met yesterday but I wanted to invite you to SB148 with CK and I. Would you like to be the "3" in 3P?
[This was submitted last week but just missed the cut off time, so what they mean to say is "Hey I met you last week, wanna hook-up?"]
- Clarifi-Ed

A wolf leads the sun
Down a trail of diamonds
And morning follows
- Goyo

To the girl clipping and biting her nails in Social Psych 341. Fuck right off!!!!!!
- Andy, who sat behind you all class
[She's probably in league with chewing tobacco spit-bottle guy.]
- Piti-Ed

NUTV's Super-Ultra-Mega-Cool Flames Fan Experience! Win two autographed Flames Jerseys and two tickets to the March 31, Flames vs. Phoenix Game (lower level row 14). Go to www.nutv.ca/win to enter. (Yes it's free . . . because NUTV loves students)
[I think they misspelled the team name. It's the Calgary Lames isn't it?]
- Correct-Ed

a haiku about
haiku and their formatting
- Kaiser Fritzhelm III

WRITE TLFS WRITE TLFS WRITE TLFS
WRITE TLFS WRITE TLFS WRITE TLFS

The bittersweet Olympics

Olivia Brooks

Gauntlet Features

The 2010 Olympics should not happen. At least that was my first thought regarding this year's Winter Games, but that didn't stop me from jumping at the chance to go when I was offered a free flight and accommodations — I mean who wouldn't... right?

Once in Vancouver, it's hard not to get swept up in the Olympic fervour. After a flight cancellation due to fog and waiting in line for an hour with Toronto-bound travelers, I was placed on a direct flight to Vancouver International — the starting point for most Olympiad enthusiasts and thousands of visitors during the games.

It didn't take long for conflicting emotions to arise. How much money had the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games spent on massive renovations or the new, pristine Skytrain line extension to the airport — the Canada Line — while hundreds of homeless Vancouverites still walk the East Side? But be still my frustrated mind, maybe there is more to these games than the shortcomings of its governing bodies.

Wandering around the University of British Columbia campus — home of the Thunderbird Arena hosting Ice Hockey — one can glimpse the excitement throbbing in the downtown core. Flag poles adorned with the Olympic regalia lining the streets, the waves of smiling aqua shirt Volunteers and the faux-torch you can get a snapshot with are just on campus teasers of what is in the city's heart. Olympic pride is intoxicating, even for someone who was predominately Anti-Olympics — as if VANOC somehow released a gas over Vancouver to quell the nay-sayers and drug them with nationalistic pride. It merely took pedestrians in Team Canada apparel or a stranger in the distance cheering "Go Canada!" to make my heart palpate and my head feel I was part of something bigger.

Once I got the chance to settle down in front of a computer, I created a make-shift list of free events I was going to attend — having not enough forethought to plan ahead

or the money to attend any real events. My first choice of venues was the Heineken or Holland House, which opened at 8 p.m. and featured famous DJs from the Netherlands. Until my sister burst through the door and announced that Stephen Colbert was filming episodes of the *Colbert Report* live from a stage on the waterfront the next day. In the meantime my sister and I braved our way through the throngs of people downtown just after Canada beat Norway 7-0 in Men's Hockey.

The smell of hotdog stands, stale beer and pot perforated the air of Granville Street, the hub of Vancouver's party scene. Being a Tuesday and still a work night for most Vancouverites, the streets were not as crowded as I expected. However, buskers and waves of red and white were still present. We decided to stop in at Robson Square to check out the laser and light show *Ignite the Dream*. Backed by vocals from Canadian artists, the light show featured enough Canadian pride to make anyone queasy under normal circumstances, but fortunately for the designers of this electro-light orchestra, the Olympics make for citizens who revel and bathe in over-the-top nationalistic fervour. That point was further proven upon passing The Bay, where we saw the four to six hour line for official Olympic Wear.

With our alarms set for 7 a.m. we slept briefly before arriving at the waterfront for Colbert's performance. We were thankful for my sister's friend; an avid Colbert fan who had been in line since 5:45 a.m. and was holding a spot for both of us. While waiting in line, we speculated about Colbert's

Olympic pride is intoxicating, even for someone who was predominately Anti-Olympics

entrance. Would he propel down from a helicopter assisted by a flock of eagles? Would a whale breach the surface, Colbert emerging from its gullet to be swiftly carried by an eagle to stage? Unfortunately for us, these



VANOC
WALLET GRAB



fantasies weren't realized, but his mere presence set off a wave of excitement as intense as the games themselves. Michael Bubl  sang the Canadian national anthem to the tune of Star Spangled Banner with Colbert. Michael Eruzione confessed that the Olympics were essentially the "UN in tight Lycra" or "where the world fights its proxy wars on ice." And ultimately, Bob Costas rode a taxidermy Moose.

When the magic was over, we split off from the main group and made our way through Chinatown, Hastings and Gastown to reach the Cauldron. I got my first real taste of Anti-Olympic sentiment walking through the East Side — billings and anti-games graffiti prominent on the sides of buildings. Such sentiment was less apparent throughout the rest of city, but loomed just below the surface. VANOC and the IOC received considerable criticism for their attempt to deal with the regular tenants of the Downtown East Side.

Vancouver has one of the highest rates of homelessness in Canada and VANOC's feeble effort to displace thousands of homeless from the streets brought more attention to this issue — most protestors carry anti-poverty and pro-housing project placards. Those who wish to protest the Olympics and Paralympics for the entire duration of the games can find solace in the Tent City set up at Pigeon Park, the central hub for the homeless.

Another noticeable aspect of Chinatown and East Hastings is that next to the occasional "Go Canada! Gold!" signs in shop



windows, it's hard to tell the city is hosting the games. The organizing bodies' worries about Olympic inspired chaos seem to be unfounded. A hum of excitement runs through the city, but aside from the masked protestors smashing The Bay windows, the crowds have been tame.

Despite broad criticism of the Winter

Olympics, the Pride House on Davie Street has garnered significant positive feedback. Professional sports are still predominately conservative and masculine (perhaps with the exception of figure skating) which makes it hard for athletes, organizers, coaches and others involved to come out publicly. However in the wake of hockey's Brian Hirsch

coming out — who recently died in a car crash — and the Pride House being erected, a gate opened for those who have kept their sexual orientation a secret in fear of shame and rejection from fellow athletes and the public.

Once we reached downtown, we decided to check out the Aboriginal Pavilion

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located in the Pan Pacific Hotel. Much criticism has been levied at VANOC for not focusing enough on Aboriginals before and during the Olympics. Aboriginal Tourism

BC organized the majority of Aboriginal venues and events which featured live dances, local artists from Squamish, Haida, Musqueme and other Aboriginal nations as

well as talks for anyone interested in Canada's Aboriginal culture and history.

Our last stop for the day was to check out the infamous Olym-

pic Cauldron. Unfortunately, the Cauldron was surrounded by an eight foot chain link fence and the only way to take an unobstructed photo was to wait in line for over an hour to scale the stairs. VANOC was in negotiations to use a lower fence and has since switched to a clear plastic barrier. Because of protests preceding and during the first days of the games, there are concerns that the Cauldron could be defaced. This seems unlikely given the 24-hour security and hordes of pro-Olympic fan boys who would not hesitate to tackle any vandals, but VANOC refuses to dismantle the wall between the ultimate symbol of the games and its adoring public.

Later on, while crossing the Granville Bridge, we heard yodelling. It seems that before we even reached Granville Island, we found the Swiss House. Not only was there yodelling at the Swiss House, authentic Swiss pork sausages, slices of rye bread covered with sauerkraut and cheese and, of course, the famed Swiss protein crackers were served, all backed by a stand up bassist and an accordion player.

The Heineken House would be the ultimate way to cap off the 2010 experience on a student budget. The venue was touted to hold up to 4,000 and I was determined to be one of those non-Dutch attendees.

On the bus heading to the Richmond Oval, or the aptly named O-Zone, everyone erupted into a rendition of "O Canada" in tribute to the Men's Hockey Team who had just won a close game against Team Switzerland. The Thursday crowds were the largest yet thanks to the recent Canadian win. The celebratory air increased tenfold as chants and horns blasted throughout the core. Even away from the Skytrain's considerable crowd, Olympic gusto was prevalent.

When we got to the Heineken House we learned that it was at capacity, but I was willing to wait until it emptied a bit. Apparently, though, once the House reaches capacity they close it off to the public until the next day. The only way to get in is with a Dutch passport. Attempts to barter our way in or sneak around the back failed, but just across the field Our Lady Peace was playing a free concert. I

briefly treated my inner 15-year-old.

Leaving about 20 minutes later, my attention was drawn to a pile of flyers. As I inspected one, I felt a little crestfallen. They called attention to the notorious sex trafficking industry — especially of underage girls — in Canada. The Olympics have become a podium not only for athletes, but for human rights, animal rights and environmental activists to have their voices heard while the world watches Vancouver.

It's difficult to say whether the apparent success of the games in the face of much criticism is due to the competency of the organizing bodies or the work of thousands of volunteers and proud Canadians who have made this event so memorable and enjoyable for millions of participants and viewers. It is easy to get swept up in the Olympics in the host city — as easy as it is to judge from a distance. Be-

The Olympics have become a podium not only for athletes, but for human rights, animal rights and environmental activists to have their voices heard while the world watches Vancouver.

coming the host city and province has infected the majority of West Coast occupants — one can expect great service and smiles with the politeness Canadians are known and mocked for.

Raised awareness of rights violations and the undercutting tactics of the governing bodies, like the attempted exodus of the homeless to an abandoned mental asylum or the \$16 million in education funding cuts alongside a post-secondary tuition increase, may result in the stronger enforcement of laws and regulations being required of host nations before the Olympics can take place on their soil.

Until then, the Olympics and Paralympics will always take precedence over a majority of issues in the host country. Hopefully everyone will get a glimpse of the IOC's increasing accountability when all eyes turn to London for the 2012 Summer Games.

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Top of the pool

Dinos take men's and women's CIS swimming crowns at the University of Toronto

Orlagh O'Kelly
Gauntlet Sports

When Mike Blondal assumed a position as a coach for the University of Calgary swim team in 1989, the Dinos women had never won a championship banner. Fast forward 21 years; the Dinos swimming teams rewrote the history books this past weekend by winning the men's and women's national Canadian Interuniversity Sport championship banners for the first time at the University of Toronto.

On the men's side, the Dinos were looking for redemption after suffering a nail-biting loss to the arch rival University of British Columbia Thunderbirds in 2009. They were poised and favoured to win the 2010 championships following a sound victory at the Canada West championships in Lethbridge last month.

"I thought we had a pretty reasonable chance," said Blondal. "We had to keep our cool. We had to win because we earned [the championship], not because we deserved it, and we did earn it at the competition."

Indeed, the men's team were given a surprising battle by their hosts, the newly regenerated University of Toronto Varsity Blues. But after a big push on day three, Calgary finished comfortably ahead with 636.5 points over Toronto's 551.

The victory culminated in the 200-metre individual medley where the team qualified four swimmers for the A final and two swimmers for the B final, earning a whopping 70 points in one of 18 events.

By all accounts, second-year Jason Block, a business student, was the Dinos standout who has stepped up as a young team captain. Block owned all three breaststroke events, finished sixth in the 200-metre individual



courtesy Rick Pelletier

It was the first time in U of C history that the Dinos won both CIS swimming titles and the second in a row for the women.

medley brigade and helped the medley relay to a silver medal performance.

"Block stood out as a young upcoming breaststroker for Canada," Blondal commented. "The times he performed without

the bathing suits have not been produced by many [Canadians]."

Without the infamous high-tech, polyurethane-based swimsuits recently banned by FINA, swimming's world governing body, the

Dinos men depended instead on their numerous medal winners, including Colin Mizga, Ryan Gow, Dan Langlois, David Woodman, David Dimitrov and Bogdan Knezevic.

see CIS SWIMMING CHAMPIONS, pg. 16

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Dinos open up playoffs against Pronghorns

Jon Roe
Sports Editor

After two hotly contested games between them this season, the Dinos men's basketball team and the University of Lethbridge Pronghorns kick off the Canada West playoffs this weekend at the Jack Simpson Gym.

The Dinos needed two Ross Bekkering free throws in overtime with 3.1 seconds left to take a 88-86 victory Jan. 9 while the Pronghorns took the last game of the regular season for both teams with a 58-56 victory after Jamie McLeod missed two of three free throws with no time on the clock.

"We need to do what we do well, so far both times that we've played them we haven't done that," said Dinos head coach Dan Vanhooren. "We've gotta give them some credit defensively but at the same time it's really more about us when we watch film."

The Pronghorns were the second best team in the conference at holding teams shooting percentage down. Their opponents shot only .388 against them all year. In their two dust-ups, the Dinos sank only 30.8 per cent of their shots, well below their season average of 43.5 per cent.

Vanhooren explained the key is moving the ball better out of the doubles the Pronghorns set-up on their posts and using each other better than they did in the previous contests.

"If we do that, our shooting percentage will go way up because all we're going to be doing is shooting open shots rather than ones that are



Gauntlet file photo

The high-flying Ross Bekkering (right) will take the floor in what is likely his final home appearance this weekend.

contested," he said. "Instead of our posts turning and trying to shoot over one or two guys, we need to move the ball and find an open shot."

Despite the team being held to 56 points in their last game and an abysmal 15.6 per cent shooting per-

centage, fifth-year forward Robbie Sihota is confident his team will be better against the Pronghorns in the playoffs.

"I think our offence will come," said Sihota, who sank 45 points against the Pronghorns this season. "I think as long as the de-

fence can do it, it'll be fine."

He looks to the Dinos superior playoff experience to show through this weekend. The Dinos have made the playoffs for four straight years, including a Canada West title last year, while the Pronghorns were last in the post-season in 2003.

The Pronghorns do have at least one player with post-season experience. Point guard Jeff Price, who leads the team with 16.9 points per game, suited up for a Canada West playoff series and final four games for the Dinos in 2008 before trans-

see B-BALL PLAYOFFS, pg. 16

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Men's hockey clinch playoff spot, await opponent

Steven Kelly

Gauntlet Sports

The University of Calgary men's hockey team finished the regular season on a high note, clinching a Canada West playoff spot by winning both games over the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds last weekend. The Dinos move into third place for now. Both the University of Manitoba (fourth place) and the University of Lethbridge (fifth place) are still in the playoff race with two games remaining.

Only four teams can qualify for the Canada West playoffs. The Dinos, who are guaranteed a playoff spot, will face either the University of Saskatchewan or the University of Alberta after the regular season schedule concludes. Dinos head coach Mark Howell is pleased that his team has secured a playoff position and does not have to rely on other teams to decide their future.

"By winning both games last weekend, we put ourselves in a position where we can control our own destiny," he said. "We are able to practise this week, knowing we are in the playoffs."

The Dinos won their first game of the weekend set Friday night by a score of 3-1. After being scored on 32 seconds into the



Angela Larsen/the Gauntlet

Reid Jorgensen (#43) rubs out an opponent. He led the Dinos in regular season scoring with 30 pts.

game, the Dinos came back with three goals. Howell was pleased with his team's resiliency.

"We had a bad first period on Friday, but we were able to come back in the second," said Howell.

In the rematch on Saturday night, UBC again scored first. Just like the game the night before, the Dinos came back, with forward Brett O'Malley scoring with less than two minutes remaining to secure the 3-2 win.

Howell praised a number of his players after the double-win weekend. Among these players was goaltender Dustin Butler, who Howell thought played great in the last four

games. Howell was also pleased with O'Malley, Saturday night's hero.

"It was a good weekend for all of our graduating guys. I think Brett is anxious to help his team and accomplish something in the playoffs. I thought that his goal [Saturday] was the most important goal all season. It is good to see a player with character like that be rewarded."

O'Malley was also pleased with his play, as well as the play of his linemates last weekend.

"Our line as a whole, played really well," he said. "Teegan [Moore] scored two goals, which is a positive because I think it is important to get our line going offensively."

With his two points this weekend, O'Malley moves into 19th on the Dinos all-time franchise scoring list.

"I don't usually pay attention to stats, but it is definitely fulfilling and rewarding," he said.

Although O'Malley is happy his team made the playoffs, he will not be content unless they are successful in the playoffs.

"It's not over yet. I think if we can win two rounds and go to nationals, then I will be happy," he said.

"I think every team wants to play in the playoffs," added Howell. "It's everyone's dream and goal, and making the playoffs is a feather on our guys' cap. They bought into a system, and are being rewarded because of it."

The Dinos continue to practise this week, as they wait to see who their first playoff opponent is. For O'Malley, one thing is for sure.

"A season is just a season; we want to win in the playoffs."

Men's volleyball host playoff series looking to erase last year's playoff memories

Jon Roe

Sports Editor

Though the men's volleyball team missed out on an opportunity to host the Canada West final four, they're back where they wanted to be: hosting a quarterfinal playoff series with an eye on erasing last year's heartbreaking three-match, five-set loss to the University of Winnipeg Wesmen.

"We reflected back and used that as an example throughout the season," said Dinos head coach Rod Durrant. "We want to get back to that quarterfinal and we want to perform to our best. I think there is some motivation for that, some people might say that's pressure. I'd say it's only pressure if you're concerned about the outcome and not the process."

Last year, much like this one, the Dinos finished second in Canada West with a 13-5 record and took on a veteran Wesmen squad, which had appeared in the last two na-

tional finals. After taking game one, the Dinos fell in games two and three. This year the Dinos host the University of Manitoba Bisons, who finished with a 9-9 record.

It was a season of high expectations. The team bounced around the top two spots in the Canadian Interuniversity Sport rankings for the first month before settling in fourth to finish off the season. Along the way, they took out this Bisons squad in two straight matches in Calgary in November by 3-0 and 3-1 match scores. Those results are irrelevant, according to Durrant.

"It's still about executing this week, not giving up any points," he said. "... At the end of the day, they're better than they were back in November and we're different than we were in November."

This weekend series, which starts today at 7 p.m. at the Jack Simpson Gym, features two of the most accurate hitters in Canada West. Dinos Oleg Podporin leads the conference with a .453 percentage after picking

up 129 kills against 27 errors in 225 attempts and Bison Steve Goertzen is third with a .427 percentage with 79 kills and 15 errors in 150 total attempts.

The Bisons, which lead the conference in blocking, has three players in the top 10 in blocks per game. Joseph Brooks is second with 1.18 per game, Goertzen sixth with 1.08 and Dana Pischke 10th with 0.94.

Six Dinos will be stepping onto the Jack Simpson Gym floor for their final career match this weekend. Omar Langford, Podporin, Tom Porta, Don MacNeill, Pierre Rocque and Brendan Ray hope they can extend their season and reach the national tournament for the first time since 2003.

Durrant explained it was all about having faith in the year of build up that has led them back to a home quarterfinal date for the second year in a row.

"The most important thing for us to do is to play with confidence, to play to win."

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CIS swimming champions, continued from page 13

For his bronze medal performance, Knezevic was rewarded with the CIS men's rookie of the year, another first for a Dinos team member.

The victory was the Dinos' 14th CIS men's swimming championship, putting them two back of Toronto's record 16 national championships.

On the women's side, the team was looking to repeat their 2009 first ever championship win. The prospects were not as certain as the men's, considering they had a disappointing loss at the Canada West championships. As Blondal said, "that's what makes it sport; it is unpredictable. Someone is always out to uncrown you." But Dinos team captain Katy Murdoch was confident.

"Even though we lost Canada West, it is a whole different competition because CIS has more depth

in it," Murdoch said.

Murdoch led the lady Dinos to another victory in 2010, topping the Thunderbirds by 140 points.

"It was awesome watching our team because it has progressed from a distant second to dominating national championships," Murdoch enthused. "It was so cool to win for the first time and just as amazing this year to win with the men. Everyone stepped up."

No one stepped up more than Olympian Erica Morningstar. The Calgary native dominated CIS competition, racking up seven gold medals and showing her versatility in the 200-metre individual medley and the 100-metre breaststroke. Morningstar also established yet another first, claiming the Sprinter's Cup by winning both the 50- and 100-metre freestyle two years in a

row. And, after two seasons, Morningstar is en route to becoming the most decorated CIS athlete in history.

"In two CIS, she has won 14 medals. She has not lost an event yet," Blondal said.

To add an exclamation point to the weekend, Morningstar led the Dinos to a new Canadian record in the 4x100-metre medley, with Murdoch, Allison Long and Seanna Mitchell, again, a rarity without the banned suits.

But Morningstar could not carry the team alone. The way the point system is set up at the CIS championship, teams are rewarded for depth and not for having one star.

"[CIS] is our only chance as an individual sport to pretend that it's a team sport," Murdoch said.

Kevyn Peterson, Murdoch and Jessica Johnson, all members of Canada's 2009 University Games team, brought home multiple medals for the Dinos. The rookie of the year honour also remained in Dinos territory for the fifth consecutive year, when Long sealed the honour with a gold medal performance in the 50-metre breaststroke.

"Allison had no fear going into the final," Murdoch said.

From the vantage point of a graduating athlete, Murdoch acknowledged that the CIS championships allowed her to make the break to becoming, as she did last summer,

a Commonwealth record breaker in the 100-metre backstroke.

"CIS was the first time that I'd ever gained a lot of confidence and it was a huge stepping stone for how well I did [last] summer," she said.

Following the victories, team coaches Blondal and Jan Bidrman agreed to jump in the pool, as rules technically prohibit the swimmers from actually throwing them in.

In 1997, Blondal saw the men's team win the banner and the women's team come within 10 points of accomplishing the feat that was finally accomplished last weekend.

"It is those ups and downs along the way that got us here," Blondal said. "Building a Foundation for Swimming Excellence, a proper recruiting program, a national centre come and gone. It takes a whole bunch of people to pull this off. It's not just a coach and 40 swimmers. It also takes a coaching staff, the University of Calgary swim club, the Foundation and the university."

The University of Calgary swim program's support has finally allowed them to effectively "own the podium" in a varsity sport dominated by Olympians and world record holders.

Now, the team is hungry for another first: domination on home turf when the CIS championships comes to Calgary in 2011.

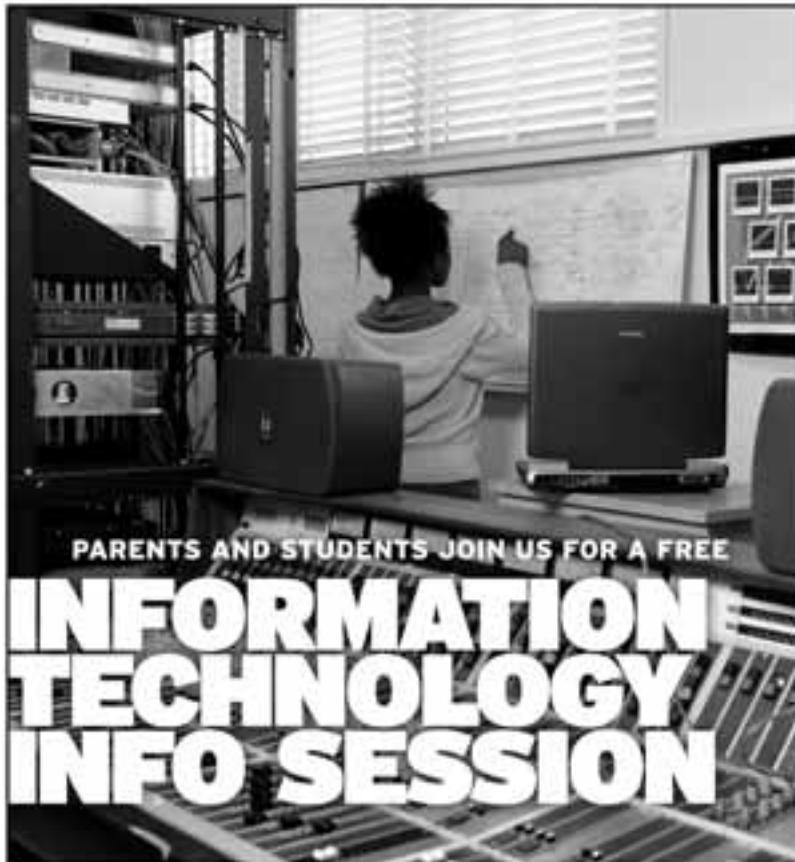
B-ball playoffs, cont'd from pg. 14

ferring to the Pronghorns. Price sank 39 points, 27 coming in the January contest, against his former team. The Dinos players and coaches feel they have a handle on his tendencies and are prepared to defend him.

"I think [point guard] Jarred's [Ogungbemi-Jackson] a pretty tough match-up for him, quickness-wise," said Vanhooren. ". . . He's a good basketball player, so we'll play him like he's a good basketball player. Certainly we know what he's capable of."

The Pronghorns-series will likely be the final chance for fans to cheer for a couple of Dinos hardwood staples. Sihota, Lindsay Thouret and Ross Bekkering will be stepping onto the Jack Simpson Gym floor for the last time in their CIS careers after playing all five years of their eligibility at the University of Calgary. Sihota and Bekkering began their careers with the Dinos during the '05-'06 season while Thouret started his back in '03-'04 and took two years off between 2006 and 2008.

"I try not to think about it too much during the game," said Bekkering. "It's definitely crossed mind a bunch during the season. It kind of gives you that feeling of desperation or that extra little motivation that this is your last chance at things."



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Canada gets pwned on the podium

Ryan Pike

From the Cheap Seats



The Canadian Olympic Committee headed into the 2010 Vancouver games with high hopes. After utter disappointment in the medal standings at the 1976 Montreal summer games and the 1988 Calgary winter games, the COC took the bull by the horns after the announcement of Vancouver as host — boldly claiming that Canada would own the podium in 2010.

Turns out “owning” the podium means getting half as many medals as the Americans.

After pledging five years ago that Canada would win more medals at the 2010 games than any other country, thereby “owning” the medal podium, at press time Canada has a scant 15 medals. This result would be merely embarrassing if not for two things — the United States has more than twice as many medals as Canada despite making no podium ownership claim, and the “Own the Podium” initiative cost roughly \$110 million. If Canada doubles its medal totals by the end of



the games, which doesn't seem terribly likely, that's a price tag of about \$4 million per medal. A first-place finish in the medal standings, based on the last few games, would take roughly 30 medals.

That's not even the biggest reason why “Own the Podium” was a monumentally bad idea.

Historically, Canada has not been an Olympic powerhouse. Discounting the Soviet boycott of the 1984 summer games, Canada's peak medal performance in any

Olympics prior to the 1990s was 11 medals at the 1976 summer games — corresponding with an uptick in amateur sports funding prior to the Montreal-hosted games. Oddly enough, Canada's place as a contender in many winter sports didn't get cemented until the 1994 Albertville games, as the country's peak performance prior to that was a whopping seven medals. The amateur sports onslaught came, in part, because of continuous funding increases due to the success of the 1988 Calgary Olympics — the effects

of which are still being felt today.

Athletes competing at the Olympics are under tremendous pressure — often working day and night towards their goals while doing whatever they can to supplement their often meagre government sports funding. Adding on the pressure of performing before their home country is bad enough, but doing so while your Olympic committee is pledging to dominate the Olympics is ridiculous. Host countries kind of suck at the Olympics, perhaps for that very reason — it's too much pressure on already-stressed athletes. Only a handful of nations have “owned” their home podiums, and those were countries like Norway, China and the United States who were already strong Olympic performers.

If the Canadian Olympic Committee is serious about owning the podium in the future, throwing money at the problem once won't solve it. The great Olympic leap forward following the 1988 Calgary games occurred because the games began a continual level of commitment towards Canadian amateur sports. The COC has to commit itself to the creation and maintenance of a sophisticated funding structure for amateur sports if they want to be seen as a world leader at the Olympics. If the Americans can do it, why can't we?

Onus on Kahnawake, not Canadian government

James Jeffrey

Gauntlet Opinions

An emphasis on the preservation of race and bloodline, shunning racial intermingling, expelling those not pure — we once lived in a dark time. But is it behind us?

Just this month the Mohawk Council of Kahnawake — a reserve south of Montreal — gave eviction notices to 26 people in its community. The reason: they're not racially pure.

The Council singled out non-aboriginals living on the reserve,

including those married to or in relationships with Mohawks. The band council's argument is that Mohawk identity is being threatened and they're merely “revitalizing the community” to safeguard against assimilation.

What it boils down to is this:

rather than defining themselves by their unique practices, customs and traditions, the band council equates Mohawk identity with Mohawk bloodline. In their membership rules — which they have a right to make under section 10 of the Indian Act — it is stipulated that an indi-

vidual must, among other things, have at least four Mohawk great-grandparents to be entitled to reside on the reserve.

But regardless of what many newspapers across Canada have published, it's not that simple. When *see KAHNAWAKE, pg. 18*

Elections are upon us!

Charlotte Kingston
President



If somehow you have missed the barrage of banners and posters across campus then let me be the first to alert you, it is SU election time again!

With 45 candidates running for 25 spots this is one of the most contested elections in a long time. I like to think this onslaught of candidates has to do with the visibility of campus issues this year (tuition, pension, etc) and at least in part with the massive governance overhaul that has transformed our organization.

Who am I electing? New governance structure in brief: As a result of the governance renewal commissioners are no longer elected through the general or by-elections, but will instead become student employees of the SU.

These positions will be open for application at the end of May and will allow us to give students more substantial employment opportunities. Accordingly, students at large will now exclusively elect the President, Vice President Academic, Vice President External, Vice President Operations and Finance, (the brand new) Vice President Student Life, and 17 faculty representatives.

The new Vice President Student Life portfolio will be less focused on pumping out SU events but instead in charge of creating networks and communities on campus, and being a point person for collaboration and issue solving with clubs and other student organizations.

Faculty Representatives are now elected on a proportional representation model based on a 2000 person threshold. A faculty gets a representative for every 2000 students it has with every faculty being guaranteed a minimum of at least one representative. Based on current

enrollment that means that the amalgamated Faculty of the Arts will have four representatives, Science, Engineering and Business have two each and every other faculty is sitting at one representative each.

Referendum: The Refugee Students Levy will be seeking an increase this year. To learn about it come to the Forum on Friday February 26th from 12:00-12:30. There is both a Yes and No campaign, be sure to get informed!

Forums and Info Gathering: Looking to understand who to vote for? The Gauntlet is a great place to start. For a candidate's extended platform visit www.su.ucalgary.ca. Got tough questions? Forums are happening everyday next week from 12:30-1:30 at the stage outside the SU offices (South Courtyard Stage).

Vacancies: We are still looking for representatives for the faculties of Law and Nursing. If you are a student interested in assuming this role I encourage you to come by

the SU offices. While it is too late to run in the election, we can inform you about the potential for appointment to the position post election.

Voting! Though the SU elections have historically had low voter turn out, as the current President I BEG YOU TO VOTE!! The people elected are responsible for the SU's more than \$12 million dollar annual budget. They decide everything from our stance on tuition increases to the food vendors in Mac Hall. Make sure they represent your views by **voting from March 2-4**. Voting is online through your student centre so you can do it without even getting out of bed. You could vote while on the toilet if you wanted to. Seriously, more voter scrutiny means more accountable elected officials. Don't squander your say.

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Baby Isaiah should be allowed to die

Eric Mathison
Fighting Words



In late October, a boy was born in Rocky Mountain House. His umbilical cord was wrapped around his neck and, by the end of the 40-hour labour, the baby needed to be flown to Edmonton to be placed in neonatal intensive care. Over two months passed before doctors determined that the boy — Isaiah James May — had severe oxygen debt during his delivery and would be permanently damaged. With that, the doctors sent a letter to the Mays, informing them that Isaiah would be taken off of life support within a week.

That was in January; Isaiah is still on life-support. His parents challenged the doctors' decision in court and the judge decided that additional time was permitted for an independent assessment of Isaiah by a specialist not related to the hospital. Dr. Richard Taylor from Victoria performed the exami-

nation last Friday; the case will go back to court on March 11.

This case is unique not because Isaiah's situation is so rare — the fact that there is a neonatal intensive care unit means that birth-related problems occur at least occasionally. Presumably a number of cases occur every year where a baby is on life support and is taken off of it because the chances of becoming a functional person are too small to warrant letting the baby develop. What makes Isaiah's case unique is that his parents challenged the hospital and the judge agreed that a second opinion was appropriate.

Rosanna Saccomani, the Mays lawyer, is making the case that the Mays are simply looking for answers and that is what's justifying Isaiah staying on life-support. She has stated that questions surround the circumstances of the birth: for instance, why did the labour last 40 hours, instead of the doctors in Rocky Mountain House performing a Caesarian section? The Mays have also told the press that Isaiah is making progress, that he is doing things that the doctors said he wouldn't ever be able to do.

Some points are worth making. A second doctor differing in opinion regarding a complex case shouldn't be considered vindication for those who think Isaiah should live. Both doctors are basing their cases on the evidence at hand. If Isaiah stays on life support and doesn't develop to the extent the doctor expected, will he then be removed? If he manages to improve in one area, so he doesn't require life-support, but he diminishes in others or is found to be in terrible pain, what will happen then?

The Edmonton doctors waited a full two months to assess his condition, so it's not the case that the decision was rushed or based on insufficient evidence. Much is riding on Dr. Taylor, the Victoria physician, to determine the next legal move. If he concurs with the Edmonton doctors, then will the Mays concede? They probably won't have a choice, because the judge for the case will have little reason to prolong the decision.

It's a terrible thing to have a child die. No one should hold the Mays responsible thus far, because there is still a chance — albeit small — that the doctors have overlooked something and Isaiah will be able to lead a

meaningful life after all. There are doubts, however, that those who wish Isaiah to be kept on life-support will agree with both doctors. But they are wrong. Quality of life is a necessary consideration in such cases. Even if Isaiah can survive without life-support, his quality of life will likely be so low that it would be better for him to not have to endure it. Of course, it shouldn't be completely up to the doctors to draw the line for where quality of life is sufficiently high, but the parents aren't in the position to make that choice any better.

It's unclear why Saccomani, the Mays lawyer, thinks the circumstances of the birth and Isaiah's supposed right to be kept on life-support are connected. If the doctors in Rocky Mountain House should have performed a C-section, and thereby could have prevented the oxygen deficit, then this is a matter that certainly deserves inquiry. But the only commonality is that it was the same baby and the same parents. Whether or not the doctors could have done otherwise does nothing to change Isaiah's circumstances now. If his life chances are sufficiently low, he should be allowed to die.

Kahnawake, continued from page 17

aboriginal rights and identity are involved, it never is.

A provocative argument supporting the evictions is that the Canadian government, through its own definitions of aboriginals — more specifically, of Indians and non-Indians under the Indian Act — indirectly coerced the band council into issuing evictions.

Imagine an undercover cop who pressures a teenager into snorting cocaine by using the drug himself. Then, high off his ass, cuffs the kid when he conforms. Entrapment, that's what the argument amounts to: the Canadian government created racist definitions of aboriginals; then, when a band council applied those definitions to its membership rules, accused the council of being anti-family, anti-Canadian racists.

The argument is provocative because Canada's Indian Act, though amended since its inception in 1876, is racist in the same way the Mo-

hawk Council of Kahnawake is: in defining status and non-status Indians, the Act stipulates certain lineage requirements.

But the reasoning falters when other factors are included. For instance, the Supreme Court of Canada has taken a tolerant approach to aboriginal rights, focusing less on each individual's lineage and more on whether or not the aboriginal group is partaking in practices, customs and traditions that can be reasonably traced back to those existing before European contact. In addition, it's clear the Canadian government has taken a *laissez-faire* approach with regards to who can reap the benefits of its subsidies — some of the non-Natives being evicted have lived on the reserve for up to 10 years.

The idea that the Canadian government will someday go around to reserves and test everyone's blood is paranoid at best. Besides, looking at the history of the Kahnawake

Mohawks reveals interracial mixing existed as far back as the late 1700s, and that many "pure" white children were brought up as Mohawks.

The Canadian government can't be blamed for the racist actions of the Mohawk Council of Kahnawake.

In the eyes of the band council, it seems the Canadian government is either too narrow in their definitions on aboriginals or purposely overcrowding what little land aboriginals have left by having criteria that are too accommodating. The

concepts of "purity" and "race" are losing relevance. Rather than getting bogged down by elusive ideas, the emphasis should be placed on historical practices and customs, something the Canadian government has moved towards.

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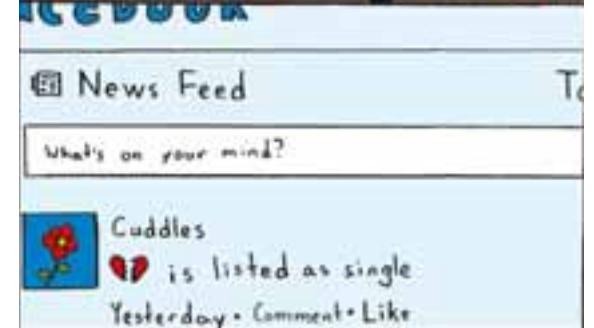
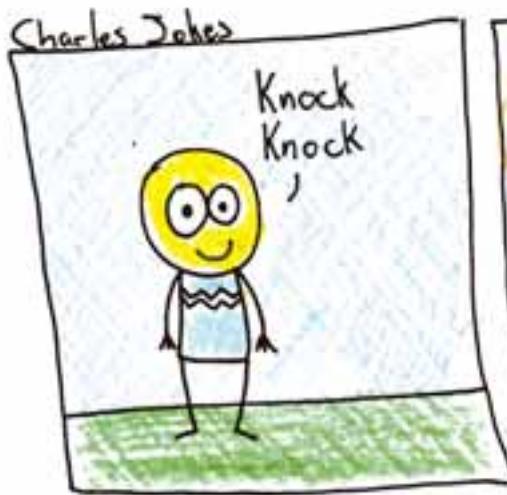
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Ten years of wearing art

ArtaWEARness X shows off ACAD student's art on model's bodies

Laura Bardsley
Gauntlet Entertainment

Every year, the Alberta College of Art and Design hosts its very own wearable art performance/fashion show in its main mall. This year, the show's 10th anniversary, promises to be the best ever.

Georgia Lee, one of three ArtaWEARness coordinators, gives some insight into this year's performance and the history of the event.

"ArtaWEARness is a wearable art performance fashion show which takes place annually," Lee says. "[It] was started by a student [Natalie Gerber] here who wanted to take the idea of art as fashion to the next level."

The very first show was hosted in the C-Train hallway connecting ACAD to SAIT and the Jubilee, a far cry from the pomp and glitz of this year's location. Last year's performance consisted of pieces from all types of artists and medias, ranging from Lee's delicate glass pieces to humongous papier-mâché sculptures to decorated cow pelvises.

Lee proudly brags about the show's diversity when asked.

"ArtaWEARness gives opportunities to artists from all different departments, medias and disciplines to showcase their talents, and their views on what wearable art should look like," she beams. "It ranges from sculptural work to more fashion based work to performative work and uses a whole range of materials."

Starting off with a modest budget, ArtaWEARness approaches local companies and galleries for sponsorships. The show cannot be great without their help.

"PK Sound is sponsoring us this year, and we've also received sponsorships from SwizzleSticks SalonSpa and different Calgary companies," Lee says. "We've been getting a lot of support from galleries around the city and more artist-run centers."

Artists get some monetary help to produce their works as well. While the money is barely a pittance, it still helps.

"We give our artists an artist's fee which is very small and comes out of our own budget," she says. "We [also] get a grant from the [Alberta Foundation for the Arts]. The show itself is non-profit."

In the show, artists are judged in different categories, such as best performance, most outrageous, most entertaining and so on. The artists picked for the show are chosen from a plethora of submissions. This year features 30 submissions from 14 artists.

"It's tough because all the work submitted is so engaging and so different from everything else," Lee explains. "We do offer prizes, although our focus is not on it being a competition. We like to keep it fun, but we will be handing out trophies to the winners which we have decorated ourselves... and a small gift certificate from one of our sponsors."

Lee is enthusiastic to elaborate why people should check out the show. From the fashion show to the after parties with DJ In Order To Dance, ArtaWEARness promises to excite and entrance.

"It will be like nothing they've ever seen," she says. "[It's a] combination of work and dance and performance and fashion — a very unique event."

ArtaWEARness X runs Fri., February 26 at 7 p.m. and Saturday February 27 at 9 p.m. Tickets are available in advance or at the door.



courtesy ArtaWEARness

This year's event shows the crossing of art and fashion from ACAD students.

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For more information, please contact Cam Cotton-O'Brien, Editor-in-Chief at eic@thegauntlet.ca

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 - BASIA BULAT*** *Heart Of My Own* (Secret City)
 - VARIOUS*** *The Seven Year Itch* (Paper Bag)
 - OWEN PALLETT*** *Heartland* (For Great Justice)
 - GIL SCOTT-HERON** *I'm New Here* (XL)
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 - HOLOPAW** *Oh, Glory, Oh, Wilderness.* (Bakery Outlet)
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 - COLD CAVE** *Love Comes Close* (Matador)
 - KURT VILE** *Childish Prodigy* (Matador)
 - DUDES**** *Blood Guts Bruises Cuts* (Load)
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Emily Ask

Gauntlet Entertainment

It's not often you see the words electro-dance and emotional intensity beside each other, but that's exactly what Woodhands wants fans to take away from their music. Dan Werb and Paul Banwatt are the duo behind this Toronto-based dance party and they'll be in Calgary Feb. 25 at Broken City promoting their second album *Remorsecapade*, released last month.

Werb explains that the band's emotional appeal stems from a desire to explore life's frustrations in a medium other than slow, depressing music.

"It's much easier for me to be active," he says. "I want to deal with things actively. The point is dance music is active music."

"We all have our stresses and we all feel things and we're not all great at reacting to those things," Werb admits. "I made solo piano music and it's lovely because you can revel in all your shit — and that's a lot of fun — but dance music is a way to get over things."

Werb had played keyboard in several smaller bands like the Bicycles before branching out on his own.

"I said to myself, 'Okay, I want to make pop music on my own. I can't play guitar, I never ever considered myself to be a singer . . . and I thought to myself, 'What do people do if they can't play guitar and they can't really sing and they want to make music on their own? I guess they make electronic music!'"

Werb then promptly bought the

entire KRFTWRK discography and immersed himself in electronic music for the next few months. At first Werb's solo sound was, as he describes it, "intellectual ambient music," but that changed after he moved to Toronto and met Paul Banwatt. It was there Woodhands was born.

"When I met Paul I had moved to Toronto and I saw all these super high energy indie rock bands — and performance is such a key element of what they were doing," he says. "I was in a bunch of bands so I would just watch these bands, watch my friends and how they perform . . . and I would say, 'I want to do that, I want to be sweaty, I want to be a front man.'"

Their debut album *Heart Attack*, released in 2008, was extremely successful, resulting in the opportunity to tour North America, Europe, China and Japan. Werb spoke about the immense effect touring had on the second album.

"On first albums you have the luxury of working on them forever, but then you have constant touring and constant audience interaction," he says. "New songs [are often] the result of experiments . . . We're lucky that with our stage set up that it's really conducive to trying new things."

Since live performances play such an important role for the band, Werb says that in order for a song or idea to be included in the album, it has to work with the audience in mind. Woodhands isn't afraid to improvise.

"I think it's just a lack of restraint," he says. "We like to connect with our audience, that's what motivates us. If it works for our audiences then we like it — we like to be close to people."

"We also wrote songs that didn't fit



courtesy of Chris Frampton

Woodhands don't hold anything back.

into the flow of the album," he admitted. "But then you have great B-sides . . . It's never going to be perfect."

Werb approaches Woodhands' five-year-plan the same way he approaches their past — with a tongue-in-cheek sense of humour.

"We're both stuffed by taxidermists in some natural history museum in some small country somewhere," he answered.

It's safe to say that Woodhands wants to keep you on your toes. With improvisation and creativity at the heart of each performance, Werb and Banwatt's energy will carry them forward as they promote their new album and discover new sounds and ideas.

Woodhands perform at Broken City, Thu. Feb 25th at 8 p.m.

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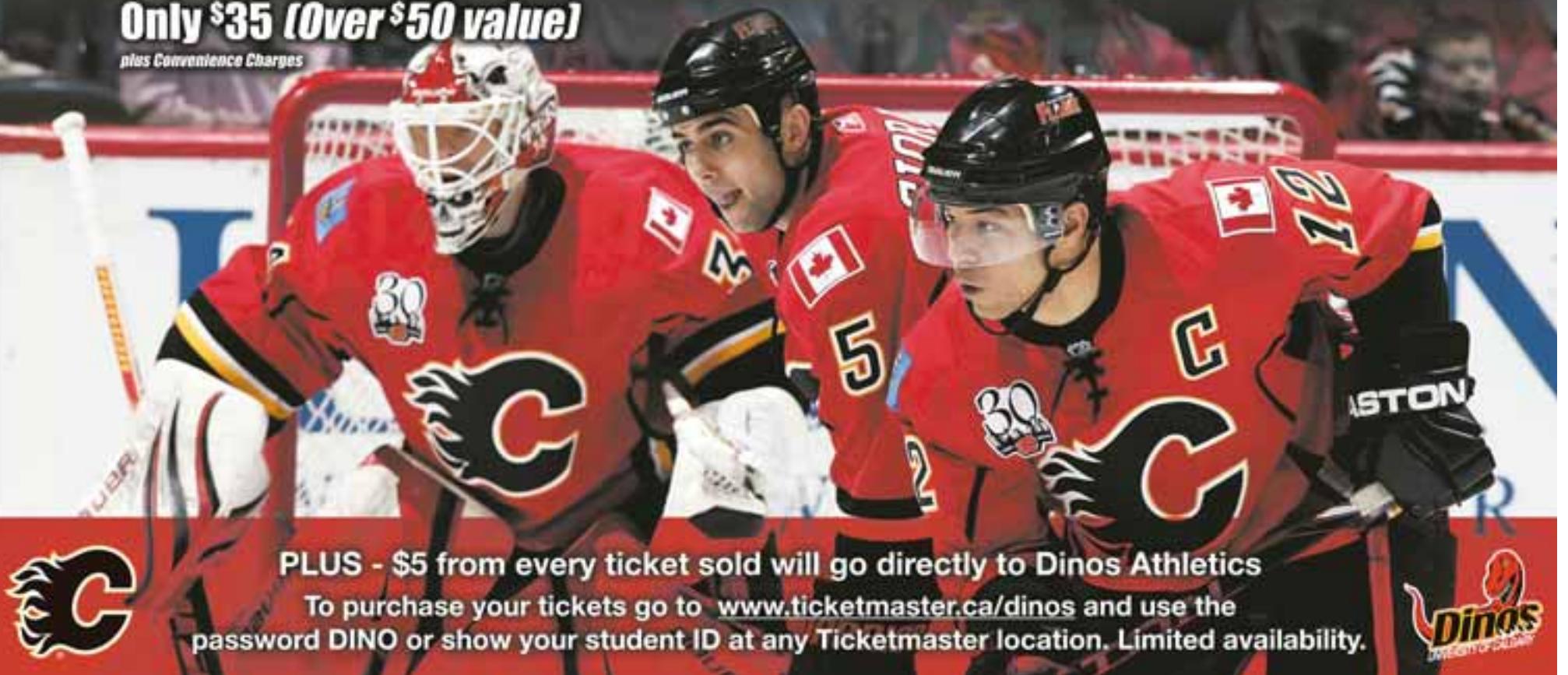
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Gauntlet 2010 Candidate Reviews

As a pair of newbies, we had heard horror stories of working on the *Gauntlet's* Students' Union election supplement. The late hours, the lengthy debates, the tricky decisions — all proved true.

Naturally, we had to prepare for this with an evening at Jamesons and The Alcove, getting to know our rag-tag team. Through refreshing beverages and emotionally-revealing karaoke, we bonded, proving to ourselves that, yes, we do in fact have social lives.

Turns out we were lying to ourselves. The last weekend of our reading break consisted of interviewing candidates for the SU general election. With 21 candidates and a referendum debate, we were faced with a great deal more interviews than

recent years. Hour upon consecutive hour, with nary a break for food.

New to the editing, design and layout gig, along with our fairly preliminary background knowledge of the Students' Union, we faced a steep learning curve. However, we feel that this perspective was closer to the average voter's knowledge base and mind-set.

To assist us, we managed to convince an additional six "naive" panel members that could not have anticipated the sheer workload awaiting them. Our eight-panel board, containing several tried-and-true veterans, allowed for thorough discussion and a distinctly non-partisan perspective of the SU candidates.

We did our best to find individual strengths and weaknesses, giving a thorough overview of each candidate. Ultimately, however, the opinions contained herein are just that — opinions. We recommend them as a guide, and urge you to seek out your own information and hold your own discussions.

Go online, talk to the candidates, watch their campaign videos. Considering the amount you pay the SU each year, make sure you're getting your money's worth by putting the right person in office.

Emily Ask and Richard Lam
Supplement Co-editors

The Process

Over the last weekend of reading break, the *Gauntlet* asked candidates for executive positions, the Senate, the Board of Governors and referendum sides to come in for 20-minute interviews. The first two minutes were dedicated to allow each to introduce themselves and their platform.

Each candidate was then asked three standardized questions previously drafted by the panel. Candidates running for the same position were asked the same questions, which reflected the requirements of the position.

This was followed by a free question period in which the panel members could ask the candidate for clarification and further detail on previous responses, pressing concerns and the candidate's platform. All the interviews were recorded for reference by the panel.

After the interview, the panel privately discussed the various qualities and shortcomings of the candidate. This resulted in

several lively — and sometimes heavy — debates that lasted into the wee hours of the morning.

Every panel member was assigned a specific position to write reviews for and consider the input and opinions of the entire panel when completing their reviews. They were also asked to consider the candidates' platforms and qualifications, which are provided online.

Panel members were then able to personally endorse their favourite candidates on page eight of this supplement. These endorsements reflect the individual's opinion and you should make sure to conduct your own research before voting.

Candidate platforms are available for public viewing at <http://su.ucalgary.ca/governance/elections/candidates.html> and campaign videos can be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/users/suadmin>.

The Panel

Emily Ask
News Assistant, Supplement Co-editor

Emily is desperately trying to avoid the *Gauntlet's* slow take-over of her life. Unless Brent asks her not to. Dammit.

Sarelle Azuelos
Features Editor

Someone told Sarelle spending a weekend judging candidates would be exciting. She fell for it. Again.

Brent Constantin
News Editor

At the young age of 25, Brent has skyrocketed through life to become co-news editor of a student newspaper. Currently single.

Cam Cotton-O'Brien
Editor-in-Chief

Hopes the stress encourages beard growth.

Annalise Klingbeil
News Assistant

Annalise enjoyed spending an entire weekend questioning SU candidates. Seriously.

Noah Miller
News Editor

While not obsessing over stylish sweaters, the Argyle Badass is a politics junkie. Well, that's what he keeps telling us.

Richard Lam
Supplement Co-editor

Richard was coddled and coaxed into taking on this responsibility. Damn you, Brent.

Ryan Pike
Opinions Editor

Ryan has been going to SLC for the last four years, despite not being required to by his job. He's just really keen on governance.

President

The Students' Union president is responsible for ensuring unity within the organization. A key member in the Students' Legislative Council and other bodies and committees, such as the Board of Governors, the president provides leadership in determining services and policy. The president is also responsible for communicating with students, university administration and the media.

Joey Brocke



Joey Brocke's approach to the *Gauntlet* panel was confident but also level-headed. He has several years experience with the Students' Union, starting out as a club president, moving upwards to fine arts representative and is currently vice-president operations and finance. Brocke's strongest platform point centres on the fact that he has been working on the Governance Renewal Project all year.

The GRP has revised the internal structure of the SU, which means that certain positions will function differently compared to years prior. Some of these changes include the VP events position evolving into the broader VP student life position, and hiring commis-

sioners instead of electing them. The project is currently being implemented, so having someone who knows its inner workings would help ensure a smooth transition.

And the tuition increases that got students' so fired up recently? Brocke said that the current SU president handled the situation very well, but acknowledged that the university is between a rock and a hard place in terms of finances. Whether tuition market modifiers get approved by the government or not, he says it is most important to be involved in the process and help form tuition changes in a way that will benefit students most and ensure the best quality of education.

He felt the student experience should not

be sacrificed to politics and finance, so re-connecting with clubs is his number one priority, although he did not elaborate much on how he wanted to do that.

Brocke offers no radical changes, but rather stability and stewardship in what he says will be a very tricky year for students. Brocke offers a nice mix of professionalism, strong leadership and approachability.

Selected Qualifications:

Vice-President Op-Fi 2009-10
Fine Arts Rep 2008-09
Visual Studies Undergraduate Society
president 2007-08

Christian Loudon



Christian Loudon wants to talk to you. And your lab partner. And the guy ahead of you in line at Bake Chef. And the girl who sits beside you in economics. And the . . . well, you get the picture. Communication is a huge part of his platform because he believes the Students' Union hasn't done a good enough job communicating with students.

Loudon has many interesting and specific ideas about how to improve SU communication and involvement. These include increasing SU activity on Facebook and Twitter and getting students involved by providing incentives for them to start blogs, video channels and other social media outlets to better circulate news about events and issues happening

on-campus. Loudon is an easily approachable guy himself, so we feel that along with his ideas he would definitely provide an accessible image for the SU.

Loudon has experience in communication having worked at the *Gauntlet* as production editor and copy editor, as well as SU experience as an academic commissioner this year.

As for the proposed market modifiers students may face next year, Loudon says the SU should have lobbied the government sooner, considering the decision made back in November to suspend the tuition-freeze.

He also advocated clubs becoming more independent and being able to host more of their own events by starting their own

councils. He specified that the Engineering Students' Society has done an excellent job involving students on campus and says that clubs and even the SU should take notes.

Loudon says his ideas about open communication have not always received positive reaction within the SU, but he refuses to concede. Loudon wants to talk to students and believes his ideas will get students to talk back.

Selected Qualifications:

Academic Commissioner 2009-10
Governance Review Committee 2009-10
Gauntlet Production Editor 2007-08

Lauren Webber



Lauren Webber is definitely not lacking in experience within the Students' Union. Currently she is an external commissioner and sits on many student councils, such as the Quality Money committee and the Students' Union sustainability board. She is also employed as Dinos athletic event staff.

Webber has an optimistic attitude towards the university and the Students' Union; her main motivation for running for president is to simply give back to students her great experiences.

There were many intelligent ideas on Webber's platform, but unfortunately a lot got lost in translation as she explained

them to the panel. Being interviewed by a panel of eight people is no picnic, but we would have liked to see more confidence and structure as she presented her positions. Good ideas don't amount to much if you cannot communicate them effectively.

Webber's main platform involved reformed financial support for students, specifically student loan accessibility and more flexible credit limits. She also stressed the importance of balancing funding for research projects while maintaining teaching excellence; the students' learning experience should not come second to research.

She said she intends to continue current

SU president Charlotte Kingston's level of professionalism and communication regarding the tuition increases, but did not elaborate.

Webber has potential to be a great candidate, but must work on articulating her positions clearly. The SU needs to be represented with a solid voice that students can feel confident with and, unfortunately, Webber's stage presence was lacking.

Selected Qualifications:

External Commissioner 2009-10
Op-Fi Commissioner 2008-09
University Relations Committee 2008-10

The new VP student life position will ensure a holistic approach to students' overall well-being, including addressing health and enriching the student experience on campus. The VP student life will also oversee aspects of clubs. The new portfolio will work with various departments and groups on campus to promote and support diversity and work with other university groups including Enrolment Services and the Office of the Student Experience.

VP Student Life

As current events commissioner, Abbott hopes to bridge the gap between the old events portfolio and the new student life position. Abbott said she plans to hand over awareness months to clubs to plan, alleviating the stress on the Students' Union. Abbott wants to create a community with clubs and offer scholarships and special funding that clubs can access if they plan events.

This plan, while great in theory, still relies on someone doing the work of tying all of the clubs' activities together and coordinating details.

She seems to have some misunderstanding

of how to "diversify" events on campus. She praises Bermuda Shorts Day as a popular student event and something that she would like to emulate more if elected. But how is that diversifying? How many events on campus are already alcohol based? Plus, BSD is one of the most expensive events the Students' Union initiates. Is it worth it to start new, similar events like Abbott's idea of a free BBQ for all students in U of C sweatshirts?

Her campaign also focuses on engaging students. She praises the recent turnout for the tuition consultation, but says this is an exception to a long history of low profile

campaigns.

Abbott says the key to engagement is doing a better job targeting these hot button issues. According to Abbott, monthly updates as well as better promotion are necessary to get the word out to students.

Abbott offers an insider's perspective to the role. As someone that has worked under the events portfolio, Abbott will no doubt be quick on the learning curve if elected.

Selected Qualifications:

Current Events commissioner
University Relations Committee member

Jennifer Abbott



As a candidate with a lot of experience with the Students' Union, Luimes sees the VP student life portfolio as a way to engage as many students with the SU as possible and offer them the same "enhancement" and "enrichment" that she got in her university life from involvement with the SU.

Her vision for student life is as a resource hub, claiming the number of offices offering student services, like volunteer positions, is large, but student awareness of them is non-existent. Luimes plans to aggregate this information in a way that's more easily digestible by the student body, but how

exactly this will happen is unclear.

Luimes hopes to increase the profile of the SU by going out into the cafeterias and sitting down to have one-on-one conversations with students. We think this is a bit unrealistic.

Luimes had strong ideas about clubs improvements such as her sustainability seminars and, like Moug, events that focus specifically on clubs. Luimes holds no illusions that she will automatically be able to add staff to the clubs role, but instead wants to look at increasing the volunteers involved with clubs in order to speed up processes. Another high-

light was her focus on expanding SU-based programming at orientation. Ultimately, despite her experience and ideas for the position, she didn't give the impression that she was the most enthusiastic about the role. An important part of any VP student life should be a passion for improving the student experience. Luimes seemed better suited for a position like VP academic than student life.

Selected Qualifications:

Humanities faculty representative
Orientation leader
Act Now volunteer

Britney Luimes



As a popular *Gauntlet* pick for vice-president student life this year, Katie Moug made it clear through the interview that she knew her stuff and has a vision for the position.

With the recent switch to VP student life from VP events, Moug (much like a mini-wheat) seems to be the best candidate to balance a serious side and direction with a fun, energetic desire to build a better community for students.

The panel was impressed with Moug's clear knowledge of the problems she sees with the clubs system; Moug proposes providing skills

to clubs to teach them how to fundraise and become less reliant on Students' Union funds.

Moug says that events need to become more targeted on campus, in the hopes of building activities around pre-existing clubs so as to have an existing interested audience. She also plans to take this approach with underrepresented groups that might not see much in the SU that appeals to them.

Moug wants to increase the image of the SU by visiting larger classrooms and clubs and setting up booths around campus where executives can interact with students directly.

Ultimately Moug feels that the best way

to increase visibility is through high profile events that draw on student interest and take place when students are actually on campus.

Moug also draws praise for her original idea of implementing busking licenses for MacHall. As a member of the Students for an Alternative Future slate, Moug gets bonus points for not mentioning concepts like "accountability" or "transparency" right off the bat.

Selected Qualifications:

U of C GROW Club president
Model UN team member

Katie Moug



The current fine arts faculty representative for the Students' Union, Ogden sees the new student life position as a chance to reinvigorate the SU. In what she calls a standardized and stagnant environment, Ogden hopes to add new events for students as well as publicize the services the SU provides, but did not present any specifics as to how she will accomplish this.

Ogden says the portfolio's new focus will offer the opportunity to raise the profile of student clubs, which she plans to do by possibly hiring more help for the clubs office if the budget allows.

Safewalk, which Ogden says is underused, is a priority for her. Ogden highlights a com-

plaint she's heard from students, "I don't know the Safewalk volunteers, how do I know they aren't the bad guys?" and hopes to put pictures and blurbs on the SU website to encourage students to feel more at ease. She also wants to look into having a celebrity Safewalk using SU officials and media personalities as volunteers to draw attention to the service.

Ogden feels the current awareness months are too stretched out and wants to focus activities that, this year, might have been spread over several weeks into the span of several days. She said that students shouldn't be able to go into MacHall without knowing an event is going on.

We didn't hear enough specific ideas from Ogden to make a firm impression. She mentioned "finding ways to do things" frequently and spoke in vague, abstract terms. Ogden might be great for the position if elected but unless she comes up with more of a platform that students can actually get behind it's not going to happen.

Selected Qualifications:

Fine arts faculty representative
Governance Review Committee
Arts Fest 2009 organizer

Lindsay Ogden



VP Academic

The VP academic is responsible for developing and implementing SU policies on government and university academic issues, programs and services that affect U of C students; overseeing the Academic Commission; representing students on university committees such as Faculty Promotion Committees and General Faculties Council; and developing and implementing SU academic programs and services such as the Teaching Excellence Awards.

Jalisa Barnett



Barnett arrived at the panel interview well prepared, with carefully thought-out goals. Her main focus is strong and open communication with students, administration, faculty representatives and commissioners.

Barnett's leadership qualities will help her accomplish one of her main goals: supporting efforts by commissioners and representatives to complete projects they are passionate about.

Current vice-president academic Meg Martin has done an excellent job completing and expanding certain projects, many of

which Barnett hopes to continue. She plans to maintain a strong student voice during the final stages of the arts amalgamation, ensuring academic quality is maintained.

One of Barnett's major responsibilities will be fighting for better quality education. Every few years, the university publishes an academic plan with a series of vague markers improving the quality of education. Barnett hopes to hold them accountable to these markers — a plan with both strengths and weaknesses. The university cannot ignore their own recommendations as they do those of the su, but holding them account-

able to vague promises will be difficult.

Barnett stressed the importance of a smooth faculty of arts transition which, given the substantial number of students affected, was a welcome point. Last but not least, Barnett shared her feeling that many of the su's diverse programs lack adequate promotion.

Barnett won't be revolutionizing the vp academic role, but no revolution is necessary.

Selected Qualifications:

Comm. & culture faculty representative
Communications Club president
New to the U peer mentor

Alyssa Stacy



Working in commissioner positions for the past two years, Stacy has a thorough understanding of Students' Union policy and protocol. While her platform covers several points, Stacy clearly focused on helping students find cheaper alternatives to textbooks.

Stacy introduced the book loan program, which does pretty much what the title suggests, this past semester through a quality money initiative. However, quality money backing will not last forever, so she hopes to find a permanent solution. Stacy also wants to find external ways to cut textbook costs through re-establishing the Canadian Round-

table for Academic Materials although the lack of publisher involvement might make this hard to accomplish.

Stacy also spoke of increasing the number of students involved in the undergraduate research symposium, as well as working with a group of students to create a database of student work.

Quality of education was another major platform point, although again the vp hopeful had a less than stellar method of attack. Holding the university accountable to their own guidelines would only be successful if the guidelines were not so vague. Luckily,

Stacy added that she would also push for fixing PeopleSoft's broken USRI system and work with the faculty association to make sessional positions more stable.

The future vp academic will have a very busy year juggling tuition increases, faculty amalgamation, quality of education and other responsibilities; fortunately Stacy seems equipped to manage all this.

Selected Qualifications:

Operations and Finance commissioner
SU Sustainability board member
Academic Planning Committee

Brad Sullivan



Many members of the Students for an Alternative Future slate have touted the benefits that "fresh blood" will bring to the Students' Union, but Sullivan's platform is a strong example of how a lack of internal experience can do more harm than good. While well spoken and experienced, some of his ideas for next year are vague or unrealistic.

His primary platform point is justice, which he plans to uphold by introducing a voluntary "code of conduct" and marking guide despite the fact that the university already provides a suggested grading scheme in the calendar. Sullivan also suggested using Universal Student Rat-

ing of Instruction to "punish" profs that don't follow the guide, without stating where an su official would find the power to do so or realizing that students can't currently view those scores through PeopleSoft.

Sullivan's best ideas included increasing travel and conference funding and promoting undergraduate research. As a Program for Undergraduate Research Experience award recipient, Sullivan does have first hand knowledge of how undergraduate research can be a complicated process and what should be expanded.

Along with the rest of SAF, Sullivan hopes to increase the su's accountability to students. The

su does have shortcomings in terms of informing students of their activities and Sullivan was in the right to say so. However, his solution to this problem was to host town halls and forums in MacHall midday. The su has promoted a litany of issues in MacHall forums — all of which were sparsely attended.

Sullivan definitely has passion for student politics, but needs to give some more thought to student concerns and realistic solutions before he's qualified for the job.

Selected Qualifications:

Model United Nations Club president
PURE Award recipient

VP External

The VP external is the SU's primary lobbyist and responsible for SU policies, programs and services that relate to government relations, public information campaigns, student financial aid and employment issues. The VP external works closely with post-secondary lobby groups and also ensures policies are in place for tuition, student fees, housing and transportation.

Hardave Birk



Birk is everything you could want in the role of vice-president external: energetic, intelligent, experienced, well-spoken and passionate. He has solid ideas and more importantly was able to explain exactly how he wants to accomplish his goals. He's realistic and very knowledgeable, and his current experience with the su would serve him well if elected.

Birk brings with him specific ideas that could actually be very effective. Some include aligning with the Residents Students' Association to better get students involved, engaging politically active clubs to strengthen the student voice

when lobbying or bringing mayoral candidates to campus to encourage municipal leaders to better represent students.

Birk has one big idea that seems ambitious yet unrealistic: a voter-funded media competition that ideally would encourage students to become involved in the political process. While the idea has worked at other schools and is interesting, the \$250 entry fee may be a big turn-off for U of C students.

He touched on the idea of lobbying the government to extend the grace period for student loans — a good idea in today's economy. He spoke intelligently about the Council of Alberta

University Students and the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations and stated he would like to play a key role in CAUS. Birk acknowledged that the role of vp external should extend beyond just lobbying and focus also on student engagement, so that the student voice is louder, a valid point backed up with strong ideas.

Overall Birk presented educated and doable ideas and the experience and passion to make things happen.

Selected Qualifications:

Residence Students' Association representative
SU Op-Fi commissioner

Mansoor is a first-year student who wants to make large scale changes at the University of Calgary. She's keen on affordability and involvement and her platform includes things like lobbying the provincial government to freeze tuition increases, lowering student loan interest rates and increasing access to secondary suites.

Mansoor has energy, but may lack the experience to be effective in the position of vice-president external — a big jump into the Students' Union for a first-year student.

Mansoor wants to make a lot of chang-

es, but didn't appear to know specifically how they will be implemented. She lamented deferred maintenance on campus and stated that students are suffering from problems with plumbing and electricity.

She thinks these problems need to be addressed immediately and also mentioned a desire for a +15 walkway between the library and MacHall — a strange proposal at a time when cuts are being made across the campus.

Mansoor spoke highly of the current vp external and said she would like to follow in Kay She's footsteps and, if elected, play a key role in the Council of Alberta Univer-

sity Students, a wise and encouraging idea.

While Mansoor sees her age and lack of SU experience as an advantage, it may be her downfall. A number of her responses treaded on the generic side. Perhaps a year or two involved in different areas of the SU will give her the experience needed for this role.

Selected Qualifications:

Debate and Model UN experience
VP external of campus GROW club

Rabiya Mansoor



Paris desires to be vice-president external because he has a passion for keeping university accessible to all students, regardless of how much money they have. While it's a noble and important cause, Paris lacks the specifics of how he will accomplish this.

Paris is knowledgeable about issues and has experience as an SU external commissioner under the current vp external, which could serve him well. Yet he was unable to articulate how he would execute the projects he wants to, like engaging students and clubs and strengthening the voice of the U of C. He's keen to have different schools across the province act in unison and hold similar

events when it comes to lobbying the government. While this may increase outside media presence, Paris seems to forget that each institution has very different needs and problems.

Paris emphasized a need to co-operate with Grant MacEwan and Mount Royal and recruit these newly named universities to the Council of Alberta University Students. This idea seems unusual given these institutions are less research-intensive than the current members of CAUS.

Paris was well-versed in the area of student loans and clearly has personal experience that gives him a

broader perspective on many key issues.

It seemed odd that Paris barely talked about the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations and, unlike the other two interviewees, neglected to mention how he would play a key role in CAUS. Overall Paris has passion and experience, but seems to lack direction and the vision that will make his ideas a reality.

Selected Qualifications:

SU external commissioner

Sean Paris



The VP operations and finance is responsible for the financial and business side of the Students' Union, namely overseeing the budget in terms of Mac Hall operations, student health and dental, SU travel expenses and levies.

Delaney brings everything to the table — confidence, experience and great ideas — and is a hell of a candidate for vice-president of operations and finance. His time as a commissioner has exposed him to the nitty-gritty details of most aspects of the job, giving him an immediate head start.

With that foundational knowledge, Delaney can get started on his sustainability plans, which include cutting down on Styro-foam, coffee cups and possibly implementing a dish washing system in MacHall. While this may prove to be difficult due to contractual agreements in MacHall, Delaney intends to push the issue and take the initiative,

perhaps even with the SU's own coffee with discount incentives.

Delaney's emphasis on the opportunities of the travel conference funding is a great, simple idea, essentially streamlining and communicating the process to be more efficient. With a revised form, a dedicated commissioner and re-allocation of the budget, it sounds genuinely effective.

As Delaney mentioned in the interview, the toughest task facing the new VP op-fi is undoubtedly the new governance structure. His plan to individually approach the new executives and vps and build a working structure from the ground up is simple, but

makes the most sense.

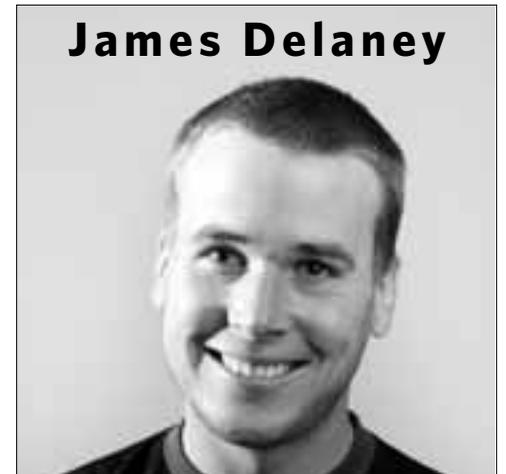
The interview concluded with some brief questions on accountability, clubs involvement and conflict resolution, all of which were answered with thorough, level-headed responses.

Delaney is rock solid. He's got the current system and its future direction figured inside out. Electing him would put the SU in good hands, all without the need of a single buzzword.

Selected Qualifications:

Op-fi commissioner

James Delaney



Though he has not served on the Students' Union, McMillan comes with a good mix of experience that he can bring to the role. Having looked into the governance review and a cost-breakdown analysis in his own time shows his initiative for the job.

McMillan's platform stresses accountability and awareness, namely publishing and fixing VP salaries so students know where their money is going. While he raised some valid points, he put too much emphasis on an area that is not a huge concern for students and does not directly affect them in a substantial way.

His idea to hold fixed town hall meetings at convenient times is realistic, straightforward and could boost student engagement by attracting those interested in participating. Surveying student interests and better communication with groups and clubs is a feasible way to gauge students' needs as well.

Transparency seems to be McMillan's strongest arguing point — making sure budgets are accurately broken down and allocated. Another one of McMillan's simple yet timely ideas is streamlining rules and communication regarding travel expenses and club budgets. Standardized rules may put the

more travel-oriented groups at a disadvantage, but will better distribute the budget and reduce the risk of overspending.

McMillan unsuccessfully ran for op-fi commissioner last year and is now running for vice-president. He faces a steep learning curve, but offers some useful ideas that students could benefit from.

Selected Qualifications:

Debate and Model UN executive member
Poli-sci association member

Matt McMillan



VP Operations and Finance

Board of Governors

The BoG is the highest governing body of the university with one student-at-large position up for election to represent undergraduates. They will vote on matters regarding administration, policy, what programs will be offered, as well as tuition increases. The elected student will sit alongside the Students' Union and GSA presidents, university officials and community members.

Chris Kalantzis



Kalantzis is one hell of an outspoken guy, and he's hoping that quality sets him apart from the other candidates for the board of governors student-at-large position this year.

There is little doubt that Kalantzis is willing to argue for what he believes in. Throughout his tenure as the Students' Union social sciences representative this year, Kalantzis has been one of the organizations most vocal members. The theory is that this may be a significant quality for the BoG representative to have as there are only three student representatives on the board — if the student voice is going to be thin, it better

damn well be loud.

That said, Kalantzis feels that the BoG representative position gains value from its removal from being an explicitly SU position. The BoG representative speaks for all the students on campus, theoretically remaining distanced from the SU's agenda. Kalantzis further argued that his status as a law student next year would aid his position on the BoG, as the members of that group would respect his area of study.

The biggest question voters must ask themselves when contemplating Kalantzis' suitability as their potential BoG representative is precisely the same quality that may

be held as his strength. As such an outspoken individual who lauds his ability to stand tough in the face of opposition, however unsettling, there is the potential that he will be too radical to effectively represent students on the BoG. Students must decide for themselves whether they want an extremely vocal advocate in this position — it has the potential to get people to listen, but it also may alienate the elder BoG members.

Selected Qualifications:

Social sciences faculty representative
Member of General Faculties Council
Former orientation leader

Kenna Morris



Noting that politicians are often more concerned with keeping their jobs than with doing them, Morris is intent on shirking the trend.

Morris says that she plans on improving communication between the Board of Governors and the student body. The key to her plan is to start a BoG blog to summarize the minutes and keep students abreast of important issues.

Morris feels it is important to coordinate with the SU representative to strengthen the generally insipid student voice on the board, but will ultimately side with broader student interest.

One of the serious drawbacks to Morris' otherwise reasonably strong candidacy is that she

has no experience with the BoG. As the organization only meets a few times a year, it is important the student representative need not spend much of that time acclimatizing.

Morris argues the most important issues facing the BoG representative next year are the potentially harmful effects the proposed tuition increases may have, rendering different programs at the university into a class-based system. Admirable and important as this is, Morris lacks concrete alternatives and specific plans for ensuring more advantageous financial planning at the institutional level. It will now be up to students to decide if they want to give Morris the position in good faith that she will come up

with those alternatives as she goes.

Morris has an enviable optimism for the position, feeling that students don't lack interest in the issues, but are simply not aware. She maintains that she would see a successful year as one in which she was able to realize tangible results — decreasing the level tuition is to be raised by, for example. While it would be ridiculous to elect a representative who felt their position was hopeless, there is also a concern with electing one who will try for too much.

Selected Qualifications:

Grad student liaison, political science association

Kay She



As the current VP external, She would carry a considerable amount of university governance experience into the board of governors position.

One of She's main points with the BoG is that the governing body is too far removed from the student body, which She feels has left students feeling disenfranchised. She argued this interpretation of the lack of trust between students and the BoG was seen in the retirement package received by Dr. Harvey Weingarten, the auditor general's report stating the U of C was not being financially accountable and in the recent tuition increase proposals.

She clearly demonstrated a solid knowledge of the BoG, including some behind the scenes

features, and the potential problems that would face her in that position.

She had an interesting idea for influencing the BoG meetings: meet with the board members before the actual meetings, and you may have them understanding the student perspective better, and consequently getting them to push those interests more.

She has a firm grasp of the limitations students face on the BoG. She thus wants a student representative position created to sit on the executive committee, which vets the BoG's agenda. This may be the most concrete and realizable goal of all the candidates.

The biggest concern with She is her background within the SU. She obviously has the

greatest knowledge of how the BoG works of all the candidates, but comes steeped in the internal politics and preferences of the SU. As one panelist pointed out, that's why the SU president has a spot on the BoG — the BoG representative should represent the average student in a broader sense. She does acknowledge the distinction between the two positions, and says she will be able to look at the various issues from a wider perspective.

Selected Qualifications:

Current SU VP External
Former operations and finance commissioner
Former *Gauntlet* contributor

Remi Watts



Watts is quick to point out that the Board of Governors representative position may greatly benefit from a non-SU member — and he may be right.

The fourth-year philosophy major, who spent three years at Red Deer College, worked years in the oil and gas industry and illustrated a children's book, feels his diverse background gives him a unique perspective. Not having previously held an SU position, Watts looks to maintain focus on the larger issues facing the university, rather than becoming lost in the little things that may come to consume SU insiders.

Watts noted proper response to the proposed tuition increases needs to avoid sliding into radicalism, which would only alienate university administration and make a constructive solution impossible. Recognizing that the university is in a tight financial position given its deficit, he held that the proper response to the tuition increases must entail collaboration with administration to find a workable solution. He further stated that the biggest issue facing the BoG position next year will not be the tuition rise itself, but the financial issues that necessitated the rise.

Though this response shows an admirable

ability to pierce into the heart of the issue, when questioned Watts admitted he did not currently have a concrete idea as to what a possible alternative might look like.

Watts is a thoughtful candidate in this race, but lacks precise ideas for the actions needed to solve what he himself deems the largest issue on campus.

Selected Qualifications:

Member of the 'Forum for Young Albertans'
Public speaking experience
Accomplished illustrator

The senate acts as a research and advisory committee for the university. It helps to address issues on campus. They also grant honorary degrees. Two student representatives are elected to the senate.

Senate

Lord is a colourful character. She's friendly, she's honest and she's sassy. When our panel asked her who she would give an honorary degree to, she responded with an amusing story about meeting political commentator Gwynne Dyer last semester. It's this personable approach that could serve Lord well on the senate.

Lord isn't all funny stories and sass, though. She's spent three years on the Students' Union in various positions and brings a wealth of experience to the senate race, although not quite as much as her current vice-presidential cohort Martin.

Like Martin, Lord feels the senate isn't

involved on campus as much as they should be and she specifically targeted a potential placement on the senate's community engagement committee as a method of steering the senate and their funds towards campus.

While she is a very strong candidate for the senate, Lord runs the risk of turning off some senators with her outspoken demeanour. Then again, many had the same concerns before her election as VP events last year and she has proven herself more than capable of representing students in an effective manner.

Lord understands what the senate does,

what it's capable of doing and how she'd like to sway it. Lord's refreshing honesty would guarantee that those on the University of Calgary's senate are at least aware of student concerns on campus, even if they're unwilling to do anything about them.

Selected Qualifications:

VP Events
FIRE president

Kat Lord



Martin is no stranger to student politics or the Students' Union. Ask her a question about a topic related to the SU and she'll provide an on-the-spot seminar full of history and information. Currently serving as the vice-president academic, Martin is gunning for one of two student spots in the University of Calgary's senate. And she says she's not just in it for the sandwiches — she's got an agenda.

After spending years within the SU as a faculty representative, an academic commissioner and a vice president, Martin has a great deal of experience and ability in dealing with members of administration and the campus community. Due to her experience, she is aware of the sen-

ate's strengths — its large discretionary budget — and its weaknesses — its inability to connect with students. In addition to her awareness, Martin also knows many of the senators due to her positions on various university committees. These skills and familiarities will aid her well in accomplishing her two-pronged goal in the senate. Funding for the undergraduate research symposium and ensuring that the upcoming selection of the new university chancellor is done with students in mind.

Martin has been a strong advocate for students over the past several years and is aware that many see the senate as a retirement ground for former SU executives. When asked by our

panel about the temptation to rest on her laurels in the senate, she confidently stated that we'd just have to trust her to do her job. Students have trusted Martin to do her job on more important university bodies than the senate in years past; that trust is well-placed. Martin has a clear-cut agenda, measurable goals and the experience and skills necessary to achieve them. She would be a strong senate representative.

Selected Qualifications:

VP Academic
Five years of involvement
with clubs/campus organizations

Meg Martin



Varshney is a really nice guy. He's involved in a wealth of activities around campus — including being a chancellor's club scholar and a member of student ambassadors — and he was volunteering at a bake sale for a blood drive when he booked his *Gauntlet* panel interview. It's a bit of a shame that Varshney is running for senate against such stiff competition.

Having worked with the senate on several projects due to his involvement with student ambassadors, Varshney displayed a grasp of what the senate's operations, but failed to show specific knowledge about the

body. He noted that the senate should get more involved with students, but lacked concrete ways that he'd advocate that message towards other senators. He had some decent ideas about utilizing senators for outreach in MacHall and working with the city and school's religious communities to promote diversity, but he didn't really mention what those efforts would accomplish for students.

While Varshney is well-spoken and polite, he also came across as soft-spoken in his interview — although that may have been a product of the circumstances.

Nevertheless, his demeanour and preparedness don't equal that of his competitors. There's little doubt that Varshney would grow into an effective student advocate on the senate, but he's running against two candidates that already are effective student advocates and wouldn't need to waste any time upon arriving in the senate before pursuing their agendas.

Selected Qualifications:

Chancellor's Club Scholar
U of C Student Ambassador

Vishal Varshney



Noah Miller
News Editor

Students will be asked whether or not they want to expand support to the Student Refugee Program in this year's sole Students' Union general election referendum question.

The SRP began at the University of Calgary in 1986, with the sponsorship of the World University Service of Canada, a network of individuals and post-secondary institutions concerned with education as the path to a more equitable world. Currently students support the SRP each semester through a levy of \$1.00 or \$0.50 (full-time and part-time students respectively). The fees collected from students go directly to the refugee they are funding with no administrative cost. As

a result, a refugee student has been able to come and study at the U of C each year.

Yes campaigners Dylan Jones and Jenni Panek-Christie said that the campaign itself is good to raise awareness.

"Even having the referendum lets people know what their money is going towards," said Panek-Christie.

The proposed referendum, if passed, would increase the levy by \$1.25 for full-time students and \$0.50 for part-time students. This would enable the SRP to catch up with the cost of living increases since 1986, as well as take on a second student each year.

Why say yes?

"I would ask [students] why would they say no," said Jones "This is less than a cup of coffee and this is go-

ing to change someone's life. It's incredibly unique because it can be done together . . . I don't know how you say no to that."

Despite the tangible outcome, the small size of the increase and the unique and effective opportunity to enhance someone's life, some students are saying "No" to the referendum.

Matt Steele is among them. As a part of his No campaign, Steele told the *Gauntlet* that he doesn't feel students should be forced to donate to any specific charity.

"I don't have a problem with the program specifically," said Steele. "I see a lot of value in this program personally. That said, I don't think that it should be forced upon any other student who might not value the program."

Steele said he felt the SRP should look

more to private funding than to students in this case.

However, Jones noted that the U of C's program is notable because it funds a student for four or five years, not just year to year where funding could disappear at any point in the middle of a refugee student's academic career, making this program more sustainable.

"We rely on the funds every year to finance the student and if one year there isn't enough funding then they can't come or things just fall apart," said Panek-Christie. "It has to be [a] consistent number every year."

"I don't think it's the Students' Union's prerogative to force students to donate to any specific charity," Steele maintained.

Referendum

Gauntlet Endorsements



Emily Ask
Supplement Editor

president: Christian Loudon

Loudon's energy and emphasis on student interaction will provide a positive image for the su in trying times.

vp student life: Britney Luimes

Luimes seems prepared to put in the amount of elbow grease required to make student life eventful and exciting.

vp academic: Jalisa Barnett

Barnett has great experience and seems well prepared for the role.

vp external: Hardave Birk

Birk knew his stuff. Hands down.

vp operations and finance: Matt McMillan

McMillan came off like a bit of a hard-ass, a quality I appreciate, especially when dealing with money.

board of governors: Remi Watts

Watts would do an excellent job providing the honest opinion of a typical university student. His emphasis on looking at both sides of the issues won me over.

senate: Kat Lord and Meg Martin

Martin was very professional and understands how to communicate forcefully but respectfully.

Lord has the personality to get people excited about things, and I think she understands student interests very well.

referendum: Yes

The other side has an extremely good argument, but actually voting No seems pointless without repealing the whole program.



Sarelle Azuelos
Features Editor

president: Joey Brocke

While the candidates had very similar speaking points, Brocke's involvement with governance renewal and his leadership qualities make him the best option.

vp student life: Katie Moug

Moug may be lacking su experience, but she makes up for it in enthusiasm and ideas about helping clubs.

vp academic: Alyssa Stacy

Stacy had the most specific and achievable goals in my opinion, she just needs to remember to work on her speaking skills.

vp external: Hardave Birk

Without a doubt Birk is by far the most qualified for this position.

vp operations and finance: James Delaney

Delaney had a realistic grasp of what the job entails. I liked his focus on sustainability as well.

board of governors: Kenna Morris

Morris meets an important middle ground in my mind. She can be taken seriously and will do her best to represent students without simply voting along su guidelines.

senate: Kat Lord and Meg Martin

Martin and Lord's experience with the su and their mature communication skills will serve them well when trying to sway the senate.

referendum: Yes

Matt Steele did bring up some good points, but I think people should vote as they wish. I want to further support the Student Refugee Program.



Brent Constantin
News Editor

president: Joey Brocke

Brocke and Loudon are a draw for me as I see quite a few similarities in their platforms, but Brocke has experience that is hard to match.

vp student life: Katie Moug

Moug gave me the best indication that she understands the inner workings of the clubs system. A standout idea was busking licenses within MacHall.

vp academic: Jalisa Barnett

Close for me between Barnett and Stacy, but I'm going to give it to Barnett because she seems to have a stronger direction for the position.

vp external: Hardave Birk

Hardave Birk will Birk Hard(ave) for you. One of the most enthusiastic, well-spoken candidates, Birk has specific goals that I believe he can accomplish.

vp operations and finance: James Delaney

His platform is based on specific improvements to current projects like conference funding as well as increased sustainability practices.

board of governors: Remi Watts

Watts best represents the average student, which is what I think this position is meant for.

senate: Kat Lord and Meg Martin

Martin specifically has some excellent ideas about increasing the profile of the senate for students on campus. Lord has great knowledge of student interests to help the group become more relevant at the U of C.

referendum: I don't know

On one hand it's a fantastic program, on the other should students be forced to donate to any specific charity that doesn't offer a tangible service to them? Just decide for yourself.



Cam Cotton-O'Brien
Editor-in-Chief

president: Joey Brocke

With the changes being implemented in the su this year it will be a great benefit for the organization to be led by the man who has been so committed to them as vp op-fi.

vp student life: Katie Moug

All the candidates could do a good job, but Moug had the most original idea in the implementation of a MacHall busking license.

vp academic: Flip a coin

There are no three-sided coins, so drop Sullivan out of contention because his ideas are unrealistic and let fate decide between Stacy and Barnett, as both would be great.

vp external: Hardave Birk

Birk was clearly the strongest candidate.

vp operations and finance: James Delaney

McMillan would be interesting, but there was nothing he offered that Delaney didn't provide more clearly.

board of governors: Kay She

She has the most understanding of the board and the position she's running for. Her goals were clearly articulated and seem genuinely possible.

senate: Kat Lord and Meg Martin

Martin was the strongest candidate of all we interviewed. Lord brings an admirable enthusiasm to whatever she does, which would hopefully energize the senate.

referendum: Yes

See editorial.



Annalise Klingbiel
News Assistant

president: Joey Brocke

Brocke shone as the most experienced and well-spoken. His op-fi background and desire to continue current projects will serve the su well.

vp student life: Katie Moug

Moug brings "oomph" and genuine enthusiasm — key qualities to tackle the challenges of this new position.

vp academic: Alyssa Stacy

Stacy has energy, experience as a commissioner and I like her desire to re-establish CRAM.

vp external: Hardave Birk

Birk blew me away with his passion and knowledge of specifics. He also knows exactly how he wants to accomplish his ideas.

vp operations and finance: James Delaney

Delaney already has experience as an op-fi commissioner and his extensive knowledge and desire to make sustainability a priority are a plus.

board of governors: Remi Watts

Watts is fresh blood, and has some unique experiences and ideas. He gets my vote for being memorable, personable and knowledgeable.

senate: Kat Lord and Meg Martin

Both know the organization well and have experience expressing their opinions in a respectful yet forceful manner.

referendum: Yes

Sure, there's the argument that the su shouldn't force students to donate to any specific charity, but \$1.25 per semester should hardly even be considered a charitable donation. It's such an incredibly minimal amount that has the power to make an unimaginably huge difference in a refugee's life.



Richard Lam
Supplement Editor

president: Joey Brocke

It would be great to see Brocke complete the projects he kick-started. He has the experience and levelheadedness needed in a president.

vp student life: Katie Moug

Moug has the best mix of experience, enthusiasm and charm. I would like to see an updated clubs manual and the busking license put into action.

vp academic: Jalisa Barnett

Barnett's priority for the faculty of arts transition is a valid one that affects many students. Also, her fresh face offers a better student perspective.

vp external: Hardave Birk

Birk is unquestionably the most qualified in terms of both experience and enthusiasm. He has great ideas which sound genuinely beneficial.

vp operations and finance: James Delaney

Delaney offered a fantastic and comprehensive vision and a wealth of foundational experience. He's your man, no question.

board of governors: Remi Watts

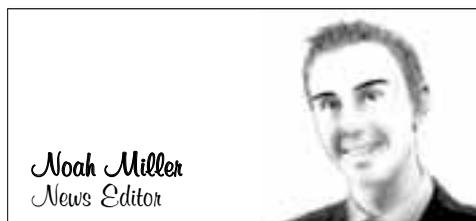
Watts would bring a unique, unbiased perspective to the BoG. It would be nice to see a fresh face for this supposed "retirement position."

senate: Kat Lord and Meg Martin

There's no wrong choice here, but voting for Martin and Lord would put you in more-than-capable hands.

referendum: Yes

This was tough. The No campaign offered some startlingly relevant points, but Yes eventually won out. Consider my heartstrings pulled.



Noah Miller
News Editor

president: Joey Brocke

This year with the su proves he is a team player and a strong leader in overseeing the governance review implementation.

vp student life: Katie Moug

Moug brought the best ideas to the table regarding how she would provide students with a holistic university experience.

vp academic: abstain

As I am close friends with one of the candidates, an endorsement would be a conflict of interest.

vp external: Hardave Birk

Birk was able to fluidly speak to any issue I threw at him, while remaining sincere and enthusiastic.

vp operations and finance: James Delaney

Knowledgeable with specific and tangible ideas about what he wants to achieve and how. An exceptional candidate.

board of governors: Chris Kalantzis

Kalantzis' consistent outspokenness will ensure that no student concerns go unheard.

senate: Kat Lord and Meg Martin

Martin is the ideal candidate for any role. Focused, knowledgeable and professional. Lord's personality would be a great liaison between the U of C campus and the greater community. Anyone who quotes Yoda in an interview = instant hero.

referendum: Yes

Steele presents a solid No argument, but given the fee is already in place, the minimality of the increase and the positive results it will yield, my endorsement goes to Yes.



Ryan Pike
Opinions Editor

president: abstain

All three candidates are good choices, but as a close friend of one of the candidates I cannot in good conscience endorse any of them.

vp student life: Katie Moug

Abbott has enthusiasm and Luimes has a really strong platform, but Moug combines the best of those two candidates with a wonderfully pragmatic approach.

vp academic: Jalisa Barnett

Sullivan lacks the experience to hit the ground running, but I chose Barnett over Stacy because of her more in-depth platform.

vp external: Hardave Birk

Birk blew me away with his candour, enthusiasm and wealth of ideas. His pro-active stance on non-program fees made him the hands-down choice.

vp operations and finance: James Delaney

With a year in the commission under his belt and a comprehensive understanding of the job already, Delaney's an absolute no-brainer.

board of governors: Remi Watts

Both She and Watts would be good in the role, but after electing a series of su veterans, bringing in an outsider is the best move.

senate: Kat Lord and Meg Martin

Both are experienced, knowledgeable and have a strong understanding of the senate.

referendum: Yes

While I dislike on principle being asked to donate to a charity by virtue of my membership in the Students' Union, I definitely agree with the refugee program and what it does.